

## PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

We recommend that all guests obtain a visa for China. While there are some visa-free options available, China maintains a complicated visa regime and all requirements must be met. Should you fail to obtain a visa and not satisfy the requirements to enter and exit China visa-free, you could face fines or be denied entry to China. More than one exemption may be applicable to your voyage.

Please verify your passport validity. China requires passports to be valid for six (6) months beyond the date of arrival.

U.S. passport holders with at least one year validity left on their passport may automatically be issued a multi entry visa by the Chinese Consulate.

If you have chosen to extend your time in Shanghai prior to embarkation, visa requirements may differ from the requirements of your cruise. You must verify the requirements for staying longer and secure a visa if required for an extended stay before travel.

**\*\*\*If Shanghai is at the beginning or end of your cruise- 144 hour policy may apply\*\*\***

**144 Hour Visa Exemption Policy for embarkation/disembarkation in Shanghai-** If Shanghai is at the beginning or end of your cruise- 144 hour policy may apply. A visa for China is required unless qualifying for the 144 hour visa exemption.

Guests with a traditional visa will be free to travel in China. The Chinese visa must be obtained prior to sailing, are not available upon arrival and must be valid until departure from China.

If you are **embarking** in China and plan to use the 144 hour visa exemption, all of the following requirements must be met:

1. You must hold a passport from one of the 53 countries whose citizens are eligible for this exemption.
2. You must arrive in China within 144 hours of the ships departure.
3. You must remain within the Yangtze River Delta Region this entire time, which means you must arrive at one of the following airports-
  - a. Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG)
  - b. Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport (HGH)
  - c. Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG)
4. You must fly directly to China from a country other than the first country visited on your cruise, even if you are not changing planes or leaving the airport. Transits through Hong Kong are permitted.

For example, if you are flying to Shanghai from Los Angeles and Japan is the first country visited on your cruise:

- A flight from Los Angeles to Beijing to Shanghai **is not** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Tokyo to Shanghai **is not** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Hong Kong to Shanghai **is** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Taipei to Shanghai **is** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Shanghai **is** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Beijing **is not** allowed

**Note:** The rules for exemptions are subject to change and we recommend you consider obtaining a visa even if an exemption is applicable to your situation.

If you have booked air through Holland America FlightEase and are planning to use the 144 hour visa exemption and your flights do not meet the requirements, please contact (800) 426 0327 to review your options.

If you have booked your own air you must advise your airline of your intent to travel to China without a visa.

The Shanghai immigration inspection authority has set up dedicated inspection lanes for those using the 144 hour visa exemption within the entry inspection areas at all ports of entry. If you are eligible for the exemption you will need to provide the immigration officer with your passport and onward tickets leaving China within 144 hours. Once immigration confirms that you qualify for the exemption, they will process the application.

The immigration station will issue a temporary entry permit to those guests that have been approved for the exemption. The temporary entry permit will have the deadline for exit and the administrative areas you will be allowed to visit while in China.

All guests must bring two photocopies of their passport photo page on letter or A4 size paper to cruise check-in. Guests should also bring two copies of their onward travel arrangements. One will be presented at check-in, and one must be presented to Chinese immigration authorities along with their passport.

For more information about the 144 hour visa exemption please visit <https://shanghai.nia.gov.cn/listPageEn.aspx?lx=40&id=4414>.

If you are **disembarking** in China and plan to use the 144 hour visa exemption, all of the following requirements must be met:

1. You must hold a passport from one of the 53 countries whose citizens are eligible for this exemption.
2. You must depart China within 144 hours of the ships arrival.
3. You must remain within the Yangtze River Delta Region during this entire time, which means you may only fly out of the following airports:
  - a. Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG)
  - b. Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport (HGH)
  - c. Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG)
4. You must fly directly from China to a country other than China or the last country visited on the cruise. This means that your flight cannot stop over in China or the last port visited on your cruise prior to arrival to China, before reaching another country. Even if you are not changing planes or leaving the airport. Transits through Hong Kong are permitted.

For example, if you are flying to Los Angeles from Shanghai and Japan is the last country visited on your cruise:

- A flight from Shanghai to Beijing to Los Angeles **is not** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Tokyo to Los Angeles **is not** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Hong Kong to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Taipei to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Beijing to Los Angeles **is not** allowed

**Note:** The rules for exemptions are subject to change and we recommend you consider obtaining a visa even if an exemption is applicable to your situation.

If you have booked air through Holland America FlightEase and are planning to utilize the 144 hour visa exemption and your flights do not meet the necessary requirements, you should contact (800) 426 0327 to review your options.

