

Academic visit in China (TODO list)

The Academic visit in China TODO list to don't forget the important steps.

To prepare months before

- Have a valid passport for the length of the stay in China.
 - Receive the invitation letter from your host.
 - Check if you need a visa in the [list of visa exempt country](#). Documents and procedures required for the application are:
 - Filled the [Chinese visa application form online](#) and print it.
 - Have a passport-sized photo in color and with a white background.
 - Have the invitation letter printed. Ensure with your host it is adequate for visa application.
 - (Sometimes) Proof of legal residence.
 - Submit your application to the visa application center of the city you choose during the online procedure.
 - Have your plane tickets sorted.
 - Have your hotel or accommodation sorted.
 - Subscribe to a health insurance covering your stay in China.
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To prepare days before

- Some Western internet services you may use are blocked. You should either:
 - Subscribe to an international data plan with your current mobile phone operator.
 - OR buy a data plan from an eSIM service providers, if compatible with your phone.
 - OR reach out for advice from the scholars working in mainland China who invited you
 - Install [Alipay](#) through the Google Play store or the iOS appstore, set it up, and link a bank card to it.
 - Install [Amap](#) through the Google Play store or the iOS appstore and change the language to English.
 - (Optional) Install [WeChat](#) through the Google Play store or the iOS appstore and set it up.
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To have on you the day of your trip

- Passport (with visa if applicable).
- Plane tickets printed. Including reservation of return ticket.
- Invitation letter printed.
- Reservations of accommodation printed.
- Have this information accessible easily offline:
 - Address of stay.
 - Name of the institute, university, company, or person who invited you and their address.
- Have a pen.
- (Optional) Any other documents that might serve as proof that you have an on-going working contract as an academic or a researcher outside of China, that you are covered by a travel insurance, that you have enough money to sustain yourself, etc.

Once landed at the airport in China

- Get some cash.
- (Optional) Get a Chinese phone number.