A TRAVEL BOOK FOR ONE TRIP

14 days in China: Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu & Guilin

14 days · 4 places



1	**Beijing** 北京	4 days
2	**Xi'an** 西安	2 days
3	**Chengdu** 成都	3 days
4	**Guilin** 桂林	5 days

Everything in here works with no internet. The parts marked ✓ were checked against the official page on the date shown.

Made at chinamapbook.com — free, no sign-up.

Open this trip, or copy it
chinamapbook.com/b/jtf2gta7fssy

Checked for you

What we checked for this trip, and what to do before you go.

- 10 things to book or do.

WHAT TO DO, AND WHEN

- [ ] **Now**

  Tiananmen Square: free, but booked ahead: booking opens 7 days ahead. Book on its official site; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now**

  Mutianyu Great Wall: tickets open 30 days ahead. Book on its official site, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now**

  Summer Palace: tickets open 7 days ahead. Book through its WeChat account “颐和园”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. Whether you must book ahead is not checked yet — booking is the sure way in. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  > 颐和园

  In WeChat, tap search and type or paste this name to find its mini program.

  Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now**

  Forbidden City: tickets open 7 days ahead at 20:00 Beijing time. Book in its WeChat mini program “故宫博物院”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  > **故宫博物院**
  >
  > In WeChat, tap search and type or paste this name to find its mini program.
  >
  > Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Check its page**

  Terracotta Army: when tickets open is not checked yet. Book on its official site, with your passport; each of you books under your own name.
  Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now**

  Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding: tickets open 14 days ahead. Book in its WeChat mini program “成都大熊猫繁育研究基地”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  > **成都大熊猫繁育研究基地**
  >
  > In WeChat, tap search and type or paste this name to find its mini program.
  >
  > Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now**

  Elephant Trunk Hill: free, but booked ahead: booking opens 7 days ahead. Book through its WeChat account; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
  Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.

- [ ] **Now** — Alipay takes foreign bank cards — link yours in the app before you fly, then scan to pay wherever Alipay QR codes are accepted. Keep a physical card and some cash as backup. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- [ ] **Now** — WeChat Pay takes foreign bank cards for everyday purchases — add yours under Wallet, then scan to pay where WeChat Pay is accepted. No fee up to 200 RMB per payment, 3% above; red packets and transfers are not supported. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- [ ] **Now** — Travel eSIMs need an eSIM-capable, carrier-unlocked phone — check yours before you buy. ✓ Checked Sun, Oct 4, 2026 · source

YOUR DATES

- Day 1 and Day 14 are planned light, as if you land by early afternoon and fly home in the evening. Landing late or flying early? Keep those days for getting in and out, and move their sights.
  guide

NOT CHECKED YET

We say what we could not check rather than guess.

- Choose your passport and we'll check how you get in.



Imperial palaces, the Great Wall and old hutong lanes

4 days here

Where I'm going in Beijing (8 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Mutianyu Great Wall is about 1h30 from Beijing (Qianmen) (61 km).
  an estimate
- Beijing: Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH), International Medical Services — 北京协和医院（国际医疗部）, 北京市东城区帅府园一号 · international department · English spoken · ☎ 010-69156699-2（外宾预约专线）; 010-69156114（服务热线）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Beijing: China-Japan Friendship Hospital, International Department — 中日友好医院（国际部）, 北京市朝阳区樱花园东街2号（本部东侧） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 010-84205121（国际部）; 010-84205566（本部）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Qianmen–Dashilan 前门/大栅栏 (18 min to Beijing South Railway Station 北京南站) · Nanluoguxiang–Gulou 南锣鼓巷—鼓楼 (27 min to Beijing South Railway Station 北京南站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Tiananmen Day 1

Tiananmen Square 天安门广场

Beijing's central gate and vast square

HOURS	times not stated by the venue

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	Free

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Tiananmen Square

天安门广场

Address of this entrance not checked yet — show the name.



Niujie Mosque

Beijing's oldest mosque, in a Hui neighbourhood

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 15 min by taxi from Beijing (Qianmen) (an estimate)

HOURS	times not stated by the venue

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

TICKET	¥10

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The streets are half the reason to come: the blocks around Niujie are Beijing's Hui other heart, with halal bakeries and butcher shops*

> *The mosque reads like a Chinese palace courtyard with Arabic details inside — walk to the back halls before turning back*

Show the driver · Niujie Mosque

牛街礼拜寺



Great Wall Day 2

Mutianyu Great Wall 慕田峪长城

A wall that runs for thousands of kilometres

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (MAR 16 – NOV 15)	07:30–18:00 · last entry 17:30
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 16 – MAR 15)	08:00–17:30 · last entry 17:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

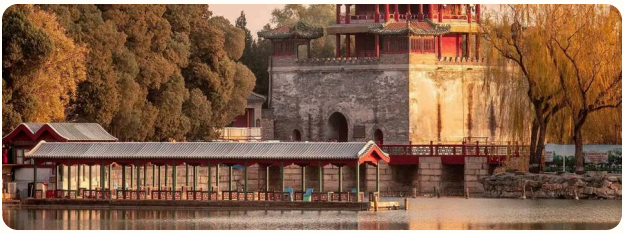
CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 30 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥40

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Mutianyu Great Wall

慕田峪长城

Address of this entrance not checked yet — show the name.



