



BEIJING MUNICIPAL COMMISSION OF
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Beijing Travel Feature Volume 9

144 Hours in Beijing

A Practical Guide to Visa-free Transit in Beijing





Visa-free Transit Policy & Comprehensive Facilities

The Golden 144 Hours



The 144-hour visa-free transit policy in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei allows passengers from 53 countries to enter China and stay for up to 144 hours without a visa. During the visa exemption period, transit passengers can make the most of their time by browsing through Beijing's history along the red walls and green tiles; experiencing the old Beijing vibes of the winding hutong alleys; having a bite of the authentic mutton hotpot and Peking duck; and taste the Beijing style candied fruit and big bowls of tea.

Transit passengers can take advantage of the comprehensive facilities and enormous benefits to enjoy the best Beijing has to offer. In these 144 hours, visitors would rid themselves of the time-consuming travel planning and experience Beijing to the fullest.

This volume will introduce the 144-hour visa-free transit policy in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei, practical tips on the 144-hour travel in Beijing and the comprehensive facilities. Eligible visitors may apply and take this opportunity to enjoy a short yet unforgettable visit in Beijing.





Highlights

Visa-free Policy

Requirements | Procedures | Other Regulations |
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Practical Guide

Comprehensive Airport Facilities | Travel Route Recommendations |
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For more information, please see the details below.

Visa-free Policy

144-hour Visa-free Transit

The 144-hour visa-free transit has been implemented since December 28, 2017. Visitors from the 53 eligible countries, who hold valid travel documents and ticket with confirmed date and seat for a connecting journey to a third country (region) departing from the 6 authorized ports in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei including Beijing Capital International Airport, Beijing West Railway Station, Tianjin Binhai International Airport, Tianjin International Cruise Home Port, Hebei Shijiazhuang Zhengding International Airport and Hebei Qinhuangdao Port within 144 hours, can apply for transit visa exemption at the specified counter and enjoy 144-hour visa free transit starting from 12am on the day following the day of entry.

Know more about the requirements and procedures for a 144-hour visit in Beijing.





Application Requirements

All applicants must meet the 3 requirements below:

- (1) From the 53 countries under the 144-hour transit visa exemption policy;
- (2) Holding valid travel documents and ticket with confirmed date and seat for a connecting journey to a third country (region) within 144 hours;
- (3) Transit from the 6 authorized ports in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei including Beijing Capital International Airport, Beijing West Railway Station, Tianjin Binhai International Airport, Tianjin International Cruise Home Port, Hebei Shijiazhuang Zhengding International Airport and Hebei Qinhuangdao Port to a third country (region);

Visitors from the 53 countries may apply for the 144-hour transit visa exemption, including:

- (1) 25 Schengen countries in Europe
Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Monaco;
- (2) 14 other countries in Europe
Russia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania and Belarus;
- (3) 6 countries in the Americas
The United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Chile;
- (4) 2 countries in Oceania
Australia and New Zealand;
- (5) 6 countries in Asia
South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Brunei, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.



Application Procedures

Eligible visitors should present valid travel documents and ticket with confirmed date and seat for a connecting journey to a third country (region) to transportation service agents, and the respective officers will report the case to the Immigration Inspection for application as required. After the eligibility review, 144-hour transit procedures will be processed.

Regarding the immigration procedures and security control, visitors may call the 24-hour hotline of the Beijing Immigration Inspection at (0086-10) 56095400, visit the website of Beijing Immigration Inspection at www.bjbj.gov.cn, or ask your question via the official Weibo account of Beijing Immigration Inspection. Beijing Immigration Inspection is honored to serve you.

Visitors may also make an inquiry about other immigration-related policies at the Beijing Tourism hotline (0086-10) 12301, or visit the official website of the Beijing Tourism Administration at www.bjta.gov.cn.

Other Regulations

Book Your Connecting Journey

According to the requirements, eligible visitors for the 144-hour transit visa exemption should have secured a connecting journey with confirmed date and seat (before arrival) when entering the country. This program is not applicable for visitors who have not booked a connecting journey within 144 hours.

Exclusive to Transit Passengers

According to the requirements, the 144-hour visa-free transit policy is designed for foreign transit passengers from an eligible port to a third country (region). This program is not applicable for passengers who plan to return to the country of origin, for example, from New York, the United States to Beijing, and then back to Los Angeles, the United States.