**There are 53 countries eligible for the 144 hour visa exemption:** Albania, Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States.

If your nationality is not listed above you must obtain a Chinese visa prior to sailing.

All guests must bring two photocopies of their passport photo page on letter or A4 size paper to cruise check-in. Guests should also bring two copies of their homeward travel arrangements. One will be presented at check-in, and one must be presented to Chinese immigration authorities along with their passport when disembarking.

For more information about the 144 hour visa exemption please visit <https://shanghai.nia.gov.cn/listPageEn.aspx?lx=40&id=4414>.

**\*\*\*If Shanghai is at the beginning or end of your cruise- 24 hour policy may apply\*\*\***

**24 Hour Visa Exemption Policy for embarkation/disembarkation in Shanghai-** If Shanghai is at the beginning or end of your cruise- the 24 hour policy may apply. A visa for China is required unless qualifying for the 24 hour visa exemption.

Guests with a traditional visa will be free to travel in China. The Chinese visa must be obtained prior to sailing, are not available upon arrival and must be valid until departure from China.

If you are **embarking** in China and plan to use the 24 hour visa exemption, all of the following requirements must be met:

1. This option is available to all nationalities, and you must physically leave China within 24 hours of the ships arrival.
2. You must remain within the Yangtze River Delta Region during this entire time, which means you may only fly out of the following airports:
  - a. Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG)
  - b. Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport (HGH)
  - c. Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG)
3. You must fly directly to China from a country other than the first country visited on your cruise, even if you are not changing planes or leaving the airport. Transits through Hong Kong are permitted.

For example, if you are flying to Shanghai from Los Angeles and Japan is the first country visited on your cruise:

- A flight from Los Angeles to Beijing to Shanghai **is not** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Tokyo to Shanghai **is not** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Hong Kong to Shanghai **is** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Taipei to Shanghai **is** allowed
- A flight from Los Angeles to Shanghai **is** allowed

- A flight from Los Angeles to Beijing **is not** allowed

**Note:** The rules for exemptions are subject to change and we recommend you consider obtaining a visa even if an exemption is applicable to your situation.

If you have booked air through Holland America FlightEase and are planning to use the 24 hour visa exemption and your flights do not meet the requirements, please contact (800) 426 0327 to review your options.

If you have booked your own air you must advise your airline of your intent to travel to China without a visa.

The Shanghai immigration inspection authority has set up dedicated inspection lanes for those using the 24 hour visa exemption within the entry inspection areas at all ports of entry. If you are eligible for the exemption you will need to provide the immigration officer with your passport and onward tickets leaving China within 24 hours. Once immigration confirms that you qualify for the exemption, they will process the application.

The immigration station will issue a temporary entry permit to those guests that have been approved for the exemption. The temporary entry permit will have the deadline for exit and the administrative areas you will be allowed to visit while in China.

All guests must bring two photocopies of their passport photo page on letter or A4 size paper to cruise check-in. Guests should also bring two copies of their homeward travel arrangements. One will be presented at check-in, and one must be presented to Chinese immigration authorities along with their passport.

If you are **disembarking** in China and plan to use the 24 hour visa exemption, all of the following requirements must be met:

1. This option is available to all nationalities, and you must physically leave China within 24 hours of the ships arrival.
2. You must remain within the Yangtze River Delta Region during this entire time, which means you may only fly out of the following airports:
  - a. Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG)
  - b. Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport (HGH)
  - c. Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG)
3. You must fly directly from China to a country other than China or the last country visited on the cruise. This means that your flight cannot stop over in China or the port visited prior to arrival to China before reaching another country, even if you are not changing planes or leaving the airport. Transits through Hong Kong are permitted.

For example, if you are flying to Los Angeles from Shanghai and Japan is the last country visited on your cruise:

- A flight from Shanghai to Beijing to Los Angeles **is not** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Tokyo to Los Angeles **is not** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Hong Kong to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Taipei to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Los Angeles **is** allowed
- A flight from Shanghai to Beijing to Los Angeles **is not** allowed

**Note:** The rules for exemptions are subject to change and we recommend you consider obtaining a visa even if an exemption is applicable to your situation.

If you have booked air through Holland America FlightEase and are planning to use the 24 hour visa exemption and your flights do not meet the necessary requirements, you should contact (800) 426 0327 to review your options.

All guests must bring two photocopies of their passport photo page on letter or A4 size paper to cruise check-in. Guests should also bring two copies of their homeward travel arrangements. One will be presented at check-in, and one must be presented to Chinese immigration authorities along with their passport when disembarking.

