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Apply for Tourist or Family Visit Visa

Tourist and family visit visa (L-visa) is issued to a foreign citizen who comes to China for tourist purpose, family visit or other personal affairs.

1. Checklist of documents required for application

- (1) Original passport remaining to be valid for at least 6 months from the date of application and with sufficient blank visa pages.
- (2) One completed **visa application form** with a recently-taken passport photo. All the items on the application form should be completed neatly with genuine information. If the applicant has a Chinese name, the Chinese name should be filled in. False or incomplete information and illegible characters may lead to refusal of a visa.
- (3) When a child who is under the age of 6 and was born abroad and of Chinese origin applies for a Chinese visa for the first time, the child's birth certificate *which must show the parent's name* and the permanent residence permit or certificate of nationality of the resident country from one of his or her parent should be provided.
- (4) An applicant holding a passport other than UK passport should provide the original and a copy of his or her permanent residence or work permit which should be valid for at least half a year (except for those who are visa or permit exempt for residing or working in the UK);
- (5) Applicants planning to tour Tibet should contact the Tourism Administration of the Tibet Autonomous Region (Tel: 0086-891-6834313; Fax: 0086-891-6834632) and provide visa notification issued by it.
- (6) Applicants applying for special tour to China should provide visa notification issued by China National Tourism Administration or the tourism administration of related province, autonomous region or municipality directly under the Central Government. Special tour includes self-driving, hiking, cycling, horse-riding, hot air balloon, or other expeditions.

2. Application procedure and processing time

(1) Application procedure

Book online appointment at the website of Chinese Visa Application Service Centre (CVASC) and then submit application to CVASC. Application without appointment will not be accepted. For more information, please visit www.visaforchina.org.uk. CVASC accepts postal application.

(2) Processing time

Regular visa processing time is normally 4 working days. For example, applicants lodging applications on Monday will collect the visas on Thursday. Express visa processing time is normally 3 working days. Applicants requesting the express service must lodge visa applications at the CVASC counter before 12:00 noon, Monday to Friday.

3. Important notes

- (1) Consular officers may request an applicant to provide additional supporting documents. The applicant should provide this as soon as possible.
- (2) Whether a visa is to be issued or not, and what type of visa to be issued shall be decided by Consular officers in the light of China's relevant laws and regulations. Application may be refused without detailed explanation.

(3) The applicant should check all the information of the issued visa upon collection and if necessary raise queries at the same time. If there is no immediate query relating to the issued visa, the applicant is held responsible under any circumstances thereafter.

(4) The visa application form should be fully completed and signed by the applicant upon completion (application for an applicant under 18 years of age should be signed by one of his or her parents). Items which are not applicable should be filled in with N/A.

(5) Please be advised to apply for a visa about one month in advance of the intended date of entry into China. The applicant is held responsible for any consequences resulting from the failure to submit visa application at an appropriate time, which may lead to either the issued visa becoming expired or it would be too late to get a visa before the intended entry date.

(6) Consular officers decide on the visa's period of validity, duration of stay and number of entry in the light of China's laws and regulations.

4. Fees

(1) Please pay on collection.

(2) Chinese Visa Application Service Centre accepts cash or debit card for payment.

(3) Schedule of visa Fees and Service Fees (Unit: British Pound):

| Fee category | | Amount | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | | UK Citizen | Third Country Citizen | US Citizen |
| Visa Fees | Single Entry | 30 | 20 | 65 |
| | Double Entries | 45 | 30 | 65 |
| | Multiple entries/6Months | 60 | 40 | 65 |
| | Multiple entries/ 1 year | 90 | 60 | 65 |
| | Extra fee for third working day collection | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Application Service Fees | Regular Service | 34.50(VAT inclusive) | | |
| | Express Service(third working day collection) | 46(VAT inclusive) | | |

Notes:

1. Visa Fees are collected on behalf of the Chinese Embassy.
2. Application Service Fees are charged by the Centre.
3. The total amount of the fees to be paid by an applicant = visa fees + application service fees.

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Related information:

- Apply for Diplomatic, Service, Courtesy Visa or Visa-exempt Certificate
- Apply for Permanent Residence Visa
- Apply for Crew Visa
- Apply for Journalist Visa
- Apply for Transit Visa