

A GUDE TO A DE A A CALENCIA A DE A A

外籍人士在琼服务手册 A Guide to Hainan for Expats

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HAINAN ESSENTIALS





PEOPLE

About 1.6 million people in Hainan belong to ethnic

minority groups such as the Li, Miao, and Hui



Also known as

Hainan awards the Coconut Island Friendship Prize to foreign nationals who have made outstanding contributions to Hainan.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Coconuts and various tropical fruits
- Stunning natural ecological environment embodied by the Hainan Tropical Rainforest National Park
- The Hainan Gibbon, one of the world's most endangered animals

3.9+ million overseas Chinese

10+ million residents

of Hainanese origin

STAYING IN HAINAN

ARRIVING IN HAINAN

RESIDENCE REGISTRATION

You must register your accommodation with the local police within 24 hours of arriving in Hainan.





Registering Your Accommodation

If you are staying in a hotel (hostel, short-term rental, or guesthouse), the staff who check you in will do this for you. If you are staying at a private residence, including your own, you or your host must complete residence registration yourselves. You can do this online or in person. Scan the QR code to learn how.



Foreigners who enter Hainan and need to reside or remain in the country for reasons other than diplomatic or official purposes shall file an application at the exit and entry departments of public security organs for the issuance, extension, change and re-issuance of a residence permit, visa, or stay permit. Scan the QR code to find out how and where to apply for residence permits and visas.





Applying for Residence Permits and Visas



You need to obtain a work permit and a work-type residence permit to work legally in China. Typically, your Chinese employer will help you to apply for both. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Applying for a Work Permit







Douyin



WeChat



Weibo Xiaohongshu





Signing Up for a WeChat Account

E-PAYMENT









WeChat Pay Alipay

Dianping

Meituan





ele.me Meituan Waimai



JD

GETTING AROUND

放心点









Gaode Maps

aps Baidu Maps

os DiDi

Hellobike







Maoyan Taopiaopiao Damai

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PAYMENT OPTIONS

Almost every restaurant, café, supermarket, mall, hotel, bus, and hospital accept electronic payments. If you don't have a Chinese bank account, you can add your overseas bank card to Alipay or WeChat Pay, China's two most popular e-payment applications. Other payment options are available.Scan the QR code to learn about payment options and Sanya TrustPay.



WeChat Pay by Tencent accepts international bank cards from major card networks, including Visa, Discover Global Network (including Diners Club), JCB, and Mastercard.



Payment Options

and Sanya TrustPay

ALIPAY

Alipay is an e-wallet service provider similar to PayPal. It accepts international bank cards from major card networks, including Visa, Mastercard, Discover Global Network (including Diners Club), and JCB.



OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

If you intend to work or study in Hainan, opening a local bank account is essential.

Different banks may have different requirements for opening an account. Two things that are always required are your passport and a mobile number (Chinese or international).



Opening a Bank Account

SENDING AND EXCHANGING MONEY

You can send money overseas at banks or through SkyRemit. SkyRemit provides a convenient online remittance services via their WeChat official account. Search "SkyRemit" in WeChat to find out more. You can exchange money at banks and bureaux de change across Hainan. Scan the QR code to see where.



Where to Exchange Money in Hainan

GETTING CONNECTED

SIM cards Major telecom service providers in Hainan



China (

China Mobile Hotline: 10086

China Unicom Hotline: 10010



China Telecom Hotline: 10000

Losing your mobile phone

Call your telecom service provider and report the loss. If you use online banking and WeChat Pay/Alipay, go to your local bank branch and freeze your online banking. Freeze your WeChat Pay and Alipay, and change the passwords on all your social media accounts.

Nihao Mobile

Choose a service provider and head to their local official outlet with your passport or foreign permanent resident ID card to get a SIM card. You can also get a SIM card online at Nihao Mobile.

Nihao Mobile offers English service, fast delivery, and supports multiple payment options.

Broadband

You can set up broadband at any official outlet of the major telecom service providers listed above (subject to coverage in your local community) with your passport/permanent resident ID card and address. Many broadband packages come with free SIM cards linked to your name with phone numbers that can be used when opening bank accounts and registering for various services.

GETTING AROUND



Hainan is a well-connected place, with three international airports, ferry terminals, a round-island high-speed railway, several expressways, and frequent urban and inter-city bus services. It is easy to rent a car, hail a taxi, or order a ride-hailing car via mobile apps. Shared bikes can be found along almost every street in cities.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Air



• Haikou Meilan International Airport Approximately 24 km east of downtown Haikou

• Sanya Phoenix International Airport Approximately 15 km west of downtown Sanya

• Qionghai Boao Airport Approximately 12km east of downtown Qionghai

All airports boast convenient rail and bus connections and flights to a number of domestic and international destinations.

