

Visa-free policy well received by foreign travelers

By ZHUANG TI
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International travelers and businessmen applauded Chengdu's 72-hour visa-free policy, which started in September 2013.

The policy allows transit passengers, who have a third country visa and valid air ticket, to stay visa-free in Chengdu, in Sichuan province, for up to 72 hours.

"My colleagues and I travel between Chengdu and Vancouver very frequently, so this policy definitely makes our lives a lot easier," said Rudy Buttignol, president and CEO of British Columbia's Knowledge Network Co.

Buttignol is not the only one who has found the policy convenient.

In 2013, a total of 1.76 million international travelers visited

Chengdu, an increase of 12.09 percent compared with the previous year.

Local tourism revenue reached 133 billion yuan (\$22 billion) in 2013, an increase of 26.24 percent from 2012.

The policy is also a bonus for the business industry as more businessmen are willing to travel to the city, said Chen Bin, deputy director at the Chengdu Investment Promotion Commission.

According to official data, Chengdu attracted 271.8 billion yuan in investment last year. With 22 Fortune 500 enterprises starting business in the city in 2013, Chengdu is now home to 252 such companies.

The policy boosts local tourism and business due to its convenience for foreign travelers, an official said.



72-HOUR VISA-FREE

Modani, an Italian architect, was the first person to take advantage of the policy.

The CEO of an architectural design firm visited four local companies within three days in Chengdu.

After the trip he cooperated with one of the companies to set up his first architectural firm in the city.

"The new visa policy becomes one of our advantages in attracting foreign investment," Chen said.

Xue Lian, the project manager of the American Chamber of Commerce in Southwest China, said more business delegations would now consider stopping in Cheng-

du instead of going straight to the "traditional destinations such as Beijing and Shanghai."

The policy also benefits overseas Chinese like Wen Wei and his daughter, who want to visit their hometown more frequently.

Wen lives in Australia with his family and changed a trip to Japan to visit Chengdu instead after he noticed the new policy.

"I can come home more often now to meet with my family members and take a walk in those famous scenic sites," Wen said.

Chengdu's government held a series of activities to promote the policy around the world.

In December 2013, Chengdu Tourism Administration, Chengdu Media Group and Chengdu Daily gave 1,000 foreigners a tour of the city.

The visitors were from some of the 51 countries and regions included in the visa-free policy, such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy, South Korea, Singapore, France, and Germany.

The tourists visited attractions like temples, farms and museums and tasted local foods.

"This is such a fantastic experience for me and I know more about the city and its culture now," said Mia, a college student from the United States.

"Next time when my friends ask me, I will tell them Chengdu has a lot more to explore besides pandas," she added.

Chengdu is the fourth mainland city to implement the policy, following Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

An official of the Chengdu Tourism Administration said with more and more international travelers expected to visit in the future, the city is looking to improve tourism facilities and services.

"Promotion events are part of the marketing strategy and we hope people from other countries and regions realize how beautiful and charming Chengdu is," he said.



Chengdu is the home of the giant panda.



Qingcheng Mountains, birthplace of Taoism.



Kuan Alley first built in the Qing Dynasty is a popular tourist attraction.



PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Handicraft masters are busy with embroidery. The craft, also known as "nuhong", means women's needlework and handicrafts, and was popular hundreds of years ago.

