



# Dalian

# Living Guide



## General Information

### (a) HISTORY

China is one of the oldest nations in the world. For most of its time, China has been ruled by a succession of dynasties. The Qin began the construction of the Great Wall, the Sui built the Grand Canal and the Song period is known for its artistic achievements.

The first Europeans to reach China were the Portuguese, who began trading on the island of Macau in the 16th century. The British soon followed, the Opium Wars eventually led to British control of Hong Kong, a place that was not returned to China until 1997. (Macau was reintegrated into China in 1999.)

The last dynasty officially ended in 1911. Chiang Kai-shek held control throughout the 1930s, but after World War II, Mao's guerrilla army began winning the hearts and minds of the Chinese people and the battle against the Nationalists. In 1949, the People's Republic of China was born and Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan.

Led by Mao Zedong, the new government transformed China into a communist nation. Land was redistributed; industries were absorbed by the state. Tibet was brought under Beijing's control in the 1950s. Thousands of writers, artists, teachers and others were imprisoned or killed during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-1970.

China's recent leaders have embraced free trade. The country was admitted to the World Trade Organization in 2001, which means the world's most populous nation is now officially open for global business. The first big venture took place in Beijing in 2008, when the Olympic Games came to China for the first time.

### (b) AREA

China is located in central and eastern Asia, bordering the East China Sea, Korea Bay, Yellow Sea, and South China Sea, between North Korea and Vietnam

- **Area total:** 9,596,960 sq km
- **Land:** 9,326,410 sq km
- **Water:** 270,550 sq km
- **Land boundaries:** 22,143.34 km
- **Border countries:** Afghanistan 76 km, Bhutan 470 km, Burma 2,185 km, Hong Kong 30 km,
- India 3,380 km, Kazakhstan 1,533 km, North Korea 1,416 km, Kyrgyzstan 858 km, Laos 423 km, Macau 0.34 km, Mongolia 4,673 km, Nepal 1,236 km, Pakistan 523 km, Russia (northeast) 3,605 km, Russia (northwest) 40 km, Tajikistan 414 km, Vietnam 1,281 km
- **Coastline:** 14,500 km
- **Terrain:** mostly mountains, high plateaus, deserts in west; plains, deltas, and hills in east
- **Natural resources:** coal, iron ore, petroleum, natural gas, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminum, lead, zinc, uranium, hydropower potential (world's largest)
- **Arable land:** 10%
- **Permanent pastures:** 43%
- **Forests and woodland:** 14%
- **Irrigated land:** 498,720 sq km (1993 est.)

China is the world's third-largest country (after Canada, and US)

### (c) CLIMATE

China's climate is one of extremes -- hot summers in most parts of the country, bitter winters in the north and comfortable winters in the south. Spring rains can make southern cities (especially Guilin and Guangzhou) dreadfully humid. Sandstorms can be a problem in the north (including Beijing) in April. Tibet can be bitter cold, even in the autumn and late spring. Bordered by the Bohai Sea and the Yellow Sea, Dalian is situated at the southern end of the Liaodong Peninsula in northeastern China. This is a warm temperate zone with a semi-moist monsoon climate and ocean climate features. The annual average temperature of Dalian is from 8 to 11°C (about from 46 to 52°F) and it has four distinct seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. Influenced by the mild ocean winds from the Bohai Sea and the Yellow Sea, the city has a good climate with an annual rainfall of 550 to 1000 millimeters, over 60% of which falls during the summer period.

### (d) RELIGION

China is a country with a great diversity of religions. The main religions are Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Taoism, along with Shamanism, Eastern Orthodox Christianity and the Dongba religion. Religious Han Chinese tends to practice Buddhism, Christianity or Taoism. The Hui, Uygur, Tajik, Dongxiang, Salar and Bonan peoples adhere to Islam; the



Tibetan, Mongolian, Lhoba and Yugur, to Tibetan Buddhism (Lamaism), and the Dai, Blang and Deang to Theravada Buddhism. Quite a few Miao, Yao and Yi are Christians.

Islam first reached China in the mid-seventh century. The Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) witnessed the zenith of prosperity of Islam. Now China has more than 30,000 mosques.

Catholic influence reached China after the seventh century. Protestantism was introduced into China in the early 19th century. Now there are more than 4,600 Catholic churches and over 12,000 Protestant churches, as well as over 25,000 other types of Christian places of worship in China.

Taoism took shape as a religion during the second century, based on the philosophy of Lao Zi and his work – “*道德經 Dàodéjīng*” (translatable as the Book of the Way and its Virtue). China now has more than 1,500 Taoist temples.

Although officially an atheist state, the most important religious beliefs include Confucianism which accounts for 20% of the population while Taoism accounts for 2%, Buddhism for 6% with around 2% of the population Muslim and 1% Christian.

#### (e) TRADITIONAL FESTIVALS

Most traditional festivals took shape during the Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC). In the most prosperous Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE), traditional festivals liberated themselves from primitive sacrifice, taboo and mystery and became more entertaining. From then on, festive occasions turned more exciting as more and more folk customs developed.

- Spring Festival
- Lantern Festival
- Qingming Festival
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Double Seventh Festival
- Mid-Autumn Festival
- Double Ninth Festival
- Winter Solstice Festival

#### (f) NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

Chinese Spring Festival follows the lunar calendar, therefore the dates change each year.

- New Years Day 1<sup>st</sup> January
- Chinese New Year Vary every year
- Qingming Tomb Sweeping 4<sup>th</sup> April
- Labor Day 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> May
- National Day 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> October

#### (g) POPULATION

Population: 1,321,851,888

Literacy Rate: 90.6%

#### (h) ETHNIC GROUP

As a large united multi national state, China is composed of 56 ethnic groups. Among them Han Chinese account for 91.59% of the overall Chinese population and the other 55 make up the remaining 8.41%.

Remaining 8.41%: Chuang, Hui, Uigur, Yi, Miao, Mangchu, Tibetans, Mongols, Ruyi and Koreans.

#### (i) GOVERNMENT DETAILS

- People's Republic of China (PRC) or 中华人民共和国
- Communist State.
- Capital: Beijing

**Administrative divisions:** 23 provinces, 5 autonomous regions, and 4 municipalities.

Note: China considers Taiwan its 23rd province; see separate entries for the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau.

#### **Natural Hazards:**

Sands storm, pollutions and respiratory element.



**Legislative branch:** National People's Congress or Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (2,979 seats; members elected by municipal, regional, and provincial people's congresses to serve five-year terms)

**Judicial branch:** Supreme People's Court, judges appointed by the National People's Congress.

**(j) CURRENCY & MEASUREMENTS**

The official currency is the Yuan (Y) divided into 10 Jiao and 100 Fen.

**(k) WEIGHT & MEASUREMENTS**

The metric system is used throughout China. Numerals on vehicle speed, highway markers and speed limits all indicate kilometers: food is purchased in kilograms: petrol, water and milk in litres. However fabric can be bought in meters.

