

Travelling to St. Kitts

St. Kitts is located in the eastern Caribbean. Renowned as an island resort, St. Kitts is easily accessible from New York, Miami, Puerto Rico, and other major airports. The major St. Kitts airport is Robert Llewellyn Bradshaw International Airport (airport code SKB), which is located about three miles northeast of Basseterre, the capital of St. Kitts.

Flying to and from St. Kitts

Students may book airfare independently; however, IUON recommends that students work with the IUON designated travel agent, Austin Travel. It may be possible to get the best airfare by booking with them because of volume discounts that have been negotiated with American Airlines.

Accepted students are responsible for booking their airfare. It is important that IUON know the student's itinerary as soon as possible to ensure that a University representative meets each student at the airport.

When leaving St. Kitts via air, there is a \$22.00 U.S. departure tax that must be paid at the airport prior to boarding the airplane. If paying in E.C., the tax is approximately \$60.00 E.C.

Designated Travel Agent

Tom Backer

Austin Travel

Tom.Backer@austintravel.com

Phone: 631-465-1000

Toll Free: 800-714-7618

Round Trip or Open-Ended Tickets

All students arriving in St. Kitts must have a round-trip ticket in order to comply with the St. Kitts visa requirements. E-tickets and open-ended return tickets are acceptable.

International Student Travel

Students traveling from international countries other than the U.S. cannot transit via U.S. airports, since travel without visa restrictions are now in place.

Typically, IUON international students can obtain transit visas with the German embassy from origin points in the African continent, and certain Pacific-Rim countries can usually transit through Singapore without need for direct air side transit visas. Also, many students can travel via London to Antigua, or to other Caribbean islands, if they first obtain permission from the British High Commission, in conjunction with a LOI/Letter of Introduction, from the IUON New York Administration office.

Students should work closely with their travel agent for specific country instructions and arrival/departure information.

What to Pack

Clothing

Clothing should be light weight, comfortable, and easy to wash. It is recommended that students bring sneakers as well as sandals for shoes. Rain gear, including light weight rain coats and umbrellas, is recommended. All classrooms, library, learning resource center and labs are air conditioned, so light sweaters or jackets should be packed.

Clinical work and social occasions will require more formal clothing. Women should wear skirts or dresses and men should wear slacks (no jeans), a dress shirt and tie.

What to Bring

The University recommends that students initially bring personal care items, medications, and must-have food items with them.

Other students have suggested the following:

- Board games
- Dress clothes/shoes
- Market bag
- Snorkel/Mask/Fins

- Calculator
- Envelopes
- Playing cards
- Spare eyeglasses

or sunglasses

Camera/Film

- Hair dryer/Curlers
- Reading books
- Toiletries

Combination lock
Hobby items
Sewing kit
Umbrella

DEET insect

repellent
Laundry bag
Shampoo/Conditioner
Waterproof watch

What NOT to Bring

For student safety and security, expensive items such as jewelry, stereo systems, etc. should not be brought to St. Kitts. It is not worth the risk of having these items lost or stolen. Also, there could be customs impacts by bringing in luxury items.

Luggage

Luggage regulations vary by airline. Many airlines are now charging for each piece of checked luggage, and their may be limits to the number of checked bags allowed as well as the number of carry-on pieces of baggage allowed.

Students should check with each airline on which they will be traveling to determine specific luggage regulations.

Students should make sure that each piece of luggage has tags with the student's name and address. It is recommended that an address tag be placed inside each piece of luggage as well.

Students are encouraged to pack a carry-on bag with extra clothing, toiletries, documents, medications, and other essentials in the event luggage is lost or delayed.

In addition, students should pack enough food items to last them for several days as grocery stores may be closed when the student arrives on St. Kitts.

Shipping

Items may be shipped to St. Kitts; however, it may be more convenient to purchase forgotten items after arrival. Apartments are furnished, so there is no need to send furniture to St. Kitts.

To ship items to St. Kitts, students may use U.S. Postal Service, Federal Express, United Parcel Service (UPS), DHL, or Amerijet International, which flies once a week from Miami.

Tropical Shipping (800-367-6200) may be used for shipping bulk items. Tropical Shipping requires that the items be shipped to their Miami location. Items are then sent weekly to St. Kitts via cargo ship.

Customs

International laws apply on St. Kitts, as elsewhere, with regard to importation of luxury items. Cigarettes, alcohol, bicycles, TVs, etc. will be taxed. St. Kitts and Nevis exercise strict anti-drug laws. Possession of illegal substances can result in large fines and possible imprisonment.