

# **GENERAL TRAVEL AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

World Aquaculture Safari 2025 (WA25, UGANDA): 24-27 June 2025, Speke Resort Munyonyo, UGANDA

# **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:**

We hope most of you have all registered and presenters have submitted their abstracts. Everyone MUST register online in order to be admitted into the Convention Centre and in order for us to correctly capture badge details. Payment on site is accepted for those who are unable to pay directly online. Advance/Early Bird registration closed on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Late registrations are still being accepted. To register online visit: <u>https://www.was.org/meeting/code/afraq25</u>

- Exhibitors: please upload/add the names for your staff online use the Exhibitor Link. The badges will be available at the EXHIBITORS REGISTRATION DESK.
- All others (national and international) participants who paid in advance can pick up their badges at the **ADVANCED REGISTRATION DESK** in case the badges are paid.
- For those who want to register and pay-on-site:
  - Eastern African Nationals please go the EASTERN AFRICA REGISTRATION DESK
  - All other international participants please go to the **ONSITE REGISTRATION DESK**
  - Ugandan Shillings, USD and EURO cash/card payments are accepted.

**REGISTRATION DESKS** are open on Tuesday 24 June from 12:00 noon to 17:00PM or on Wednesday 25 June from 07:30AM.

# **CONFERENCE VENUE:**

- The Conference venue is Speke Resort Munyonyo. This is a luxurious resort located on the shorelines of Lake Victoria, 10km from the Kampala City Centre and 35km from Entebbe International Airport.
- To learn more about the Speke Convention Centre, visit: <u>www.spekeresort.com</u>
- The Opening Ceremony and Plenary will take place at RWENZORI HALL with a seating capacity of nearly 2000 and modern infrastructure.
- Breakaway sessions and side-events will also take place within the Convention Centre. Refer to the <u>PROGRAMME GRID</u> or Program APP for Session room allocations:
- Speke has accommodation options, however it is short distance drive (5-15 minute) from various other Hotels and restaurants.

# **RESTAURANTS, DINING AND OTHER AMENITIES:**

- Speke Resort has 4 onsite restaurants, featuring international cuisine and garden views.
- There are several restaurants outside the resort, within short drive accessible by taxis or uber. Visit: <u>https://visitsentebbe.org/restaurants/</u>
- There are several shopping malls close to Speke, with large supermarkets and restaurants and other services eg bureau de changes.
- For those with <u>full conference registration</u> badges, only lunches and teas/coffee during conference times (25-27 June) are included in your registration.

# **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:**

#### 1. Ugandan visa application

- It is your responsibility to secure your visa to travel to Uganda, if needed. Please visit the
  official visa website to apply or to check the eligibility and application requirements on
  <a href="https://visas.immigration.go.ug/">https://visas.immigration.go.ug/</a>.
- If you have all requisite documentation in place, you can go ahead and apply for your visa early. Enter the requisite information and upload: Passport copy (bio-data page) with at least 6 months validity, Letter of invitation with clear address and clearly stating business in Uganda and Recent Passport-size Photograph taken in the last 6 months
- The visa processing may take up to 3 working days and costs \$50 (non-refundable), payable via credit/debit card online.
- If registered to attend WA25 Uganda and require an official letter of invitation from the organisers, please contact the WAS-AC Secretariat: <u>africanchapter@was.org</u>
- Do not forget to bring the <u>printed copy</u> of your visa approval document and your valid passport. Should you have any problems with your visa application, please contact us. A dedicated visa liaison person is on standby.

# 2. Flights to Entebbe, Uganda

All delegates coming from various international destinations will most likely land at Entebbe International Airport. Direct flights are available from key hubs such as Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Dar es Salaam, Kigali, Johannesburg, Cairo, Doha, Dubai, Istanbul, and various other European destinations. You may check your preferred itinerary via your travel agent or online booking platforms. It is advisable to book your flight early in order to benefit from relatively affordable prices.

#### 3. Arrival at Entebbe International Airport

- Upon arrival, follow the signs for immigration and have your documents ready, including your passport, visa document (if applicable), and any supporting documents such as a return ticket or proof of accommodation.
- Depending on the time of day, there may be long queues or traffic at the airport, so plan accordingly and allow extra time for transportation and customs.
- To learn more on customs information and restricted items please visit: <u>https://caa.go.ug/entebbe-international-airport/</u>. Exhibitors and those bringing specialised or declarable equipment <u>specifically for the Conference</u> need to contact their **clearing agent** ahead of time. Refer to your **Exhibitor Manual** for other guidelines.