- 1 li = 1/2 kilometer = 0.3107mile
- 1 jin = 1/2 kilogram = 1.1023 pounds
- 1 sq.km. = 4 sq.li = 100 hectares = 0.3861 square
- 1 sq. meter = 9 sq.chi = 10.7636 sq.feet
- 1 kilogram = 2 jin = 2.2046 pounds
- 1 cubic meter = 27 cubic chi = 35.3147 cubic feet

**(l) VOLTAGE**



**(m) EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS:**

<b>Public Security</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>120/999</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>119</b>

<b>Medical Emergency</b>
<b>International SOS Beijing Alarm Center (24 hours): 010-64629100</b>
<b>Note: Beijing Alarm Center coordinates for emergencies in Dalian</b>

<b>Other Useful Numbers</b>	
<b>Weather</b>	<b>12121</b>
<b>Consumer Complaint Line</b>	<b>12315 Chinese</b>
<b>Directory inquires</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Traffic accident call</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>12117</b>
<b>Fault report</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Dalian airport</b>	<b>83886699</b>

**Education**

**(a) INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS**

There are only 3 schools which teach children in English in Dalian.

Since local schools are all taught in Chinese, International Schools are not the only option for Chinese-speaking expatriates. Some do choose to send their children to local schools if the company does not cover their education cost, but only a select few are open to foreigners. Children can be placed together in a "foreigners' class", which can be a lonely experience if no-one else shares their native language.



The Following is a list of International Schools:

**Dalian Maple Leaf Senior High International School**

Tel: 8790 0732 or 8790 0578  
Website: [www.mapleleaf.net.cn](http://www.mapleleaf.net.cn)  
Address: Jinshitan, Dalian

**Dalian Maple Leaf Junior High School**

Tel: 8676 0187 or 8676 0159  
Website: [www.mapleleaf.net.cn](http://www.mapleleaf.net.cn)  
Address: Daheishi, Dalian

**Dalian Maple Leaf Elementary School (Located in the DDA)**

Tel: 8761 5476 or 8764 3079  
Website: [www.mapleleaf.net.cn](http://www.mapleleaf.net.cn)  
Address: Development Zone, Dalian

**Dalian Maple Leaf Foreign Nationals School**

Tel: 8238 7757  
Website: [www.mapleleaf.net.cn](http://www.mapleleaf.net.cn)  
Address: 30 Gaoyuan Street, Zhongshan District, Dalian

**Dalian American International School**

Tel: 8757 2000  
Fax: 8791 5656  
Website: [www.daischina.org](http://www.daischina.org)  
Address: No. 2 Dianchi Road, Golden Pebble Beach National Resort  
Dalian Development Zone

**Dalian Asksun International School**

Tel: 8240 4622  
Website: [www.asksun.com](http://www.asksun.com)  
Address: Fujiazhuang, Xigang District

**Dalian Japanese School**

Tel: 8240 0691  
Fax: 8240 2002  
Mail: [jsdalian@mail.dlptt.ln.cn](mailto:jsdalian@mail.dlptt.ln.cn)  
Website: [www.japanda.org](http://www.japanda.org)  
Address: No. 123 Binhai Road, Zhongshan District, Dalian

**Dalian Japanese Kindergarten**

Tel: 8240 2763  
Mail: [ak\\_jsdalian@dljoi.com](mailto:ak_jsdalian@dljoi.com)  
Address: No. 123 Binhai Road, Zhongshan District, Dalian

**Dalian Maple Leaf Yuanjing Kindergarten**

Tel: 8686 4647  
Address: 28 Jingzhu Street, Qianshan Road, Ganjingzi District, Dalian

**(b) CHINESE LANGUAGE LEARNING**

**I Mandarin**

Address: 37/F Tian An International Tower  
88 Zhongshan Road, Zhongshan District, Dalian  
Tel: 0411 82301216

**Aushi Chinese Center**

Address 1: 1701 Manhattan Building, 101 Youhao Road  
TEL: 82801339

## Medical Care

**(a) GENERAL**

Usually each company chooses a medical facility for their employees for medical dental care and emergency evacuation. Most of the expatriate facilities that are not run by the Chinese government have doctors, dentists, and nurses who have



either trained in a foreign country or are expatriates themselves. We recommend that you bring a copy of your medical records from home, including dental records. It is also advisable to bring a one-year supply of any maintenance prescription drugs.

Service at any of the Chinese hospitals is on a cash only basis whereas the foreign run clinics also take credit cards. Cash is required in advance for more costly procedures. The medical evacuation programs are generally swift and efficient.

#### **(b) IMMUNIZATION TO CONSIDER FOR ADULTS LIVING IN CHINA**

**Hepatitis A**-Hepatitis A is a food and water borne illness that can cause reversible inflammation of the liver. Hepatitis A is endemic in China.

Havrix - Hepatitis A vaccine

*Schedule:*

2 shots 6 - 12 months apart

**Hepatitis B**-Hepatitis B is a blood borne illness that usually causes and occasionally leads to chronic infection of the liver which can cause liver cancer and cirrhosis. Hepatitis B is endemic in China.

Energix - Hepatitis B vaccine

*Schedule:* 3 shots - initial, 1 month and 6 months

**Twinrix** -a combined vaccine for both Hepatitis A and B

*Schedule:* 3 shots - initial, 1 month and 6 months, Immunity is good for 10 years.

Booster: 10 years after primary series.

Considered safe for pregnant women, children greater than 1 though data are lacking.

**Influenza**-Influenza is a viral illness which can cause a 1-2 week long febrile illness. The season for influenza is November through February in the Northern Hemisphere; April through September in the Southern Hemisphere. Influenza is especially recommended for those over 65 years of age or those less than 65 with chronic disorders of the lungs and heart such as asthma, emphysema or chronic bronchitis; chronic metabolic disorders such as diabetes; renal or kidney dysfunction; hemoglobinopathies; immuno- suppression caused medications or by HIV; children and teenagers who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy, and for women who will be in their second and third trimester of pregnancy during the influenza season.

Influenza vaccine

*Schedule: one a year*

If a child below 9 years of age is receiving their first influenza vaccine, a booster is recommended 1 month after the initial dose.

Re-immunization recommended every year due to new strains Safe in pregnant women, children and infants > 6 months.

**Typhoid**- Typhoid is a bacterial illness which can lead to a severe, prolonged febrile illness which can lead to death.

Typhoid is transmitted by contaminated food and water and is endemic in China although not frequently seen in Dalian

Vivotif: Oral typhoid vaccine

*Schedule:* 1 capsule every other day; capsules to be refrigerated, 3 doses

Typhium Vi: Injectable typhoid vaccine, 1 shot

Immunity is good for 1-3 years. Safe in children and infants. Injection probably safe in pregnancy.

**Japanese Encephalitis**-Japanese Encephalitis is a mosquito-borne viral illness which, at its worst can cause encephalitis or inflammation of the brain leading to brain dysfunction or death. The peak season in Dalian is from May to September. The season for the rest of China and Southeast Asia varies from place to place. Japanese Encephalitis is endemic in much of China.

