

FLIGHT

PASSPORT

VISA



INFORMATION

Mongolia and Siberia: Nomadism, Geopolitics, and the Environment
Fall 2020

GENERAL FLIGHT INFORMATION

This document is designed to assist you in making your travel arrangements. An essential part of your preparation for studying abroad includes obtaining the proper travel documentation for your international stay. Please read this document carefully to determine if you need to take action *immediately* in preparation for travel.

You are responsible for booking your own travel to and from the program location. In addition, it is your responsibility to read and understand the terms and conditions for your airline ticket(s), to reconfirm your flight reservations in advance of the day of travel, and to be aware of airline and TSA regulations for baggage size and contents. SIT is not responsible for additional charges you may incur as a result of airline schedule changes or other travel-related reasons.

Once you have finalized your travel arrangements, please log into your application portal and enter your itinerary information and any notes about your arrival in the *Travel Information* section of your application. This will ensure that SIT staff knows when to expect you. Please submit your travel itinerary no later than 30 days prior to your program's start date.

AIRLINE INFORMATION

We have been advised that the following airlines usually provide service to the meeting location for this program: Mongolian Airline MIAT, Korean Air, Air China, Aeroflot and Turkish Airlines.

You can, of course, travel on any airline of your choice; however, please note that regardless of your transportation carrier, you are expected to be at your meeting location at the required time.

OTHER KINDS OF TRANSPORTATION

One way of traveling to and from Mongolia could be railway transportation. There are weekly trains of Chinese railways commuting between Moscow and Beijing via Ulaanbaatar. Mongolian railways and Russian Railways offer train rides between Ulaanbaatar and Moscow each once a week. There are also trains between Ulaanbaatar and Irkutsk, Russia, running three days a week.



ARRIVAL INFORMATION

You are expected to meet your group at the following date, time, and location:

Program Arrival Date: Monday, February 17, 2020

Arrival Airport: Chinggis Khaan International Airport (ULN)

Group Meeting Time: 7:00 am; 11:00 am; 5:00pm, 11:00 pm

Group Meeting Location: Next to the coffee shop (on your right hand side) on the first floor

Group Will Be Met By: SIT Mongolia staff members: Baatar Akh, Shijir, Maralaa, and/or Tugsuu

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are unable to find suitable travel arrangements which will allow you to arrive at the specified date and time, you must contact your admissions counselor as **BEFORE** you make any reservations. If you don't arrive within the expected time frame, you may miss required program orientation sessions.

Arrival prior to the start of the program IS possible. However, please note that we are required to process long-term registration of students with the local authorities within seven days of the program's start date. Arriving early and/or not getting registered on time could inhibit your ability to legally reside in the country until the program's conclusion date.

No SIT Study Abroad staff will be able to assist you with any matter should you arrive before the program's commencement due to personal travel or for any other reason. Please note that medical insurance, provided to you through SIT Study Abroad for the duration of your program, is not in effect either before the program start date or after the program end date.



DEPARTURE INFORMATION

You are expected to plan your departure for the following date, time, and location:

Program Departure Date: Sunday, , May 31, 2020

Departure Airport: Chinggis Khaan International Airport (ULN)

Earliest Departure Time: Any time

It is possible to remain in-country after the program ends. While you may remain in-country on your own, be aware that **you will be responsible** for obtaining a tourist visa before your student visa expires and extending your local registration. As mentioned above, student medical insurance is not in force either before the program start date or after the program end date. You may have to get a new registration with the Immigration Office as well. Please note that the program is no longer responsible for you after the end of the scheduled program.

PASSPORT INFORMATION

To participate in this program, you will need a signed **passport that is valid for at least six months after the end of the program.**

- If necessary, apply for a new passport or renewal immediately.
- **US Citizens:** consult US State Department information at http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html for passport processing times and application procedures.
- **Non-US Citizens:** contact your embassy or consulate.

You may need to expedite your passport application in order to meet visa application deadlines. Please check with your admissions counselor at studyabroad@sit.edu or (888) 272-7881 to discuss whether you should expedite your application.

VISA INFORMATION

A visa is an official endorsement from a foreign government permitting entry into and travel within a particular country or region for a specified period of time. A visa may be glued or stamped directly into an applicant's passport or be on a separate paper or insert.

Students with US passports:

For this program, students with US passports will need [*a multiple entry/exit "S" student visa for Mongolia.*]

Processing time for this visa is around [*one to two weeks*].

Students with US passports will obtain their tourist visa for Russia (Siberia) from Mongolia.

Further information about visa application processes, if applicable, will be sent by e-mail from your admissions counselor in [*mid-July*] for fall semesters and [*mid-end November*] for spring semesters. **DO NOT** apply for any visas until you receive this information.

Students with non-US passports:

Students without a US passport may be subject to additional or different requirements for obtaining a visa or meeting other conditions of entry into the country or countries listed above. Many countries require individuals to apply for visas in person at the relevant embassy or consulate located in their country of citizenship. We strongly recommend that you contact the embassy of each country the program will be traveling to very early in the process to confirm visa and/or entry requirements applicable to your country of citizenship and determine next steps while allowing plenty of time to apply. If the foreign consulate permits non-US passport holders to apply for the required visa from within the United States, applicants are encouraged to contact Trivisa Visa Services. As an experienced visa agent working closely with a number of SIT programs, Trivisa may be able to assist you in your visa application process. A service discount is available by entering "SIT" as the corporate code in your Trivisa online application. It is your responsibility to confirm and complete the visa application process particular to your situation, and to keep your admissions counselor informed.

GENERAL VISA AND PASSPORT NOTES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- You are responsible for complying with all visa procedures and deadlines.
- Keep in mind that procedures and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the embassy or consulate with jurisdiction over your application. Students should double-check visa procedures prior to sending materials to ensure accuracy.
- Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the applicable consulate or embassy; SIT assumes no responsibility for the issuance or denial of any visa.
- Please make a copy of the first two pages of your passport (one of which has your photo), and give these photocopies to your academic director once you arrive.
- You may also need to bring your yellow WHO vaccination card or a copy of your immunization record; please see the [Safety, Security, and Health](#) pre-departure document for more details.
- Students are responsible for their own passports. The program may hold passports for students when at the program site and when on excursion. Students should have passports on their person during ISP. Throughout the term, students should keep a copy of their passport and visa on their person at all times.
- If you are planning to travel to other countries before or after the program or your transit route involves connections in other countries, check with the embassies of those countries before you leave the US regarding visas, documents, and/or immunizations required. Please contact your admissions counselor as soon as possible to discuss the feasibility of your plans.



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the US office of SIT Study Abroad at 802-258-3212 or toll-free in the US at 888-272-7881 and ask to speak to your admissions counselor, who is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM–5:00 PM (US East Coast time) to assist you.

