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**Australia – Work and
Holiday Visa Extended to
China**

by KPMG, Australia (a KPMG
International member firm)

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flash Alert

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Australia's Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) has announced the People's Republic of China is to be included as part of the Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa program.¹ This is scheduled to take effect from 21 September 2015. The agreed program is for up to 5,000 visas.

Why This Matters

This extension of the Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa program will attract more young visitors from the People's Republic of China for working holidays, and enhance cross-border exchange between Australia and China.

Details on Work and Holiday (subclass 462) Visa Program for Chinese Nationals

This visa allow visa holders to:

- engage in cultural exchange and tourism; and
- stay in Australia 12 months from their date of first arrival; and
- work for the entire 12-month period, but not more than six months with any one employer; and
- carry out study for up to four months.

The program for Chinese nationals requires that the applicant:

- is aged at least 18 but has not turned 31 years of age at the time of application;
- has functional English;
- holds a valid passport issued by the People's Republic of China;
- is tertiary qualified or has successfully completed at least two years of undergraduate university study.

Applications must be made by appointment and in person at one of the three authorised providers located in Beijing, Guangzhou, or Shanghai.

This arrangement now brings the total number of countries with access to the Work and Holiday visa to 14 with the following countries included: Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, Indonesia, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, USA, and Uruguay. The commencement date for Slovenia is still currently pending.

In addition, the Working Holiday Visa subclass 417, a similar program, includes the following countries: Belgium, Canada, Republic of Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR (including British National Overseas passport holders), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Taiwan (R.O.C.), and the United Kingdom.

Footnote:

1 See the 9 July 2015 press release on the Web site of the Embassy of Australia in the People's Republic of China at: <http://china.embassy.gov.au/bjng/20141125.html>). For more information, see: <https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/462-> .

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* Please note: KPMG LLP (U.S.) does not provide immigration services.

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