Japanese Encephalitis vaccine "Biken"

*Schedule:* 3 shots, initial, 7 days and 30 days

Booster is recommended at 2-3 years

Safe in pregnant women, children and infants

**Rabies**- Rabies is a viral illness which is transmitted by the saliva of infected dogs, cats, or bats. It contracted and no previous or immediate vaccination, rabies is fatal. Rabies is endemic in China.

Rabies active vaccine - for prevention of rabies infection before exposure

*Schedule:* initial, 7 days and 21-28 days

If exposed and no previous vaccine, may need a series of 5 shots in addition to a passive immunization initially.

Booster at 1-3 years is recommended

Safe in pregnant women and children

**Diphtheria-Tetanus(Pertussis)** Diphtheria is a bacterial illness. The diphtheria bacteria produce a toxin which can damage the heart. It is transmitted by person- to- person contact. It can cause death and outbreaks have occurred in China.

Tetanus is a bacterium that produces a toxin which can lead to respiratory failure and death. Most countries recommend this vaccine to everyone and most vaccinate all children. Even small wounds are susceptible to tetanus spores.

Td: For children over 7 years and adults



*Schedule:* 1 shot every 10 years

Childhood immunization:

DtaP or DTP: Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis

also come with HiB and IPV in some vaccines

Part of routine immunizations given to infants and children. Booster every 10 years.

Safe for pregnant women, children and infants

**Polio**-Polio is a viral illness which can lead to paralysis of limbs. China is now polio-free.

However, parts of the world still have polio and because of travel, immunization is still recommended in children and adults.

Oral Polio Vaccine

*Schedule:* 3 doses in infants with booster at 4-5 years

Adults: If received a childhood primary series, one booster in adulthood.

Injectable Polio Vaccine

*Schedule:* same as oral

the following vaccines are recommended for women of childbearing age in any location.

**-Measles**

**-Mumps**

**-Rubella**

Rubella is a virus which can cause congenital problems in babies born to women who are not immune

MMR vaccine

*Schedule:* In childhood at 18 months and 4-6 years old

Recommended to check women of childbearing age for immunity and if not immune, give one shot

**Varicella**- Varicella is a viral illness that is otherwise known as chicken pox. It is important to have immunity to it (especially in pregnancy) if you have never had it as a child

Varilrix

*Schedule:*

In childhood at 12-15 months and booster at 11-12 years

Above 13 years of age, 2 shots with an interval of 6-10 weeks

Booster: unknown at this time

Contraindicated in pregnancy

Those are recommendations made by doctors using the guidelines and recommendations issued by the World Health Organization, British National Formulary, and the Centers for Disease Control in Washington D. C. as well as the package inserts for the individual vaccines.

**(c) HOSPITALS & CLINICS**

**THE FIRST HOSPITAL AFFILIATED DALIAN MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**

No. 222, Zhongshan road, Xigang district

Tel: 83635963

**THE SECOND HOSPITAL AFFILIATED DALIAN MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**

No. 467, Zhongshan Road, Shahekou District

Tel: 8467 2130

Mail: [first@dayi2yuan.com](mailto:first@dayi2yuan.com)

Web: [www.dy2y.com](http://www.dy2y.com)

**ZHONGSHAN HOSPITAL AFFILIATED DALIAN UNIVERSITY**

No. 6, Jiefang Road, Dalian

Tel: 8283 5110

Mail: [office@dlhospital.com](mailto:office@dlhospital.com)

**HOSPITAL AFFILIATED DALIAN UNIVERSITY**

No. 156, Wansui Street, Shahekou District

Tel: 8431 4175

**DALIAN CENTER HOSPITAL**

No. 42 Xuegong Street, Shahekou District

Tel: 8441 2001

**DALIAN FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL**

No. 8 Sanba Square, Zhongshan District, Dalian

Tel: 8271 8822



### **DALIAN DEVELOPMENT AREA HOSPITAL (Located in the DDA)**

No. 146 Huanghai Xi Road, Development Zone, Dalian  
Tel: 8761 2445

#### **Dr. Sha Dental Clinic**

177 Zhongshan Lu, Xigang District  
Tel: 0411-83626655

Dr. Yang is the resident English speaker. The building is clean and modern. The equipment they use is top notch.

#### **Smile Dental Clinic**

**141-1 Xinhua Street.**

**Tel: 0411-84357722**

**Smile Dental Clinic** is a high-level dental office with advanced dental technologies and good service. The practice is based on the principles of safety, painless treatment, and professionalism. English speaking. Working hours are 8: 30 am ~ 5: 30 pm Monday to Sunday

#### **Imatomi (Located in DDA)**

51-2 Liaoning Lu, DDA  
Tel: 8750-8871

## **Banking**

### **(a) GENERAL INFORMATION**

It is easy and simple to set up a bank account in Dalian. All you need to take is your Passport and a proper Visa in order to enter into China. You can open an account with any bank using RMB or USD. You can also get an ATM when you open the bank account. ATMS are all around town and will allow you to withdraw Yuan from both foreign and local accounts.

Foreigners, overseas Chinese and staff from Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan who work in the foreign investment enterprise may, after paying taxes in accordance with the law, have their RMB salary and other lawful income converted into foreign currency. This should be done at an authorized foreign exchange bank. Relevant evidencing documents need to be produced (Employment Contract, Copy of Working Permit, Individual Income tax receipt).

Banks in China will offer a very different level of service that you may be used to. Actually, the problem is that service is often not part of the experience that is provided but on the flip side banking in China also has some positive points, most notably long opening hours and on weekends.

Please note that Chinese banks are all very regulated still today and that therefore they are in many ways more bureaucracies than commercial enterprises, so be patient.

You will need to present your original passport many times during the course of your banking experience but there is no way around it.

Prior to leaving your home country, please consider opening an online banking facility if you do not have that yet as it will be helpful for you to manage your finances from here and especially to order wire transfers.

### **(b) CREDIT CARDS**

It is always easier to have a 'debit card' or ATM Card when you open a bank account. As for applying for a credit card, Banks are usually very careful and selective. That said, it is much easier for Chinese citizens to attain a credit card than it is for foreigners. The selection process for the receivers of credit cards depends heavily on the bank and of course some luck!

Banking systems are still very different in Dalian/China compared to overseas ones. Having a credit card in hand does not guarantee you can use it overseas smoothly. Therefore, it is highly recommended to approach bigger banks (e.g. Bank of China and Commercial Bank (Zhao Shang Bank) when applying for credit cards.

The following criteria are always required for foreigners when applying for a credit card:

1. A copy of your passport with the pages showing your identity as well as your visa information.
2. An original officially stamped letter from your company (employer, HR or Account Department) with your salary information  
Depending on the bank, some will require you to show a copy of the labor agreement to prove that you have a contract with your company.





