



## CHINESE TOURISTS

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### Chinese passenger opens emergency exit 'to get some fresh air' as plane prepares for take-off

But the airline won't be penalising him as he's a first-time traveller and didn't do any damage

Andrea Chen  
andrea.chen@scmp.com

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The first-time traveller opened the plane's emergency exit door to get some fresh air. Photo: SCMP Pictures

An airline passenger on board an internal flight in China sparked a safety scare by yanking open an emergency exit just before a plane was due to take off to "get some fresh air", according to reports.

The passenger, on board the Xiamen Air flight from Hangzhou to Chengdu, caused amazed fellow travellers to take a series of snaps on their mobile phones, which were later posted on social media.

The airline's maintenance team rushed to fix the safety door and the flight took off on time, Hangzhou airport staff told the *Southern Metropolis Daily*.

Passengers' photos showed the middle-aged man wearing a blue hooded coat - a first-time flier - poke his head out of the open door, as a stewardess looked on.

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"It's my first time seeing a passenger open the safety door," one photo circulated online was captioned. "He told the attendants he just wanted some fresh air ... hope our flight won't be delayed for too long."

Sunday's flight saga triggered heated debate on social media, with many microbloggers saying the man should have been fined for posing a safety risk to other passengers.

But the airline said it did not plan to penalise the passenger as he had not meant any harm.

"It was his first travel by air," an airline staff member told the paper. "He did not cause delay or any other direct loss to the airline."

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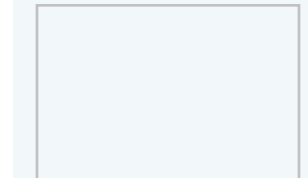
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hkhk  
Dec 17th 2014  
1:14pm  
It's all America's fault!

input  
Dec 17th 2014  
10:33am  
All exiting Chinese nationals from China MUST be given a list of what Not to do when abroad . This list can be given before they approach immigration and made to read the list and sign. This will help first time travellers and others not to disgrace themselves when abroad. The Japanese used to be taught how to use a sitting toilet when abroad.

tfung  
Dec 17th 2014  
9:55am  
A bit strange... when airplanes push back from the gate, doors are usually armed.. when the doors are armed, any opening of the doors should deploy the emergency slides, etc... So I wonder if the plane has actually pushed back from the gate and the doors armed yet? If so, why didn't the emergency slides deploy?

hchang973@\*\*\*\*\*  
Dec 16th 2014  
11:52pm  
Need education instruction and pamphlets for first time passengers in China. Tell them fresh air outside plane at Airport may not be as fresh as filtered air inside the plane amongst others.

toxygen  
Dec 16th 2014  
11:43pm  
"Fresh air" LOL

ninacheung  
Dec 17th 2014  
12:46pm  
Agree with input! This list of dos and don'ts should also come with a legally binding declaration that anyone who gets into trouble abroad by opening plane emergency exits / throwing hot water on air hostess / defecating-urinating in public etc. WILL be held liable to prosecution and punishment by the said airline or country, and will NOT receive any consular help in such case. Also, should be extended to anyone who gets in fistfight with locals for jumping queues / spitting / shouting loudly.

Shadow  
Dec 16th 2014  
10:08pm  
My Lovely Great People lol.....



Kitts...  
10 Dec



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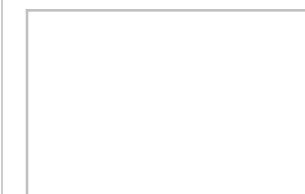
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zhelu1985@\*\*\*\*\*  
Dec 17th 2014  
4:39pm

Was he also illiterate? There's a freaking label in Chinese and English telling you it's an emergency exit.  
That's the one major gripe against mainland tourists: THEY NEVER READ SIGNS. It's probably cause signs in China are largely meaningless anyway, so no one bothers.

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hkg101  
Dec 17th 2014  
12:56pm

Wow...

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sipsip1238  
Dec 17th 2014  
6:05pm

@ninacheung - but legally binding doesn't mean anything to the NPC or the Chinese...according to the NPC, the world just needs to be "re-enlightened" that any law, including the laws of physics, do not apply when the Chinese says it doesn't.

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