

Beijing International Short Film Festival 2025 International Guests Participation Guidelines 北京国际短片联展2025国际嘉宾现场参与指南

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- **General Information**

The 2025 BISFF will be held from **November 8th to 16th**, in Beijing, China. Our primary screening venues include **Lumière Pavilions Cinema, HeyTown Art Center, Institut Français**, among others.

- **Travel & Accommodation Reimbursement Policy**

We warmly encourage all selected filmmakers to attend the festival in person and engage with the vibrant BISFF community in Beijing. For each selected film, the festival offers **complimentary accommodation** in a **standard double room for three nights**. You are welcome to choose the dates of your stay according to your travel schedule.

Please note that the festival is **not in the position to cover international travel expenses**. We strongly encourage you to seek support from **cultural exchange institutions, film funding bodies, or relevant organizations** in your home country that may provide assistance for international cultural participation. Should you require an official invitation letter or supporting documents for funding applications, we would be happy to provide them upon request.

- **Entry to China | Suggestions & Support**

Festival Support for Visa & Entry

Whether you are traveling with a visa or under the visa-free policy, BISFF can provide, upon request, an official invitation letter and other supporting documents—such as confirmation of accommodation—to support your entry into China.

If you anticipate needing these materials, please contact us well in advance of your trip. While we will do our best to provide the necessary documents in a timely manner, we cannot guarantee delivery within a specific timeframe.

We recommend that filmmakers requiring a visa apply for **a tourist visa (Category L)** whenever possible, as it is generally the most straightforward option for attending events like film festivals.

Please note that we are unable to provide PU or PE letters, which may be required for other visa types depending on your location.

Visa-Free Entry Options

Depending on your nationality and travel route, you may be eligible to enter China without a visa under one of the following schemes.

Option 1: Visa-Free Entry (Short stays from 15 to 90 days)

As of July 2025, citizens of over 40 countries may enter mainland China without a visa for short stays ranging from 15 to 90 days, depending on the specific agreement between China and the country of origin.

Eligible countries include:

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Uruguay

(Source: <https://en.nia.gov.cn/n147418/n147463/c183390/content.html>)

Please note that the list above is for reference only and not exhaustive. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, check the Chinese National Immigration Administration (<https://en.nia.gov.cn>) or contact your nearest Chinese embassy/consulate.

Important notes for visa-free travelers:

- No pre-approval is required. However, travelers may be asked to show proof of purpose (such as flight tickets, hotel bookings, or invitation letters) upon entry.
- Visa-free stays are non-extendable and not valid for work, study, or journalism.

Option 2: 240-Hour Visa-Free Transit Entry

Citizens of 55 countries (including Canada, United Kingdom, and the United States) are eligible for 240-hour (10-day) visa-free transit in China if traveling between two different countries.

To be eligible:

- China must not be your final destination. You must arrive from Country A, transit through China, and depart to Country B
- You must hold a confirmed onward flight ticket.
- Entry must take place through designated ports (such as Beijing Capital International Airport), and you must remain within the authorized transit area, which fully covers all BISFF venues.

This can be a flexible alternative if your country is not eligible for full visa exemption. For full details, please visit: <https://en.nia.gov.cn/n147418/n147463/c183412/content.htm>.

- **Communication Support**

The festival staff is able to assist guests in **English** for general communication needs. Should you require interpretation in another language, please contact us ahead of time. We will do our best to accommodate your needs, subject to availability and prior arrangement.

- **Contact**

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Please feel free to reach out to us for any questions or concerns regarding your participation.