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Villas for Rent in Beijing

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Airport Expressway Area
Chateau Regalia
4Br. 324sqm ¥ 33,000
4+1Br.470sqm ¥ 40,000
Dynasty Garden
5Br. F 420sqm ¥ 35,000
5Br. H 600sqm ¥ 45,000
4Br. H 700sqm ¥ 50,000
Rits Garden
4Br. 400sqm ¥ 40,000
4Br.H 550sqm ¥ 48,000 | Australian Garden
4Br. 350/400sqm ¥ 33,000
4Br. 500sqm ¥ 35,000
LA GRANDE VILLA
4Br. 270sqm ¥ 20,000
4Br. 380sqm ¥ 33,000
Jing Shun Road Close to WAB
Beijing Riviera
4Br. A 402sqm ¥ 48,000
4Br. B 405sqm ¥ 48,000 | 4+1Br.C 294sqm ¥ 40,000
3Br. D 251sqm ¥ 32,000
Lane Bridge Villa
4Br. 375sqm ¥ 36,000
6Br. 430sqm ¥ 48,000
Orchid Garden
4Br. 275sqm ¥ 29,000
4Br. 310sqm ¥ 32,000
4Br. 400sqm ¥ 36,000
Grand Hills
4Br. C 502sqm ¥ 55,000 | 4Br. N 558sqm ¥ 65,000
6Br. J 800sqm ¥ 120,000
Quan Fa Garden
4Br. 280sqm ¥ 25,000
5Br. 650sqm ¥ 30,000
Jing Shun Road Close to ISB
Yosemite
4Br. B1 498sqm ¥ 48,000
4Br. B4 564sqm ¥ 62,000
4Br. B3 596sqm ¥ 60,000
4Br. C2 389sqm ¥ 40,000 | 4Br. C9 356sqm ¥ 38,000
Beijing Eurovillage
4Br. 280sqm ¥ 28,000
4Br. 400sqm ¥ 30,000
Le Leman Lake Villa
4Br. A 682sqm ¥ 50,000
4Br. B 578sqm ¥ 45,000
4Br. C 516sqm ¥ 40,000
3Br. E 315sqm ¥ 20,000
Capital Paradise
3Br. 150sqm ¥ 12,000 | 3Br. 162sqm ¥ 16,000
4Br. 229sqm ¥ 23,000
River Garden Villa
3Br. A 250sqm ¥ 30,000
4Br. C 300sqm ¥ 33,000
5Br. F 400sqm ¥ 48,000
Dragon Bay Villa
4Br. 300sqm ¥ 25,000
4Br. 450sqm ¥ 38,000
4Br. 550sqm ¥ 50,000 | Rose and Ginkgo Villas
4Br. 350sqm ¥ 36,000
4Br. 475sqm ¥ 50,000
Courtyards for Rent
Houhai Courtyard
4Br. 320sqm ¥ 60,000
Gulou Courtyards
3Br. 230sqm ¥ 30,000
Wangfujing Courtyard
4Br. 320sqm ¥ 35,000 |
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Yosemite (C1) - 优山美地 ID: 10715 358sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 38,000 detached, big garden, sunroom, good sunlight	Cathay View - 观塘 ID: 40179 400sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 48,000 detached, big garden, big balcony	Orchid Garden - 卓锦万代 ID: 01821 350sqm, 4Br. 4Ba. ¥ 28,000 townhouse, nice terrace, value for money	River Garden Villa (B) - 裕京花园 ID: 07544 300sqm, 4Br. 4Ba. ¥ 38,000 detached, big garden, open kitchen, sunroom	Rose and Ginkgo - 龙湖锦澜山 ID: 21238 387sqm, 5Br. 3Ba. ¥ 40,000 corner house, big garden, open kitchen, floor heating	Beijing Riviera (C) - 香江花园 ID: 32130 380sqm, 4Br. 4Ba. ¥ 48,000 detached, big garden, good sunlight	Lane Bridge Villa - 长岛澜桥 ID: 04774 370sqm, 4Br. 4Ba. ¥ 38,000 semi-detached, big garden, nice terrace
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Apartments for Rent in Beijing