Summer Palace Day 3

Imperial gardens built around a lake

Give it: half a day

About 50 min by metro from Beijing (Qianmen) (an estimate)

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (APR 1 – OCT 31)	06:00–20:00 · last entry 19:00
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 1 – MAR 31)	from 06:30 (closing time not stated by the venue) · last entry 18:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Can be booked 7 days ahead — whether you must is not checked yet
TICKET	¥20–30 (depends on the ticket)

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *It sits beside the Old Summer Palace and Fragrant Hills — do them as one Haidian day trip*

> *Budget half a day — the grounds are huge and the shoreline walks are the best part, not a quick loop*

Show the driver · Summer Palace

颐和园



Old Summer Palace Day 3

Garden ruins left by the 1860 fire

Give it: half a day

About 40 min by metro from Beijing (Qianmen) (an estimate)

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (APR 1 – OCT 31)	06:00–21:00 · last entry 19:00
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 1 – MAR 31)	06:30–19:30 · last entry 17:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥10

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Head for the Western Mansions (Xiyanglou) stone ruins at the north edge of the park — the signature remains, and originally a small corner of a mostly Chinese-style garden*

> *Pair it with the Summer Palace next door for a full Haidian day*

Show the driver · Old Summer Palace

圆明园



Temple of Heaven Day 4

Where emperors prayed for good harvests

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 20 min by metro from Beijing (Qianmen) (an estimate)

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (APR 1 – OCT 31)	06:00–22:00 · last entry 21:00
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 1 – MAR 31)	06:30–22:00 · last entry 21:00

✓ **Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026** · **source**

CLOSED	Mondays
TICKET	¥10–15 (depends on the ticket)

✓ **Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026** · **source**

> *Go in the morning: the inner park fills with locals doing tai chi, playing cards and singing in groups — that scene is half the visit*

Show the driver · Temple of Heaven

天坛



Lugou Bridge Day 4

Stone bridge with hundreds of carved lions

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
Not yet checked	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥20
Not yet checked	

> *Count the lions on the parapets — the saying goes no two of the several hundred stone lions are alike*

> *Pair the bridge with the Wanping fortress walls and the war museum at its east end*

Show the driver · Lugou Bridge

卢沟桥



Forbidden City Day 4

The imperial palace at the centre of Beijing

Give it: half a day

About 25 min by foot from Beijing (Qianmen) (an estimate)

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (APR 1 – OCT 31)	08:30–17:00 · last entry 16:00
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 1 – MAR 31)	08:30–16:30 · last entry 15:30

✓ **Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source**

CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥40–60 (depends on the ticket)

✓ **Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source**

> *Enter by the Meridian Gate in the south and exit through the north gate, then cross the moat straight into Jingshan Park for the rooftop panorama — the classic closing shot*

> *A Tiananmen Gate tower ticket is separate from the Forbidden City ticket — check which one you are booking*

Show the driver · Forbidden City

故宫

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



北京烤鸭

Peking duck

The dish people name first when they think of Beijing: duck lacquered, roasted over fruitwood and carved in front of you.

Usually contains: wheat (flour, wheat gluten), soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Gastro Esthetics DaDong 大董 · 1949 - Duck de Chine 1949-全鸭季

> 您好，我想点半只烤鸭，再要些饼和酱，麻烦您了。
>
> Hello, I would like half a roast duck, plus some pancakes and sauce please. Thank you.



炸酱面

Noodles with fried bean sauce

Old Beijing's lunch habit: hand-cut noodles buried under dark bean-pork sauce with a rainbow of raw toppings.

Usually contains: pork, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，麻烦您来一碗炸酱面，面码全放，谢谢您。
>
> Hello, one bowl of zhajiang noodles with all the toppings please. Thank you.



铜锅涮羊肉

Copper-pot instant-boiled lamb

Winter Beijing on one table: charcoal copper pot, clear broth, lamb so thin it cooks in three seconds.

Usually contains: lamb, sesame, soy, wheat (flour, wheat gluten) (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，麻烦您来一份手切鲜羊肉，先涮这个。

Hello, one portion of hand-cut fresh lamb - let us cook this one first please.

- Douzhir is sour and funky on purpose. Order one bowl to share, and stopping after one sip is what most people do — not a failure.
- Mall food courts and tourist streets sell a cheap plate called Beijing roast duck; the carved-at-table version lives in proper duck restaurants at ¥150–300 per person.

Point at the big Chinese — it is the name on the menu. To order, show the sentence under it.

