





China's 240-Hour Visa-free Transit Policy

More fun with multi-destination travel
on High Speed Rail



Eligibility

 Nationality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A citizen of one of the 55 countries, including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, etc.
 Identification document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A valid international travel document, e.g. passport (with validity of at least 3 months)
 Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Departure and destination countries (regions) must be different e.g. Canada ✈️ Hong Kong 🚄 Shenzhen ✈️ Thailand ✅ ▶ An onward ticket (e.g. air, ferry or train ticket) with confirmed seat and date, departing to a third country or region within 240 hours 💡 <i>Friendly reminder: Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan are considered as eligible onward destinations.</i>
 Port	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Apply through 65 designated ports including Hong Kong West Kowloon Station

Process

If you are traveling to the Mainland via High Speed Rail under the visa-free transit policy:

- **Hong Kong West Kowloon Station**
 - 1 Present the following documents at the Counter for Foreigner of Mainland's entry port on Level B3
 - ▶ Valid international travel document
 - ▶ Air/ ferry/ train ticket to a third country (region)¹ departing within 240 hours
 - ▶ Arrival Card
 - 2 Undergo inspections and questioning by the immigration and border control authorities. (As on-site application approval takes time, please allow extra time for processing to ensure on-time boarding)
 - 3 Undergo immigration formalities
- **Mainland²** - can stay less than 10 days³
- **Destination** (must be different from the departure country or region)

¹ Recommended to print out your hotel booking in the Mainland for verification purposes

² Permitted to stay and travel within designated regions across multiple provinces and municipalities

³ The visa-free stay period begins at 00:00 on the following day of entry, e.g. Arrival on 1 December → Stay period begins at 00:00 on 2 December → Departure no later than 23:59 on 11 December



Arrival Card
Simplified Chinese/English

FAQ

Q: If I do not have a visa for entry to the Mainland, what should I prepare when I depart from my original country?

A: In addition to confirmed air, ferry or train tickets for your onward journey and proof of accommodation in the Mainland, you may also bring a copy of the Mainland government's official announcement on the visa-free transit policy for reference if needed.

Q: If I enter the Mainland via Hong Kong under visa-free transit, can I return to Hong Kong by the same route afterward?

A: No. After entering the Mainland under visa-free transit, you must depart to a third country or region, and that destination cannot be the same as your original point of departure.

Friendly reminder: Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan are considered as eligible onward destinations.

Q: Can I enter the Mainland via Hong Kong and then depart from Shanghai to the other country?

A: Yes. The 240-hour visa-free transit allows travelers to stay and travel across designated regions within 24 Provinces and Municipalities. Shanghai is one of the 65 approved entry and exit ports, so you may depart from there to continue your onward journey.

Q: Am I eligible for the 240-hour visa-free transit if I plan to attend a business exhibition in the Mainland for a few days?

A: Yes. The visa-free transit applies to activities like tourism, business, family visit, etc. Work (e.g. long-term employment by a company in the Mainland with salary), study, or news reporting still require prior approval and appropriate visa.

Q: Can I enter the gate at Hong Kong West Kowloon Station earlier for visa application and immigration formalities?

A: Passengers can proceed the security check and immigration formalities as early as 120 minutes before train departure.

Q: What can I do if I was rejected to enter the Mainland at station's port?

A: Immigration Departments will notify station staff who will accompany you to return to the Ticketing Concourse on Level B1.

Q: If I miss the train due to visa issues or other personal reasons, can I apply for a ticket alteration or refund?

A: Yes, you can, subject to the applicable passenger rules.



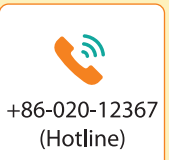
Countries eligible for 240-Hour Visa-free Transit Policy

Europe (40 countries): Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Americas (6 countries): Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, the United States

Oceania (2 countries): Australia, New Zealand

Asia (7 countries): Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Qatar, Singapore, South Korea, United Arab Emirates



All information is as of December 2025. In case of any update, there is no prior notice.

National Immigration Administration