You can book flights on a number of platforms, including:



Ctrip

Feizhu

Ounar

u Umetrip

Variflight

Rail





Purchasing Train Tickets

Ferry

The Hainan Round-Island High-Speed Railway links all of Hainan's main coastal cities and counties and provides connections to its three international airports.

Hainan also has rail connections to many destinations throughout the Chinese mainland via the train ferry.

Ticket purchasing channels:

Tickets can be purchased via the 12306 China Railway website/app or hotline (12306), Qunar, Ctrip, or in person at a manned train station ticket office. Before buying tickets via the official 12306 platform, you need to complete real-name verification. Scan the QR code to learn how.

Three main ferry terminals connect Hainan to the Chinese mainland, all located in Haikou.

- - Xinhai Harbour
 Xiuying Harbour
 Nangang Harbour

These ferry terminals serve both passengers and vehicles, while Nangang also provides ferry services for trains between Hainan and the mainland. It takes 70-100 minutes to cross the Qiongzhou Strait by ferry to Xuwen County in Guangdong. Ferry services are suspended during poor weather conditions (typhoons, high winds, fog). You can purchase passenger tickets and vehicle tickets in person at the terminals or online via the "Qiongzhou Strait Ferry Service" (琼州海峡轮渡管家) WeChat public account (for Xinhai and Xiuying) or the "Hainan Rail Ferry" (海南铁路轮渡) WeChat mini-program (for Nangang). Scan the QR code to learn how.



Purchasing Ferry Tickets

Bus



All cities and counties in Hainan have scheduled local bus routes.

There are also plenty of intercity bus routes linking cities and counties across Hainan, as well as inter-provincial bus services in Haikou.

Airport shuttle services are available in Haikou, Sanya, and Boao. Scan the QR code to learn more about taking the bus in Hainan.

Taxis and Ride-Hailing Cars



Taxis and ride-hailing cars (also known as "e-hailing cars") are plentiful in Hainan's urban areas and can be hailed easily via the following apps:

DIDI (app or WeChat mini-program, available in English) Meituan Gaode Maps



Taxi and Ride-Hailing Car Fares Of course, taxis can still be hailed from the roadside. Few taxi drivers speak English. If you don't speak Chinese, show the driver your destination in Chinese. Scan the QR code to check fares.

Shared Bikes



Shared bikes are a great way to get around in urban areas. The two main choices are yellow bikes by Meituan and blue bikes by Hellobike from Alibaba. Scan the QR code to learn how to rent a shared bike.

Renting a Shared Bike

E-Bikes



Registering Your E-bike

If you plan to stay in Hainan longer, consider getting an e-bike, ideally from an authorized dealer. You must register your e-bike and get a license plate. Scan the QR code to learn how.

Cars



Applying for a Provisional Driver's Permit If you have an overseas driver's license and you're staying in Hainan for a short period, you can apply for a provisional driver's permit without taking an exam and then rent a car. Scan the QR code to learn how.



Getting a Full Chinese Driver's License If you plan to stay longer, you can take China's driving theory exam (multiple languages available) to obtain a full Chinese driver's license. With it, you can either rent or buy a car. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Do not drive under the influence in China; the penalties for doing so are severe.

Drunk Driving



Penalty Points and Traffic Infractions China institutes a penalty point system for drivers. If you accrue 12 or more points within a 12-month period, your license will be suspended. Make sure to follow the rules of the road and drive safe!

HOUSING



-		
	Rental contract	
-		
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People usually rely on real estate agents to find housing. You can find an agency in or near the residential community you are interested in. It is important to carefully review the lease and thoroughly check the property before signing a contract.

RENTING

When signing a lease, remember to bring your passport and residence permit/visa (or foreign permanent resident ID card). Ensure your name and ID certificate number written on the lease match those on your ID certificate. After signing the lease, remember to head to the local police station within 24 hours to register your new accommodation.

Costs involved in renting a property

Rent	Paid in advance monthly or every three/six/twelve months. Negotiate payment schedule with property owner.
Deposit	Returned after tenancy ends. Usually equal to 1 or 2 months' rent.
Management Fee For maintenance of communal areas. Paid monthly. May include communal electricity charge.	
Commission Paid to real estate agency. Usually equal to half a month's rent.	
Utilities	Usually paid monthly by tenant.

DAILY NECESSITIES

Water Bill





WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi is available in most public places such as train stations, airports, coffee shops, restaurants, and convenience stores. If you can't see the Wi-Fi password displayed anywhere, you can get it by asking staff: Wi-Fi密码是什么? (Wi-Fi mìmǎ shì shén me?)



