

Working Holiday Scheme

Working Holiday in Hong Kong



The Scheme

Since 2001, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has established bilateral Working Holiday Scheme arrangements (the Scheme) with the Government of New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Canada, Korea, France, the United Kingdom, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, the Netherlands and Italy respectively. The Scheme not only facilitates cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and our partner economies, but also helps enhance bilateral cooperation and promotes tourism and development.

Under the Scheme, participants may stay in Hong Kong for an extended period. Successful applicants will be issued a working holiday visa by the HKSAR Immigration Department. During their stay, they can engage in short-term employment, or even enrol in short-term course(s) (except Ireland).

Through these first-hand living and working experiences, the youths from our partner economies will be able to acquire a better understanding of the cultural and social developments of Hong Kong.

Eligibility

A national of Hong Kong's partner economy who meets the following eligibility criteria may be granted a working holiday visa for participating in the Scheme:

- he/she is aged between 18 and 30 (both ages inclusive) at the time of making application;
- his/her primary intention is to holiday in Hong Kong;
- he/she must not be accompanied by any dependents during the journey;
- he/she holds a valid national passport issued by the partner economy and is ordinarily residing in that partner economy;
- he/she is able to produce financial proof of having an amount sufficient for his/her maintenance during his/her proposed stay in the HKSAR, e.g. bank statements, saving accounts passbooks, etc.;
- he/she holds a return air ticket or financial proof of having sufficient funds to purchase a return air ticket; and
- he/she agrees to hold medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance to remain in force throughout his/her stay in the HKSAR.

There is an annual quota for nationals of each partner economy under the Scheme and qualified applications will be approved on a first-come-first-served basis.

Application

For application procedures, please visit the website of the HKSAR Immigration Department



**HKSAR Immigration
Department**

Working holiday visa application forms can be downloaded from the website of the HKSAR Immigration Department or obtained from the Chinese diplomatic and consular missions (CDCMs) in the partner economy



**Chinese diplomatic and
consular missions (CDCMs)**

Completed visa applications together with the necessary supporting documents may be submitted to the HKSAR Immigration Department direct by post or through a local connection. They may also be submitted to the CDCMs in the partner economy. Further information of the Scheme can be obtained from the website above.

Remarks: Detailed arrangements of the Scheme may vary from time to time. Applicants are advised to check with the HKSAR Immigration Department before application.

What Can I Expect From A Working Holiday In Hong Kong?

Hear From The Working Holidaymakers!

Hong Kong has hosted more than fifteen thousand of youths from its partner economies through the Working Holiday Scheme since its inception in 2001. As a dynamic Asian hub where East meets West, Hong Kong has everything to offer – from cosmopolitan lifestyle to mouthwatering delicacies and intriguing encounters – and is a perfect working holiday destination for all adventurers. Let's hear what the working holidaymakers have in mind for the city and their experience here!

Shona Drummond from the United Kingdom, 2022-23 Hong Kong

"Travelling to Hong Kong on a working holiday visa was the best decision I could have made as a fresh graduate. I didn't know which career path I wanted to choose. This working holiday allowed me to not only travel and become immersed in Hong Kong culture but also find a career path that I was passionate about. I will now apply for a general working visa to stay in Hong Kong much longer!"



Susan Lutz from France, 2016-2017 Hong Kong

"The Working Holiday allowed me to live in a global city, to discover a different culture and a different lifestyle. It enabled me to discover different sectors of activities, to develop my professional network, to prove myself in a job that I like and to confirm my desire to travel. I have a lot of memories in Hong Kong: the meetings, the challenging but magnificent hikes, the innumerable restaurants and of course the nightlife in Lan Kwai Fong!"



Useful Contacts and Links

Visa Application

- **Immigration Department**
www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/working_holiday_scheme.html
Enquiries : enquiry@immd.gov.hk

General Enquiry on the Working Holiday Scheme

- **Working Holiday Scheme dedicated website**
www.whs.gov.hk
Enquiries : whsu@labour.gov.hk

Hong Kong Welcomes You!
Apply for a Working Holiday Visa Now and
Start Your Journey in This Dynamic City!

Job Searching in Hong Kong

- **Labour Department Interactive Employment Service**
www.jobs.gov.hk

Visiting and Living in Hong Kong

- One-stop portal for information and services provided by HKSAR Government
GovHK
www.gov.hk/en/nonresidents/
- Official travel guide from the Hong Kong Tourism Board
Discover Hong Kong
www.discoverhongkong.com
- One-stop portal to provide information for people considering a move to Hong Kong
Hong Kong Welcomes You
www.hkwelcomesu.gov.hk