

China Travel Guidance – January 2023 (Subject to Change)

Summary

- China is open for international travelers who meet visa and COVID testing requirements as per below. A COVID test is also required by CDC to return to the United States. Information below was recently updated but remains subject to change.

Commercial Travel to China

- Please see the State Department Travel Advisory for China which was updated in early January. China remains a “Level 3: Reconsider Travel” country: [China International Travel Information \(state.gov\)](#)
- Currently, for all arrivals into China, the traveler must have a negative PCR test result 48 hours before entering China and complete the PRC’s Customs Health Declaration process. The original notice can be found [here](#).
- COVID entry/departure requirements may change – travelers should consult the State Dept. Travel Advisory and airlines for regular updates.
- China is not currently issuing tourist visas, but business and official visas are being processed. China is taking applications for “M” visas which are issued for “Those who intend to go to China for commercial and trade activities.” Please see the link to the PRC Embassy announcement issued on Sunday, Jan. 8 in America follows: [Notice on the Adjustment of Requirements for Chinese Visa Application \(Updated in January 2023\) Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America \(china-embassy.gov.cn\)](#)

- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Post recommends travelers pack rapid tests to use once you arrive in China as tests can take a few days to obtain locally and given the current situation, the more you have the better prepared you will be.

Return Travel to the United States

- Effective January 5 at 12:01 Eastern Time, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will require a negative COVID-19 test result, taken within two days of departure, or proof of recovery from the virus within the last 90 days, for all travelers, age two years and older, to the United States on flights originating from the People's Republic of China (PRC), including the Special Administrative Regions (SAR) of Hong Kong and Macau.
- Monitor the websites for the [U.S. Mission China](#), the [U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong & Macau](#), and the [CDC's Travel Health Information](#) page for the latest COVID 19- travel guidance.