

2017 EDITION

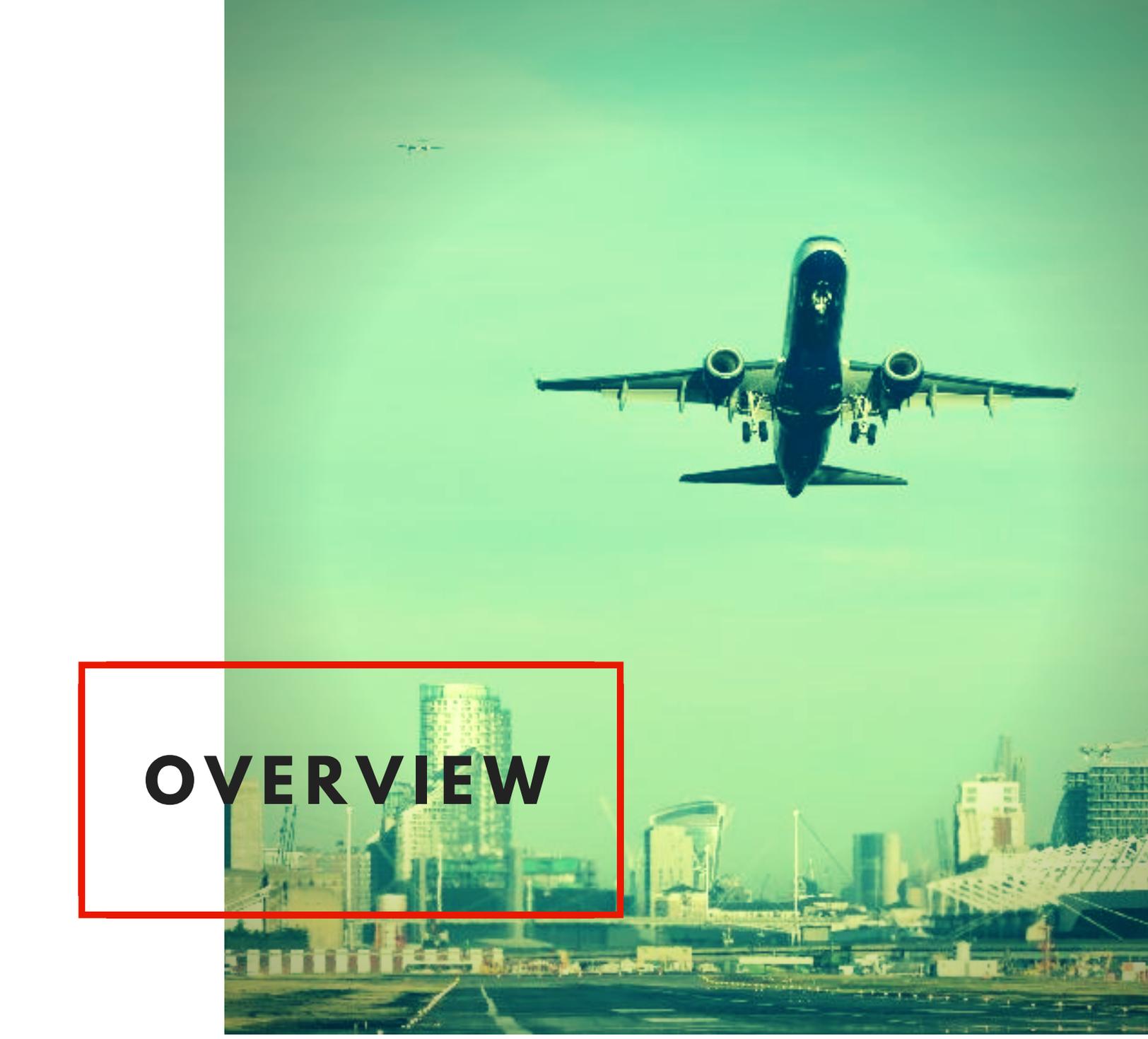
NO VISA GUIDE

FREE GUIDE TO CHINA'S 72-
AND 144-HOUR
VISA-FREE PROGRAM

EXPROMOTER

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OVERVIEW

China's visa-free travel programs allow a traveler arriving at certain ports of entry to be admitted to China and stay within a specified geographic area for 72 or 144 hours visa-free **before continuing their journey to ANOTHER country (or region).**