3. Permanent address in Dalian - present a copy of the property's monthly utility fee of which your name should appear on the receipt.

Other useful supporting documents:

1. A photocopy of property ownership (if you are the owner of the property).
2. A photocopy of the amount deposited in your other bank account(s).
3. Monthly states of your credit card (for the past 3 months).

Once you have collected the above documents, please make sure you bring along the original copies with you to the Bank as the Bank will need to review and approve these documents (both the photocopied and original documents), before submitting them to the 'Credit Card' department for processing.

**(Note:** After you have submitted the above documents, depending on the bank, the process should take between 3 weeks and a month.)

For foreigners, the Bank of China is the most likely to reject foreign passport holders, unless you have a strong supporting background.

The China merchants Bank (Zhao Shang Bank) is the easiest bank to handle - staff are polite and professional. Card can also be used overseas.

### **(c) TRANSFERS FROM FOREIGN BANKS TO CHINESE BANKS**

According to banking regulations, foreigners are restricted to a maximum transfer limit of USD50,000 per annum into China. Because of this limit, every time you will do a transfer you will be asked to go to your bank in person to register this transfer into the central bank system (you will need to present your original passport which you used when issued the bank account)

Make sure your bank notifies all your exact information (which must match 100% with your passport and your local account name) and destination bank details on wire transfer orders as otherwise your local bank will not credit your account until they get a clarification telex from your bank overseas. So if you have a middle name on your passport make sure that is included as your local account name matches normally your passport name. If your bank does not get a clarification telex within 30 days they will return the money to the bank of origin.

Even though you are sending foreign currencies to your multi currency account, you will not be able to withdraw this sum in cash as foreign currency. It will be held in foreign currency until you ask the bank to convert it (at which point you will be asked again to provide original passport).

If you send a wire transfer of foreign currency and do not convert it then you will be able to send it back overseas. If you deposit cash as foreign currency then you cannot transfer that out as cash to another country. You can still withdraw it back as foreign currency if you do not convert this to RMB.

Transfers are much faster than in the past but still take about a week to 10 days to process from point to point. If you are in a hurry then you can always withdraw from an ATM. The normal ATM daily limit is RMB20,000 a day but some banks and different cities may have a limit of their ATMs.

For more information on transfers for some banks, please see:

ICBC:

<http://www.icbc.com.cn/icbc/personal%20banking/convenient%20banking/overseas%20remittance%20%20inward%20remittance/>

Bank of China: <http://www.boc.cn/en/common/third.jsp?category=1099362314100>

China Merchants Bank: <http://english.cmbchina.com/corporate+business/international/settle/settle1.htm>

### **(d) WITHDRAWING CASH FROM CHINESE BANKS**

Please note that if you would like to withdraw over RMB50,000 at a time then you will have to present your passbook, your passport and also tell your bank several days in advance that you intend to withdraw this sum.

Under RMB50,000 you will need to take your passbook or Debit card only.



## Transportation

### (a) PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Dalian offers many form of public transport – taxi, bus, light-rail, mini-bus, tram and cars.

### (b) TAXI

Taxis are easy to get around in and are readily available. Driver do not have change for RMB 100, so best to keep small bills (RMB 50) or smaller in your wallet or ask if they can give change upon entering a car. It is rare to come across taxi drivers who speak English, so it is a good idea to learn your frequent destinations in Mandarin or have them written in Mandarin to show the driver.

The most common type of Taxi used is air-conditioned, reasonably comfortable and not expensive. Open the door, and state your desired destination before getting in, make sure the driver turns the meter on. Taxi rides start at 8 RMB, and they drive pretty fast so do not be shy to tell a driver to slow down if you feel uncomfortable.

### (c) BUS AND TRAM

Buses can take you everywhere in Dalian. Most buses have routes. You may pay in exact change or small bills. Normally it costs around RMB 1-2/person depending on distance. Destinations are written in Mandarin and bus conductors do not speak English. Bus route maps are available from bookshops. Some of the buses are air conditioned, reasonably comfortable and not expensive.

### (d) LIGHT RAIL

The Dalian Light Rail Line 1 is 49.15 km long, and runs from Dalian train station to Golden Pebble Beach.

Line 202 is 12.6 km long and goes from Xinggong Street to Xiaopingdaoqian.

Line 201, 10.8 km long and goes from from Xinggong Street to Huale Square.

Light rail is one of the cheapest way to go from Dalian city center to Dalian Development Area.

Tickets range in price from RMB 1 – 8 depending on the distance you will travel.

### (e) CAR RENTALS

As you can see, public transport in Dalian is quite extensive, inexpensive and convenient; however some still prefer a private car for the freedom it does allow. It is also possible to rent a car.

Please find below the general price for renting a car with driver (AVIS China):

BUICK (GL8-Van) RMB 800 /9 hours

Notes:

1. on occasions we provide special offers and discounts, driver and fuel is non discountable and excluded from special offers
2. Flexible pricing will be applicable from time to time for rentals up to 90 days.

### (f) DRIVERS LICENSE CONVERSION

If you have a valid driver's license issued by another country, a valid passport with a valid any type of visa/resident permit , we can assist you to convert it to a Chinese one with the corresponding type of vehicle(s) as listed on your overseas driver's license. According to the current regulation, 'International driver's Permit' can not be converted into a China driver's license.

#### Testing

After the government accepts the application, the applicant may reserve a time for the theory test. If applying to drive large-size passenger vehicles, tractor, mid-size passenger vehicles, mid or large-size freight vehicles, the applicant also need to book a practical test.

The theory test is computerized and available on every week. Question types are T/F and multiple choices. Currently, Language problem in Dalian is test is only available in Chinese (but you will be able to bring with you a translator). 100 questions are selected from the question pool and a score of 90 is the pass mark for the test.

The tests can be re-sat once. If the candidate fails the test twice, he/she has to re-apply. The practical test must be reserved for 20 days later, within the validity period of 'Driving Test Permit'. Any test that was passed serves as the applicant's current status.

Any candidate who exhibits inappropriate or fraudulent behavior during the exam process will have his /her qualification nullified and all previous results will be invalidated.



#### Services provided:

- Photo taking
- Overseas driver's license translation
- Document handling
- providing 'theory test reference material' handout
- Medical exam arrangement and on site assistance at the government authority approved medical center/hospital
- theory test booking
- Shuttle service for the theory test
- Driver's license delivery arrangement

#### Procedures:

- Contact us for an appointment
- Email or mail us the applicant's identification and overseas driver's license ('International driver's Permit is not recognized) 48 hours prior to the appointment or bring it with you to the appointment
- Physical examination and test booking (Original identification and overseas driver's license are needed.)
- Test (Appointment Letter for the test is needed)
- License insurance  
after the applicant has passed the required exam(s), a license will be issued in five working days.