Also here: Badaling · Ming tombs · Yonghe Temple



2

Xi'an 西安

Terracotta Army and the old city walls

2 days here

🚄 from Beijing: about 4h10 (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Xi'an (5 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Beijing → Xi'an: about 4h10 by train (Beijing West Railway Station 北京西站 → Xi'an North Railway Station 西安北站).
  an estimate
- Terracotta Army is about 1h30 from Xi'an (33 km).
  an estimate
- Huaqing Chi is about 51 min from Xi'an (27 km).
  an estimate
- Xi'an: 陕西省人民医院（主院区）, 西安市友谊西路256号 · ☎ 029-85251331.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Xi'an: The First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University — 西安交通大学第一附属医院.
  Not yet checked

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Bell Tower & Muslim Quarter 钟楼—回民街 (22 min to Xi'an North Railway Station 西安北站) · Yongningmen (South Gate) 南门永宁门 (26 min to Xi'an North Railway Station 西安北站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Giant Wild Goose Pagoda Day 5

Da Ci'en Temple ticket office, south square 大慈恩寺（大雁塔南广场售票处）

Tang-dynasty pagoda built for a travelling monk

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

Show the driver · Da Ci'en Temple ticket office, south square

大慈恩寺（大雁塔南广场售票处）

Address of this entrance not checked yet — show the name.



Daming Palace

Tang imperial palace, now an archaeological park

Give it: half a day

About 15 min by metro from Xi'an (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

> *Metro Line 4's Daminggong station opens right by the Danfeng Gate side*

> *This is a ruin park — foundations and interpretive buildings, not a rebuilt palace; the free lawns work as a local park*

Show the driver · Daming Palace

大明宫



Great Mosque of Xi'an

Chinese courtyards around a prayer hall

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 10 min by foot from Xi'an (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

> *Sleeveless tops do not fit the setting; the prayer hall itself is for worshippers — visitors stay in the four courtyards*

> *It is a Chinese-courtyard mosque four courts deep with a pagoda-style minaret — walk to the last court before turning back*

Show the driver · Great Mosque of Xi'an

西安清真寺



Terracotta Army Day 6

Thousands of clay soldiers buried for 2,000 years

Give it: half a day

About 1h30 by metro from Xi'an (an estimate)

HOURS, PEAK SEASON (MAR 16 – NOV 15)	08:30–18:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, LOW SEASON (NOV 16 – MAR 15)	08:30–18:00 · last entry 17:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *A tout selling a secret 'Pit 4' tour is inventing it — your ticket already covers the three numbered pits and the site's other pits*

> *Do the pits in reverse — Pit 3, then Pit 2, then Pit 1 — so each hall tops the last and Pit 1 is the finale*

Show the driver · Terracotta Army

秦始皇兵马俑



Huaqing Chi Day 6

Hot springs that emperors and a modern state both used

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	07:30–18:00

✓ Checked Sun, Oct 4, 2026 · source

HOURS, SUMMER (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:30–18:00
HOURS, WINTER (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:30–17:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The 1936 Xi'an Incident bullet holes are still visible on the Five-Room Building where Chiang Kai-shek was caught*

> *Take the cable car from the West Gate up Mount Li for the beacon-tower outlook, then walk down into the imperial bath ruins*

Show the driver · Huaqing Chi

华清池



肉夹馍

Roujiamo (Chinese pork burger)

Chopped long-braised pork in a crackly baked flatbread, the snack Xi'an is known for first.

Usually contains: pork, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Fanji cured-pork burger shop 樊记腊汁肉（竹笆市店）

> 您好，一个优质肉夹馍，麻烦皮烤脆一点，谢谢您。

Hello, one premium pork burger, crispy crust please.

羊肉泡馍

Lamb paomo (bread in lamb soup)

You tear the bread by hand, the kitchen pours boiling lamb broth over it, eating it is a ritual not just a meal.

Usually contains: lamb, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), broth (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Lao Sun Jia restaurant 老孙家饭庄（东关正街店） · Tong Sheng Xiang restaurant 同盛祥饭庄（钟鼓楼广场店）

> 您好，两碗羊肉泡馍，馍我们自己掰，汤宽一点，谢谢您。

Hello, two lamb paomo, we will tear the bread ourselves, extra broth please.

biangbiang面

Biangbiang belt noodles

Ribbon-wide hand-slapped noodles under chilli, pork or tomato toppings, named for the slapping sound.

Usually contains: wheat (flour, wheat gluten), pork, egg, soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，一碗三合一biangbiang面，辣子正常，谢谢您。

Hello, one biangbiang noodles with three toppings, normal chilli please.

- Spice words are local scale: wei la (mild) in Xi'an still carries real chilli — say bu la (no chilli) if the table is heat-shy.
- The Muslim Quarter is halal: pork roujiamo lives outside it, and beef-lamb versions inside — check the halal sign if that matters to you.

Point at the big Chinese — it is the name on the menu. To order, show the sentence under it.

