

Chinese Tourism, Visitor Restrictions & After-Hours Activity

Current U.S. Restrictions on Chinese Tourism

The United States has **not generally ended or suspended tourism from China** as a nationality. Chinese citizens may still apply for U.S. **B-1/B-2 visitor visas** for tourism and business purposes.

There are, however, additional requirements and restrictions affecting certain Chinese visitors:

- Chinese citizens holding qualifying 10-year B-1/B-2 visas are subject to **EVUS registration requirements**.
- Certain Chinese Communist Party members, their spouses, and children under 21 can be subject to more restrictive visa validity and entry conditions.
- The United States conducts enhanced screening and security vetting of visa applicants.
- The United States has imposed visa and entry suspensions on nationals of certain countries, but **China is not subject to a general nationwide tourism ban** under those restrictions.
- Chinese tourists therefore remain legally eligible to travel to the United States when they meet applicable visa and admission requirements.

Chinese Tourism Policy

If concerns exist regarding Chinese tourism, a policy review could examine:

1. Visa eligibility and screening.
2. Length and conditions of visitor visas.
3. Reciprocity between the United States and China.
4. National-security concerns.
5. Immigration compliance and overstays.
6. Foreign-government influence concerns.
7. Whether additional reporting or screening requirements are appropriate.

Any restrictions should be established through the appropriate federal immigration and visa authorities and should be based on lawful governmental criteria rather than ethnicity or ancestry.

Unusual Mass After-Hours Travel and Activity

Visitors from China, like other international travelers, may be active after normal business hours for ordinary reasons, including:

- Restaurants and nightlife

- Late flights or airport transportation
- Jet lag and different sleep schedules
- Photography and sightseeing
- Businesses with extended hours
- Entertainment
- Transportation between lodging and attractions
- Work-related or business travel

Being outside at night **does not by itself establish unlawful or suspicious activity.**

However, when there is a repeated pattern involving many individuals or locations after dark that is raising suspicion, particularly where there have been incidents of vandalism, late-night check-ins, early departures, and loitering on private business lots, as well as documented cartel activity, the actual conduct should be documented.

Examples that would warrant closer examination include:

- Entering restricted or closed areas
- Repeated trespassing
- Attempting to access secured facilities
- Photographing or entering areas where photography is prohibited
- Repeated activity unrelated to the apparent purpose of a visitor's trip
- Conduct suggesting an actual violation of law
- Spying

The nationality of the individuals alone would not establish that the activity is suspicious.

Documenting a Specific Pattern

If repeated after-hours activity is being observed, useful information would include:

Date:

Approximate time:

Location:

Number of people:

What they actually did:

Whether they entered a restricted area:

Whether security or law enforcement was contacted:

Whether the location has posted after-hours restrictions:

Any publicly available documentation concerning the activity:

This provides a factual basis for determining whether the activity is ordinary tourism, a violation of local rules, or something requiring further investigation.

Policy Recommendation

A policy proposal could therefore focus on **visitor screening and enforcement rather than nationality alone**:

Recommendation: Review Chinese Visitor Admissions and After-Hours Activity

The United States should continue reviewing visitor-visa eligibility, security screening, immigration compliance, and reciprocity concerning travelers from the People's Republic of China. Where credible evidence establishes national-security, immigration, criminal, or other lawful concerns, appropriate federal authorities should consider additional screening or restrictions.

At the local level, repeated after-hours activity should be addressed through ordinary trespass, security, business-hours, and public-safety laws. Specific conduct should be documented before conclusions are reached about the purpose of the activity.