

## VISITOR VISAS

# Entry Visas for Nationals Not Enjoying Visitor Status Upon Arrival

(or otherwise seeking a longer limit of stay)

**HONG KONG VISA**  
CENTRE

[www.hongkongvisahandbook.com](http://www.hongkongvisahandbook.com)

## GENERAL RULES

**Permitted Activity**

- Genuine business or leisure visit – ‘do your thing’ then finally depart
- Pre-relocation for business residence subsequently
- Trade fair participation, speaking at conferences

**Has ‘Intention to Reside’ Crystallized?**

- If so, your Visitor Visa is no longer appropriate.
- Need to approach the HKID and change status.
- Possible inadvertent breach of conditions of stay.

**HKID Ultimately Decide**

- If challenged, they will assess your actions and intentions
- Prosecution, removal or cancellation of Visitor visa consents all possible
- Short Conditional Landing a real possibility

## Visitor Visa

### Eligibility

Most foreign nationals do not need to apply for any visa in advance of a Visit to Hong Kong. They are granted visitor permissions upon arrival. The length of stay is nationality-dependant. Canadian's get 90 days, citizens of Chad, 14. For historical reasons, British Citizens secure a six month Visitor visa each time they land in the HKSAR. A complete list is available at:

[HKID Links: Visitor Visa](#)

### Approvability Test

When a visitor presents himself at (a) an overseas mission or (b) at the borders of the HKSAR they must be able to satisfy Hong Kong immigration officials that they are a **'bona fide Visitor'** to Hong Kong. For tourism purposes, this is relatively straight forward: return tickets, a firm itinerary, your travelling companions, sufficient funds etc. all suffice. If coming to the HKSAR for a business visit the examining immigration officer will take into consideration the following:

- Is there an existing place of residence and work outside of Hong Kong available to the visitor to return to at the end of the visit?
- Is the visit for a set period of time limited to the maximum period of stay available upon arrival?
- Does the visitor anticipate paid remuneration of any kind from Hong Kong sources during the course of the business visit?
- Is there sufficient funds available to complete the business visit trouble free?
- Is the visitor able to detail a specific plan for the business visit and is it actually realistic?

### Applying Before Arrival

If you need a visa before you arrive in Hong Kong, the application process is managed via the global network of Chinese diplomatic and consular missions. Therefore apply at your nearest. Alternatively, you can also submit your visa application direct to the HKID either directly by post or through a local sponsor. To shorten the processing time, application forms and supporting documents can be sent by fax to (852) 2824 1133 in the first instance. However, the original copy of the completed application form and the accompanying photographs should be immediately dispatched to the HKID by air mail so that the visa can be issued. If you are a Chinese resident of Taiwan, you should submit your application for an entry permit through one of the authorised airlines. There are separate processes regarding the arrangements for entry in respect of residents of the Mainland of China and for overseas Chinese which go beyond the scope of this Visa Information sheet. You can find this information at:

[Link: Entry Permits for Mainland Residents](#)

### Refusal & Appeal

There is no process of appeal where a visitor visa has been refused either prior to or upon arrival. Moreover, any person holding visitor status can be removed from Hong Kong at any time.

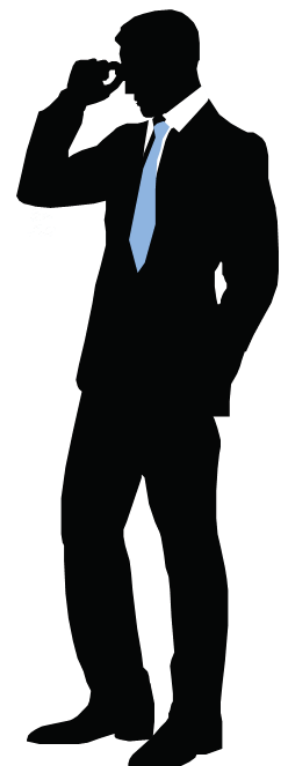


Preparing Your Case

[\(Click to Watch\)](#)

#### Highlights

- Most nationalities secure visas upon arrival
- Stay can be from 7 to 180 days
- Must be a 'bona fide visitor'
- If required, apply via a Chinese diplomatic mission
- Otherwise direct to the HKID via fax/original form follow up
- Mainland residents have special processes



## Documents Required

### Applicant Documents

- 1 HKID form ID1003A
- 2 Recent photo to be attached to the form
- 3 Photocopy of the applicant's travel document containing personal particulars, date of issue, date of expiry and/or details of any re-entry visa held (if applicable)
- 4 Photocopy of proof of the applicant's financial standing, e.g. bank statements, savings accounts passbooks, tax receipts, etc. and proof of employment (if any), e.g. company leave letter, salary slips, etc.
- 5 Photocopy of proof of transportation arrangement, e.g. flight itinerary
- 6 Photocopy of proof of the proposed leisure visit to Hong Kong, e.g. receipt of joining a package tour to Hong Kong, itinerary, etc. *(for leisure visit only)*
- 7 Photocopy of proof of the proposed visit in the next destination after visiting Hong Kong, itinerary, etc. *(for transit only)*
- 8 Photocopy of proof of the proposed business visit to Hong Kong, e.g. letter issued by the applicant's employing company to confirm his/her proposed business activities in Hong Kong, invitation letter issued by a local company, letter issued by a trade body to confirm the applicant's attendance at trade fairs and exhibitions, etc. *(for business visit only)*
- 9 Photocopy of proof of relationship with the local sponsor *(for family visit only)*
- 10 Photocopy of proof of the proposed visit to Hong Kong *(for purposes of visit other than leisure, transit, business or family visit)*

### Sponsor's Documents

- 1 HKID form ID 1003B
- 2 Photocopy of Business Registration Certificate *(if a company sponsor)*
- 3 Photocopy of the sponsor's Hong Kong identity card *(and if not a permanent resident a Photocopy of the sponsor's travel document containing personal particulars, date of issue, date of expiry, and the latest arrival stamp/extension of stay label in the HKSAR)*



## A Space for Your Notes





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Discussion

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Notes



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