144-HOUR STAY

Transit without a visa is permitted for 144 hours only if you arrive in one of the following cities:

- **SHANGHAI** (SHANGHAI PUDONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OR SHANGHAI HONGQIAO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **HANGZHOU** (HANGZHOU XIAOSHAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **NANJING** (NANJING LUKOU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)

72-HOUR STAY

Transit without a visa is permitted for a maximum of 72 hours only if you arrive in one of the following cities:

- **BEIJING** (BEIJING CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **CHANGSHA** (CHANGSHA HUANGHUA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **CHENGDU** (CHENGDU SHUANGLIU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **CHONGQING** (CHONGQING JIANGBEI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **DALIAN** (DALIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **GUANGZHOU** (GUANGZHOU BAIYU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **GUILIN** (GUILIN LIANGJIANG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **HARBIN** (HARBIN TAIPING INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **KUNMING** (KUNMING CHANGSHUI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **QINGDAO** (QINGDAO LIUTING INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **SHENYANG** (SHENYANG TAOXIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **TIANJIN** (TIANJIN BINHAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **WUHAN** (WUHAN TIANHE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **XIAMEN** (XIAMEN GAOQI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)
- **XI'AN** (XI'AN XIANYANG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)

PERMITTED COUNTRIES

List of countries covered by the 72-hour and 144-hour visa-exemption transit policy as of November 1st, 2016:

- 1 EUROPEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF SCHENGEN VISA SCHEME (25)**
AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CZECH, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, NETHERLANDS, POLAND, PORTUGAL, SLOVAK, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, MONACO
- 2 OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (14)**
RUSSIA, UNITED KINGDOM, IRELAND, CYPRUS, BULGARIA, ROMANIA, UKRAINE, SERBIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO, MACEDONIA, ALBANIA, BELARUS
- 3 AMERICAN COUNTRIES (6)**
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CANADA, BRAZIL, MEXICO, ARGENTINA, CHILE
- 4 OCEANIA COUNTRIES (2)**
AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND
- 5 ASIAN COUNTRIES (6)**
REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, QATAR



DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

1. VALID PASSPORT
2. CONFIRMED ONWARD TICKET
3. VISA FOR A THIRD COUNTRY / REGION (IF NEEDED)
4. A FULLY COMPLETED ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE CARD

There will be a stand next to the immigration inspection desks with these cards

APPLICATION PROCEDURE



1. INFORM THE CARRIER BEFORE BOARDING
2. FILL OUT AN ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE CARD
3. APPLY FOR THE 72- / 144- HOUR STAY PERMIT UPON ARRIVAL
4. CLAIM LUGGAGE (IF NEEDED)
5. GO THROUGH CUSTOMS
6. LEAVE AIRPORT

ACCEPTABLE ROUTES

For example, the route UK - Guangzhou - UK is NOT eligible because the passenger does not fly to a third country or region. However, the routes UK - Shanghai - Hong Kong - UK, Japan - Nanjing - US, Canada - Guangzhou - Seoul - UK, and US - Singapore - Shanghai - USA are fine.

Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan count as third regions for the purposes of immigration affairs.

Layover time should be limited to 72 / 144 hours. However, the 72- / 144-hour free stay period counts from 00:00 of the day following a passenger's arrival. That means that the amount of time you're allowed to stay is actually a little bit longer than 144 hours. If you arrive at 6:00 am on July 1, the layover time counts from 00:00 of July 2.

