



Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Kanton
Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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Transit Visa

Entry clearance requirements are dependent on the citizenship and the resident status of the applicant. Due to its location at the heart of Europe, Germany is an important transit country. The vast majority of travellers do not need a visa when airtransitting through Germany. However, citizens of some countries do need an airport transit visa (for further details: visa information at www.diplo.de).

There is no legal right to a transit visa, a visa is issued solely at the discretion of the mission of the competent Schengen-member state. The required type of transit visa depends on your intended duration of stay in the Schengen area.

*An **airport transit** visa only allows a short stay in the international transit area of the airport, neither leaving the airport's international transit area nor overnight stays in a hotel are possible.*

*A **transit visa** allows to leave airport. You may spend the night in a hotel, fly to another city in the Schengen area or continue your journey by train or car into neighbouring states which are your final destination. It is however not allowed to use a transit visa to spend some time in Germany for sightseeing or business purposes. If you intend to do so, please apply for tourist or business visa.*

The **following documents** have to be presented when applying for a **Transit Visa** (transit and airport transit):

1. 2 duly completed application forms (Schengen visa application form) with 3 recent photographs (3,5 x 4,5 cm, unicolour white background) with signed declaration on true and complete information.
2. Passport valid at least 90 days after expiration of the visa, 1 copy of pages proving identity.
3. Flight ticket (original ticket or e-ticket)
4. valid visa for the country of final destination.

additional for transit visa No. 5. to 10. (not applicable for airport transit):

5. Proof of how the journey is financed (invitation letter or introductory letter of Chinese company stating that all incurring costs will be covered)
6. Confirmation by employer of professional position of applicant, duration of employment, monthly income, reason of travel, guaranteed continuation of employment. The confirmation has to bear address, phone and fax number, company seal, signature, name and position of undersigned.
7. Proof of financial background of applicant (usually saving book showing bank movements of at least the past 6 months, possibly proof of property, car ownership etc.)
8. Proof of medical insurance in German or English language stating coverage with a minimum of 30.000 EUR for duration of stay in the Schengen area (also see leaflet "Travel Insurance")
9. Proof of Residence Card if the normal abode is not the same as stated in Hukou or different to place the passport has been issued
10. for Chinese citizens: original of Household Register (Hukou) with copies of all pages; for Non-Chinese copy of valid Chinese visa / residence permit

Additional documents may be requested. **Each document in Chinese characters has to be presented with translation into German or English.**

Visa applications can be submitted after scheduling an **appointment**. As from 1st December 2006, appointments will have to be arranged through the **Visa Application Centre** (www.germanvac-cn.com). The arrangement of an appointment is highly recommended: applicants with appointment are received with priority. Without appointment there is no guarantee for submitting the visa application at the Consulate General.

All documents have to be presented in the **original** and with **1 copy** at the Visa Application Centre; the originals (except the visa application form) will be handed back to the applicant and have to be presented for the interview at the Consulate General. **All original documents will be handed back after the interview or together with the passport.**

At the Visa Application Centre you can have your documents pre-checked and get general information in visa matters, either in person or by sending an authorized third person. This service is useful, as only complete applications can be processed. The Visa Application Centre is not in a position to refuse visa applications. The decision whether to grant a visa lies solely in the competence of the Visa Section of the Consulate General.

Visa applicants will be asked to come to the Consulate General for **interviewing**. Please be there on time 15 minutes before the scheduled appointment. Applicants not showing up on time will not be able to hand in their applications and will have to arrange for a new appointment. Changes of the appointment date should be notified to the Visa Application Centre in due time; a new appointment date may be arranged free of charge if notified at least two days prior to the interview.

The **visa fee is 35 EUR** (17,50 EUR for minors), **as from 1st January 2007 60 EUR**. Spouses of German citizens and parents of German children, as well as spouses/children of EU- or EEA citizens are free of charge. The fee has to be paid in equivalent Renminbi Yuan when handing in the application in the German Consulate General, according to the relevant exchange rate.

An additional service fee of 190,- RMB has to be paid by every applicant in the Visa Application Centre. Application forms and information leaflets are free of charge.

Processing time is 5 – 10 days after submitting all necessary documents.

Passports will be handed back to the applicants via the Visa Application Centre after the Visa Section of the Consulate General has decided on the visa.

Applicants are asked to check their visa (esp. validity dates, typing of name, photo) on receipt.

The German Consulate General is reserving the right to ask applicants to present themselves at the Consulate after their return to China.

Regional competence of German missions in China:

The Federal Republic of Germany has several missions in the Peoples' Republic of China. Each of them has a clearly defined region for visa issue:

- Persons residing or having their normal abode in the provinces of Guangdong, Fujian, Hainan and the Autonomous Region of the Zhuang-Nationality Guangxi have to hand in their visa application with the **German Consulate General Kanton**.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in the provinces of Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang und the city of Shanghai have to hand in their visa application at the Consular and Visa section of the **German Consulate General Shanghai**, New Century Plaza, 14/F, 188 Wu Jiang Road, Shanghai 200041, phone: (021) 6217 1520, fax: (021) 6218 0004, www.shanghai.diplo.de.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in any other province will have to apply for their visa at the **German Embassy Peking**, 17 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Peking 100600, phone: (010) 8532 9000, fax: (010) 6532 3557, www.peking.diplo.de.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in Hongkong and Macao will have to apply for a visa at the **German Consulate General Hongkong**, United Centre, 21/F, 95 Queensway-Central, Hongkong, phone: (00852) 2105 8777, fax (00852) 2105 8788, www.hongkong.diplo.de.
- The **German Consulate General Chengdu** is **not issuing any visa for the time being**.

As a rule the **normal abode** is defined as the place a person is living in and working at. This is the case if a person has been living at that place for the past six months or is expected to stay at that place for long-term. If the normal abode is not in agreement with the Household Register (Hukou) or place of issue of the passport, the applicant is asked to present proof of his normal abode (Chinese Residence Permit for Foreigners, working contract, police confirmation).