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CHINA: VALLEYS, VISTAS & VILLAGES

Trip #17730A

**BULLETIN #5**

May 21, 2017

Ni Hao, fellow travelers!

This Bulletin is about applying for a visa. In a separate email, I am sending you a PDF of my visa application from last year, including the cover letter, so you can see exactly what attachments are required. (I did not include the attachments themselves.)

You will note that in the cover letter for my visa app I list attachment #7 as the confirmation letter from the Bund Riverside Hotel in Shanghai. This year, our agent has told me that we must include confirmation letters from ALL our hotels, as follows: Bund Riverside (Shanghai); the local travel agency in Huangshan (for the hotels in Tunxi, and Mt. Huangshan), International, Mandarin Garden in Nanjing, and the local travel agency in Zhangjiajie (for the hotels in Zhangiajie City, Zhangjiajie Nat’l Park, and Ancient Phoenix Town.) These 4 confirmation letters (in Chinese) attached to this email.

You will need to include the following in your application packet:

1. Passport
2. Copy of Passport information page
3. Visa application with passport photo attached
4. Photocopy of round trip ticket to China
5. Invitation letter (attached)
6. List of hotels & contact info (attached)
7. Trip itinerary with dates (attached)
8. Confirmation letters for hotels in Shanghai, Huangshan, Nanjing and Zhangiajie (4 attachments)

You can check visa requirements at http://www.china-embassy.org/ You will be applying for an “L” visa, which is for “Foreigners who intend to go to China as a tourist.”

Please note that the Chinese Embassy does not accept ANY mail-in/online/fax applications. You will need to locate a Chinese visa office that serves your state. If you do not live in an area where you can personally get to a visa office, you will need to hire an agent to do it for you. (This is very common – most people outside of major metropolitan areas are not near a visa office.) If you Google “Chinese visa agents in Oregon,” for example, you will get a list of agents for that state.

As of last year**,** the cost for a single entry tourist visa was $140 U.S. (Because I was able to hand deliver the application to the visa center in San Francisco, this did NOT include an agent’s fee for processing the application for me. That will be extra.

Good Luck! As always, call or write with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Kathie