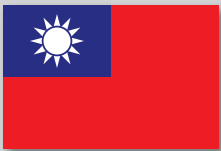


Taiwan, Republic of China (ROC)



About Taiwan

Capital City:

- Taipei City

Monetary Unit:

- New Taiwan dollar (NT\$)

Major Languages:

- Mandarin Chinese (official),
Min Nan Chinese (Taiwanese)

Main Exports:

- Computer Equipment
- Machinery
- Textiles
- Plastic & rubber products

Our Immigration Services in Taiwan

Business Travel – Guidance & assistance with Visitor Visa applications filed at a ROC missions abroad

Work Permits – For foreign nationals who wish to work

Employment Pass Card – For foreign national executives, professionals or technical workers

Training Visas – For foreign national interns

Resident Visa & Alien Resident Certificate – For foreign national employees & their family members

Alien Permanent Residential Cards – For foreign professionals & investment immigration

The Economy of Taiwan

Home to over 23 million people, Taiwan is a sovereign state that maintains its own national defense and conducts its own foreign affairs. It has full diplomatic relations with 23 countries and substantive ties with many other states. It is an active member of 27 intergovernmental organizations (IGO) and their subsidiary bodies, including the World Trade Organization, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the Asian Development Bank.

Taiwan has a capitalistic economy largely based upon exports. The island runs a large trade surplus, and its foreign reserves are the world's fourth largest, behind China, Japan and Russian. As Taiwan has developed alongside Singapore, South Korea, and Hong Kong, they are collectively known as the "Four Asian Dragons" or "Four Asian Tigers".

With a heavy emphasis on services, manufacturing, and high technology, Taiwan's modern, developed economy is one of the richest in Asia. It was ranked by the Heritage Foundation as the seventh freest economy in the Asia-Pacific region. Taiwan is a member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. Taiwan is also an observer at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Taiwan's top five trade partners are China, the EU, Hong Kong, Japan, and the U.S. Sources: <http://tinyurl.com/2bslwk>; <http://tinyurl.com/b9fjeo>

One of the greatest challenges Taiwan will face in the future is productivity, as its fertility rate is the lowest in the world. With an increasing aging population, Taiwan faces future labor shortages, decreased domestic demand, and declining tax revenues.

The information contained in this document is intended for informational purposes only, is general in nature, and does not constitute legal guidance.

For more detailed information about the economy and foreign investment in Taiwan, visit the following web site: <http://tinyurl.com/443uhor>

Business Travel to Taiwan

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to Taiwan for business should ensure their passports are valid for at least six months beyond the intended dates of stay and contain at least one blank visa page. Nationals of over 40 countries, including Canada, U.S. and UK, may enter Taiwan for brief business trips under the visa exemption program. Nationals of India, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, who also possess a valid visa or permanent residence certificate issued by the U.S., Canada, Japan, UK, Schengen Convention countries, Australia or New Zealand may also be eligible for the visa exemption program. Those who meet these criteria and have never been employed in Taiwan as blue-collar workers, have to apply to the "Advance Online Registration System for the Visitors of Nationals from Four Southeast Asian Countries to Taiwan" before coming to Taiwan.

Business visitors who have entered Taiwan visa free are strictly prohibited from working in Taiwan. The penalties for non-compliance with Taiwan immigration regulations include fines, deportation and may include imprisonment.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintains an updated list of embassies and foreign consulates abroad at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/46zdfeg>.

Living in Taiwan, Republic of China

Formerly named Formosa (from Portuguese: Ilha Formosa, "Beautiful Island"), Taiwan is situated in the West Pacific between Japan

Continued on next page.

and the Philippines. The territory of the ROC includes the main island of Taiwan, the archipelagoes of Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, as well as numerous other islets – altogether covering an area of 36,191 square kilometers. At about the size of the Netherlands and with a population of 23 million, Taiwan is more populous than three-quarters of the world's nations.

The most popular destination for expatriates living in Taiwan is Taipei City, which is considered the center of government and culture in Taiwan. Major industries in Taipei include electrical and electronic equipment, textiles, metals, shipbuilding, and motorcycles.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/4yb9vba>

Taiwan Business Culture

Taiwan's economic landscape is dominated by small to medium-sized, family controlled businesses which are usually dominated by one, older male member of the family. Thus companies can be said to be run as benevolent dictatorships where the central family member, who both expects and receives loyalty and obedience from the rest of the employees, makes all key decisions. As is typical in Confucian cultures, the quid pro quo for this respect and loyalty is that the senior manager has an almost paternal interest in the well being of his staff – and this interest is expected to extend beyond the work place.

Source: <http://www.worldbusinessculture.com>

Taiwan Work Permit Process

- 1 Work Permit Application filed with the Council of Labour Affairs in Taipei
- 2 Upon approval of the work permit, residence visa application with the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office (TECO) in home jurisdiction
– or –
If already present in Taiwan as a visitor, request for change of status at Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA) in Taipei, Taichung or Kaosiung
- 3 Within 15 days of arriving in Taiwan, ROC Resident Certificate application with the National Immigration Agency followed by IC ARC card issuance

How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in Taiwan

Organizations that wish to employ foreign workers abroad require an immigration service provider with a record of successfully coordinating and delivering global, business immigration services for multinational organizations. Goel & Anderson practices exclusively in the field of immigration to assist your company with the recruitment, hiring, and retention of foreign workers across the globe, including Taiwan. We understand that time and resources are valuable to your business and that staffing an international project can be critical to your business' reputation and success. We are committed to efficiently delivering business immigration solutions that combine broad global coverage with a depth of local expertise.

We carefully select co-counsel who share our service and compliance-oriented approach to meet the needs of organizations doing business in the global marketplace. Our Global Immigration group and local counsel work closely together to ensure comprehensive business coordination and seamless delivery of services. Our immigration services include end-to-end processing, including: business or work visa application preparation and

filing; detailed guidance on the visa stamping/ activation and identity card collection; and tracking key expiration dates. Personal representation at the Taiwan embassy or mission abroad and local municipal office may be available.

The lead time for preparing work permit applications can be lengthy in view of the translations and authentication of supporting documentation normally required. Thus, if your company's office in Taiwan anticipates engaging foreign talent, an early analysis of immigration options and strategies, as well as a thorough understanding of the sponsorship obligations, will better position your project for success. We also understand that despite careful planning, emergent issues can arise. We are well positioned to assist your business to address unexpected business requirements. Because global immigration matters do not occur within a vacuum and the law is infrequently static, we seek local experts who may also assist with a range of related legal services, including corporate formation, contracts, employment agreements, licensing, and transactions and who will advise of changes in policy and procedures.

With headquarters outside of Washington, DC in Reston, Virginia and operations in Pune, India, Goel & Anderson is an immigration firm that is international in scope and personal in nature. We are known as a firm that is highly professional and also highly human. We offer clients extensive experience and a comprehensive understanding of all areas of business, employment, and family-based immigration law worldwide.

For more information about our Global Immigration Practice and services, please contact Jill Marie Bussey at jill.bussey@goellaw.com or +1 703.796.9881.

*Goel & Anderson, LLC does not engage in the practice of law within India. All services in India are provided by our affiliate, G&A Immigration Services Private Limited.

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Innovative Approaches to Immigration Law

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