



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



ICTP - East African Institute
for Fundamental Research
under the auspices of UNESCO

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR EAIFR VISITORS TRAVELING TO RWANDA

Welcome to the East African Institute for Fundamental Research (EAIFR) University of Rwanda, a partner Institute of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) Trieste Italy. EAIFR is a UNESCO Category 2 Institute and it is funded by the Government of Rwanda through its Ministry of Education (MINEDUC).

Important general information about your travel and stay in Rwanda including the emergency contact details is provided here. Kindly read it with the utmost care. The country dialing code for Rwanda is +250.

WORKSHOP/TEACHING/RESEARCH VENUE

The activities will be held here in Kigali at the ICTP-EAIFR premises (“EINSTEIN BLOCK”, former “KIST2” Building) of the College of Science and Technology at the Nyarugenge Campus of the University of Rwanda

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided as stipulated in your invitation letter and in email communications with you at the hotel below

NOBLEZA HOTEL

5 KG 680 Street

Kigali, Rwanda

Tel: +250 [786 103 713](tel:250786103713)

<https://www.booking.com/hotel/rw/nobleza.en-gb.html>

CONTACT DETAILS OF LOCAL STAFF

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EMERGENCIES

Rwandan National Police	112
Fire Brigade	111
Traffic Accidents	113
Ambulance (only in Kigali)	912 or +250788 622 524

ABOUT KIGALI

Peacefully nestled along picturesque hilltops, Kigali is a thriving African city recognized worldwide for its cleanliness, orderliness, and hospitality. It is a great place to begin and/or end any Rwandan journey as it is conveniently located in the geographic centre of the country. The city is clean and safe, with extremely welcoming people. Travelers do enjoy exploring the great cultural activities – including several award-winning museums, burgeoning music scene, and some of East Africa's most memorable dining experiences. (From: <http://rwandatourism.com/destinations/kigali-city/>)

WEATHER AND CLIMATE IN RWANDA

For weather updates in Kigali, Rwanda, please visit:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/rwanda/kigali/hourly>

It might be a little cold in the evening and we would therefore recommend that you bring along a sweater.

VISAS

Many countries require a visa to visit Rwanda. You can obtain it on arrival at the airport. It costs \$50. Citizens of African countries are exempt from paying.

ELECTRICITY

The AC voltage used Rwanda is 220 -- 240 volts, with frequency of 50Hz. Two-pin plugs are common in Rwanda – similar to the two-pin plugs in Europe.

TIME ZONE

Rwanda is in the Central African Time (CAT) zone, which is UTC+2.

TRANSPORTATION

Airport transfers are being arranged for visitors subsidized by ICTP/ EAIFR (upon receipt of their exact flight schedule). For your personal business, please only use licensed/metered taxis. Generally, transport in Kigali is easy and accessible. A taxi ride from the airport to most places in Kigali costs 15,000 to 20,000 Rwandan Francs (RWF), equivalent of \$15 -\$20. Depending on the distance, taxi rides within the city range from 5,000 to 10,000 RWF (\$5-\$10).

MONEY

You can exchange money at foreign exchange bureaus, either at the airport or at banks in Kigali. However, using banks might take a little longer than an exchange bureau.

Most banks are open from 08.00 am – 6.00 pm on weekdays (Monday to Friday) and on Saturday 8.00am to 1.00 pm; on Sundays 10.00 am to 6.00 pm. On the Umuganda Day (last Saturday of every month) banks in Kigali open from 2.00 to 6.00 pm. Credit cards are accepted at most supermarkets, restaurants and hotels in Kigali. In rural areas, vendors would generally feel comfortable only with money in Rwanda Francs. Most banks in East Africa have difficulty accepting MasterCard. In Kigali, Ecobank and Access Bank accept MasterCard withdrawals at a price. (<https://kabiza.com/kabiza-wilderness-safaris/rwanda-money-information-for-tourists-visitors/>)

EXCHANGE RATE

Exchange rates may vary from bank to bank and also between exchange bureaus according to their location. However, the rate will not differ greatly from the National Bank of Rwanda (BNR) rate. As posted on 10 May, 2022 on NBR, here are the rates for USD and Euros.

Currency	Average	Buying	Selling
USD	1,249.763285	1,262.259655	1,274.756026
EURO	1,069.002164	1,079.691106	1,090.380048
GBP	1,171.352384	1,183.064725	1,194.777065

For more currencies, please visit (<https://www.bnr.rw/index.php?id=106>)

ATM MACHINES

ATM machines are available at nearly every bank, at the airport, and on campus at the workshop venue. You can use both Visa and Mastercard as well as credit and debit cards, which can make life a lot easier over carrying a lot of cash with you. But it is always useful to carry some extra USD or Euros in Cash as backup, just in case.

(https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g293829-i9988-k9063556-Bank_ATM_s_in_Kigali-Kigali_Province.html)

HEALTH AND RECOMMENDATION (IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION)

Malaria

Rwanda has a tropical climate – it receives rainfall most of the year and hence has mosquitoes. We strongly suggest that you see your doctor about malaria precautions.

For information on vaccinations necessary before travelling to Rwanda, follow the link below:
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/rwanda>

Yellow Fever

A Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is required for travelers 1 year of age and older coming from a **country with risk of Yellow Fever transmission.** For a list of concerned

countries, please follow the link below. The certificate is valid from 10 days after the vaccination (<https://www.iamat.org/country/rwanda/risk/yellow-fever#riskcountries>).

Covid-19

Information related to Covid-19 is available here: <https://www.rbc.gov.rw/index.php?id=745> It is reproduced below:

As part of Government measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the following is mandatory upon entry into Rwanda, effective 10th April 2022:

- Arriving passengers at Kigali International Airport must present a negative Rapid Test taken 72 hours prior to departure (meaning travelers must be tested and get results within 3 days of their first flight). **COVID-19 Test is not mandatory for accompanied children under 5 years.** Incoming travelers eligible (aged 12 years and above) for Covid-19 vaccine are encouraged to be fully vaccinated before their travel.
- **Covid-19 Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) will be taken upon arrival at own cost** and traveler will do self-isolation until they get negative PCR test results.
- At the airport, the payment for Covid-19 tests taken on arrival of 57,200 Frw or 60 USD (50USD for covid-19 test and 10USD for specific logistics to the airport) will be done as per the indications of the passenger locator form. For passengers who opt for a cash payment at arrival, the balance will be given in Local currency (FRW). The passenger who wouldn't use the payment methods on the passenger locator form may be required to pay again at arrival and claim for refund for any previous payment made.
- In order to facilitate Rwandan citizens to test regularly for Covid-19 and to know their status, including Rwandans returning home, the Government of Rwanda will subsidize the cost of Covid-19 test taken on arrival; Rwandan citizens will pay Rwf 40,000 or 40 USD (30USD for covid-19 test and 10USD for specific logistics to the airport) instead of current cost.
- All travelers arriving and transiting in Rwanda must complete the passenger locator form and upload the Covid-19 Rapid test certificate taken within 72 hours before heading to the airport. Please see passenger locator form on www.rbc.gov.rw.

ICTP-EAIFR can reimburse the costs of Covid-19 tests upon presentation of appropriate receipts.

Please note that you **MUST** complete the Passengers Locator form before heading to the airport. The form is here: <https://travel.rbc.gov.rw/travel/>

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We wish you a good stay in Rwanda and we hope you will learn a lot from this workshop as well as contribute to the programme.

The Organizing Committee.

More information can be found online, for example, at:

<https://rcb.rw/-Practical-Info-.html>

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