



VISA APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE IN SWITZERLAND OR TAKING UP RESIDENCY AFTER MARRIAGE WITH A SWISS CITIZEN

In order to apply for a visa to get a permit to be married in Switzerland the competent authorities in Switzerland are responsible to decide. The decision process takes between 8-12 weeks. The following procedure is required:

The application has to be submitted at the visa counter of the Embassy. Opening hours are: 10.15 am to 11.30 am, Monday to Friday (except Chinese and Swiss public holidays).

Appointments must generally be made with the company VFS Global via the internet address: <http://www.vfsglobal.ch/switzerland/china/>

If you decide to get married in Switzerland, you can apply for the visa at the same time as you come to the Embassy to sign the „Application for preparatory procedure for marriage“. The requirements for this procedure can be looked up on the website of the consular webpage, leaflets section: <http://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/china/en/home/services/civil-status/marriage.html>

If you are already married to a Swiss citizen according to Chinese law, you first of all have to register this marriage in the civil status register at the place of origin of your Swiss spouse. Please refer to the consular webpage, leaflets section: <http://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/china/en/home/services/civil-status/marriage.html>

Non-compliance with the set guidelines (items not presented, photocopies missing,..) will lead to the application being rejected. Thank you for your cooperation.

Following documents in English, French, German or Italian are required:

- National passport or official travel document valid for more than 3 months beyond the validity of the requested visa, with at least two blank pages
- 2x copies of the passport including the signature page and if existing, of the past Schengen visas
- 3x **visa D** application form, (**Application for National Visa for Stays of more than 3 Months**), duly completed and signed by yourself. The form can be downloaded on the “Documents” section at the bottom of the visa website.
- 4x coloured passport photos undamaged and of recent date, white background, size 3.5cm x 4.5cm
- Visa handling fee as published on the VFS Global homepage. The amount is equivalent to a visa-handling fee of EUR 80 for adults. The fee must be paid in cash and in Chinese currency (CNY). Credit cards are not accepted. Spouses of Swiss citizens are exempted from payment of the fee.
- Any other documentation you consider relevant to your application.

The entire application will then be forwarded to the competent Swiss authorities for their decision (8-12 weeks). On receipt of the authorisation, the applicant has to contact the Embassy/Consulate General directly by e-mail:

Beijing: beijing.visa@eda.admin.ch.

Shanghai: shanghai.visa@eda.admin.ch

Guangzhou: guangzhou.visa@eda.admin.ch

It is the responsibility of the applicant to track the status.

BEIJING, May 2020