

Information for scientific guests and volunteers at the RSEC

- Please inform us of flight number and arrival time as soon as possible. When you exit the airport in Sharm el Sheikh, look for the driver holding a poster with your name on. The drive to Dahab takes around 1 hour. You will be welcomed at the RSEC house by a member of our staff or other volunteers.
- Your passport has to be valid for at least 6 months at the time of departure from Egypt.
- A tourist visa is needed. It can be organised either in the country of origin (Egyptian embassy) or at the airport in Egypt (price: 25 \$, validation: 30 days). An extended visa is required if duration of stay is longer than 30 days. The stay has to be declared as a tourist stay (not for working or research purposes), because there is no employment contract between the guest and the RSEC. For more information please ask us.
If your stay is 2 weeks or shorter, you do not need to buy a visa. A "Sinai only" is sufficient and is free of charge. If you are planning to travel outside Sinai (e.g. Cairo) or to Ras Mohammed National Park, you will need to buy the tourist visa for \$25. There are also certain excursions (not organised by RSEC (except Ras Mohammed National Park for some projects)) within the Sinai where the "Sinai only" is not valid. Please note: it is not possible to extend your visa if you have the "Sinai only".
- Money & currency:
The country currency is the Egyptian Pound (L.E.). Cash machines accept EC- and credit cards (e.g. Visa, MasterCard).
- Vaccination & medical care: At the moment no vaccinations are required (exception: yellow fever by arrival from areas with high infection risk). Vaccinations against Polio, Tetanus and Hepatitis A are recommended. Pharmacies offer most medicines without prescription; the next advisable hospital is located in Sharm el Sheikh.
- Due to recent research finding that sunscreen has a more damaging effect on corals than previously thought; it is advisable to bring sunscreen not containing the damaging ingredient oxybenzone.
- Climate & clothing: The summer months are hot and dry. In contrast the winter months can be relatively cool. From autumn till spring long trousers and sweaters are absolutely necessary. To respect the predominant Muslim population very short and translucent clothing as well as deep cut outs should be avoided. Please educate yourself about local culture and customs before arrival.
- Electricity & water:
The voltage is between 220 and 230V. Fluctuations and power outages occur occasionally. Sometimes adapters for power outlets are necessary and should be brought just in case. Tap water is suited for washing and brushing teeth, but not for drinking.
- Please contact us by e-mail one or two days before arrival to make sure flight details are correct

Our telephone numbers:

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Our c/o address:

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