TIPS (1)

- 1 IT IS NECESSARY TO INFORM THE CARRIER OF YOUR PLANS BEFORE YOU ARRIVE, SO THAT THEY CAN DECLARE YOUR REQUEST TO THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE FOR PROCESSING.
- 2 IN THE AIRPORT AFTER GETTING OFF THE PLANE YOU WILL HEAD FOR IMMIGRATION. THERE IS A COUNTER OR LANE DEDICATED TO 72- / 144-HOUR VISA-FREE TRANSIT AT THE IMMIGRATION INSPECTION, SO PASSENGERS CAN GO THERE DIRECTLY BY FOLLOWING THE SIGNS.
- 3 AFTER YOUR REQUEST TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS POLICY IS APPROVED, THE OFFICER WILL STAMP A STAY PERMIT ON YOUR PASSPORT, WHICH SHOWS YOUR PERMITTED STAY DURATION.
- 4 IF YOU HAVE A VALID VISA FOR CHINA, BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO USE IT THIS TIME, REMEMBER TO TELL THE OFFICER THAT YOU NEED TO USE THE 72- / 144-HOUR VISA-FREE TRANSIT.



TIPS (2)

- 5 AFTER LEAVING THE AIRPORT, REMEMBER TO REGISTER AT THE LOCAL POLICE STATION WITHIN 24 HOURS. IF YOU ARE STAYING AT A HOTEL, YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THAT BECAUSE THE HOTEL WILL DO IT FOR YOU. OTHERWISE, YOU SHOULD GO TO THE POLICE STATION IN PERSON TO REGISTER YOUR STAY.

- 6 IF PASSENGERS HAVE TO GO TO OTHER CITIES OR THEY CAN'T LEAVE WITHIN 72 OR 144 HOURS, THEY SHOULD GO TO THE LOCAL PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU AND APPLY FOR A NORMAL VISA. OTHERWISE, THEY MAY BE FACED WITH A FINE.

- 7 IF A PASSENGER HAS TO GO BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY OF DEPARTURE AFTER THEY HAVE OBTAINED THE VISA-FREE TRANSIT PERMISSION, IN MOST CASES THEY CAN GO BACK WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE AS LONG AS THEY LEAVE BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about non-visa transit, see the following pages:

- MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY
[ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING 72-HOUR TRANSIT VISA EXEMPTION FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS](#)
- SHANGHAI GENERAL STATION OF IMMIGRATION INSPECTION
[INTERPRETATION OF 144-HOUR VISA-EXEMPTION TRANSIT POLICY](#)
- SHANGHAI GENERAL STATION OF IMMIGRATION INSPECTION
[UPDATED LIST OF COUNTRIES COVERED IN THE 72-HOUR AND 144-HOUR VISA-EXEMPTION TRANSIT POLICIES](#)

Still have questions? Contact the immigration office or airport for more information.

WHERE TO STAY (1)

For your convenience, we have prepared a list of top exhibition centres in China and links to sites where you can book hotels close to these centers.

- **BEIJING**

CHINA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE (CIEC)

CHINA NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (CNCC)

NEW CHINA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTER (NCIEC)

BEIJING EXHIBITION CENTER

- **SHANGHAI**

SHANGHAI WORLD EXPO EXHIBITION & CONVENTION CENTER

SHANGHAI NEW INTERNATIONAL EXPO CENTRE (SNIEC)

SHANGHAI CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTER OF INTERNATIONAL SOURCING
NATIONAL EXHIBITION AND CONVENTION CENTER

SHANGHAI EVERBRIGHT CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE (SECEC)



WHERE TO STAY (2)

- **GUANGZHOU**

CHINA IMPORT AND EXPORT FAIR PAZHOU COMPLEX
POLY WORLD TRADE CENTER

- **SHENZHEN**

SHENZHEN CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTER

- **CHENGDU**

NEW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & EXPOSITION CENTER CHENGDU
CENTURY CITY

HAVE AN EASY TRIP!

Note, that it's your responsibility to check up-to-date information about the visa policy of the People's Republic of China before entering the country to avoid any problems.

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