

DO'S AND DON'TS

1. **DO** learn and understand the host country's language.
2. **DO** respect the culture, traditions and practices of your host country.
3. **DO** know the provisions of your employment contract and know your rights and responsibilities.
4. **DO** abide by laws, rules and regulations of your host country.
5. **DON'T** carry, use or sell drugs, substances, compounds and chemicals classified as illegal in the host country.
6. **DON'T** accept any hand-carried package from anyone unless you first see what is inside. Many people have been arrested and jailed for carrying firearms and drugs without their knowledge.
7. **DON'T** engage in activities considered illegal in the host country (gambling/lotto, liquor/alcohol use, cyber sex, possession and/or sale of pirated video materials and/or obscene materials/articles).
8. **DON'T** lend your laptop, smartphone, sim card, ATM, passport to friends or acquaintances who may use them for illegal purposes.
9. **DON'T** live beyond your means. Avoid falling into a debt trap. Avoid guaranteeing debt.
10. **DON'T** believe in get-rich-quick scams. Examples are text messages that you have won in an electronic lottery, e-mail offering to transfer huge amount of money to your bank account.
11. **DON'T** attempt to run-away from your employer. Try to settle any disagreement.

PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATION in MACAU-SAR:

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Sampung Bilin ng PDOS

1. Isa-isip ang gusto mong makamit sa iyong pagtrabaho sa ibang bansa. Ito ang susi ng iyong tagumpay.
2. Ihanda ang sarili sa trabahong haharapin sa labas ng bansa.
3. Tandaan ang iyong responsibilidad at karapatan. Ito ay gabay mo sa pagganap sa iyong tungkulin.
4. Umangkop sa batas at kultura ng bansang pupuntahan. Ito ay iyong magiging pansamantalang tirahan.
5. Pangalagaan ang kalusugan. Kailangan ang malusog na pangangatawan sa trabahong gagampanan.
6. Buksan ang isipan sa bagong kaalaman at kasanayan. Ito ay hagdan sa tagumpay.
7. Makipag-ugnayan sa pamilyang naiwan. Panatilihing buo ang pamilya kahit malayo ka.
8. Mag-ipon dahil ang katuparan ng iyong mga pangarap ay nakasalalay dito.
9. Maghanda at magplano para sa iyong pagbabalik.
10. May mga ahensya ng pamahalaan na makakatulong sa oras ng pangangailangan. Huwag mag-atubiling sila ay lapitan.

"Sa tamang kaalaman, sigurado ang Tagumpay at kaligtasan."



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Paalis ka na pala.
Nag PDOS ka na ba?
Laging tandaan
ang sampung bilin
ng PDOS

A Guide
for OFWs
Bound for
Macau

OWWA
Cares

Kahit Saan,
Kahit Kailan,
Maaasahan!

FACTS and FIGURES

OFFICIAL NAME: Macau Special Administrative Region

NATIONALITY: Macanese

GOVERNMENT: Politics of Macau is a framework of political system, dominated by the People's Republic of China.

NATIONAL DAY: October 1

LAND AREA: 30.5 km²

LOCATION: Special Administrative Region on the southern coast of China. It is **located** at the south of Guangdong Province, on the tip of the peninsula formed by the Zhujiang (Pearl River) estuary on the east and the Xijiang (West River) on the west.

CLIMATE: Having distinctive dry and wet seasons, Macau's weather is generally warm and foggy in spring, hot and rainy in summer, cool and clear in autumn, and cold but sunny in winter.

NATURAL HAZARDS: Typhoons, Earthquakes; Volcanic activities

POPULATION: 649,335 (2020)

PEOPLE: 88.8% Chinese, 4.6% Filipino, 2.4% Vietnamese, 1.8% Portuguese

LANGUAGES: Chinese, Portuguese, English

RELIGION: Chinese folk religions, Buddhism, and Catholic

WORKING WEEK: 48 hours with the majority of employees working six days a week.

