

Media Information

Guangzhou, China

## Upgraded VFS Global Schengen Visa Application Centre inaugurated in Guangzhou, China

- *The renovated centre will be operational for Schengen visa applicants in the Guangzhou jurisdiction from Monday to Friday (except public holidays).*
- *A variety of optional services are available at the centre, including Premium Lounge, Courier plus services, and SMS alerts.*
- *Customers can also apply for their Schengen visas from a location of their choice through the Visa at Your Doorstep service.*
- *Customers can apply for Schengen Visas for travel to Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, and Switzerland.*

**Guangzhou, China** - VFS Global inaugurated a refurbished state-of-the-art Schengen Visa Application Centre in Guangzhou on 15 January 2025. This upgrade is expected to bring significant benefits to the citizens of Guangzhou and international exchanges, enhancing both the convenience and efficiency of visa applications. It also provides strong support for promoting cooperation and communication between China and Europe in tourism, trade, culture, and other fields.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by the diplomatic fraternity, including H.E. Jan Rudolph, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Guangzhou; H.E. Søren Bindsbøll, Consul General of Denmark in Guangzhou; H.E. Piotr Nowotniak, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Guangzhou; H.E. Wim Peeters, Consul General of the Kingdom of Belgium in Guangzhou; H.E. Tomás Azevedo, Consul General of Portugal in Guangzhou; H.E. Gina Andreadi, Consul General of the Hellenic Republic in Guangzhou; Mr. Renátó Horváth, Consul of Hungary in Guangzhou and Mr. Tiziano Pedrioli, Consul of Switzerland in Guangzhou. The dignitaries cut the ribbon and unveiled commemorative plaques with Mr. Dilliprasad Joshi, Deputy Chief Financial Officer of VFS Global and Mr. Kishen Singh, Chief Operating Officer of China and Mongolia at VFS Global.

During the ceremony, the consuls delivered speeches highlighting the new centre's potential to facilitate Schengen visa applications for Guangzhou residents and promote exchanges between China and Europe.



The Dignitaries Unveiled the Plaques



Guests perform the ribbon-cutting ceremony

The newly upgraded Schengen Visa Application Centre spans over 2,000 square meters and is designed with a spacious, bright interior featuring state-of-the-art amenities and an electronic interactive information system. It provides a more comfortable and efficient submission experience for visa applicants. This spacious facility, equipped with modern amenities and services, can process a higher volume of applications daily, enhancing the overall customer journey.



Mr. Kishen Singh, COO for China and Mongolia at VFS Global, delivered a speech

**Mr. Kishen Singh, the Chief Operating Officer for China and Mongolia at VFS Global stated:** "Today marks not just the opening of a facility, but a significant step toward facilitating seamless international travel for the residents of Guangdong Province and beyond. The upgraded Schengen Visa Application Centre is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and modern technologies designed to enhance the overall visa application experience.

Our goal at VFS Global is to make every interaction as smooth and pleasant as possible, while adhering to the highest standards of quality and security. Looking ahead, I am excited to highlight the significant opportunities on the horizon for travel from China to Europe. We have witnessed the growing popularity of European destinations among Chinese travelers in 2024, and we expect this travel trend to continue into 2025. The newly upgraded centre will play a crucial role in facilitating this resurgence, making it easier for travelers to pursue their journeys and explore the diverse cultures that Europe has to offer."

The newly upgraded Schengen Visa Application processes visa applications for 21 European countries, including Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, and Switzerland.



Upgraded Guangzhou Schengen Visa Application Centre

Additionally, the centre offers a range of optional services, including Premium Lounge, Courier plus services, and SMS alerts. Customers can also apply the Visa at Your Doorstep service for Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovenia, and Switzerland. This optional premium service enables applicants to submit their visa applications from any preferred location, such as their home or office, eliminating the need to visit the visa application centre.

## About VFS Global

As the world's leading outsourcing and technology service specialist, VFS Global embraces technological innovation including Generative AI to support governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. The company manages non-judgmental and administrative tasks related to applications for visa, passport, and consular services for its client governments, increasing productivity and enabling them to focus entirely on the critical task of assessment.

With a responsible approach to technology development, adoption and integration, the company prioritizes ethical practices and sustainability while serving as the trusted partner to 69 client governments. Operating over 3,400 Application Centres in 152 countries, VFS Global has efficiently processed more than 303 million applications since 2001.

Headquartered in Zurich and Dubai and majority owned through investment funds managed by Blackstone Inc, along with the Swiss-based Kuoni and Hugentobler Foundation and EQT, VFS



Partnering Governments. Providing Solutions.



Global is committed to creating value for all stakeholders and leading in responsible, innovative solutions making government services more effective and efficient.