#### Note:

For foreigners: Passport with the valid Visa or Residence Permit, Registration Form of Temporary Residence (Applicable for the applicants who do not have a residence permit or the resident permit issued out of Dalian)

For Overseas Chinese residents: Chinese passport and foreign green card

For Hong Kong and Macau residents: Travel pass to the mainland

For Taiwanese residents: Travel pass to the mainland

## Shopping

### (a) GROCERIES

Starting June 1, 2008, China has introduced a new ban of free plastic bags in supermarkets and markets. Shoppers will now have to pay extra for their bags (price differs according to shop, bag size and city) and are encourage making use of durable eco friendly re-usable bags.

#### **Carrefour**

Huanghe Road, Shahekou District

Tel: 8465 2712

Sanba Square, Zhongshan District

A small selection of imported products

#### **Walmart**

Olympic Square, Xigang District (8377 1300)

Zhonghua Xi Road, Ganjingzi District (8653 0580)

#### **METRO**

Address: Around Xianglujiao tramway station

Tel: 8432-8888

Metro is a wholesale supermarket which is also open to the public if you apply for membership. It has many imported products but the only drawback is that it does not sell all by the unit. The shop also stocks many other products than food including tools, household appliances, clothes, office supplies and exercise machines and sports equipment. For example they are selling futsal tables at RMB850 which is very affordable.

#### **Mykal**

Address: 57 Qingniwa Street, Zhongshan District

Address: 139 Xi'an Lu, Sha he kou District

Address: 198 Jima Road, DDA (**Located at the DDA**)

Mykal has a good selection of imported products and the meat is quite good and cut to Western standards. Mykal has 3 locations: downtown near Kempinski and Swissotel, on Xi'an Road and at DDA opposite Anshan Guangchang. In the downtown store supermarket, it sells very nice steaks, lamb chops and porch chops as well as fresh sushis. The 5<sup>th</sup> floor also has maybe the best collection of toys on sale in Dalian.



### **Ansheng Shopping Center (Located at the DDA)**

Address: Jinma Road, Development Zone

Telephone: 87624384

The biggest shopping center in DDA with a big supermarket in basement but it stocks few foreign products.

### **ChangXing Market**

Xi'an Road, Shahekou District

It is a very big market for sea foods, meat, vegetables and other things like this.

### **Heping Guang Chang (Peace Plaza)**

Address: 695 Gao'erji Lu, Shahekou District

There is a Tesco supermarket inside but with limited Western Foods, shopping mall, GOME appliance Store, many restaurants.

#### **(b) SPECIALTY SHOPS**

### **Flowers**

#### **Dalian Bird, Fish and Flower shop**

Zhongshan Road, Zhongshan District

Tel: 8263 2840

#### **Qiao Qiao Flower Garden**

Da Xinzhaizi, Ganjingzi District

Tel: 8630 9313

### **Flower Market**

Back of Renmin Square

Directions: Facing Noah's Arc, take a left and walk to the end of the block. The flower market is on the corner.

A huge flower market with great selection and good prices. There are arranged flowers on ground floor and fresh cut flowers on second floor. Be sure to negotiate for the best price.

#### **Jinsanjiao Flower Market**

72, Zhoujia Street, Gangjingzi District

There are many flowers, miniature garden, root carving with good price, and you can buy them by both retail and wholesale.

### **Arts and Crafts**

#### **Dalian Port Antiques Market**

Dalian Port

#### **Dalian Antiques Shop**

Tianjin Street, Zhongshan District

#### **Dalian Culture Relic Center**

No.32 Huanghe Road in Dalian

### **Furniture**

#### **Dalian Furniture Market**

Tel: 8364 1004

18 Dongbei Road, Xigang District

#### **Orienthome**

5 Golden Sanjiao Market, Ganjingzi District

#### **Hoba**

F1-5 North District, Fujia Xintiandi, Xian Road, Xigang District

#### **The Great Wall Furniture World**

101 Kunming Street, Zhongshan District

This market stocks luxury furniture brand of all types. There is for example a store called The BHS which sells replicas of Bauhaus furniture such as Le Corbusier's famous Barcelona chair. Also has an outlet of QM which sells Scandinavian inspired furniture at reasonable prices.



## **Dalian Yuexing International lives at home the Square**

Tel: 0411-84592111

10 F , Xinghai Square, Shahekou District.

## **Home Improvement / Electronics & Home Appliances**

### **B&Q**

23 Haifang Street, Xigang District

Sanba Square, Zhongshan District

### **HOLA Home Furnishing Store**

Sanba Square, Zhongshan District. On top of the B&Q Sanba Store.

### **GOME**

123 Xi'an Road, Shahekou District.

A ,28 Victory (Shengli)Shopping Mall, Zhongshan District.

189 Jima Road, **(Located in the DDA)**

### **SUNING**

12 Tianjin Street Road,

2 Qingniwa, Zhongshan District

107 Xi'an Roa, Shahekou District

## **Fabric**

### **Trade World Market**

Erqi Square,Zhongshan District

Tailors around the Erqi square can make customs make clothes for you and some even speak English.

### **Da Cai Shi**

Near the Dalian Railway Station

### **Shengli Square**

Local market, under ground and near the Dalian railway station

## **Sporting Goods:**

### **Decathlon**

Location: Just behind Metro

This is Dalian's first outlet of this sports superstore. It stocks many sports related products including all famous brands as well their own branded products. Many of the items on sale were not previously easily available in Dalian: fins and snorkels, body boards, mini soccer goal posts, etc. There are several areas where children and adults alike can try products prior to buying them: a mini soccer field, a basketball hoop.

## **Kitchen Tips**

The basic rule in China is not to drink unboiled water and eat anything that hasn't been washed carefully. Obviously, food washed under the tap water must be dried.

- ♦ **Eggs:** Be careful to select ones that have no cracks.
- ♦ **Fruit and Berries:** Chinese peel their fruit before eating them. You can do this too, or you can wash them in soapy water and rinse with clean water. (Remember to take off strawberry stems before washing so that dirt can not be trapped under the stem.)
- ♦ **Meat:** Many westerners are afraid to buy Chinese meat that is sold on the streets. However, since meat will be cooked, it is safe to buy if it looks fresh. Meat will stay fresh in winter, but in warmer months, buying in the early morning is best. Cleaning meat is absolutely necessary. Wash thoroughly under tap water and cut away any parts that seem less than fresh. Meat does not have to be rinsed in boiled water since it will be cooked anyway.
- ♦ **Vegetables:** China produces many vegetables. Be particularly careful of foods grown in the ground (carrots, potatoes & radishes) since China uses fertilizer and pesticides, you should soaked them in water for 20 minutes and then wash them carefully before eating or cooking.



- ♦ **Drinking Water:** It is best to drink bottled water which is bought from supermarket or water from a filtration system. Make sure you know the source that your water is coming from and have your home water filtration system checked periodically.
- ♦ **Note:** Shops generally open around 9:00am and close around 9:00p.m., seven days a week, opening hours during public holiday will be extended.

### (c) BARGAINING

Bargaining is generally not possible in department stores, but in smaller shops, particularly where items are not visibly priced. Price can fluctuate widely from big department stores to smaller shops.

