



## Cayman Islands - Exempted Companies

The Cayman Islands comprises 3 small islands, which are located in the western Caribbean Sea, and situated about 700 km (430 mi) south of Miami, Florida. Cayman Islands companies are of 3 types, i.e. Resident Companies, Non-resident Companies and Exempt Companies. Moreover, a Cayman Islands company is one of the offshore companies that are approved by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange Limited to list its shares on the Hong Kong Stock Markets.

### A. Corporate Requirements / Features

<b>Directors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Minimum of 1</li><li>○ Corporate Directors are permitted</li><li>○ Original Register of Directors should be kept in the Registered Office (a copy of the same has to be filed with the Companies Registry but no public inspection is allowed)</li><li>○ Directors can be resident anywhere.</li></ul>
<b>Shareholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Minimum of 1</li><li>○ Bearer Shares are not common due to rigid governance</li><li>○ Register of Members should be kept in the Registered Office</li><li>○ Beneficial Ownership Register should be filed but no public inspection is allowed</li></ul>
<b>Registered Agent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Must have a local Registered Agent in Cayman Islands</li></ul>
<b>Registered Office</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Must maintain a local Registered Office in Cayman Islands</li></ul>
<b>Business Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Be filed with the Companies Registry upon incorporation and available for public inspection</li></ul>
<b>Annual Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Annual Return is required</li><li>○ No Annual General Meeting is required</li><li>○ Economic Substance Notification &amp; Economic Substance Return</li></ul>
<b>Minimum Authorised Capital</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ No minimum but the standard one is US\$50,000</li></ul>
<b>Name Reservation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Permitted</li></ul>
<b>Chinese Character Name</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Permitted, but must have the same meaning as the English name</li></ul>
<b>Others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Cannot deal or transact business with Cayman Islands residents</li><li>○ Must comply with economic substance requirements</li><li>○ Must complete due diligence requirements</li></ul>



## **B. Timeframe for Setting Up**

### 1. By acquisition of a shelf company

Due to stricter due diligence compliance requirements, the Registered Agent has ceased to provide this service.

### 2. By incorporation with a tailor-made company name

	Step	Duration (working day)
1.	Name Check and Approval (Name reservation will not be made automatically; if reservation is required, additional charges apply)	1 to 2 days
2.	Engagement letter to be entered into with client and payment settlement by client within specified period	Depends
3.	Client provides information of the proposed corporate structure by completing the relevant forms and provides all the supporting documents as requested in the said forms	Depends
4.	Client provides due diligence documents and related information	Depends
5.	Proceeding with the incorporation process (a photocopy of Certificate of Incorporation and Memorandum and Articles of Association is available only after due diligence compliance is completed by the Registered Agent and our firm)	5 to 7 days
6.	Preparation of activation documents	2 to 3 days
7.	Client returns the activation documents duly signed	Depends
8.	Filing the activation documents with the related parties and returning company kit to client	5 to 7 days

## **C. Important Notice**

In accordance with the current due diligence requirements, both the Registered Agent and our firm have to complete all due diligence procedures before arranging the formal application for incorporation of the proposed company.