Also here: Xi'an City Wall · Epang Palace · Bell Tower of Xi'an



3

Chengdu 成都

Pandas, teahouses and the Dujiangyan irrigation works

3 days here

🚄 from Xi'an: about 3h05 (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Chengdu (5 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Xi'an → Chengdu: about 3h05 by train (Xi'an North Railway Station 西安北站 → Chengdu East Railway Station 成都东站).
  an estimate
- Dujiangyan is about 1h34 from Chengdu (60 km).
  an estimate
- Qingcheng front mountain gate is about 1h34 from Chengdu (59 km).
  an estimate
- Chengdu: West China Hospital, Sichuan University - International Medical Center (International Hospital of Sichuan Province) — 四川大学华西医院（国际医疗中心 / 四川国际医院）, 成都市武侯区国学巷37号（主院区） · international department · English spoken · ☎

+86-28-85422408；+86-28-85586698（国际医疗中心预约）；028-85422114（医院总机）.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

- Chengdu: Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital - International Medical Department — 四川省人民医院（国际医疗部·特需）, 四川省成都市青羊区一环路西二段32号 · international department · ☎ 028-87393999（总机）；028-87393928（患者咨询，工作日）.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Chunxi Road–Taikoo Li 春熙路—太古里 (16 min to Chengdu East Railway Station 成都东站) · Kuanzhai Alleys–People's Park 宽窄巷子—人民公园 (25 min to Chengdu East Railway Station 成都东站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE

People's Park teahouse Day 7

Tea, bamboo chairs, and local life

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 10 min by metro from Chengdu (an estimate)

HOURS not checked yet

> *Order a gaiwan at the century-old Heming teahouse and settle among the bamboo chairs and mahjong tables — the sunny-afternoon outdoor seat is the classic frame*

> *Try the ear-cleaning masters with tuning forks and long tools — a Chengdu-only street ritual performed right at the teahouse tables*

Show the driver · People's Park teahouse

人民公园

Kuanzhai Alley

Three parallel lanes of old Chengdu

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 15 min by metro from Chengdu (an estimate)

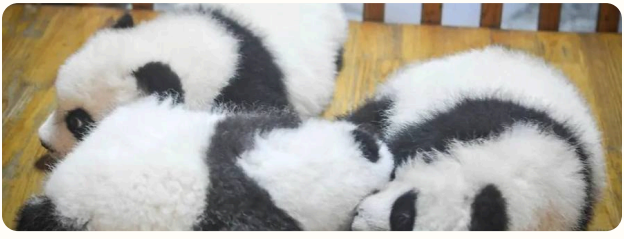
HOURS not checked yet

> *Metro line 4 stops at the block, and the scenic buses to Dujiangyan, Qingcheng and Sanxingdui leave from the same terminal*

> *Daytime teahouse in Wide Alley, evening in Well Alley — the block flips from heritage to nightlife after dark*

Show the driver · Kuanzhai Alley

宽窄巷子



Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding

Pandas up close, mostly in the morning

Give it: half a day

HOURS, SUMMER (MAR 1 – OCT 31)	07:30–18:00 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, WINTER (NOV 1 – MAR 1)	08:00–17:30 · last entry 16:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 14 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥55

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Be at the gates for opening — pandas eat breakfast outdoors between 07:30 and 10:30 and sleep through midday; the feeding window runs about 09:30-10:00*

> *Enter by the West Gate for the quieter pavilion chain — about three hours, fewer steps than the south side*

Show the driver · Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding

成都大熊猫繁育研究基地



Dujiangyan Day 8

Irrigation works still running after 2,000 years

Give it: half a day

HOURS not checked yet

> *The core walk runs about 90 minutes — Erwang Temple on the hill, down to Baopingkou's bottle-neck cut; pair with Qingcheng the same day via bus 101*

> *Bullet train Xipu to Lidui Park in 20-30 minutes, then a 10-minute walk or bus 4/5/7/17*

Show the driver · Dujiangyan

都江堰



Mount Qingcheng Day 9

Qingcheng front mountain gate 青城前山

Wooded Taoist mountain of mist and pavilions

HOURS not checked yet

Show the driver · Qingcheng front mountain gate

青城前山

Address of this entrance not checked yet — show the name.

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



成都火锅

Hotpot

A personal cauldron of red broth in the middle of the table, meat and tripe blanched by the minute, Chengdu's social engine.

Usually contains: beef, offal, sesame, soy, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), alcohol, broth (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Yangya Yongya Hexian hotpot 漾亚·雍雅合鲜（桐梓林东路店）

> 您好，两位想吃微辣鸳鸯锅，麻烦您帮我们调个油碟，谢谢您。

Two of us would like a mild half-and-half hotpot — could you set up our dipping bowls, please?



麻婆豆腐

Mapo tofu

The original mapo tofu at its 1862 birthplace, numbing, silken and served still bubbling in a hot stone bowl.

Usually contains: soy, beef, wheat (flour, wheat gluten) (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Chen Ma Po Dou Fu 陈麻婆豆腐（青华路店）

> 您好，一份麻婆豆腐，微辣，谢谢您。

Hello, one mapo tofu, mild please.

串串香

Skewer hotpot

Hotpot deconstructed onto dozens of tiny skewers you grab from a fridge, billed by counting the sticks.