Bargaining requires time and patience – most vendors have plenty of both and will appreciate your efforts if you are genuinely interested in buying and can maintain a sense of humor in the process. If you can speak just a few words of Chinese, such as numbers, you will enjoy the experience a lot more and often get a better deal.

In Dalian it is possible, to bargain in open markets and other shopping areas where prices are not already clearly marked. The only important rule is to be polite. It is perfectly fine to ask for a discount, but do it with a smile. While some would see a tough attitude as the key to a cheap price, it usually backfires with the “face” and you end up not getting the best price. Remember that no vendor will sell you a product at a loss!

### (d) TIPPING

Most restaurants and pubs include a service charge in the listed price, so tipping is not necessary, but if the service is good, if one wishes can leave a tip. Hotel porters and housekeeping staff should also be remembered with a small tip. To ensure that staffs receive your tip; do not add it to your credit card bill. Do not tip friendly government employees or business people as they may interpret your generosity as a bribe.

### (e) MEANS OF PAYMENT

Cash in RMB only. Restaurants, large department stores and hotels accept credit cards.

Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are readily available in Dalian to use Visa, MasterCard, etc.

### (f) FASHION SHOPS & MALLS

#### **Tianxin Roosevelt Mall**

Address: 139 Xi'an Lu, Shahekou District.

Largest shopping center in Dalian located on Xi'an Road which has many other shopping options

#### **Newmart Shopping Mall**

Qingqiwa Street

Malian Square, Shahekou District

8 Benxi Street, (Changlin) **(Located in the DDA)**

#### **Parkland**

19 Jiefang Road, Zhongshan District

Tel: (86—0411) 82101888

#### **Ansheng Shopping Center (Located at the DDA)**

Address: Jinma Road, Development Zone

Telephone: 87624384

#### **Heping Guang Chang (Peace Plaza)**

Address: 695 Gao'erji Lu, Shahekou District

## **Sports Clubs and Activities**

### (a) GOLF CLUBS

#### **Jinshi International Golf Club**

Golden Pebble Beach, Dalian

Tel: 8791 2351 or 8791 2322

**Dalian Golf Club**

Xiajiahezi, Dalian  
Tel: 8642 8899

**Dalian Ninggeshi Golf Club**

Tingtaoli (Located in the DDA)  
Tel: 87533333

**(b) MOVIES**

For information about what's on and where, it is best to check directly with the theaters.

**Wanda Cinema**

Wanda Plaza, Olympic Square  
Tel: 8366-9988

**Ownar Cineplex**

Peace Square 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Tel: 0411-82193588-208

**(c) READING & BOOKSHOPS**

There is only one foreign language bookstore in Dalian with a small but fair selection of English language books: a lot of classics, some paperback novels and art books and also a number of children's books including all the Harry Potters. Most five star hotels will sell magazine.

**Dalian Xinhua Bookshop**

Youhao Square, Zhongshan District  
Tel: 8265 4448

**Dalian Xinhua Foreign Language Bookshop**

Xin Hua Shu Dian Wai Wen Shu Dian  
Xinhua Bookstore Foreign Language Bookstore  
Tel: 8265 4448

**(d) PLACES OF WORSHIP**

<b>Catholic Churches</b>	<b>Christian Churches</b>
<p>Xian Road Xian Street, Xigang District Tel: 8363 2825</p> <p>129 street catholic church Tel: 0411-83631187</p> <p><b>Buddhist</b></p> <p>Yong Feng Temple Fuzhoucheng Town, Zhuanghe Tel: 8510 3513</p> <p>Hongya Xiao Temple Changsheng Street, Zhuanghe Tel: 8937 5519</p> <p>Hengshan Temple Dashidong Tun, Longwangtang Town, Lushunkou District</p>	<p>Christian Church on Yuguang Street Yuguang Street, Zhongshan District Tel: 86627560</p> <p>Christian Church on Shuishi Ying Shuishi Ying, Lushun Tel: 8623 3380</p> <p>Kaifaqu Church (Located in the DDA) Dalian E. T. D. Z, HaiBingLu, Cui Zhu Nan li, Hai Yuan Hua Yuan B1K 23 12 Doorway, 301 (right behind Maple Leaf Elementary School) Easily accessible with no limitation and this is the only English Speaking Christian Church in Dalian at current stage.</p> <p>Beijing Street church Tel: 0411-83631678</p> <p>Fengshou Road Church Tel: 0411-86654527</p>



(e) **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**Australia Chamber of Commerce in Dalian**  
Renmin Road, Zhongshan District  
Tel: 0411- 8281 6645

(f) **EMBASSIES & CONSULATES**

<p><b>Embassy of the Republic of France</b></p> <p>No.3, Dong San Street, San Li Tun, Beijing Tel: 010-65321331 010-65324841</p> <p><b>Russian Consulate in Shenyang</b></p> <p>31, Nan Shisanweilu, Shenyang, 110003, China Tel: 024-23223927</p> <p><b>Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b></p> <p>No. 11, Guang Hua Road, Jianguomenwai, Beijing Tel: 010-5192-4000 Fax: 6532-1937</p> <p><b>U.S. Consulate General, Shenyang</b></p> <p>No. 52, 14 Wei Road, Heping District, Shenyang, Liaoning, China 110003 Fax: 0086-24-2322 1733 Email: <a href="mailto:shenyanguscg@yahoo.com.cn">shenyanguscg@yahoo.com.cn</a></p> <p><b>Embassy of Singapore</b></p> <p>No.1, Xiu Shui Bei Street, Jian Guo Men Wai, Chaoyang District, Beijing Tel: 010-6532-1115 Fax: 6532-9405</p> <p><b>Consulate of the Republic of Korea – Shenyang</b></p> <p>F/13-14, Mingzhe Building, Heping District, Shenyang 110003 Tel: 024 2385 7820</p>	<p><b>Branch Office in Dalian Consulate-General of Japan</b></p> <p>Sen Mao Building, No.147, Zhongshan Road,. Xigang District, Dalian, Liaoning Tel: ( 0411)8370-4077 Fax: ( 0411)8370-4066</p> <p><b>Embassy of Malaysia</b></p> <p>No.2 Liangmaqiao Beijie, Tel: 010-6532-2531-33</p> <p><b>Embassy of Israel</b></p> <p>No. 17 Tianzelu Chaoyang District, Beijing Tel: 010-8532-0500</p> <p><b>Embassy of Ireland</b></p> <p>3 Ritandong Lu, Chaoyang District, Beijing, 100600, P.R. China Tel: 010-65322691 Fax: 8532-0555</p> <p><b>French Consulate – Shenyang</b></p> <p>34, Rue Nan Shi San Wei Lu , Heping Qu, Shenyang 110003 Tel: 024 – 23190000</p>
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## Domestic Help

Finding efficient staff can make a considerable difference to overseas families staying in Dalian. Do not rush into this; however, take time to learn what general practices are in Dalian.