Travel Restriction

Visitors who have obtained the 144-hour transit visa exemption are only allowed to stay in the administrative precinct of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei provinces.

If a visitor has to leave Beijing or stay longer than 144 hours due to special circumstances, passengers must apply for a visa at the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau of the municipal public security authorities as required by the law.

If a foreign passenger fails to apply for the required visa, he or she shall be dealt with in accordance with the law for illegal immigration in China by the public security authorities or Beijing Immigration Inspection of the location where such an act is found. The authorities are entitled to deny his or her application for the 144-hour transit visa exemption via an airline the next time due to the breach.

Inform the Immigration Inspection Officers in advance

You shall inform the Immigration Inspection Officers of your need to obtain the 144-hour transit visa exemption before proceeding to the immigration procedures. Visitors who have obtained valid Chinese visas in their passports before should take this step as well; otherwise, the Immigration Inspection Officers would proceed with the visa in the passport.

How to Respond to Issues

Visitors who stay outside of hotels shall register with the public security station of the staying place after check-in within 24 hours.

During the stay in China, foreigners must carry their travel documents with them for inspection as required by the law.

Visitors may call 110 in emergency situations after entering the country.

In the light of events of force majeure, foreign travelers exempt from transit visa must apply for a visa at the Municipal Public Security Bureaus in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei in advance. Visitors without a visa who have stayed in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei for more than 144 hours, traveled out of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei, or departed from Beijing Capital International Airport, Beijing West Railway Station, Tianjin Binhai International Airport, Tianjin International Cruise Home Port, Hebei Shijiazhuang Zhengding International Airport and Hebei Qinhuangdao Port is a violation of law and the government may take further action.



Customs Regulations

Transit passengers are not allowed to carry any prohibited articles of People's Republic of China into or out of the Customs Supervision Areas.

According to the General Administration of Customs' Announcement No.72 in 2007, passengers should declare controlled articles to the Customs. The Customs apply the baggage regulations of non-resident passengers to transit passengers who leave the Customs Supervision Areas during the transit period. Transit passengers shall refer to the baggage allowance and restrictions of their airlines for details. Personal articles of each transit passenger include a camera, a mini movie-camera, a portable video-recorder, a laptop and other Customs-approved articles of personal needs. Duty-free concessions are made for allowed articles; the articles should be in their original state when taken out of the country. The Customs collect import duties for personal articles which are to be left in China and have a value of over 2,000 Yuan. Liquor, tobacco and 20 non-duty-free items are processed under certain regulations. Items that go beyond the limit are not allowed to be brought into the country, and would be kept by the Customs; those items would be returned to passengers at the time of departure.

Inspection & Quarantine Regulations

Transit foreign nationals are not allowed to carry animals, plants and the products thereof on the List of Prohibited Animals, Plants and the Products Thereof of the People's Republic of China, and shall comply with the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine.





Practical Guide

Beijing offers comprehensive facilities and a wide choice of travel routes for visitors to enjoy the best of Beijing during their 144-hour visit.



Comprehensive Airport Facilities

Exclusive Lounge

There is an exclusive lounge in the Terminal of Beijing Capital International Airport designated for visa-free transit passengers, where passengers who choose to stay in the Airport can have drinking water and read. This lounge is to be expanded for a wider variety of services including mobile rentals, currency exchange, car rentals and luggage storage.

Travel Service Centers

Besides, there are travel service centers at both Terminal 2 and Terminal 3 of the Airport, which provide travel information including routes, car rentals, food and accommodation for visa-free transit passengers. Visitors who have urgent business can find services like hotel booking, dining reservation, tour guides, translation, conference and event services here.

Travel Deals

Visa-free transit passengers who purchase certain travel products would enjoy exclusive offers including free transportation passes and night entertainment.



Travel Route Recommendations

The 144-hour visa-free transit policy in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei offers a variety of travel routes to visitors. During the visa-free transit period, not only can you take a stroll around Beijing and have a taste of Beijing's cuisine, you may also step out of the capital and take it further to Hebei and Tianjin, soaking up the cradle of Beijing.





