



BigData UN Global Working Group

5th International Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics

Kigali: 29th April – 3rd May, 2019

INFORMATION NOTE

GETTING TO RWANDA

The main airport in Rwanda is Kigali International Airport. It is located 10 km east of the center.

Several daily flights connect Kigali with other capitals of the sub-region and intercontinental flights allow passenger traffic between Europe, Asia and other continents, directly or with a connection.

WEATHER

Rwanda can be visited and enjoyed any time of the year.

Temperatures average around 24°C (75°F), except for in the higher mountain areas where it ranges from 10°C to 15°C (50°F to 60°F).

The dry season which lasts from mid-May to mid-October, is the best time to track, hike and mountain climb, however, it is not as “green” as the wet season, which spans the other half of the year.

Wet Season: mid-October to mid-May.

The Northeast has a lot more rain due to the volcanoes being covered in rainforest. Karisimbi (the highest peak in Rwanda at 2,507 meters) is usually covered with snow.

The time in Rwanda is GMT+2

PLASTIC BAGS

As part of an environmental protection policy, plastic bags are not allowed into Rwanda. Passengers entering Kigali International Airport, or any other border posts with plastic bags are required to discard them, and are supplied with an environmentally friendly alternative at a cost ranging from \$2-\$6.

VISAS

Travelers from all countries can obtain a visa upon arrival for 30 days, without prior request for \$30 and can be paid in cash (Sterling, US dollars or Rwandan francs) or by Visa/MasterCard. A visa can also be bought online ahead of travel (this must be

completed at least 72 hours in advance of arrival) using the following links: [here](#) or [here](#). The applicant will receive a response from the immigration authorities within 3 days. This response must be printed and handed over to the border control of immigration on arrival. Please note that the passport must be valid for 6 months after the return date.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

In the context of reciprocity, a 90 days visa is provided free to nationals of the following countries: Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Haiti, Senegal, Seychelles, Sao Tome and Principe, Democratic Republic of Congo, members of the Community of East African States, Mauritius, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Singapore. For diplomatic and service passports, an exemption is applied for the following countries: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, India, Israel, Morocco and Turkey.

Countries affected by Yellow Fever; all attendees must bring their certificate of inoculation, otherwise a further vaccination will be injected upon arrival, possibly at additional cost. Further information available here: <https://www.migration.gov.rw/index.php?id=261>

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The power supply in Rwanda is 220/240V AC. It is advisable to bring your own round, two-prong adapter and transformer for 100V AC.

TELEPHONE & SIM CARDS

Mobile telephone service providers also provide gateway to Internet using GPRS, 3G and 4G. Cell phone SIM cards are widely available; however, every SIM card user/buyer in Rwanda is expected by law to be registered for activation. The SIM card can be registered at the point of purchase. Below are the major mobile phone network operators in Rwanda.

- Tigo & Airtel Rwanda: www.africa.airtel.com/rwanda
- MTN Rwanda: www.mtn.co.rw

Please ensure your phone is unlocked.

MONEY & BANKING SERVICES

The Unit of currency is the Rwandan Franc (RWF) that is divided into 100 centimes. Exchange rates are subject to fluctuation. Currently, 1 USD is approximately equivalent to 890 RWF. There are ATMs throughout Kigali that are accessible to visitors.

Banking amenities are available at all commercial banks; local and regional banks hold agreement with a variety of credit card networks:

- VISA: Bank of Kigali, Ecobank, Equity bank, I & M bank, Kenya Commercial Bank, ACCESS bank, Banque populaire du Rwanda and Urwego Opportunity bank
- MasterCard: Bank of Kigali, ACCESS bank, Cogebanque and Equity bank
- China Union Pay: Access bank, Equity bank and Bank of Kigali
- Japan Credit Bureau: Equity bank

- American Express: Equity bank and Bank of Kigali
- Diners Club: Equity bank and Bank of Kigali

Most internationally recognized currencies and travelers' cheques can be exchanged at commercial banks, hotels and international airport. Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.

