



Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Kanton

Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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Visa for Tourist Groups (ADS)

As of 1st September 2004 Chinese tourist groups travelling to Schengen states are subject to the "Memorandum on Visa for Tourist Groups from the People's Republic of China between the European Union and the China National Tourist Administration and Related Questions (ADS)".

An ADS-Schengen visa allows members of a travel group to travel within the Schengen area according to a pre-set itinerary. The Schengen states are Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

ADS visa are solely issued for a touristic stay. If you wish to visit somebody in Germany or if you travel on business purpose you have to apply for a Visa for Visitors/Business Visa.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PERSONS TRAVELLING IN A TOURIST GROUP:

Holders of Chinese passports have to apply for their visa through a travel agency that is accredited with the Chinese National Tourist Administration, CNTA. The accredited travel agency will be applying for visa for members of a tourist group.

The following documents have to be presented when applying for an ADS visa:

1. 2 duly filled and signed application forms (Application for Schengen Visa) with 3 recent photographs (3,5 x 4,5cm, white background, see information on photographs) and accompanied by a signed declaration that the information given is true and complete (section 55 of German Residence Act).
2. Passport valid at least 90 days after expiration of the visa, 1 copy of pages proving identity
3. Namelist of all participants (including members of the tourist group who do not require a visa), itinerary, confirmed flight reservations for all members travelling with the group, hotel reservations stating address, phone and fax number of the hotels; confirmation by the incoming travel agency with letterhead, name and passport copy of tour guide (to be provided by travel agency).
4. Confirmation letter by employer of professional position of applicant, duration of employment, monthly income, purpose of travel, authorization of holiday, guaranteed continuation of employment. The letter has to bear address, phone and fax number, company seal, signature, name and position of undersigned.
5. Business licence of the Chinese company.
6. In case of minors travelling: see information "Visa for Minors under 18".
7. Proof of financial background of applicant (salary account or bank/credit card statement or bankbook covering a period of at least the past 6 months, possibly proof of house property, car ownership etc).
8. Proof of travel medical insurance covering the stay in the Schengen states (to be provided by travel agency).
9. For Chinese applicants only: Household Register (hukou).
10. Temporary Residence Card □□□ if the normal abode is not in agreement with the household register (hukou) or place of issue of the passport.
11. copy of ID card
12. If you join an ADS group applying visa at another visa section, complete information about that group travel has to be given respectively.
13. Additional documents may be requested by the Consulate General.

All documents have to be presented in the **original** and with **1 copy**. All documents have to be presented with a **translation** in to German or English. Copies have to be in **A4 format**.

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

A certain number of applicants will be asked to come to the Consulate General for **interviewing**. The Consulate General is reserving the right to ask applicants to present themselves at the Consulate **after** their **return** to China.

The **Visafee** is **35,- EUR**, 17,50 EUR for minors; **as from 1st Jan 2007 60,- EUR** (30,- EUR for minors); (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 amounting to 190,- RMB has to be paid by every applicant in the Visa Application Center. Application forms and information leaflets are free of charge.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TRAVEL AGENCIES:

A tourist group has to consist of at least five persons residing in the administrative area of the Consulate General and one tour guide. The maximal duration of stay in the Schengen states is limited to 30 days.

Visa applications have to be handed in at the Consulate General of the country of your main travel destination in the Schengen area (generally the country where you stay the most nights). If there is no main destination, the competent Consulate General is the one of the Schengen State you first enter.

Application forms are filled by computer using the internet service <http://visa.diplo.de>

The travel agency contacts the Visa Application Center by phone before handing in visa applications www.germanvac-cn.com

The applications can only be handed in by licenced couriers presenting their original ADS (EU) courier admission card. These cards are to be renewed once a year.

At the Visa Application Center documents will be pre-checked and general information / advice in visa matters will be given. This service is useful, as only complete applications can be processed. The Visa Application Center 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.

The travel agency will be notified through the Visa Application Center how many applicants are asked to come to the Consulate General for **interviewing**.

Passports will be handed back to the travel agency via the **Visa Application Center** after the Visa Section of the Consulate General has decided on the visa.

The Consulate General has to be notified within 24 hours about **any change** in itinerary/number/name of the persons travelling with the tourist group. If the agency fails to notify the Consulate accordingly, the Consulate General reserves the right to initiate sanctions against the agency.

Passports, boarding cards and baggage slips have to be presented to the Consulate General within 24 hours after 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 (ID card□□□, working contract, police confirmation).