**\*\*\*\*If arriving and departing Shanghai with the ship- 15 day visa policy may apply\*\*\*\***

Guests visiting China in transit, arriving and departing China with the ship, should verify if they are eligible for the 15-day visa exemption by visiting <https://shanghai.nia.gov.cn/listPageEn.aspx?lx=40&id=4735>.

To be eligible guests must be booked on a tour of two (2) or more people. A tour must be booked in each approved Chinese port you will visit to be permitted to go ashore visa-free. Tours do not have to be booked through Holland America Line but if you are booking a private tour you must verify that the travel agency you have booked with has been approved by the Shanghai immigration inspection authority to facilitate the visa-free entry process.

**Other ports that may be visited under the 15 day visa exemption are limited to the following-** Liaoning, Hebei, Tianjin, Shandong, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Fujian, Guangxi, Hainan, Dalian, Yanti, Qingdao and/or Beijing.

If you do not qualify for the 15-day visa exemption, you must obtain a Chinese visa prior to sailing. We are not able to obtain the Chinese visa onboard.

**\*\*\*\*\*Visiting Xiamen, China\*\*\*\*\***

A Chinese visa is recommended prior to sailing if you wish to go ashore while the ship visits Xiamen.

**144 Hour Visa Exemption Policy:** Xiamen, China does allow for the use of the 144 hour visa exemption, however guests attempting to use this exemption when not embarking or disembarking should anticipate significant delays in processing to go ashore which may result in missing any tours that you may have scheduled ashore.

In some cases, an exception has been made when visiting Xiamen in transit that has allowed guests to stay onboard the ship without a visa while the ship was in port. This is not the same thing as the 144 hour exemption and we cannot guarantee that this exception will be made in every case. Guests attempting to board the ship without a Chinese visa do so at their own risk. You may not be denied boarding of the ship but it is up to the Chinese authorities whether or not they choose to allow you to stay onboard without a visa or if you must disembark the ship before its arrival to China.

**\*\*\*\*\*Applying for a visa for China\*\*\*\*\***

**If you find that the visa exemptions listed above do not apply to your situation or you wish to obtain a visa as recommended to safeguard yourself against possible changes in the exemption rules you will need to apply for a regular visa prior to sailing if you wish to go ashore.**

Holland America Line provides guests with the following link to CIBTvisas as a service to assist with the collection of the necessary documents for this visa. You may also use another visa service or collect the necessary documents on your own. We are not able to offer assistance with obtaining the Chinese visa onboard the ship. [www.cibtvisas.com/hollandamericaline](http://www.cibtvisas.com/hollandamericaline)

If you would like to reach CIBTvisas by phone-

**US and Canadian Citizens:** 866 935 8472  
**Dutch Citizens:** 070 315 0201  
**German Citizens:** 030 230 949 175  
**Australian Citizens:** 1902 251 370  
**Swiss Citizens:** 41 (0) 31 313 20 20 or 41 (0) 22 884 18 70  
**Austrian Citizens:** 43 1 22811  
**United Kingdom Citizens:** 0800 1218239  
**Brazilian Citizens:** 55 (11) 3065-0655  
**Mexico Citizens:** (52-55) 5282 0020

In order to process the visa application, guests will be required to provide an address of a contact in China. Please use one of the following:

**Shanghai-**

China Marine Shipping Agency Shanghai Co. LTD (25517)  
2F Room 203 Sinotrans Mansion  
No. 188 Fujian Zhong Road  
Shanghai 200001  
China

When applying for the Chinese visa, you will need to provide a copy of your cruise booking confirmation, airline electronic ticket receipt and any independent tour or hotel arrangements you have booked on your own. Failure to include these documents may result in significant delays in processing the application.

All Chinese visa applications must be typed electronically by the applicant then printed on A4 paper and signed. The application form is available as a fillable PDF file in all of the visa packs on CIBTvisas website. Handwritten forms will not be accepted. Only section 4 which contains the date and applicants signature can be handwritten.

**Biometric Information:** All Chinese visa applicants in Canada, Ireland, Austria, Belgium, Germany and Spain are now required to make an appointment at one of the visa centers in their respective countries to perform a biometric and extensive interview screening. Nationals of other countries may experience similar requirements at any time.

If you will be obtaining your Chinese visa through CIBTvisas you will need to gather and send to CIBTvisas the forms, documents, and supporting materials required by China. Once they have received all of the application materials in their office, they will contact you to book an appointment for fingerprints.

CIBTvisas will meet each guest personally before the fingerprint appointment to provide you with the necessary documents for signature and answer any last-minute questions. After the fingerprints are taken, the application package will be complete and the Consulate will issue the visa. Once the visa is issued, CIBTvisas will deliver it.