All Maids should have a valid I.D card. Drivers should also have ID card as well as a Dalian License.

It is a wise precaution to obtain and keep details of all the staff that you employ. It is advisable to have your staff take a pre-employment health check, especially if you have young children. Salaries are usually reviewed on the anniversary of hiring, and you should be aware that salaries are discussed with others, especially in apartment buildings. A bonus equivalent to one month's salary is paid at or before Chinese New Year.

If you would like a probation period in which you can see if the arrangement is going to work or not, make sure that it is understood.

Kindly note those foreigner helpers are considered by the Public Security Bureau (police) to be illegal workers and you can incur a 50,000 RMB fine for employing one.

The Interview





When interviewing, try to ask only open ended questions, it is much easier to give the correct answer if it is simply yes or no. These types of questions can be more revealing and show how she would perform in specific situations.

During your preliminary interview, you should discuss all your expectations about her duties, etc. Salary should be determined as well as bonus.

#### SAMPLE INTERVIEW

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Dependants, family commitments: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends in Dalian: \_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of education: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous experience

How long have you worked as a domestic? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your previous jobs? \_\_\_\_\_

How long were you with your last employer? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you enjoy the most about your last job? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you least enjoy? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you worked with children? \_\_\_\_\_

Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Agencies

The advantage of using an agency to find domestic staff is that they deal with all the formalities. If a particular person is unacceptable, then the employee can contact the agency, which will tactfully organize a replacement. Personal confrontation is avoided and there is no hostility or loss of face on either side.

#### Reputable agencies

You can contact the management office in your housing compounds for maid service introductions or you can ask the relocations supplier to help search from a list of service companies.

Other service provide such as picture framing, tailoring, beauty parlors and hair dressers, telecommunication, etc. will be provided by your relocation representative upon arrival for house hunting.

#### **Hao A-yi House-keeping Company**

Yide Street, Zhongshan District  
Tel: 8586 6686

#### **Hao Yue Sao House-keeping Company**

Huanghe Road, Shahekou District  
Tel: 8460 7136



## Telecommunications

There are two mobile phone providers in China which are China Unicom and China Mobile. China Mobile is said to be the best for coverage all over China. They have two types of plan for China Mobile:

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Flat Fee</u>	<u>Call Fee</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<b>Shenzhouxing</b>	Must buy prepaid card	RMB 0.6/min	Pre-paid card in amount of RMB 50, 100 are available in pos offices, stores, newsstands and supermarket.
<b>Quanqitong</b>	RMB 50/month	RMB 0.4/min	Subscription, International Note: the Quanqitong plan is cheaper for those using over 250 minutes per month.

You can go to China Mobile's store to get a Sim-Card with really good price:

**Shenzhouxing:** only RMB 20/card

**Quangqitong:** only RMB 50/card with pre-paid of RMB 500 to activate the phone (the foreigner need to bring the original Passport)

The address as below:

### **China Telecom Company Dalian Office**

168 Jiefang Road, Zhongshan District

Customer Service Hotline: 10060

### **China Mobile Dalian Office**

Shanghai Road, Zhongshan District

Customer Service Hotline: 10086

### **China Unicom Dalian Office**

Shengli Road, Xigang District

Customer Service Hotline: 10010

### **China Netcom Dalian Office**

Lianhe Road, Sahehekou District

Tel: 3950 0000

### **China Tietong Dalian Office**

Luxun Road, Zhongshan District

Customer Service Hotline: 10050

Making overseas phone calls dialing direct will be expensive. You can buy a long distance calling card know as an "**IP Card**". With it you dial a local access number from your phone, enter card number and pin then do the dialing. You can buy it from cell phone stores, newsstands, and China Telecom outlets. Different IP cards have different long-distances rates and call qualities for different countries. Please be advised never pay the face value of an IP card - the going rate for a RMB 100 card is around RMB 35-50 at time of writing. For a card valued at RMB 100 and costing around RMB 35 - 50, normally able to talk quite clearly to the USA for 37 minutes total or you can **dial 12593** before the called numbers of Taiwan, Hong Kong, USA or other countries and enjoy preferential tariff for long distance calls to other countries but you need to activate international long distance service first and the tariff as below:

- ◆ Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao = 0.8 RMB Yuan/min
- ◆ USA, Canada, Japan, South Korea and Singapore = 1.2 RMB Yuan/min
- ◆ 23 countries including Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, UK, France, Germany, Italia, Spain, Ireland, Austria = 2 RMB Yuan/min
- ◆ Other countries and regions = 4.6 RMB Yuan/min

## What to Bring to Dalian

Shipping over your favorite paintings, books, rugs, ornaments, etc., will help make you feel at home while you become accustomed to living in Dalian. Listed below is a broad overview of the basic goods that are available:

### **BOOKS**

Consider shipping a good collection of books to Dalian as there are very few choices available locally. There is only one bookstore which stocks English language books and their selection is quite limited. Books on the other hand are readily available in Beijing or Shanghai.



## **MEDICINES**

Western medicines are hard to come by in Dalian so consider bringing as many supplies as possible. Simple medication like aspirin is not always available. You may want to stock up during trips at home or to Beijing or Shanghai.

## **CHILDREN'S REQUIREMENTS**

Most babies' needs are catered for. Sterilized products and a wide range of powdered milk formulas are available, but please note most brands of formula available in Dalian are made in China. Imported baby food is not readily available. Many brands of disposables are available. Children of all ages will settle more quickly and easily if they bring some personal items with them.

Supplies for all children are now easily obtainable. There is a good range of clothing, toys/games, sports shoes, sportswear and equipment.

## **CLOTHING**

You can purchase clothes in department stores, or at street stalls. Your choice may be limited as sizes are designed for the Chinese people. Mail order from your home country may be an option. If so, bring the contact details with you. Clothing made of cotton, cotton mixes, wool, cashmere or linen, is best suited to Dalian's climate.

Larger men should bring a good supply of socks, underwear, shirts, and swimwear, ladies a selection of cotton underwear, and large-sized bras, pantyhose and swimsuits.

## **COMPUTERS**

There are many suppliers offering a full range of computer equipment and software, although you must be careful that some stores sell counterfeit software. English language software availability can also be a problem..

## **COSMETICS**

Imported international brands are readily available in most department stores but prices are pretty steep.

## **FOOD**

One of the delights of living in Dalian is that we are located close to the sea and therefore there are many different types of sea food and fish available. There are several supermarkets which offer Western groceries in an air conditioned comfort.

## **HOME WARE/KITCHENWARE**

The opening of major supermarkets has led to a supply of most home ware and kitchen requirements.

## **LINEN**

A variety of good quality, locally made bedding and towels is available but imported brands can be expensive. The standard size for single beds: 120x200cm, double beds: 150x200. Local quilts are available in cotton and silk. Good table linen is made by Chinese handicraft organizations.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT**

Photographic equipment is easily obtainable. Most brands of film are available and color print processing is speedy and reasonably priced. There are a lot of professional labs for black and white and color slide development.

