

Entering China

Entry into China usually involves a three-stage process:

- inspection of your passport, visa and other travel documents;
- completion of a health questionnaire; and
- customs inspection.

You can be fined or expelled if you arrive in China without a visa (except in Hong Kong or Macau, where only a valid passport is required).

Visas and Documentation

Canadians visiting China require a visa, which can be obtained from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ottawa, or from the Chinese consulates general in Calgary, Toronto and Vancouver. The Vancouver office has responsibility for British Columbia and Yukon. The Calgary office covers Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. The Toronto office handles applications from Ontario and Manitoba. Residents of the other provinces and territories should apply to

the Embassy in Ottawa. Visa applications can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Chinese Embassy, or they can be downloaded online (www.chinaembassycanada.org). Applications are normally processed in about five days, but priority service is available for an additional charge.

If you are travelling to Hong Kong first, visas for the rest of China can be obtained fairly quickly from the Visa Section of the Commission Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, 5/F Lower Block, China Resources Building, 26 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, or through the China Travel Service (CTS), China International Travel Service (CITS) or some private travel agencies.

The Chinese visa will be inserted into your passport, and you must submit your passport with the visa application. At least two completely blank pages must be available in your passport.