Bureaux de Change (FOREX Bureaus) are mostly located in Kigali and can offer a slightly better exchange rates than most banks.

All banks and most Bureaux de change are closed on Sundays, and on the last Saturday of every month until 11:00 am for the national day of community work, "UMUGANDA".

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

Rwanda is safe. We do recommend that you exercise normal caution, as you would at home, when travelling in our country.

Police

- Rwanda National Police (RNP) operates 24 hours a day and can help in case of an emergency.
- Toll free call: 112
- Contact Police headquarters on phone number: +250 788311110 /4/5
- The same numbers can be used if outside Kigali. All these numbers can be called using a mobile phone.

Ambulance

- SAMU – Toll Free number 912

Fire

Fire services are provided by Rwanda, National Police 24 hours a day and 7 days a week

- Mobile: +250 788311120
- Tel: 0252570195

ACCOMMODATION

No	Name of hotel	Hotel web link	Distance to the NISR Training centre		Prices
			Driving	Walking	
1	Ubumwe Grande Hotel	http://ubumwegrandehotel.com/	3 min	13 min	USD 220
2	Kigali Marriott Hotel	https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/kglmc-kigali-marriott-hotel/	4 min	22 min	USD 270
3	2000 Hotel	http://2000hotelkigali.com-rwanda.com/en/	4 min	17 min	Rwf 63,819
4	Hotel des Milles Collines	https://www.millecollines.rw/contact-us/	2 min	14 min	Rwf 117,755
5	5 Swiss Hotel	http://www.5swisshotel.com/#/rooms	3 min	17 min	USD 100
6	Serena Hotel	https://www.serenahotels.com/serenakigali/en/default.html	5 min	26 min	USD 400
7	Galaxy Hotel	https://www.galaxyhotelrwanda.com/	2 min	14 min	USD 150
8	Park inn by Radisson Kigali	https://www.parkinn.com/hotel-kigali	5 min	26 min	USD 185
9	Urban by City Blue Hotel	https://www.citybluehotels.com/hotels/urban-by-cityblue-kigali/	4 min	23 min	Rwf 83,357
10	Hotel Okapi	http://okapihotel.com-rwanda.com/	1 min	7 min	Rwf 33,792
11	Iris Guest House	http://irisguesthouse.com-rwanda.com/	4 min	20 min	Rwf 82,593
12	ONOMO Hotel Kigali	https://www.onomohotel.com/en/hotel/9/onomo-hotel-kigali	4 min	23 min	USD 76
13	Amaris Hotel	http://amarishotel.rw/	7 min	47 min	USD 70
14	Scheba Hotel	http://schebahotel.com/	4 min	28 min	USD 120
15	Hill view hotel Kigali	http://hillviewhotelrwanda.com/	2 min	13 min	USD 120
16	Karisimbi hotel	https://hotelkarisimbi.com/?v=5c6dc3d43650	4 min	26 min	USD 200
17	Hotel Gloria	https://www.gloriahotelrwanda.com/	3 min	13 min	USD 74

No	Name of hotel	Hotel web link	Distance to the NISR Training centre		Prices
			Driving	Walking	
18	Heaven Restaurant & Boutique Hotel	https://www.heavenrwanda.com/	3 min	17 min	
19	New Impala Hotel	https://www.kayak.com/Kigali-Hotels-New-Impala-Hotel.2310019.ksp	1 min	5 min	

TRANSFERS & TRANSPORT

Please note that the hotels that are confirmed as official conference hotels are also those from which transportation will be provided to and from the airport as well as to and from the event venue.

Delegates are welcome to make their own accommodation arrangements at a B&B, hostel or guesthouse. However, delegates who book their stay elsewhere must access transportation on their own to & fro airport and meeting venue. Airport taxis are also available. Prices vary from 15 USD to 20 USD.

FOR MORE PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON RWANDA, PLEASE VISIT:

http://rcb.rw/IPG_2019.pdf

http://rcb.rw/MPG_2019.pdf

<http://www.rcb.rw/dine-shop-get-around/>