

# Hong Kong

## Business visitors: FAQs

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If planning on traveling to Hong Kong for temporary business, it is important to remain compliant with the immigration laws of Hong Kong. The purpose of the visitor's intended travel, duration of stay and citizenship will determine if and what type of visa is required. The information in this document is intended to serve as an informational resource about business visitor requirements in Hong Kong.

### Who needs a business visitor visa for Hong Kong?

There is not a single visa category dedicated to business visitors to Hong Kong. Business visitors may enter Hong Kong on visitor status.

Currently, over 160 nationals can enter Hong Kong without the need to arrange for a visitor visa prior to entry for a period ranging from seven days to 180 days (depending upon nationality). Visitors are not permitted to engage in employment of any kind while in Hong Kong.

### What activities are permitted as a business visitor?

Activities permitted typically include:

- Attending business meetings or conferences, or participating in product orientation as an audience
- Observing operations at the Hong Kong office or general orientation
- Executing contracts or submitting tenders
- Examining or supervising the installation or packaging of goods or equipment
- Participating in exhibitions or trade fairs as a potential buyer
- Civil proceedings

Activities not permitted typically include:

- Managing staffs
- Speaking or acting on behalf of any Hong Kong business entity
- Performing trading activities
- Working on an internal audit project
- Giving training or receiving training (in the latter case the employee would need a formal training visa)
- Working under the supervision of a host employer
- Attending school or study

These lists are subject to change and are not all-inclusive.

### Who is required to apply for a visitor visa?

A visitor visa is required for some nationals who are not visa-exempt. A full list of visa-exempt nationalities can be found on the Hong Kong Immigration Department's website.

### How long can a traveler stay in Hong Kong as a business visitor?

Visitors are granted a period of stay ranging from seven days to 180 days depending on the passport nationality.

### Is there a limit on the number of times a visitor may travel to Hong Kong as a business visitor in any given period?

There is no written limit on how many visits a person may make to Hong Kong in any given period. However, frequent entries and exits during a short period of time may trigger questioning by Immigration Officers at the port of entry.

### Can a visitor's spouse and children also come to Hong Kong?

A business visitor's spouse and children can come to Hong Kong as visitors; however, they must each apply for their own separate visa.

### Penalties related to non-compliance for the business visa category?

Engaging in unlawful work in Hong Kong can result in serious consequences for both the employer and the business visitor, including:

- Fine and imprisonment
- Detention and deportation for the business visitor. Blacklisted for future entry to Hong Kong with an adverse record for future Hong Kong visa application

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