

10 April 2018

Press Release

VFS Global expands Finland visa services network to Hong Kong

HONG KONG: In partnership with the Consulate General of Finland in Hong Kong & Macao, VFS Global announces the launch of its new Visa Application Centre, effective 10 April 2018, to serve the growing demand of travellers to Finland. Applicants can now schedule an appointment in advance to visit the VFS Global Finland Visa Application Centre located at Unit 03-05, 12/F, Prosperity Millennium Plaza, 663 Kings Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong at convenient time to apply for a visa and complete their biometric information.

Inaugurated on 10 April 2018 by Mr Jari Sinkari, Consul-General of Finland to Hong Kong & Macao, the newly launched centre offers a host of services to applicants which include SMS service option to track the application status, facility for applicants to take their photographs as per the requirements laid out by the client government, photocopy service and document printing facilities to name a few. The Consulate General of Finland in Hong Kong & Macao also represents Denmark, Iceland, Norway & Sweden for visa application services which now allow applicants who plan to visit these countries to submit their visa applications at the new Finland Visa Application Centre.

VFS Global has been associated with the government of Finland since 2010 and is present in 17 other countries of operations apart from Hong Kong, through a network of 71 Visa Application Centres. The company had launched Visa Application Centres in UAE (in the cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai) and Iran on behalf of the client government in November 2017.

Commenting on the launch, **Mr. Jari Sinkari, Consul-General of Finland to Hong Kong & Macao, said** *"We are very happy that we can now better cater for our clients. The number of visa applicants to Nordic countries has increased six-fold in recent seven years. While Hong Kong and Macao passport holders do not need Schengen visa, the demand for visas is growing, thanks to the intensifying business and tourism links to Finland and other Scandinavian countries by many international citizens based here."*

Mr. Jiten Vyas, Regional Group COO, VFS Global, added *"We are honored to partner with the Consulate General of Finland in Hong Kong & Macao with the launch of this new centre, as*

we strive to enhance the operational efficiencies to improve the overall experience of travellers who plan to visit Finland. The newly launched Visa Application Centre will now provide a convenient and comfortable service to all our applicants and we are confident of effectively catering to the growing travel demands from the region.”

Key features of the centre include:

- Application submission via appointments from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm (Monday to Friday, except scheduled holidays)
- SMS service facility to track your visa application
- Facility for applicants to take their photographs at the centre in line with the requirements of the Consulate General of Finland.
- Photocopy service and document printing services
- Dedicated website for easy access to information
- Dedicated contact centre and email support to answer queries and track application status

Finland Visa Application Centre

Address in Hong Kong: Unit 03-05, 12/F, Prosperity Millennia Plaza, 663 Kings Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong, China

Helpline: +852 2122 9552

| **Email:** info.finhk@vfshelpline.com

Website: <http://visa.finland.eu/>

Business hours: 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs (Monday to Friday, except scheduled holidays)

Submission Timings: 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs | Monday - Friday (except holidays as declared by client mission)

Collection Timings: 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs | Monday - Friday (except holidays as declared by client mission)

**VFS Global will be responsible only for accepting applications for client missions. All applications submitted will continue to be assessed and processed by the respective client missions. Timelines for turnaround are as per the discretion of the authorities.*

About VFS Global

VFS Global is the world's largest outsourcing and technology services specialist for governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. With **2574 Application Centres**, operations in **137 countries** across **five continents** and over **165 million applications processed** as on 28 February 2018, VFS Global is the trusted partner of **58 client governments**. VFS Global's worldwide operations are certified **ISO 9001:2008** for Quality Management System, **ISO 27001:2013** for Information Security Management System and **ISO 14001:2004** for Environmental Management System. For more information, please visit www.vfsglobal.com



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