CURRENCY: Macanese Pataca

COUNTRY DIALING CODE: +853

INTERNET COUNTRY CODE: .mo

TIME DIFFERENCE: No time difference



REMINDERS: Living in MACAU

MACAU, The Las Vegas of Asia. Macau is called the "Las Vegas of Asia" and the gambling capital in Asia. It is situated south of China and west of Hong Kong. Macau is a tiny city but it has a lot to offer. It is home to some of the biggest resort hotels and the largest casinos in the world. It is a metropolitan city but it is also rich with historical places having been colonized by Portugal for a couple of years. This multi-faceted city has welcomed millions of tourists every year and is continually proving travelers with a once in a lifetime experience. As the island was Asia's last remaining European colony, you can expect a real melting pot of



cultures here. It's an enchanting mix of East meets West. Although 95% of the city's residents are Chinese, you'll find the city's street signs in *Portuguese*, as well as majestic colonial architecture and bustling side streets specializing in great-value Portuguese fare. The urban center of the city is *Senado Square* which is characterized by a stunning fountain and the surrounding mosaic-style flooring that's a feast for the eyes.

Cost of Living. The cost of living in Macau is not quite as high as Hong Kong. In all major cost of living indicators such as housing, food, transport, utilities, and purchasing power, Hong Kong and Singapore are significantly higher than Macau.

Transport in Macau includes road, sea and air transport. Road transport is the primary mode of transport within Macau as there are no railways. The main forms of public transport are buses and taxis. A light rail system is currently under construction.

Macanese cuisine is unique to Macau, and consists of a blend of southern Chinese (especially Cantonese) and Portuguese cuisines, with significant influences from Southeast Asia and the Lusophone world. Famous dishes include *galinha à Portuguesa*, *galinha à Africana* (African chicken), *bacalhau* (traditional Portuguese cod), *pato de cabidela*, Macanese chili shrimp, and stir-fried curry kebab.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Macau has been known as one of the best tax havens in Asia, and it is true that personal and business taxes are relatively lower in the country compared to other prominent cities in Asia. All residents and non-residents working in Macau are subject to pay income tax based on their salary bracket. The income tax rate is on a progressive scale, starting from 0% to 12%.

For tax purposes, Macau has no distinction between residents and non-residents. An individual is considered a Macau resident if they hold a Permanent Resident Permit issued by the Macau Immigration Department or an identity card issued by the Macau SAR.

REMINDERS: Working in MACAU

Work Permits. Residency permits can be obtained for foreign workers through the Corpo de Policia de Seguranca Publica (Public Security Police Force). If you have a work sponsor and all the required documents, getting a residency card (known locally as the 'blue card') can be relatively straight forward. In Macau, all full-time employees are required to have a blue card. There are two types of work permits on the island: a non-permanent skilled or non-skilled resident's card and an occasional worker's card. Skilled workers are required to have relevant academic qualifications specific to their job, such as teaching English as a foreign language. Macau is good for expats because they do not discriminate. No matter your age, race, color, sexual orientation, or religious belief, everyone is accepted.



Not a lot of vacation leaves. All workers are entitled to six working days of paid leave every year, and 24 consecutive hours of a rest period for every seven days of work. They are also entitled to eight statutory holidays. Meanwhile, pregnant women workers who have been employed for more than a year in a company are entitled to thirty-five days of maternity leave.

Work Timings. The standard work week in Macau is eight hours a day, or forty-eight hours per week. In general, however, 60% of the employees in Macau work six days a week, with an average of 8.38 hours per day. This goes especially to workers who are employed in hotels, restaurants, and the gaming industry – where most of Macau's tourists can be found. The majority of the private companies in Macau operate from 9AM to 6PM and have a lunch break of one and a half hours. On the other hand, government offices are open five days a week, from 9AM to 5:45PM, Mondays to Thursdays, and 9AM to 6PM on Fridays.