Cultural Tour in Contemporary China - Tianjin

Travel Resources in Tianjin

As one of the four municipalities of China, Tianjin is a major portal city leading the way to Beijing and also China's northern trading center. This has been the last resort for fallen royal members and retired government officials. Tianjin's attraction lies in its street style and novelties, namely 18th Street fried dough twists, Goubuli stuffed buns, Deyunshe crosstalk, Yangliuqing wooden engravings, architecture of Republican China on the Five Avenues, etc.

The convenience of this 144-hour visa-free transit policy allows visitors to pay a visit to Tianjin, where they could drink in the unique folk culture and trace steps of ancient Chinese history, with great delight and cultural enlightenment.



Discovery Tour in the Cradle of Beijing - Hebei

Travel Resources in Hebei

A step outside Beijing and a visit to Hebei offer visitors a wider choice of entertainment: from touring in summer resorts to galloping through dams and prairies like a royal; visiting venues of Winter Olympics to playing winter sports in blankets of snow; checking in Baiyangdian Lake to learning the history of contemporary China... Whether you are history lovers or sportspeople, taking in natural views or experiencing a different culture, Hebei would be your best choice.

During the 144-hour visa-free transit period, a visit in Hebei will certainly lend you a fresh perspective to China and deepen your understanding of the cradle of Beijing and China.

Travel Tour Recommendations

Based on the features of different resources and different travel needs of visitors, the 144-hour travel products in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei vary and include 8 travel routes, namely the Imperial Cultural Tour, the Great Wall Tour, the Museum Tour, the Folk Craft Experience Tour, the Chinese Medicine Tour, the Culinary Tour, the Night Entertainment Tour and the Olympic Winter Tour, all catering for different visitors in these 144 hours.

Route 1: 6-day Tour around Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei
Agency: China Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.ctsho.com/>)
Contact person: Xu Li (Colleen)
+86 139 1091 6932/xlh.md@ctsho.com



Beijing — Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square, Palace Museum
Baoding — Mancheng Han Tombs,
Baoding Museum of Zhili Govern-General's Office
Shijiazhuang — Longxing Temple, Anji Bridge
Cangzhou — Iron Lion, Huanghua Shell Riverbank
Tianjin — Hai River, Ancient Culture Street,
Tianjin's Night View, Five Avenues

Route 2: 6-day Tour in Beijing and Hebei
Agency: China Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.ctsho.com/>)
Contact person: Xu Li (Colleen)
+86 139 1091 6932/xlh.md@ctsho.com



Beijing — Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square, Palace Museum
Miyun — Gubei Water Town, Simatai (Great Wall)
Chengde — Puning Temple, Chengde Mountain Resort,
Pule Temple, Qingchufeng Peak,
Chengde's Potala Palace
Zunhua — Eastern Qing Tombs
Qinhuangdao — Site Emperor Qing Begging Immortality,
Shanhaiguan, Old Hydrants

Route 3: Imperial Culture –
4-day Tour in Beijing and Chengde
Agency: Beijing CAISSA International Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.caissa.com.cn/>)
Contact person: Jing Fuchu (Tony)
+86 10 6598 3500/jinfuchu@caissa.com.cn



Beijing — Tiananmen Square, Badaling (Great Wall), Palace Museum,
Prince Gong Mansion
Chengde — Chengde Mountain Resort

Route 4: Easy Travel – 4-day Tour in Beijing and Tianjin
Agency: Beijing CAISSA International Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.caissa.com.cn/>)
Contact person: Jing Fuchu (Tony)
+86 10 6598 3500/jinfuchu@caissa.com.cn



Beijing — Tiananmen Square, Badaling (Great Wall), Palace Museum,
Prince Gong Mansion
Tianjin — Shi Family Grand Courtyard, Ancient Culture Street

Route 5: Great Wall Culture –
6-day Tour in Beijing, Tianjin and Qinhuangdao
Agency: China CYTS Tours
(Website: <http://www.aoyou.com/>)
Contact person: Liu Yang (Tom)
+86 136 8118 8637



Beijing — Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven,
Badaling (Great Wall), Great Wall Museum of China,
Summer Palace
Tianjin — Huangya Pass (Great Wall), Porcelain House
Qinhuangdao — Laolongtou, Shanhaiguan

