



The Gambia Relocation Blueprint

Moving to The Gambia Checklist

Moving to a new place can be overwhelming. This checklist helps you stay organized when relocating to The Gambia, whether you are returning home, investing, or starting fresh.

1. Before You Move

Documents

- Passport valid for travel
- Original Birth/marriage certificates + Copies
- Property documents (Land, Home, Car, Assests)
- Medical Records (If necessary)

Financial Preparation

- Set relocation budget (For plane tickets, layovers, landing day)
- Set Savings Goal (For emergencies and asset building)
- Have an active business or job lined up.
- Make advanced payment for residential living. (Commonly 6-12 months)
- Prepare access or create accounts to receive international funds (Banks, Cash App, APS, SendWave, etc.)

Planning

- Download WhatsApp
- Consider which bank you'd like to open and account with. (Ecobank, Trust Bank, GT Bank, etc.)
- Contact **Viges Business** or your trusted agents to help secure accommodations (temporary or permanent)
- Learn the basic local customs, greetings, and languages. (Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, etc.)
- Inform your job of your move. (...or don't.)
- Make sure your mobile phone is completely unlocked by carrier. (For International SIM Card use)
- Send off Shippment (If necessary)

- Make preparations for your home in your current country. (If you're not renting)
- Purchase plane tickets (3-6 months ahead recommended)
- Contact schools about registration (If necessary)

2. Bring these in your *Carry On* or *Checked Bags*

- Essential clothing and shoes (For a hot, sandy, humid climate)
- Basic electronics and chargers (Most US electronics can't handle the voltage and fluctuating power)
- Personal medical supplies + Kits
- Important paperwork (hard + digital copies)
- Cash
- Passports
- Essential toiletries and sanitary products
- Valuables (Jewelry, Family Airlooms, Ashes etc.)

3. Arrival Priorities

Airport:

- Pay entry fee
- Get Visa(s)
- Collect checked baggage
- Meet trusted local contacts
- Arrive at your new home.
- Get local SIM card (Africell, Commium, Q-Cell)

4. First 30 Days Plan

- Start identification Process (Residential Permit, DL, TIN Number)
- Understand local processes and regulations ("*Gambian Time*")
- Build reliable local network (Find your community)
- Learn the transportation system (Taxis, Gelee-Gelees, Tuk-Tuks, etc.)
- Locate nearest essential services (Markets, Hospitals, Stores, Schools, etc.)
- Open local bank account.
- Download Wave
- Explore nearest market (Learn the art of bargaining)
- Register children into school (If necessary)
- Get WIFI Router
- Purchase necessary house hold items (Furniture, Appliances, Silverware, etc.)
- Have Fun and Explore!

5. Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Rushing into land purchases (Consult with ***Viges Business***)
- Ignoring local advice or guidance (Things work differently in Africa)
- Underestimating relocation costs (Africa doesn't equal Cheap)

- Skipping due diligence (Do the research)
- Not visiting before moving
- Not having a clear plan before arrival

Final Note

A successful relocation is not rushed—it is planned. The more structured your move, the smoother your transition will be.

Need Help?

Viges Business assists with relocation to The Gambia through our 14-Day Bridging the Gap service. Learn more at Viges.Business or contact us at info@viges.business or WhatsApp +220 416 704.