Usually contains: beef, pork, offal, sesame, soy, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), broth (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，两位，先各拿一把荤素串串，微辣锅底，谢谢您。

Hello, two people, we will grab skewers ourselves, mild broth please.

- Chengdu's wei la (mild) still means chilli-oil broth; order the mushroom or plain broth half of a yuanyang pot if the table cannot take heat.
- The sesame-oil dip is the cooling step for hotpot pieces — nothing goes from pot straight to mouth.

Point at the big Chinese — it is the name on the menu. To order, show the sentence under it.

Also here: Chengdu Museum · Temple of Marquis Wu · Jinsha site



4

Guilin 桂林

Karst hills along the Li River and rice terraces

5 days here

✈ from Chengdu: about 1h48 in the air, 4h18 door to door (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Guilin (8 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Chengdu → Guilin: about 4h18 door to door, flying.
  an estimate
- Li River is about 50 min from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (35 km).
  an estimate
- Xianggong Hill is about 1h06 from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (38 km) — or sleep in Xingping for it.
  an estimate
- West Street, Yangshuo is about 1h34 from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (60 km) — or sleep in Yangshuo town (West Street) for it.
  an estimate
- Longji Rice Terraces is about 2h30 from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (56 km) — or

sleep in Longji terraces villages (Ping'an / Dazhai) for it.

an estimate

- Lingqu Canal is about 1h25 from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (53 km).

  an estimate

- Guilin: The First Affiliated Hospital of Guilin Medical University — 桂林医科大学第一附属医院（国际医疗部）, 广西桂林市叠彩区经一路1号（漓东院区） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 0773-2861220（医院预约电话）；+86-7738288316、+86-7732826632（国际医疗体检个人预约）.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

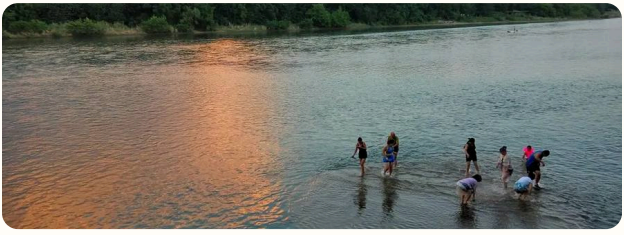
WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: East–West Lane & Two Rivers Four Lakes 东西巷—两江四湖 (25 min to Guilin North Railway Station 桂林北站) · Yangshuo West Street & Ten-Mile Gallery 阳朔西街—十里画廊 (45 min to Yangshuo Railway Station 阳朔站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Li River

Karst peaks sliding past on a slow boat

Give it: half a day

About 50 min by bus from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (an estimate)

Opening days and booking not checked yet — look again before you go.

> *If time is short ride a raft at Xingping instead of the full cruise — the Yangdi-Xingping stretch is the scenic core and the view printed on the 20-yuan note*

> *The full Guilin-to-Yangshuo cruise runs 3.5-4 hours from Zhujiang Pier; some boats finish at Xingping 35 minutes short of Yangshuo*

Show the driver · Li River

漓江

Xianggong Hill Day 11

A short climb for the bend in the Li River

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 20 min by taxi from Xingping (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet

> *A short staircase leads to tiered platforms over the river's U-bend — the climb is easy and the early start is the only effort*

> *Sleep near Xingping and you are 15-20 minutes from the trailhead instead of an hour from Yangshuo town*

Show the driver · Xianggong Hill

相公山

West Street, Yangshuo Day 11

Yangshuo's old street, now full of shops and bars

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 5 min by foot from Yangshuo town (West Street) (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	Free

Not yet checked

> *The old chill cafes have largely become dance clubs — expect loud music rather than quiet drinks*

> *The police post by West Street handles visitor issues in English — start there when a bill or dispute goes wrong*

Show the driver · West Street, Yangshuo

阳朔西街

Longji Rice Terraces Day 12

Terraced hillsides and Zhuang and Yao villages

Give it: a full day

About 2h30 by bus from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (an estimate)

HOURS	00:00–23:59
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	None — open every day
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Come end of May to mid-June for flooded mirror paddies or late September to early October for gold*

> *Pick Dazhai-Jinkeng for the larger and quieter terraces plus its cable car; Ping'an is the road-access village you walk into with the two classic viewpoints above*

Show the driver · Longji Rice Terraces

龙脊梯田



Lingqu Canal Day 13

Ancient canal linking two river systems

Give it: half a day

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day
	Not yet checked

Show the driver · Lingqu Canal

灵渠

Elephant Trunk Hill Day 14

Rock shaped like an elephant drinking

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	07:00–21:30 · last entry 21:00
	Not yet checked
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	Free

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Elephant Trunk Hill

象鼻山

Two Rivers and Four Lakes

Guilin's waterways, best seen by boat

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
TICKET	¥210

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Two Rivers and Four Lakes

两江四湖



Duxiu Peak and Prince City

Solitary peak inside a Ming princely palace

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 10 min by foot from Guilin centre (Two Rivers Four Lakes) (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet

> *Evening ethnic performances run on the palace grounds now shared with a university campus*

> *The stairway up Solitary Beauty Peak starts inside the Ming palace walls of Wang Cheng — one entry covers the palace grounds and the climb*

Show the driver · Duxiu Peak and Prince City

独秀峰

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



桂林米粉

Guilin rice noodles

Rice noodles with a ladle of gravy, crisp pork and pickled beans; breakfast here

Usually contains: pork, beef, peanut (and peanut oil), soy, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), broth, alcohol (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，二两卤菜粉，先干拌后加汤，麻烦您了。

Er-liang with braised toppings, please; dry first, then I will add broth. Thank you.

