UbuntuNet CONNECT | 2023

INFO-PACK

All you need to know about your stay in Kampala, Uganda

In order to ensure that you have a smooth experience at the UbuntuNet-Connect 2023 conference, we have compiled this document to aid your understanding of what to expect while in the host country. This info pack will shed light on a number of vital elements that range from international diplomatic relations with other countries to internal security concerns for both local and visiting participants.

The details provided in this document are solely meant for foreign travelers coming to Uganda and especially for the UbuntuNet-Connect Conference happening on 26th and 27th October 2023. Neither RENU, UbuntuNet Alliance nor the organizing committee of the conference will be held responsible for anyone who uses this information for any other reasons besides attending the Conference on the scheduled dates.

For further information regarding any aspect of the info pack provided in this document, a list of contacts has been provided at the end of this document for the sole purpose of assisting any of our participants on matters regarding any information about the conference.

More details with respect to visa applications can be sought from the respective participant's home diplomatic mission to Uganda or consulate or online via the web links provided in this document.

All inquiries regarding any other restrictions, security concerns, processes or requirements with respect to traveling to Uganda should be addressed to RENU and UbuntuNet Alliance staff whose contacts have been provided in this document.

Travel Regulations and Requirements

VISA Applications

All persons intending to travel to Uganda for holiday, tourism, business, study, visit, and/or medical are required to apply and obtain a visa online. Applications should be filled out at the following link. The application should be made at the earliest possible since the application undergoes a series of reviews from the immigration officers before being accepted. Please note that the following countries are visa-exempt; Angola, Eritrea, Malawi, Madagascar, Seychelles, Swaziland, Zambia, Comoros, Kenya, Mauritius, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Antigua, Barbados, Fiji, Grenada, Lesotho, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands-The Grenadines, Vanuatu, Ghana, Cyprus, Bahamas, Belize, Gambia, Jamaica, Malta, Singapore, St. Vincent-Tonga.

Passports

All individuals intending to travel to Uganda will need passports to enable their entry. The passport should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of entry into Uganda

Currencies

The local currency used in Uganda is the 'Uganda Shilling'. However, a number of International currencies are acceptable, especially in well established businesses. These currencies are the US Dollar, The British Pound and the Euro. Other currencies can be exchanged at dedicated forex bureaux within the country. The exchange rates are solely determined by the Forex Bureau and may change without any warning.

Card Transactions

For travelers using cashless methods, Mastercard and VISA cards are acceptable especially in established hotels, supermarkets, and shops.

Local Taxi Services

There are two Local service firms in Uganda that are widely used and recognized, these are Uber and Safeboda/Safetaxi. These are operated via an App installed on one's phone both Android and IOS operating systems. Use the links to download SafeBoda and Uber.

Tour guides and travels

A number of tourist destinations exist in Uganda. Individuals intending to take time and tour the country can find the details on one of Uganda's oldest travel companies, Uganda Travel Bureau to book a slot. All travelers are advised to carry a type G adapter for seamless use of their personal electrical appliances. See the image below.

Type G

Weather

Generally, October in Uganda is usually pleasantly warm, humid but cool. With temperatures ranging between 26OC to lows of 19OC. To find more about the weather forecasts. Please use BBC Weather or the UNMA Website. It's important to note that Uganda National Meteorological Association (UNMA) offers a quarterly forecast, regular updates are uploaded to the site every after a given interval. It is therefore vital to keep checking the site and different verified social media channels of Uganda's media houses for more on the climate and weather updates.

Health and Safety

Hospitals, Pharmacies and General Clinics

Medical facilities can be accessed all around the Conference venue from established medical centres such as Kiruddu National Referral Hospital. Other nearby hospitals include International Hospital Kampala, Namuwongo which is within 20 minutes from the conference venue.

A number of pharmacies for general prescriptions are established within Munyonyo. However, a few of them offer delivery services. These include First Pharmacy, Rocket Health and Ecopharm which can be accessed through the websites below;

- First Pharmacy
- RoketHealth
- Ecopharm

Police Stations

Local police stations are established in various locations to ensure accessibility to law enforcers in cases of emergency. The coordinates to the nearest police station from the UbuntuNet Connect Conference venue.

