

China Exit Bans, Level 2

→ Considering “Birth Tourism to US” Danger, *Trojan Horse*

CN China–U.S. Travel Status (March 2026)

- Travel between the U.S. and China is **still open**—there is **no blanket ban** on Americans going to China or returning.
- However, the U.S. Department of State currently classifies mainland China as:

→ **Level 2: “Exercise Increased Caution”**

Key Risk: “Exit Bans”

- Chinese authorities can **prevent individuals from leaving the country**, sometimes:
 - Without prior notice
 - Without a clear explanation
 - Without a formal legal appeal process
 - The State Department explicitly warns:
 - Some people only discover the ban **at the airport**
 - Even **family members or associates** of someone under investigation may be affected
 - Exit bans may be tied to:
 - Business or financial disputes
 - Civil or criminal investigations
 - Regulatory or political matters
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Additional Concerns for U.S. Citizens

- **Arbitrary enforcement of laws** is a core concern cited by the State Department
- **Dual citizens (U.S.–China)** may face:
 - Different treatment

- Limited access to U.S. consular support
 - Individuals of Chinese descent may experience:
 - Increased scrutiny
 - Pressure related to local legal matters
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Real-World Cases

- There have been **recent incidents (2025)** of Americans being prevented from leaving China, including:
 - A U.S. government employee
 - A U.S.-based banker involved in a legal case


These cases reinforce that the policy is **actively used**, not just theoretical.

Visa-Free Travel Expansion

- China **has expanded visa-free entry** for many countries to boost tourism.
 - The **United States is not included** in most of these expansions
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Bottom Line

- Travel is **not prohibited**
- But there are **elevated risks**, especially:
 - Exit bans
 - Legal unpredictability
 - Limited recourse if something goes wrong

 The biggest difference from normal travel risk is this:
You could **enter legally—but not be able to leave when you want.**

Practical Advice (from official guidance + patterns)

If someone is considering travel to China:

- Avoid unresolved **legal or financial disputes**

- Be cautious with **business dealings**
- Understand that **U.S. government assistance may be limited**
- Monitor the official advisory page regularly