UTILITY BILLS

You can pay your bills in multiple ways. You can visit a post office, certain convenience stores, banks, or utility company offices to pay in person. The easiest way to pay your bill is online using e-payment platforms like WeChat Pay or Alipay. In certain communities in Hainan, the property management company will have pre-paid accounts for your property that must be topped up in order to use utilities such as electricity, water, and gas. Scan the OR code to learn more.





Employing a domestic helper (ayi) can help make life much easier. They offer services ranging from weekly cleans to full-service cleaning, cooking, and childcare. Ask your property management company, neighbors, or friends for recommendations.

DELIVERY SERVICES <u>т</u>е



Various companies provide courier services, ranging from local direct delivery to international shipping. You must present your passport/foreign permanent resident ID card when sending items via courier or through the mail in China.



SF EXPRESS:

reliable and fast local direct, domestic, and international delivery.



EMS:

Domestic and international delivery run by China Post.



DHL, UPS, FEDEX: DHL, UPS, and FedEx also provide international delivery

services in China.

POPULAR SUPERMARKETS



24-HOUR CONVENIENCE STORES

Most convenience stores in Hainan are small mom-and-pop operations located on nearly every street corner. However, some chains are now growing, including:





Today今天 Today

Lawson

Meiyijia











Hong Chun Tang Pharmacy

YXT Health

Zhen De Tang Pharmacy



The education system in Hainan consists primarily of public schools, with a number of private bilingual schools as well as a few international schools for the children of expats. Scan the QR code to learn more about education options.

MEDICAL CARE

SOCIAL AND HEALTH INSURANCE



Social Insurance Regulations By law, expats working in Hainan should be covered by social insurance, which includes pension, medical insurance, employment injury insurance, unemployment insurance, and maternity insurance. Expats holding permanent resident ID cards may enrol for basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents as required. The unemployed spouses & immediate family members of high-end foreign talents and the domestic helpers employed by them may enrol for basic medical insurance for urban employees or basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the legal requirements for social insurance



Purchasing Private

Health Insurance

You can also purchase additional private health insurance for fuller coverage, plans can include:

- Inpatient coverage
- Outpatient coverage
- Wellness care
- Dental care

Scan the QR code to learn more about purchasing private health insurance.



HOSPITALS

All hospitals in Hainan are open to any person, foreign or Chinese, who needs medical treatment.



List of Hospitals with International Clinics in Hainan.

A total of 26 hospitals in Hainan have international clinics providing outpatient services in English. Please note that fees for these services are higher than regular fees in other parts of the hospital and treatment is not covered by social insurance. You can still claim against your private health insurance. Scan the QR code to see a full list.

For emergency care, proceed to any public hospital with an emergency room (急诊). Have a Chinese-speaking friend, relative, or colleague accompany you. Scan the QR code to learn how to seek treatment at a hospital in Hainan.



Visiting a Hospital

EMERGENCY SERVICES

China has emergency numbers assigned for specific purposes. Calls to these numbers are free and can be connected via any available mobile network.

119 – Fire and rescue



120 – Ambulance and paramedic service. Call when you or someone else need emergency medical care but cannot go to the hospital on your own.



110 – Police. Call when you need to report a crime or seek help from the police in an emergency.

122 - Traffic accident reporting

Foreign-language service may not be available when calling these numbers. If you don't speak Chinese, have a Chinese-speaking friend, relative, neighbor, or colleague call on your behalf.

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CLIMATE AND TEMPERATURE

Hainan has a tropical monsoon marine climate with dry winters.



- Wet and dry seasons
- Generous sunshine
- Abundant rainfall
- Narrow average annual temperature range (22-26°C)
- Day and night lengths do not vary much throughout the year

TYPHOONS

Q

The eastern coast of Hainan lies in the path of typhoons, which occur between May and November. Typhoons bring strong winds, heavy rains, and sudden temperature drops. Transportation and schools may be affected.

FOG AND HUMIDITY



In January and February, the coastal areas of Hainan, particularly in the north of the island, are often affected by thick fog caused by cold winter fronts to the north coming into contact with the warmer sea fronts. It may be difficult to dry clothes, and moisture condensing on interior walls may lead to mold. Reduce humidity by keeping your windows closed and using the dehumidifying function on your air conditioner. Consider buying a standalone dehumidifier.





Due to Hainan's low latitude, sunshine tends to be very intense on clear days. Remember to use sunscreen and umbrellas to prevent sunburn.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONAL FESTIVALS

Four major traditional festivals that are celebrated across China are also designated public holidays: the Spring Festival, Qingming Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, and Mid-Autumn Festival.