## **SHOES**

For men, large size, 44 plus, are now found and for women, large size, 40 -41 are found in some markets and athletic stores.

## **TOYS**

You can purchase a wide range of toys, but overseas safety guidelines are not always met. Educational toys such as Lego, Playschool, etc., are expensive. Playing cards and board games are available in the large department stores.



## **THE GROUNDWORK**

Before you set off on a pre-move visit to survey the new country, you must have the appropriate travel documents. Begin the document process early on (preferably three to four months in advance of your departure date during peak passport times, March to August.) In addition, have a clear understanding of the additional documentation necessary for the country in which you are relocating. Work permits are often required to work in another country. Responsibility should fall on the employer. Working without authorization may lead to eventual deportation. Be sure you check with the appropriate department in your company to assure that proceedings have been implemented to obtain this permit.

## **WHAT TO MOVE**

Moving internationally is a challenge unto itself, adjusting to the culture, climate and people can take a few months. It is always wise to pack a lot of familiar items to create a 'homey' feeling in your new country. Having familiar things around you can mean a lot, especially in the beginning. This includes favorite expendable items that may not be available in Dalian.

## **Family Concerns**

### **VALUABLE TIPS FOR KIDS TO LEARN IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MOVE**

If you have moved before you know that it's always hard to leave your friends, school and favorite activities. You also know that you always find friends and activities in the next community you move to, maybe even ones better than before. Moving to another country is more challenging and you probably have a lot of questions about what you can expect.

#### ♦ **Getting Started**

It is not knowing what to expect in any situation that is often the scariest. So the first thing you need to do is learn as much as possible about the new country before the move. This will help you feel more comfortable and more at home when you arrive. There are several things you can do to prepare yourself, and one of them is reading books at your own school library or the public library in your area. Of course a bookstore will also have plenty of good travel and reference books. Other sources for information are the internet. [www.thatsbj.com](http://www.thatsbj.com), [www.chinesecultureclub.org](http://www.chinesecultureclub.org) Another good idea is to try and locate your country on a map. To have a better idea about the location, compare the latitude and longitude of the new country to where you live now.

#### ♦ **Get Involved in the Move**

This is a good time to clean out toys or other belongings that you no longer use. If you and your family are having a garage sale, you can sell books, toys or sports equipment that you have outgrown. Or, you can donate them to a local charity.

Ask your parents what you can do to help with the move, keeping in mind that moving requires many chores. Perhaps you can take one of your parent's "to do" list and complete the chores outlined on it.

As you make your final arrangements for the move to your new country, be sure to think about the things you will need for the trip itself. This would include any items you want to have during your travels as well as things you'll need as soon as you arrive at your new home.

#### ♦ **Stay Connected**

Give your address to relatives and friends and be sure you have their information as well. Communication on the Internet by email is very handy and easy to use.

## **ARRIVING IN THE NEW COUNTRY**

Once you have arrived in the new country, be sure you become aware of all the safety aspects of traveling and living there. Things you will have to think about are public transportation and the safest route from your home to your school.

Then there is the issue of adjusting to a new school in a new country. The schools abroad may feel and look very different from the ones you may have attended. Today, most countries have international schools that cater to students from all over the world, e.g.: American, French or British schools. Give yourself time to adjust and to get used to your new home, town and school. If you feel overwhelmed at the new school, ask your teacher to get started by introducing you to

Other students and pairing you up with someone on your first day, making new friends may seem difficult at first, but with time you'll have a group of special friends.

Apart from settling in at school, one thing you can do to feel more at home is to decorate your new room with your favorite things. You can use some of the items in your room back home and add posters or items from your new country.



Be sure to tell your parents about how you feel, especially if you are sad about missing your friends from your hometown. Sad and sometimes even lonely feelings are often part of moving. Remember that happy ones are too. It all takes time, but everyday in a foreign country is a chance to learn something new. Your goal is to make this a happy experience, learn as much as you can about the foreign country and ultimately, create wonderful memories that you will treasure long after you return home.

## **Pets Moving**

You can move your pets accompanied or unaccompanied by you. Your international pet movers will be able to assist and the likelihood of successful clearance of the pet is possible with proper instructions followed below **CAREFULLY**.

- Please do not send the pet to China without prior approval.
- Import of dogs and cats only is allowed.

### **The following needed information:**

- Stamped (chopped) veterinarian's certificate showing the size, age, weight and sex of the animal. Especially, the size of pet is very important to us.
- Stamped (chopped) veterinarian' Health Certificate from the government of origin country as proof of the animal's good health.
- Stamped (chopped) Vaccination Record Book shown the record of the vaccination before.
- Photograph of the animal, preferably with a measuring ruler next to it for size reference.

### **Restrictions/Other Information:**

- Only one pet per adult is permitted with the maximum per family of 2 pets.
- Only 1 pet is allowed for Each Airway Bill
- On Airway Bill, the consignee part only show the name as that shown on the passport
- On Airway Bill, the description of the goods should be " A Cat" or " A Dog"
- Importation of male and female animals together is prohibited.
- Shipper's original passport must be provided at the clearance.
- Please ensure to check with the management at your new home for any compound restrictions since certain districts in Dalian has strict size limitations. Should you require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us for further details.
- Your pet(s) should arrive into the Dalian airport during working hours on weekdays only. Please confirm with us your flight details at least one week in advance.

### **Preparation, Clearance & Handling Procedure:**

1. Your international pet mover will check the necessary documents supplied by the client before the flight booking.
2. Upon arrival to Dalian airport, the animal will be taken to the airport inspection & Quarantine Department.
3. At the Quarantine office an application form will be completed by your pet mover staff on the owner's behalf. . In general, the owner does not have to be present during the application.
4. The pet will then have to pass a quarantine inspection with the Inspection & Quarantine Department. Your pet mover can apply for the special release of the animal to be released to the owner's home for up to 30 days quarantine period.

### **Remarks:**

Please bear in mind that all pet importations are dealt with on a case-by-case basis, and that the guidelines shown herein are for reference purposes only. The enforcement of the regulations reflected in this quote is subject to change by customs and health/quarantine officials at any time.

Lastly, depending on your length of stay in China you may need to up date your pet's rabies inoculations. On export, an Export Permit will be issued by the Dalian Health Authorities. They will only approve animals for export if booster shots have been given locally by the following pet hospital. Below is a certified animal vet clinic the PRC recognizes.

#### **Dalian New Market Pets Care Center**

Tel: 8388 0616

(No English speaking service is available)



**Notes:**

Any pets exported to the EU should have a micro-chip containing the pet's detailed information implanted in the ear as well as titer blood test. Thus please take it into consideration when you re-export your pets out of China. If your pets have already got that chip before entering China, that will be OK!

It is the law in Dalian that all dogs must be registered with local police station. Owners found to have unregistered dogs will receive a citation and a large fine. You could contact your residence management and local police station for further instruction: