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Company Registration in Rwanda

The Complete Checklist & Cost Guide for Foreign Investors (2026)

Foreign ownership	Up to 100% (most sectors)	**Authority**	RDB
Timeline	~6 hours (same day)	**Register remotely**	Yes
Gov. cost	Free to register	**Min. capital**	None

1. Before you start

- ☐ Decide your business structure (Private Company Limited by Shares suits most foreign investors)
- ☐ For foreign firms, choose between a local subsidiary (LLC) or a foreign branch office
- ☐ Confirm shareholding structure (1-100 shareholders for a private company)
- ☐ Identify directors, shareholders and beneficial owners
- ☐ Secure a registered physical business address in Rwanda
- ☐ Note: 100% foreign ownership is allowed and no minimum share capital is required

2. Reserve your company name

- ☐ Prepare 3 name options in order of preference
- ☐ Check availability on the RDB online portal
- ☐ Ensure the name is unique, lawful and not misleading or offensive
- ☐ Reserve the approved name through RDB

3. Documents to prepare

- ☐ Memorandum & Articles of Association
- ☐ Copies of IDs / passports for all directors and shareholders
- ☐ Proof of registered office address in Rwanda
- ☐ Share apportionment (allocation of shares among shareholders)
- ☐ Description of the company's business activities
- ☐ Beneficial ownership details where required by law
- ☐ Foreign branch (extra): notarised Power of Attorney, Board Resolution, parent Certificate of Incorporation & Articles; at least one Rwanda-resident representative

4. Register with RDB

- ☐ Submit the application and documents through the RDB online One-Stop Centre
- ☐ RDB verifies the application and documents
- ☐ Receive your Certificate of Incorporation (typically within ~6 hours)
- ☐ Your registration code doubles as your Tax Identification Number (TIN)

5. After registration

- ☐ Tax (TIN) with the Rwanda Revenue Authority (RRA) is issued with incorporation
- ☐ Register for VAT once turnover exceeds RWF 20 million / 12 months (or RWF 5m / quarter)
- ☐ Employer registration with the Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB) is included
- ☐ Open a corporate bank account (choose from 16 commercial banks)
- ☐ Obtain any sector-specific permits or licences your activity requires
- ☐ File annual returns with RDB, including updated financials

6. Foreign investors - don't forget

- ☐ 100% foreign ownership is permitted in most sectors - no local partner needed
- ☐ Notarise/apostille home-country documents (branch registrations) before submission
- ☐ Appoint at least one Rwanda-resident representative for a foreign branch
- ☐ Profits and capital can be repatriated freely - register as an investor with RDB for incentives
- ☐ Explore tax incentives: 15% CIT for priority sectors, holidays for large strategic projects

Let Afrisetup register your Rwandan company - remotely, from anywhere.
We handle name reservation, documents, tax & RSSB registration and compliance. Get your fixed all-in quote at afrisetup.com/rwanda/contact-us