#### 4. Airport shuttles and ground transportation

- WA25 Uganda attendees are advised to use their Hotel Shuttle services, wherever possible.
- Entebbe Airport Taxis and Airport car rental services are also available at airport. E-hailing services (Uber and Bolt) are available.
- Optionally, use Richard Chandia, Jinja Nile Transporters (+256757772574) jinja.nile.t@gmail.com
- Unless otherwise arranged with the Travel agent, shuttles are payable in cash in local Uganda Shillings, EURO or USD equivalent.
- It is important to provide your itinerary (arrival/departure schedules) and transport needs in advance to your Hotel or Travel Agent.
- For those staying at Speke Resort, the Hotel organises shuttle services, an airport pick up / dropoff service from Entebbe Airport to the Resort. This service is \$53.00 one way and can carry up

to 3 persons. Book by sending an email to <u>reservations@spekeresort.com</u> Send your name, contact info and your flight arrival or departure details.

• All other general transport requirements contact: **Regina** Travel consultant, <u>www.travelog.co.ug</u> (+256782532316)

SAFETY ON THE ROAD: While public transport by motorbikes, commonly known as Boda-boda, is the quickest means of transport around some congested parts of Kampala city, delegates are strongly advised to use Apps such SafeBoda, Faras, Uber and Bolt to request for a Boda.

#### 5. Hotels and Accommodation

It is your responsibility to secure your accommodation for the conference. WA25 Uganda has listed some of the Hotels within 5-15 minutes' drive from the conference venue for consideration. Please book directly with the Hotel or via online platforms eg bookings.com. Visit the Conference <u>Travel</u> Tab. For a list of identified budget Hotels

https://www.was.org/Meeting/pdf/AFRAQ25\_BudgetHotelAccomodation.pdf

# AQUACULTURE/FARM TOURS

WA25 Uganda has organised two identical aquaculture/farm tours for delegates wishing to learn more about aquaculture in Uganda. These will take place on 24 and 28 June 2025 respectively and are both limited to 50 participants on a first come first serve basis. The tour will pass through the following:

- $\Rightarrow$  Aquaculture Research and Development Centre, Kajjansi
- $\Rightarrow$  De Heus Aqua Feed Factory
- $\Rightarrow$  Lunch at the Sailing Club in Jinja
- $\Rightarrow$  Victoria Treasures Fish Farm Entebbe

**Cost per delegate: \$50.** <u>Click here</u> for full tour details. Send email to <u>worldaqua@was.org</u> with copy <u>africanchapter@was.org</u> if you wish to take up this tour.

# **HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- A YELLOW FEVER VACCINE CERTIFICATE is required from travellers from a yellow fever endemic country. Be sure to bring your yellow fever card.
- MALARIA: Uganda is a malaria-endemic country with high transmission rates, although the prevalence in Kampala has recently greatly reduced to about 1%, and below 9% on average in central and western Uganda. Therefore, delegates from non-malaria endemic (Non Immune) countries still remain at risk and are advised to consult their doctor on the current malaria prophylaxis medication they need to take before travel to and while in Uganda. Furthermore, if planning to participate in outdoor activities at night, they should consider using long-cover clothes and mosquito repellents to prevent mosquito bites.
- SAFETY: Like travelling anywhere in the world, it pays to take common-sense approaches to your safety and not to take any form of risk. In general, Ugandans are friendly and helpful, and incidents are generally both rare and minor. If you take normal precautions, you should be safe. Keep your valuables safely. Be aware of your surroundings when walking in the streets. In case of emergencies, please contact your local Hotel for assistance.
- TRAVEL and HEALTH INSURANCE is always recommended but not mandatory
- 4 Check with your Hotel on contact phone numbers for all Emergency Medical Services.

Uganda is a culturally diverse country with a rich heritage, and it is important to respect and appreciate local customs and traditions while visiting. Ugandans are generally friendly and welcoming, and showing an interest in their culture will be highly regarded.

# **CURRENCIES AND LOCAL TRANSACTIONS**

- The Ugandan Shilling (UGX) is the unit of Currency for Uganda. The current exchange rate of the UGX to the USD is approximately 3600 UGX to 1USD. The exchange rate fluctuates on a daily basis. Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Eurocard, Amex, Diner's Club) are accepted by major hotels, restaurants and in major malls around the country. Local UGX can be dispensed by most ATMs at banks and in Malls.
- Importation of foreign currencies is unlimited, if declared on arrival. Exportation of foreign currencies is allowed, up to the amount imported and declared on arrival.
- Forex Bureau de Change are available at Entebbe Airport and at some malls around Entebbe, as well as at most local Banks. These do change most major currencies eg Euros and USDs.

# **OTHER USEFUL TRAVEL ITEMS**

The power supply in Uganda is 240V AC, 50Hz. The associated plug type is G, which is the plug that has three rectangular pins in a triangular pattern. Delegates are advised to carry universal travel adapters.



- 🖊 The time in Uganda is GMT+3 Hours
- Official Language: English. Swahili is widely spoken.
- Dialling Code: +256
- Climatic Conditions: Uganda has a warm tropical climate, with temperatures ranging from 17-29°C (63- 84°F) for most of the year (April November), apart from the mountainous areas, which are much cooler. However, during the warmer months (December March) temperatures reach in excess of 30°C in some parts of the country.

For more information on visiting UGANDA: www.exploreuganda.com

# Wishing you a safe travel to WA25, UGANDA!!