田螺酿

Stuffed river snails

River snails stuffed back with minced pork and mint, braised

Usually contains: shellfish: shrimp, crab, clams, oysters, pork, soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，一份田螺酿，麻烦您了。

One stuffed river snails, please. Thank you.



阳朔啤酒鱼

Yangshuo beer fish

Fresh river fish braised whole in beer with tomato and pepper

Usually contains: fish, alcohol, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，一条啤酒鱼，称那种两斤的，麻烦您了。

One beer fish, about two jin, please; we will check the weight. Thank you.

- Guilin rice-noodle shops have a two-step ritual: eat half dry first, then add free hot broth; copy the next table or ask for xian gan ban.
- Beer fish on the West Street strip is priced by weight; agree the fish and the price per 500 g before it leaves the tank.

Point at the big Chinese — it is the name on the menu. To order, show the sentence under it.

Also here: Li River at Xingping · Yulong River

APPENDIX

The plan, roughly

A sketch, not a schedule — it follows the order and the days above.

Day 1–4	Beijing
Day 5–6	Xi'an travel day: about 4h10 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 7–9	Chengdu travel day: about 3h05 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 10–14	Guilin travel day: about 4h18 incl. the flight (an estimate)
✈	Fly home from Guilin

When something goes wrong

IN AN EMERGENCY

- **110** Police
- **120** Ambulance
- **119** Fire
- **122** Traffic accident
- **12345** City service hotline
- **12367** Immigration service
- **12328** Transport hotline

A hospital at each stop

- Beijing: Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH), International Medical Services — 北京协和医院（国际医疗部）, 北京市东城区帅府园一号 · international department · English spoken · ☎ 010-69156699-2（外宾预约专线）; 010-69156114（服务热线）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Beijing: China-Japan Friendship Hospital, International Department — 中日友好医院（国际部）, 北京市朝阳区樱花园东街2号（本部东侧） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 010-84205121（国际部）; 010-84205566（本部）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Xi'an: 陕西省人民医院（主院区）, 西安市友谊西路256号 · ☎ 029-85251331.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Xi'an: The First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University — 西安交通大学第一附属医院.
  Not yet checked
- Chengdu: West China Hospital, Sichuan University - International Medical Center (International Hospital of Sichuan Province) — 四川大学华西医院（国际医疗中心 / 四川国际医院）, 成都市武侯区国学巷37号（主院区） ·

international department · English spoken · ☎ +86-28-85422408；+86-28-85586698（国际医疗中心预约）；028-85422114（医院总机）.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

- Chengdu: Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital - International Medical Department — 四川省人民医院（国际医疗部·特需）, 四川省成都市青羊区一环路西二段32号 · international department · ☎ 028-87393999（总机）；028-87393928（患者咨询，工作日）.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Guilin: The First Affiliated Hospital of Guilin Medical University — 桂林医科大学第一附属医院（国际医疗部）, 广西桂林市叠彩区经一路1号（漓东院区） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 0773-2861220（医院预约电话）；+86-7738288316、+86-7732826632（国际医疗体检个人预约）.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG

When a phone payment fails

- If WeChat Pay says your payments are restricted, it usually means real-name verification is not finished yet; once you complete it, the account is unfrozen and you can pay again.
  1. Tap the notice on the payment screen and add your passport details, full name exactly as printed, phone, address and occupation
  2. Upload a photo of your passport page and a clear photo of your face
  3. Pay with your physical card or cash while you wait

  If that doesn't work Pay with the physical card at a card terminal or with RMB cash - shops that take payment face to face must accept cash.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- To link a foreign card to WeChat Pay, your name and ID number must match the ones your bank account was opened with, the country must match the one on your ID, and your bank texts a code to the phone number it has on file.
  1. Check the name is entered exactly as on your bank account, including spaces and punctuation
  2. Make sure the phone number registered with your bank can receive texts in China
  3. If the wallet still declines the card, try a second card or pay by card at the till

  If that doesn't work Pay with the physical card at a card terminal, or with cash; Bank of China ATMs take Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay, JCB and Amex for RMB.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
- A foreign card in WeChat Pay works for everyday purchases in mainland China but not for red packets or money transfers. Payments of 200 RMB or less carry no fee; above 200 RMB the fee is 3%.
  1. Use the wallet for shop and taxi QR payments
  2. For anything above 200 RMB, a card at the till or cash avoids the 3% fee
  3. Ask friends to settle shared bills with you in cash rather than by transfer

