



PLANNING YOUR TRIP

It is recommended to make sure you have all the necessary documents for immigration and enrollment. Arriving in Thailand, you may be asked by the immigration and health officers. All passengers entering Thailand are checked through the Immigration Control. That's why you need to know about the regulations of your nationality.



All the documents you have must correspond in details. For example, some students are known by a "western" name or a nickname. However, if the documents from the university carry your "western" name while your passport and visa carry your full name, this may cause problems and will delay the process of immigration as the officers shall ensure that both of the names actually refer to the same person!

Keep the following documents in your hand luggage:

- A valid passport
- Your visa and/or other entry clearance documents, if required
- Travel documents
- Health clearance certificates, as required
- A letter of Acceptance from Khon Kaen University
- A letter confirming that you have sufficient money to pay for your fees, accommodation and subsistence during your stay. This could be a recent bank statements, proof of scholarship or a sponsor's letter
- Your original examination certificates or certified true copies
- Enough cash for the first few days

Once the Immigration Office approves your entrance, your passport will be stamped with the conditions of entry. The expiry date of the stamp supercedes your visa. This means you will have to extend your visa and/or conditions of stay before it expires, and it is the date that you must recollect.



Vaccination and Medication

Students must check their family physician and make sure they have the most current set of booster shots, such as tetanus and diphtheria.

The World Health organization (WHO) recommends that all travelers going to developing countries should get hepatitis A vaccinations. Students planning to stay for a year or exceed should get a complete series of booster shots and the vaccination series for both hepatitis A and B. The travelers may also consider getting vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis if as they plan to travel near bordering and rural areas.





Malaria and dengue fever in large cities and tourist areas in Thailand is rarely seen nowadays, but there's still a risk in the rural and bordering areas, especially near Cambodia and Burma. Nevertheless, you don't need to take any preventive medications. The WHO has placed Thailand in the category IV, which means the disease has already become drug-resistant. If you take preventive drugs, they can make it more difficult to treat the disease if you do catch it.

The best prevention is using mosquito repellent in the risky areas. Please bring either DDT containing products, or purchase sprays that use citronella in Asia. These are the most recommended and effective preventions.

Thailand is having problems with the spread of bird flu, and at this time, there is no vaccine against it. Because the Bird Flu transmitted from birds to humans, not humans to humans, risk to farmers and food preparation employees is high for having in contact with raw meat and infected cage birds. There is no problem if the meat has been cooked. For precaution, students should stay away from poultry farms and from aviary exhibits in zoos but should not be overly worried.



Essential Documents and Stuffs

- Bring photocopies as well as original documents
 - Valid passport with a "non-immigrant" visa
 - Letter of eligibility and acceptance from KKU
 - Travel tickets and insurance documents
 - Credit card, money draft and other bank documents
 - Travelers' cheques, with a separate note of cheque numbers and emergency contact details
 - A Cash of Thai Baht for immediate needs during the first few days. We recommend to bring approximately 10,000 THB.
 - Education certificates and transcripts, with certified copies in English
 - I.D. card/ documents from home
 - Driving License (national and/ or international)
 - This handbook and any course-related documents
 - Recent passport-sized photographs
 - Health insurance documents
- Clothing and Health
 - Glasses and/ or contact lenses, with spares, prescription details, cleaning and care necessities
 - Any medicines you need, with prescription details, and note of blood group and any allergies to medication
 - Sunglasses, sunscreen, sunhat, or umbrella
 - Cotton clothing and underwear
 - Sport and swimming suits, towel and sports equipment
 - National dress, for formal occasions
 - Insect repellent (malaria pills not necessary in town)
 - Warmer clothing for cool season
 - Comfortable formal and informal footwear



- Personal toiletries, cosmetics, and sewing kit
- Comfort Needs
 - Photos of family, friends, and home
 - Address book
 - Diary, wall/desk calendars with pictures of home
 - Cookbook and special ingredients for traditional food
 - Book and magazines from home
 - Personal stereo with tapes/CDs of music from home
 - Religious literature and objects
 - English guidebook and/or video (PAL) of your homeland to present to your new friends
 - Small souvenirs of your homeland to give to new friends
 - Camera
- Study Needs
 - Alarm clock
 - Academic textbooks, equipment
 - English and Thai dictionaries
 - Portable computer, with adapter (220-240V, 2-pin plug, no earth)
 - Specialized subject dictionaries
 - Calculator



Remarks:

- A wide range of clothing, stationery and study necessities is available locally at very reasonable prices.
- Do not forget to inform all your home contacts and authorities of your departure/new address and cancel/change of any membership or subscription arrangements you may have.