STATUTORY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN CHINA

- New Year's Day January 1 (1 day)
- Spring Festival The 1st to 3rd days of the 1st lunar month (3 days)
- Qingming Festival Around April 5 (1 day)
- Labor Day May 1 (1 day)
- Dragon Boat Festival 5th day of the 5th lunar month (1 day)
- Mid-Autumn Festival 15th day of the 8th lunar month (1 day)
- National Day Holiday October 1 to 3 (3 days)

Most employers will combine statutory public holidays with weekends or extra days to give their employees some more time off. Those extra days off that fall on weekdays sometimes need to be made up by working on weekends preceding or following the holiday. This is called 调休 (tiáo xīu) in Chinese.

Hainan has two major local festivals, Sanyuesan and Junpo (or Gongqi).

The Sanyuesan festival, which falls on the 3rd day of the 3rd month of the lunar calendar, is a traditional festival of the Li and Miao ethnic groups. It is considered their "Valentine's Day", when courtship was traditionally initiated.

Junpo, or Gongqi, is celebrated at different times in different villages in Hainan. It is a time of making offerings to ancestors and historical figures, particularly Lady Xian (冼夫人).





CULTURAL VENUES

- Hainan Museum
- China (Hainan) Museum of the South China Sea
- Hainan Provincial Library
- Hainan Opera House
- Haikou Bay Performing Arts Center
- Wormhole Library
- Sky Mountain Recreation Area



Scan the OR code to see the location



EXPLORE HAINAN

Explore Hainan (https://en.explorehainan.com/en/) is the official Hainan tourism website run by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Television and Sports of Hainan Province. It provides a wealth of information on Hainan, including places to discover, things to do, accommodation, suggested itineraries, guides on how to plan your trip, travel advice, and the latest news. The website provides information in Chinese, English, Russian, Arabic, Japanese, and Korean.

DUTY-FREE SHOPPING

Hainan is well-known for its offshore duty-free shopping. Each year, benefiting from Hainan's duty-free policies, millions of tourists buy various products at lower prices than on the Chinese mainland.

WHERE TO SHOP

Scan the QR code to see a full list of duty-free shops in Hainan.





Duty-free Shops in Hainan

OFFSHORE DUTY-FREE PURCHASE RULES

- Annual purchase limit of 100,000 yuan per person
- You can make as many trips as you like to Hainan, but frequent, short visits involving purchases of large quantities of duty-free goods may arouse suspicion as to whether they are for personal use.
- Per-trip limits on purchase quantities (Cosmetics: 30 items, mobile phones: 4 devices, spirits: no more than 1,500 ml)
- You must present your valid ID (passport/permanent resident ID card) and ticket for your flight/train/ferry departing Hainan.

Only passengers departing Hainan for destinations on the Chinese mainland may purchase offshore duty-free goods. Passengers departing on international flights may purchase duty-free goods in the international departure lounge at the airport.



EVERYDAY SHOPPING

All densely populated areas in Hainan have shopping malls or department stores where you can buy a variety of goods or enjoy a meal or beverage.

WHERE TO SHOP



- Wuyue Plaza (吾悦广场)
- Friendship Sun City (友谊阳光城)
- MOVA (日月广场)
- Grand Shopping Center (远大购物中心)
- The Mixc (万象城)



Shopping in Hainan



- Bright Pearl Plaza (明珠广场)
- Jiefang Road Pedestrian Street (解放路步行街)
- Summer Shopping Mall (夏日百货)
- Yalong Bay No. 1 Outlets (亚龙湾壹号小镇·奥特莱斯)
- Sanya International Shopping Center (三亚国际购物中心)



Hainan has a rich culinary heritage that has spread beyond its borders. Four dishes, in particular, represent the best of Hainan's homegrown cuisine:

- Wenchang Chicken
- Jiaji Duck
- Hele Crab
- Dongshan Goat

Hainan also boasts its own version of the morning and afternoon tea culture called Laobacha (Old Dad's Tea). Locals will often frequent Laobacha tea houses in the early morning or afternoon, downing delicious dim sum and pastries with tea or locally-grown coffee. Scan the QR code to learn more about the local cuisine.





