United States Embassy Maputo, Mozambique

Message for U.S. Citizens: New Enforcement of Visa Requirements for Entry July 17, 2014

U.S. citizens traveling to Mozambique should be aware of newly enforced entry requirements to obtain a visa in advance of arrival in the country. With the exception of nationals from a few neighboring countries, all foreigners traveling to the country require a visa. In the United States, visas may be obtained from the Mozambican Embassy in Washington DC. See: http://www.embamoc-usa.org/

Officially, since 2003 foreigners traveling to Mozambique have been instructed to obtain a visa in advance if they are arriving from a country that has a Mozambique embassy. Travelers arriving from other countries without Mozambican representation have been able to purchase single-entry visitors' visas valid for 30 days at the airport or other points of entry for \$82. Unofficially, until recently almost all foreigners have been permitted to purchase these visas on arrival. The only factor being different from obtaining a visa in advance was that the 'visto de fronteira' was \$25 more expensive and limited to a single entry.

This is no longer the case. Foreigners arriving without a visa from a country with a Mozambican mission will likely be denied entry and sent to South Africa or another country on the next available flight. Many U.S. citizens have recently been denied entry and deported. The U.S. Embassy strongly recommends that all U.S. citizens obtain visas in advance from the Mozambique Embassy in Washington DC or another country. In practice, even Americans arriving from a country without a Mozambican diplomatic presence are sometimes being denied entry if arriving without a visa.

Travelers to Mozambique should also pay careful attention to other requirements of their visas and be prepared to show any documentation which accompanied their applications. U.S. citizens have been denied entry for not being able to produce an invitation letter, other requested documentation, or correctly completed arrival forms.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Mozambique enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at travel.state.gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the <u>State Department's website</u>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the <u>Country Specific Information for Mozambique</u>. For additional information, refer to the <u>"Traveler's Checklist"</u> on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Maputo is located at 193, Avenida Kenneth Kaunda, and is open 0730-1730 M-Th, 0730-1130 F, Tel: 21-492-797. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent

assistance outside of business hours, the emergency after-hours number for the U.S. Embassy is

84-306-6480.