Emergency Contacts

A number of avenues are in place in regards to contacting police and other state security bodies in case of emergency. More of these can be accessed on the Uganda Peoples' Defense Force site. A selected list has been shared at the end of this document.
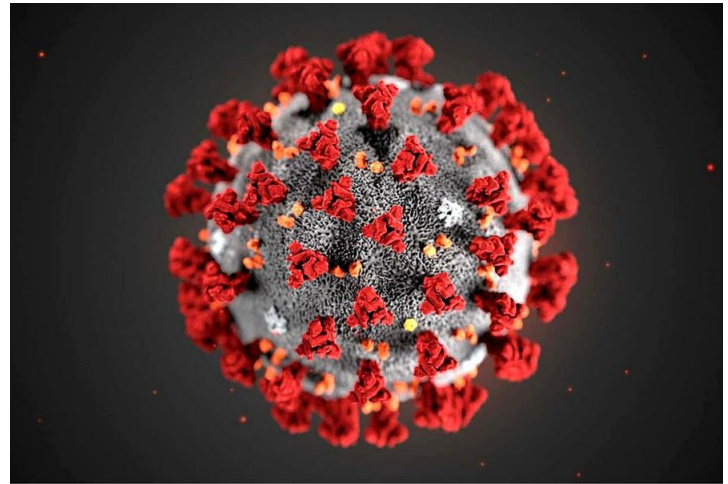
Medical Requirements

Yellow Fever Vaccine

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Health is committed to protecting the population from the risk of importing or further spreading the Yellow Fever virus by establishing entry and exit requirements on Yellow Fever Vaccination for travelers.

Proof of vaccination is often required for travelers arriving from countries with risk of Yellow Fever transmission and sometimes for travelers in transit through such countries.

Accordingly, in line with International Health Regulations, Uganda abides by World Health Assembly resolutions on the requirement for Yellow Fever vaccination for travelers thus;

1. Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is a requirement for persons travelling from endemic countries to Yellow Fever free countries.
2. It is not a requirement for travelers to receive booster doses after the one-time vaccination which gives lifelong protection.

Covid-19

Anyone arriving to Uganda will be required to present a negative PCR test, no older than 72 hours. Ensure to carry a face mask for your safety and others. More details can be accessed on the Ministry of Health website.

Food and Accommodation (Alternatives)

Restaurants

Restaurants serving both local and international dishes are scattered all over the country from the capital, Kampala to the outskirts of the main business district. Find a comprehensive list of restaurants on TripAdvisor.

Local and International Dishes

Some food establishments offer take away services and delivery via registered applications that can be installed on both IOS and Android. These apps include Jumia food, Glovo, Cafe Javas.

Accommodation

A list of alternatives and the prices has been compiled and can be accessed here.

General Information

Mobile and internet

Uganda currently has two popular telecom companies that offer mobile services within and outside the Country. These are MTN and Airtel Uganda. However, a wide range of internet service providers exist in the country.

All UbuntuNet Connect Conference guests in the country will be connected to eduroam, a trusted and secure SSID operated by RENU while at the conference venue.

Consulates and Embassies

Uganda has a number of embassies and consulates from various countries within and outside of Africa. A comprehensive list of these embassies and consulates can be accessed on the site embassies.net

Uganda: The Pearl of Africa

Want to know about the host country for the 2023 UbuntuNet Connect Conference? Check out the video link UbuntuNet Connect 2023, Kampala.

RENU Offices

Visit the host of the 2023 UbuntuNet Connect Conference in Uganda at their home and offices at Plot 6B, Mabua Road, Kololo or visit the website Finds the coordinates here

Important Contacts

Conference Support

Mable Swart
Email: mable.swart@ubuntunet.net

Harold Bowa
Email: harold.bowa@ubuntunet.net

Wilson Ivan Lwanga
Email: ilwanga@renu.ac.ug

Louise Karungi
Email: lkarungi@renu.ac.ug

Diana Asiimwe
Email: dasiimwe@renu.ac.ug

Uganda Security Forces

S/N	Security Organization	Contact_Phone
1	Emergency number	999 or 112
2	Uganda Police Force Press	0414289791
3	Counter Terrorism Unit	0800199139
4	Professional Standards Unit	0800199299
5	CPS Kampala	0800122291
6	CID Office	0800199499
7	Fire Brigade	0714667752