MAJOR EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS



- Hainan's Annual "Two Sessions"
 - (Hainan Provincial People's Congress, Hainan Provincial Committee of the CPPCC)
- Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference
- China International Consumer Products Expo (Hainan Expo)
- Hele Town Dragon Boat Festival
- Hainan Duty-Free Shopping Festival
- Tanmen Beachcombing Festival
- Grand Auto Exhibition
- Tour of Hainan International Road Cycling Race
- Hainan Regatta Sailing Race
- "Haikou Cup" Regatta
- Hainan Island Carnival
- Hainan Island Fashion Week
- Southeast Asian Food Carnival and Hainan Chicken Rice Festival
- Danzhou International Marathon
- Hainan Island International Film Festival

Note: The dates of these events vary from year to year. Please check the "Explore Hainan" official website for specific dates.



Events in Hainan

LOCAL SERVICES

LOCAL NEWS

Local news is available in multiple languages via a number of news outlets.



- Hainan Daily (Chinese)
- Hinews (Chinese) (www.hinews.cn)
- Hainan International Communications Network (English, Russian, Japanese, Korean) (www.hicn.cn)
- hiHainan WeChat official account (English, Russian, Japanese, Korean)
- Tropical Hainan (English) (www.tropicalhainan.com)
- TheHaikouGuide WeChat official account (English)
- GoSanya WeChat official account (Chinese & English)

THE HAINAN FTP ONE-STOP POLICY ENQUIRY PLATFORM

The Hainan FTP One-Stop Policy Enquiry Platform offers a convenient way to look up the Hainan Free Trade Port's key policies and learn how they can be applied to you or your company. Scan the QR code to visit the platform.



Hainan's 13 Key Industrial Parks

- Yangpu Economic Development Zone
- Boao Lecheng International Medical Tourism Pilot Zone
- Haikou Jiangdong New Area
- Haikou National Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone
- Haikou Comprehensive Bonded Zone
- Sanya Yazhou Bay Science and Technology City
- Sanya Central Business District
- Wenchang International Aerospace City
- Lingshui Li'an International Education Innovation Pilot Zone
- Hainan Resort Software Community
- Haikou Fullsing Internet Industrial Park
- Dongfang Lingang Industrial Park
- Lingao Jinpai Port Economic Development Zone

To learn more, visit:

https://en.contacthainan.gov.cn/xinwen/list-605.html or call the Hainan FTP Global Investment Service Hotline at (+86) 4008-413-413



STARTING A BUSINESS

Hainan is one of the easiest places in China for foreign investors to start a business. There are fewer restrictions, a wealth of preferential policies, and a range of encouraged industries that enjoy preferential treatment. What's more, most of the process can be done online. Scan the QR code for more on how to start a business in Hainan.



Fresh International Graduate Entrepreneurship Residence Policy

The Hainan FTP is an open place welcoming international graduates to come innovate and start businesses, share opportunities, and create a future together. Various options exist for recent international graduates inside and outside China to apply for private affairs (entrepreneurship) residence permits in Hainan valid for up to 5 years. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Fresh International Graduate Enterpreneurship Residence Policy

Visa-Free Entry

Hainan Province launched the visa-free entry policy for citizens of 59 designated countries on May 1, 2018. Citizens of these countries traveling to Hainan can enter Hainan through open ports with their valid ordinary passports and stay for up to 30 days without a visa. Scan the QR code to learn more.

Sisterhood Partnerships

In the years since China's opening up and reform began, Hainan has worked to foster sisterhood partnerships with counterparts around the globe. Scan the QR code for a full list of Hainan's sisterhood partnerships.



Hainan Visa-Free Entry Policy



Hainan's Sisterhood Partnerships

GOVERNMENT SERVICE DIRECTORY

• 12345 -Hainan Provincial Government Service Hotline. Call this number if you have a suggestion or complaint about government services, public transportation, medical care, etc.

• 12367 -National Immigration Administration Service Hotline. Call if you have enquiries or complaints about immigration-related matters.

• 12306 -China Railway Service Hotline. Call if you have enquiries about schedules or tickets.

• 12366 -Tax Service Hotline. Call for enquiries about tax-related matters.

• 4008-413-413 -Hainan FTP Global Investment Service Hotline. Call for enquiries about doing business and investing in Hainan.

• Hainan Foreign Affairs Office -0898-65316350 (for consular affairs and legalization); 0898-65221675 (for APEC business travel cards and invitation letter for visiting foreign nationals)

• Hainan Government Services Portal: https://wssp.hainan.gov.cn/hn-wt/home



Haiyiban WeChat Mini-Program: This app allows users to access various Hainan FTP government and public services. It has dedicated functions for overseas users in English. Search "haiyiban" in WeChat to access the mini-program.

Consular Assistance



A List of Diplomatic Missions in China Scan the QR code to check the addresses and contact numbers of diplomatic missions in China.

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Scan to open this guide on your mobile device

Produced by the Foreign Affairs Office of Hainan Province