

Getting to and from Uganda

Pre-departure Preparation

Review CDC guidelines for travel to Uganda

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/uganda>

Consult U.S. Department of State travel advisories for Uganda

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Uganda.html>

Consult your health care provider to determine required and recommended vaccinations and drugs

ISU: Iowa State University faculty and staff are required to register their trip with the [Office of Risk Management](#). (students need to register with [ISUAbroad](#))

COVID Protocols:

Check with your airline and the [U.S. State Department website](#) for current updates on Passenger Locator Forms to complete, COVID-19 vaccination and/or testing requirements when entering and departing Uganda and for any countries you transit.

Make appointments to meet COVID testing requirements both at home and in Uganda. Check transit country requirements where applicable. Pay special attention to documentation requirements and time period restrictions.

Bring enough US cash to pay for a PCR test and an antigen test in Uganda (~\$150).

Have sufficient resources to quarantine in Uganda for 14 days in case you are exposed and test positive and are not permitted to leave the country.

If traveling with a student group plan to have one leader pre-assigned and prepared to remain in Uganda for 2 weeks if a student tests positive and cannot exit the country.

Passport, Visa, and other entry requirements

In addition to meeting current pandemic requirements, US citizens require two things to satisfy immigration officials upon entry to Uganda (traveler's using other passports should consult the Ugandan Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control:

- A passport with at least 6 months validity and at least two (2) blank pages for visas. If applying for a passport, please allow three months to complete the process.

- A Uganda Ordinary/Tourist Visa to enter Uganda (good for 45 days). You will need to apply for a single-entry Uganda Ordinary/Tourist Visa online at: <https://visas.immigration.go.ug/#/apply>

Before you begin the application, have ready electronic scanned copies of:

- your passport bio-data page
- recent passport-size photo
- Yellow Fever vaccination certificate (yellow booklet)

These electronic files can be PDF, JPEG, PNG, BMP and must be a min. of 5 Kb / max. 250 Kb

You may use the following for your in-country contact information:

Dr Gideon Nadiope
256 701 472 233

There is a \$50 application fee (plus \$1.50 processing fee) which will require a credit card payment.

Suggestions for answers on the form for which you may have questions-

Visa or permit type: Visa

Category: Uganda Ordinary/Tourist Visa

Subcategory: Single Entry

Point of entry where you want to have your visa personalized: Entebbe

Enter your personal phone number without any spaces or dashes

Duration of stay (it appears that 7 days is the minimum entry)

Be sure to make a note of your visa application number in case there are any problems.

Once submitted, you should receive an email confirmation.

About 1-2 business days later, you should receive your approval (it sometimes takes longer).

Be sure to print the travel authorization page with barcode and bring it with you in your travel documents to present at immigration.

STEP: Travelers are also encouraged to register in the U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), <https://step.state.gov/step/>. STEP is a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling and living abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Benefits:

- Receive important information from the Embassy about safety conditions in your destination country, helping you make informed decisions about your travel plans.

- Help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency, whether natural disaster, civil unrest, or family emergency.
- Help family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency

Other:

Consider whether you need to update your cellular/data plan for international travel

Getting there

The only international airport in Uganda is Entebbe International Airport (EBB). The journey from Des Moines (DSM) to Uganda is approximately 26-30 hours one-way. Most ISU travelers take Delta to Amsterdam from the US and transfer to KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Economy tickets are typically available for \$1,400 - \$1,500 per person round trip. Other connections are available through Doha, Dubai, Addis Ababa, Cairo, Brussels, Kigali, Nairobi and Istanbul.

Flights to/from Entebbe usually arrive and depart in the late evening. Upon arrival, it is advisable to stay in a hotel near the Entebbe airport (most of these hotels have airport transportation, some require advance arrangements with the hotel). Overnighing in Entebbe is preferable for security as well as personal comfort. It allows you to get a good night's rest and breakfast before the approximately 3 ½ -hour drive to Kamuli during daylight hours.

The map below shows the location of Entebbe, Kampala and Kamuli within Uganda. The town of Entebbe is about a 10-minute drive from the airport. Kampala is approximately a 1-hour drive from the airport, and Kamuli is approximately 3 hours from Kampala.

Returning from Uganda

Check with your airline and the [U.S. State Department website](#) for current updates on COVID-19 vaccination and/or testing requirements.

Be sure to make appointments for testing, and allow extra time before your flight.

There are a number of options for getting a test in Entebbe and Kampala. Feel free to contact us for further information.