  If that doesn't work Cash or a physical card at a card terminal.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
- By rule in force since 1 February 2026, businesses that take payment in person must accept RMB cash and keep reasonable change; self-service setups must post a way to pay in cash.
  1. Offer RMB notes
  2. If refused, point out that cash is legal tender

3. Keep a receipt or photo; you can report it to the local People's Bank of China branch

If that doesn't work Pay another way, keep the evidence, and report the refusal to the local People's Bank of China branch.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Large shopping areas, scenic areas, museums, hotels, transport hubs and hospitals above a set size must be equipped to take mobile payment, bank cards and cash.
  1. At these places, ask to pay by card (look for the Visa, Mastercard or UnionPay signs) if the wallet fails
  2. Or pay in cash

If that doesn't work Withdraw RMB at a Bank of China ATM and pay in cash.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Foreign Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay, JCB and Amex cards can withdraw RMB at any networked Bank of China ATM, 24 hours a day; which transactions work depends on your card issuer.
  1. Look for the card-network logos on the ATM
  2. Withdraw RMB
  3. If the machine keeps your card, keep the slip it prints and call Bank of China on 95566

If that doesn't work Exchange foreign cash at a Bank of China branch with your passport.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Bank of China branches exchange 38 foreign currencies into RMB; small amounts need only your passport, no account. Authorised exchange desks at hotels and airports take up to 10,000 RMB per person per day.
  1. Bring your passport and foreign banknotes to a Bank of China branch or an airport or hotel exchange desk

2. Ask for some small notes for taxis and stalls

If that doesn't work Use a currency exchange machine at the airport or a Bank of China ATM with your card.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Bank of China accepts UnionPay, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, JCB and Diners cards at its card terminals, by tap, chip or swipe, where the acceptance sign is shown.
  1. Bring two cards on different networks and keep one apart from your phone
  2. At places showing the card signs, pay by tap or chip if the wallet fails

If that doesn't work Cash from a Bank of China ATM.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

When a hotel won't take a foreign guest

- Any hotel in China registers foreign guests itself at check-in and reports it to the local police; you just show your passport.
  1. Show your passport at the front desk
  2. The hotel completes the registration

If that doesn't work If the desk is unsure how to register you, call the immigration hotline 12367 (Chinese and English, 24 hours) for guidance.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Local authorities and booking platforms should not use licence or other qualification requirements to stop hotels from taking foreign guests, and neither platforms nor hotels should post notices that they do not take foreign guests.
  1. Book through a platform; a listing closed to foreign guests goes against the 2024 national notice

2. If a desk says it lacks a licence for foreign guests, mention that the notice says licence requirements should not keep foreign guests out, and ask them to register you

If that doesn't work Book another hotel nearby and report the refusal to 12367.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- The immigration hotline 12367 answers in Chinese and English, 24 hours a day, and takes policy questions, enquiries and complaints, including about hotel stays.
  1. From a phone in China, dial 12367 and ask for English
  2. Say which hotel refused you and where
  3. Meanwhile book another hotel nearby

  If that doesn't work Book another hotel nearby.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
- Staying in a private home or rental rather than a hotel, you or your host must register with the local police within 24 hours of arrival; since 21 September 2026 this can be done online anywhere in China.
  1. Ask your host to register you in the NIA 12367 app, WeChat or Alipay mini program, or the NIA website - the first time, the host does it
  2. Or go together to the local police station
  3. Keep the registration record in the app

  If that doesn't work Call 12367 for help, or visit the local police station or exit-entry office.

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Taxis, and when none comes

- Licensed taxis must run the meter and offer a printed receipt; national rules let you decline to pay if the driver will not use the meter or will not give a receipt.

1. Check the meter is running as you set off
2. At the end pay what the meter shows, plus any road toll
3. Ask for the printed receipt and keep it until you have checked you left nothing in the car

If that doesn't work If a driver names a fixed price before you leave, step out and take the next taxi or book a ride in the DiDi app

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Drivers may not refuse a ride once they know where you are going, haggle over the price, or take a detour; the route should be a reasonable one to the address you give.
  1. Show the destination written in Chinese
  2. If the driver quotes a price instead of using the meter, say 'da biao' (use the meter) or take the next taxi

  If that doesn't work Note the plate number and report it on 12328, the transport service line

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
- At airports, railway stations, coach stations and ports, taxis queue at a marked rank and follow a dispatcher; drivers are not allowed to pick up outside the designated area.
  1. Follow the Taxi signs to the rank
  2. Join the queue and take the car the dispatcher sends
  3. Say no to anyone who offers a car inside the hall or at the exit

  If that doesn't work If the queue is long, use the metro, airport bus or the ride-hailing pick-up area the airport signposts

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
- A licensed taxi has a roof light reading 'TAXI' in Chinese and English, a sign showing whether it is free, and its

fares, passenger notice, company name and complaint number posted inside.