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|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| CBD Area
Central Park (I - II)
2Br. 138sqm ¥ 18,000
3Br. 148sqm ¥ 23,000
3Br. 199sqm ¥ 28,000
4Br. 265sqm ¥ 43,000
4Br. 465sqm ¥ 90,000
Central Park (III)
2Br. 140sqm ¥ 20,000
3+1Br.171sqm ¥ 28,000
3Br. 188sqm ¥ 28,000
3+1Br.220sqm ¥ 38,000
Central Park (IV)
2Br. 138sqm ¥ 20,000 | 3Br. 188sqm ¥ 31,000
4Br. 264sqm ¥ 42,000
4Br. 286sqm ¥ 45,000
Global Trade Mansion
2Br. 171sqm ¥ 18,000
3Br. 180sqm ¥ 20,000
3Br. 256sqm ¥ 25,000
Fortune Plaza
2Br. 138sqm ¥ 13,000
2Br. 166sqm ¥ 15,000
3Br. 205sqm ¥ 19,000
3Br. 253sqm ¥ 28,000
CBD Private Castle
2Br. 150sqm ¥ 14,000 | 3Br. 170sqm ¥ 18,000
3Br. 230sqm ¥ 26,000
Xanadu Apartment
1+1Br.110sqm ¥ 14,000
2+1Br.175sqm ¥ 24,000
China Center Place
2Br. 135sqm ¥ 13,000
3Br. 213sqm ¥ 20,000
Gemdale Int'l Garden
2Br. 112sqm ¥ 15,000
3Br. 200sqm ¥ 23,000
Sanlitun Area
GuangCai Int'l Apartment
3Br. 217sqm ¥ 22,000 | 4Br. 270sqm ¥ 32,000
SanlitunSOHO
2Br. 154sqm ¥ 19,000
3Br. 182sqm ¥ 23,000
3+1Br.249sqm ¥ 31,000
Shimao Int'l Center
studio78sqm ¥ 11,000
1Br. 107sqm ¥ 15,000
1+1Br.136sqm ¥ 21,000
Joy court
1Br. 129sqm ¥ 14,000
3Br. 192sqm ¥ 28,000
Richmond Park
2Br. 120sqm ¥ 12,000
3Br. 188sqm ¥ 16,000 | 2Br. 150sqm ¥ 15,000
3Br. 185sqm ¥ 15,000
4Br. 210sqm ¥ 24,000
4Br. 280sqm ¥ 28,000
Upper East Side - Binhe
3Br. 206sqm ¥ 25,000
5Br. 390sqm ¥ 42,000
Upper East Side - Andersen
2Br. 150sqm ¥ 19,000
3Br. 234sqm ¥ 28,000
4Br. 288sqm ¥ 33,000
Lido Area
2Br. 120sqm ¥ 12,000
3Br. 188sqm ¥ 16,000 | 3Br. 240sqm ¥ 33,000
4Br. 324sqm ¥ 43,000
Lido Serenity City
2Br. 112sqm ¥ 12,000
3Br. 170sqm ¥ 19,000
4Br. 220sqm ¥ 33,000
Lufthansa Area
United Apartment
2Br. 166sqm ¥ 18,000
3Br. 196sqm ¥ 20,000
4Br. 226sqm ¥ 22,000
Chevalier
3+1Br.220sqm ¥ 22,000
4Br. 296sqm ¥ 31,000 | 3Br. 150sqm ¥ 17,000
4Br. 250sqm ¥ 35,000
MOMA - MOMA
2Br. 142sqm ¥ 16,000
3Br. 245sqm ¥ 25,000
4Br. 305sqm ¥ 32,000
POP MOMA
2+1Br.171sqm ¥ 22,000
3Br. 205sqm ¥ 25,000
Chaoyang Park Area
Greenlake Place
3Br. 180sqm ¥ 16,000
4Br. 260sqm ¥ 28,000
4Br. 298sqm ¥ 30,000 | Palm Springs
2Br. 138sqm ¥ 17,000
3Br. 180sqm ¥ 23,000
3Br. 220sqm ¥ 28,000
4Br. 370sqm ¥ 45,000
Park Avenue
2Br. 173sqm ¥ 19,000
3Br. 173sqm ¥ 23,000
3Br. 210sqm ¥ 30,000
3Br. 250sqm ¥ 33,000
4Br. 290sqm ¥ 41,000
4Br. 370sqm ¥ 48,000
4Br. 650sqm ¥ 120,000
Oceanwide Int'l | 3Br. 199sqm ¥ 20,000
4Br. 250sqm ¥ 30,000
Beijing Golf Palace
3Br. 270sqm ¥ 33,000
4Br. 310sqm ¥ 55,000
Boya Garden
2Br. 130sqm ¥ 12,000
3Br. 170sqm ¥ 15,000
4Br. 228sqm ¥ 21,000
Park Apartment
3+1Br. 245sqm ¥ 31,000
3+1Br. 265sqm ¥ 34,000
Parkview Tower
4Br. 300sqm ¥ 33,000 |
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Seasons Park - 海晟名苑 ID: 12504 210sqm, 3Br. 2Ba. ¥ 30,000 middle floor, good view, nice balcony, value for money	United Apartment - US联邦公寓 ID: 17741 176sqm, 3Br. 2Ba. ¥ 19,000 middle floor, good view, good sunlight	Beijing SOHO Residences - SOHO北京公馆 ID: 03212 290sqm, 2+1Br. 2Ba. ¥ 35,000 garden view, good sunlight, value for money	Central Park (I) - 新城国际 ID: 09421 320sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 48,000 middle floor, garden view, big balcony, good sunlight	Centrium Residence - 瑞安君汇 ID: 38731 248sqm, 2+1Br. 2Ba. ¥ 42,000 high floor, good view, floor heating, brand new property	Palm Springs - 棕榈泉 ID: 05619 224sqm, 4Br. 2Ba. ¥ 25,000 garden view, big terrace, value for money	SanlitunSOHO - 三里屯 SOHO ID: 06880 224sqm, 2+1Br. 2Ba. ¥ 23,000 middle floor, good view, value for money
Gemini Grove - 嘉里星源汇 ID: 03842 160sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 27,000 high floor, south facing, good view, open kitchen	Park Avenue - 公园大道 ID: 02435 370sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 53,000 high floor, south facing, garden view, big balcony	Park Apartment - 天安豪园 ID: 13652 245sqm, 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 34,000 high floor, south facing, good sunlight	Concordia Plaza - 嘉和丽园 ID: 07159 207sqm, 3Br. 2Ba. ¥ 18,000 high floor, south facing, nice balcony	Fortune Heights - 财富中心 ID: 01147 304sqm, 3+1Br. 3Ba. ¥ 55,000 high floor, good view, good sunlight	CBD Private Castle - 圣世一品 ID: 12060 232sqm, 4+1Br. 2Ba. ¥ 27,000 middle floor, garden view, good sunlight	Oceanwide Int'l - 泛海国际 ID: 02062 198sqm, 3Br. 2Ba. ¥ 22,000 middle floor, good view, floor heating

Europark Residence Exclusively Managed

Rose and Ginkgo ID: 02265 350sqm 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 38,000 townhouse, floor heating, two kitchens	Central Park (I) ID: 00285 180sqm 3Br. 2Ba. ¥ 26,000 south facing, garden view, value for money	Upper East Side ID: 04776 246sqm 4Br. 3Ba. ¥ 32,000 high floor, river view, good sunlight	Shimao Int'l Center ID: 10194 68sqm Studio 1Ba. ¥ 10,000 high floor, nice balcony, floor heating	Four Seasons ID: 06853 265sqm 2+1Br. 2Ba. ¥ 46,000 high floor, garden view, floor heating, value for money
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