



Global Immigration alert

January 2025

Malaysia

Malaysia extends visa exemption period for India and China nationals

Executive summary

The Malaysian immigration department recently announced the extension of the visa exemption period for India and China nationals until 31 December 2026.

Background

As part of its [Visa Liberalization Plan](#) implemented on 1 December 2023, the Malaysian government introduced a visa exemption policy for India and China nationals who seek to enter the jurisdiction as short-term business travelers or tourists. This policy was initially valid until 31 December 2024.

Key developments

With the extension of the visa-free period, nationals of these two jurisdictions can now continue to enter Malaysia without an entry visa for up to 30 days for purposes other than work or study (including business visits) until 31 December 2026. They must complete and submit the [Malaysia Digital Arrival Card \(MDAC\)](#) pre-arrival form prior to arrival. India and China nationals who enter Malaysia for work or study purposes must continue to obtain a valid visa prior to their travel.

Impact on employers

The extension of the visa exemption period is expected to provide Malaysian employers access to a larger pool of foreign talent by streamlining the entry of qualifying business visitors.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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