1. Wave down a taxi whose sign shows it is free (空车)
2. Before you get in, check the roof light and the fare card on the window

If that doesn't work If no taxi stops, book one in the DiDi app, which also dispatches street taxis

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- 12328 is the transport service and complaints line; city transport bureaus point passengers to it for taxis that will not use the meter, overcharge, haggle or refuse a ride.

1. Keep the receipt or note the plate number, time and route
2. Call 12328, or ask your hotel's front desk to call for you

If that doesn't work The taxi company's name and service number are posted inside the car; note them with the plate number and call that number

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- For a ride to a remote area, or out of the city at night, a driver may ask you to come with them to register at the nearest relevant office, and may decline the trip if you do not.

1. For a late or out-of-town trip, book through the DiDi app or ask your hotel to arrange the car
2. Carry your passport

If that doesn't work If no driver will take the trip, ask your hotel's front desk to book a car for you, or stay the night and travel in the morning

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- DiDi China, DiDi's app for the Chinese mainland, has an English version: you can register with your own mobile number, message drivers with English-Chinese translation,

choose payment options that include international bank cards, and reach English customer service in the app around the clock.

1. Install DiDi China before you fly and register with your own mobile number
2. Add a payment method in the app; the options include international bank cards
3. To book, enter the destination and wait at the pick-up point the app shows

If that doesn't work If DiDi will not take your card, a taxi from the rank or the street takes cash

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

- Beijing Capital Airport: the taxi rank is on level 1 outside doors 5-9 (middle lane) at Terminal 2 and in the B1 taxi waiting area at Terminal 3; ride-hail cars pick up on level 1 (south-east side) of car park 2 and in zone H on B2 of car park 3.
  1. Follow the Taxi signs to the rank for your terminal
  2. For DiDi, walk to the ride-hail pick-up area in the car park before you book

  If that doesn't work Taxi dispatch: T2 010-64596539, T3 010-64558892

  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Help in Chinese: cards to show

您好，这是一位外国游客的中国行程册。

WHAT TO SHOW

Checking in at a hotel or guesthouse

Your phone payment will not go through at a shop or stall

You need someone to make one short call for you

At a train or metro gate with a passport, not a Chinese ID

Where I'm going in Beijing (8 cards)

Where I'm going in Xi'an (5 cards)

Where I'm going in Chengdu (5 cards)

Where I'm going in Guilin (8 cards)

Emergency

Checking in at a hotel or guesthouse

酒店入住

您好，我有预订，姓名是 _____。这是我的
your name
护照。麻烦您帮我办理住宿登记，谢谢！

Your phone payment will not go through at a shop or stall

可以用现金吗

您好，我的手机付不了钱，可以用现金吗？或者能麻烦您用自己的手机代我付，我把现金给您吗？谢谢！

You need someone to make one short call for you

请帮我打个电话

您好，能麻烦您帮我打个电话吗？号码是 _____（phone number），就说：_____（what to say）。太感谢了！

At a train or metro gate with a passport, not a Chinese ID

人工通道

您好，我用护照买的车票，闸机刷不了。麻烦您带我走人工通道检票。谢谢！

Emergency numbers in China

110	Police	Danger to you or others, or a crime in progress
120	Ambulance	Medical emergency
119	Fire	Fire
122	Traffic accident	Road accident
12345	City service hotline	Public services and complaints including tourism
12367	Immigration service	Visa and entry-stay questions; English spoken
12328	Transport hotline	Taxi or ride-hail dispute or overcharging

这是这位游客在 chinamapbook.com 做的行程册。感谢您的帮助！

Point to where you want to go

Each card asks, in Chinese, for directions or a ride to that one place. Find the one you need and point to it.

BEIJING 北京

← Beijing

Sight · Tiananmen Square

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

天安门广场

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Niujie Mosque

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

牛街礼拜寺

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Mutianyu Great Wall

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

慕田峪长城

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Summer Palace

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

颐和园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Old Summer Palace

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

圆明园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Temple of Heaven

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

天坛

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Lugou Bridge

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

卢沟桥

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Forbidden City

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

故宫

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Da Ci'en Temple ticket office, south square

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

大慈恩寺（大雁塔南广场售票处）

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Daming Palace

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

大明宫

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Great Mosque of Xi'an

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

西安清真寺

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Terracotta Army

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

秦始皇兵马俑

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Huaqing Chi

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

华清池

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

CHENGDU 成都

← Chengdu

Sight · People's Park teahouse

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

人民公园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Kuanzhai Alley

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

宽窄巷子

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

成都大熊猫繁育研究基地

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Dujiangyan

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

都江堰

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Qingcheng front mountain gate

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

青城前山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

GUILIN 桂林

← Guilin

Sight · Li River

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

漓江

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Xianggong Hill

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

相公山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · West Street, Yangshuo

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

阳朔西街

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Longji Rice Terraces

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

龙脊梯田

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Lingqu Canal

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

灵渠

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Elephant Trunk Hill

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

象鼻山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Two Rivers and Four Lakes

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

两江四湖

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Duxiu Peak and Prince City

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

独秀峰

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

THINGS I DON’T WANT TO FORGET

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