Suvarnabhumi Airport

Suvarnabhumi Airport, a new international airport located 24 kilometres east of Bangkok was established to replace the old overloaded airport at Don Muang and accommodates all international and flights to Bangkok. The airport was previously available for both international and domestic flights. However, its facility problem result in the reopening of Don Muang Airport for domestic flights with 71 weekly flights moved back initially.



Travel to and from Suvarnabhumi Airport

Car

There are 3 convenient routes to the airport.

1. Bangkok-Chon Buri Motorway (Highway No. 7)
2. Km.15 Bang Na - Trat Highway
3. Rom Klao Road

Taxi and limousine services are available at the airport.

Bus

- The Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) operates 7 city bus routes to the airport. Maximum bus fare is 35 baht.



1. Bus no. 549 Bang Kapi - Minburi - Suvarnabhumi
2. Bus no. 550 Happyland - Suvarnabhumi
3. Bus no. 551 Victory Monument - Suvarnabhumi (via Pratunam)
4. Bus no. 554 Rangsit - Suvarnabhumi
5. Bus no. 552 Onnut Skytrain Station - Suvarnabhumi (connected with skytrain Onnut Skytrain Station)
6. Bus no. 553 Samut Prakan - Suvarnabhumi
7. Ad-hoc route Don Muang - Suvarnabhumi

- The transport co., ltd. has provided air-conditioned buses (First standard) carrying passengers between Suvarnabhumi Airport and some major attractions such as Pattaya, Talat Rong Kluea and Nong Khai.

- Airport Bus Express operates 4 bus routes to the downtown with the cost of 150 baht for entire route.

- AE1 Suvarnabhumi-Silom (by expressway)
- AE2 Suvarnabhumi-Bang Lamphu (by expressway)
- AE3 Suvarnabhumi-Sukhumwit 3 or North Nana
- AE4 Suvarnabhumi-Hua Lamphong (by expressway)

Train

The State Railway of Thailand provides Air-conditioned Bogie Second Class Carriage running between Ransit and Hua Takae station. Passengers can connect to BMTA's bus to the Airport.



How to get to Khon Kaen University



Planes: There are 3 flights per day to and from Bangkok's DonMuang Airport (Domestic). A minibus is available from the Khon Kaen airport to KKU and all major hotels. For further information of booking and flight timetable, contact Thai Airway on +66-2-3561111 or <http://www.thaiair.com>



Trains: There are 4 trains per day to and from Bangkok's Hua Lumpong Railway Station. Overnight trains are comfortable with sleeper berths, and air-conditioned trains are also available. Once you arrive in Khon Kaen, you can take a Sorng-Taew or Tuk-Tuk from the Railway Station to Khon Kaen University or to the city. Contact State Railway of Thailand on + 66-222-0175, +66-2621-8701, +66-2220-4567 or <http://www.railway.co.th>



Buses: Air conditioned buses run to and from Mochit Bus Terminal Bangkok (North Eastern terminal) every half hour from early until late. They are faster than the train and more convenient. The buses are various to choose, but the most recommended agencies are Nakhonchai Air and Chan Tour. Again upon arrival into Khon Kaen you can take a Sorng-Taew or Tuk-Tuk from the bus station to Khon Kaen University or to the city.



Cars: The road from Bangkok to Khon Kaen is quite good and stretches about 450 km. It shall take you about 5 hours to drive.



Traveling Outside Thailand

Non-Thai students who expect to travel out from Thailand during the period of study should obtain a re-entry visa before the departure. If not, your visa will be invalid, and it results to begin the whole process to get the proper student visa at a Thai Embassy or Consulate outside Thailand.

Every time you go abroad you must check whether you require a visa to enter the country you intend to visit. Before traveling abroad, you should:

- Check that your passport will not be expire while you are away (normally required to have at least 6 months of validity)
- Keep with you a letter certified your student status from the university and others documents indicate that you can support yourself (e.g. bank statements, sponsor's letter).



Visa Extension



To extend your visa at the Thai Immigration Office, you need the following documents:

- A valid passport
- Visa extension request form, available at GS-KKU
- KKU letter obtained from GS-KKU
- A copy of relevant page of your passport (eg. Entry visa, the stamp of "Kingdom of Thailand", and a profile page with photo).
- 1,900 THB for visa extension fee
- a photo of 4 x 6 cm size