Route 6: Cultural Heritage –
6-day Tour in Beijing and Hebei
Agency: China International Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.caissa.com.cn/>)
Contact person: Cai Zhen (Weekdays 9:00-17:00)
+86 10 8522 8235/jiangping@cits.com.cn



Beijing — Temple of Heaven
Beijing and Miyun — Tiananmen Square, Palace Museum,
Gubei Water Town, Simatai (Great Wall)
Chengde — Puning Temple, Chengde Mountain Resort
Chengde — Pule Temple, Qingchuifeng Peak,
Chengde's Potala Palace
Zunhua and Qinhuangdao—Eastern Qing Tombs, Site Emperor
Qing Begging Immortality
Qinhuangdao — Shanhaiguan, Laolongtou

Beijing Travel Special Line:

Agency: Beijing CAISSA International Travel Service
(Website: <http://www.caissa.com.cn/>)
Contact person: Jing Fuchu (Tony)
+86 10 6598 3500/jinfuchu@caissa.com.cn

Route 1: Beijing's Traditional Culture 5-day Tour

Day 1: Arrival in Beijing
Day 2: Fahai Temple (wall paintings of the Ming Dynasty), Forbidden City, Wangfujing, Huajia Yiyuan (dinner),
Liyuan Theater (Peking opera)
Day 3: National Museum of China, 798 Art Zone, Beijing Da Dong (dinner), Kung Fu Show in Red Theater
Day 4: National Art Museum of China, Jingchengbai Workshop (visit with papercutting, Peking opera masks, clay
sculptures, calligraphy, etc.)
Day 5: Departure

Route 2: Beijing's Heritage Site 5-day Tour

Day 1: Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven
Day 2: Summer Palace, Yonghe Temple, Guozijian (National Academy)
Day 3: Mu Tian Yu (Great Wall), Beijing National Stadium
Day 4: 798 Art Zone, Guanfu Museum
Day 5: Capital Museum, Hutong, Yan Dai Xie Street, Visits to people in Hutong, Dumpling Making
Day 6: Qian Men Da Street, Laoshe Tea House, Today Art Museum

Convenient Transportation

To & From Airport



Airport Express ——

Timetable: T2: 06:35 – 23:10
T3: 06:20 – 22:50
Dongzhimen (East Straight Gate): 06: 00 – 22:30

Tips: The Airport Express line of the Beijing Subway has 4 stations – Dongzhimen, Sanyuanqiao, Terminal 3 and Terminal 2 of the Capital Airport. Visitors may change at Sanyuanqiao for Line 10, and at Dongzhimen for Line 2 and Line 13.



Airport Shuttle ——

Routes: Airport Shuttles connect Beijing Capital International Airport with Fangzhuang, Xidan, Beijing Railway Station, Gongzhufen, Zhongguancun, the Olympic Village in Shangdi, Beijing West Railway Station, Huilongguan, Tongzhou, Beijing South Railway Station, Sihui, Jinbao Jie in Wangfujing, Wangjing, Shijingshan, Yanjiao, Changping, Beijing Nanyuan Airport, etc.

Tips: The Airport Community Bus serves visitors from the Airport to Shunyi District of Beijing.



Taxi ——

There are taxi pick-up and drop-off points at the Capital Airport, convenient for your arrival and departure.

Airport Taxi Tel: 010-64558892

Tips: Please pay attention to the charge standards on the windows of the taxi, and the service supervision card of the taxi driver.



Free Terminal Shuttle——

Free terminal shuttle service is available between Terminals.

To & From Beijing West Railway Station

You can take Beijing Subway Line 7 and 9 to reach the Beijing city center.

Getting Around Beijing

The transportation network of Beijing is extensive and efficient. The streets of Laocheng District (within the Second Ring Road) were designed with a grid system, running at right angles to each other, which largely helps with orientation and navigation to desired destinations.

The Beijing Subway has 22 lines (including 21 subway lines and 1 airport rail link) cover 11 districts and 379 stations. The rapid transit rail network has 608 km of track in operation, connecting the famous scenic areas in Beijing.

Visitors can purchase the Yikatong fare card in every station. Yikatong card users may take the Beijing Subway, public transport (up to 60% off bus fares), the Airport Express and enjoy limited purchase. Users may apply for a refund of the remaining value of Yikatong at refund service centers.



Contact us if you have any travel products and services to share!

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