A TRAVEL BOOK FOR ONE TRIP

28 days in China: Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou, Huangshan, Nanjing, Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu & Chongqing

28 days · 9 places



1	**Shanghai**	上海	4 days
2	**Suzhou**	苏州	2 days
3	**Hangzhou**	杭州	3 days
4	**Huangshan**	黄山	3 days
5	**Nanjing**	南京	2 days
6	**Beijing**	北京	4 days
7	**Xi'an**	西安	3 days
8	**Chengdu**	成都	4 days
9	**Chongqing**	重庆	3 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/e3skygceqkwf

Checked for you

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

- 20 things to book or do.

WHAT TO DO, AND WHEN

☐	**Check its page**	Shanghai Museum, People's Square: when tickets open is not checked yet. Book in its WeChat mini program, with your passport. Its booking pages are in Chinese, and we have not checked them step by step yet.
☐	**Now**	Shanghai Science and Technology Museum: tickets open 7 days ahead at 10:00 Beijing time. 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**	Humble Administrator's Garden: tickets open 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**	Lingering Garden: tickets open 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**

  Lion Grove Garden: tickets open 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**

  Lingyin Temple: tickets open 7 days ahead at 08:00 Beijing time. Book in its WeChat mini program “杭州灵隐飞来峰”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  > 杭州灵隐飞来峰

  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**

  Huangshan: 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**

  Gate 1 (main memorial): free, but booked ahead: booking opens 7 days ahead at 08:00 Beijing time. Book through its WeChat account, 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.

- [ ] **Check its page**

  Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum: free, but booked ahead; when booking opens is not checked yet. Book in its WeChat mini program “钟山风景区”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name.

  > 钟山风景区

  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**

  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.

- [ ] **Check its page**

  Chengdu Museum: when tickets open is not checked yet. Book on its official site.

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

- [ ] **Now**

  Yangtze cable car: tickets open 0 days ahead at 07:45 Beijing time. Book through its WeChat account “长江索道”. Whether you must book ahead is not checked yet — booking is the sure way in. ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

  > 长江索道

  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**

  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 28 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.
- Huangshan: a hospital with services for visitors is not checked yet — in an emergency, call 120.



1

Shanghai 上海

Riverfront skyline, art deco streets and canal towns

4 days here

Where I'm going in Shanghai (11 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Shanghai: Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, International Medical Center — 复旦大学附属华山医院（国际医疗中心），上海市乌鲁木齐中路12号 · international department · ☎ 021-52889999（总机）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Shanghai: Ruijin Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, International Medical Department (VIP Medical Care Center) — 上海交通大学医学院附属瑞金医院（国际医疗部/特需医疗保健中心），上海市黄浦区瑞金二路197号（国际部门诊在10号楼1层） · international department · ☎ 021-64678970（国际部门诊预约）；021-64370045（总机）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: People's Square & Nanjing East Road 人民广场—南京东路 (28 min to Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station 上海虹桥站) · Former French Concession 原法租界（衡复街区） (35 min to Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station 上海虹桥站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Site of the First Congress of the Chinese Communist Party Day 1

A shikumen house and the party's founding story

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 10 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

HOURS	09:00–17:00 · last entry 16:30
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	Mondays
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Pair the memorial with Xintiandi next door: the restored shikumen blocks hold cafes and shops for the stroll after*

> *The original 1921 meeting room is preserved in the restored shikumen building, with a large new memorial hall beside it — allow 1.5-2 hours*

Show the driver · Site of the First Congress of the Chinese Communist Party

中国共产党第一次全国代表大会会址

The Bund Day 2

Riverfront of old banks and new towers

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	Free
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

Show the driver · The Bund

外滩



Oriental Pearl Tower Day 2

A TV tower with glass floors and city views

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 15 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥199
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *For a river-and-Bund panorama the Pearl's lower sphere beats the observation decks across the river in Lujiazui*

> *For the glass-floor walkway at 259 m: your elevator lets out one floor above it — head down a level to find the transparent circuit*

Show the driver · Oriental Pearl Tower

东方明珠广播电视塔



Yu Garden Day 2

Ming garden hemmed in by Shanghai crowds

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 20 min by foot from People's Square (an estimate)

HOURS	09:00–16:30 · last entry 16:00
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	Mondays
TICKET	¥40
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Bargaining is expected in the bazaar around the garden — opening quotes leave plenty of room*

> *Weekday mornings are the calm window; weekends and national holidays pack the zigzag bridge and lanes solid*

Show the driver · Yu Garden

豫园



Jin Mao Tower Day 2

Art deco lines in Lujiazui's skyline

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 20 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

HOURS	08:30–21:30
Not yet checked	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥120
Not yet checked	

Drinks at the 87th-floor bar come with a deadline: the Bund building lights switch off late in the evening

For roughly the price of a Pearl Tower ticket you can lunch at the hotel restaurant high in the tower instead and get much the same view on a plate

Show the driver · Jin Mao Tower

金茂大厦

Shanghai Museum, People's Square Day 3

The museum's original building, on People's Square

Give it: half a day

HOURS	09:00–17:00 · last entry 15:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

Show the driver · Shanghai Museum, People's Square

上海博物馆

Tianzifang Day 3

Lane houses turned into small shops

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 15 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

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

Come out of Dapuqiao station exit 1 (line 9) and the lanes are directly across the street

In lane 248, Cafe Dan pours Japanese-style coffee and its Hokkaido cheesecake draws a queue

Show the driver · Tianzifang

田子坊



Longhua Pagoda Day 3

A brick pagoda in the middle of Shanghai

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	08:00–16:30
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

The 10th-century pagoda in front of Longhua temple is one of the oldest standing structures in the city; metro lines 11 and 12 stop at Longhua

Show the driver · Longhua Pagoda

龙华塔

Wukang Road Day 4

Plane trees and 1920s houses in Shanghai

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 20 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

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

Detour into Ferguson Lane, a 1930s alleyway of boutiques and cafes, and finish at Wukang Mansion where the road meets Middle Huaihai

> *Few of the historic houses open to visitors — walk it as a streetscape and read the bronze plaques explaining each building's past*

Show the driver · Wukang Road

武康路



Shanghai Science and Technology Museum Day 4

Hands-on science in Pudong

Give it: half a day

About 25 min by metro from People's Square (an estimate)

HOURS	09:00–17:00 · last entry 16:00
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥45
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The museum's floors are pitched at children — hands-on and bright; families rate it, solo adults less*

> *The same metro stop hides the huge AP Plaza fake-goods market underground — haggle hard and check items before paying*

Show the driver · Shanghai Science and Technology Museum

上海科技馆



Saint Ignatius Cathedral Day 4

Red brick Gothic in Xujiahui

Give it: 1–2 hours

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

Not yet checked

> *Come out of Xujiahui station exit 3 and the cathedral is right there; entry is free*

> *The dress code is enforced — no slippers or beach-style clothing; it is a working parish*

Show the driver · Saint Ignatius Cathedral

徐家汇天主堂

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



小笼包

Xiaolongbao

The soup dumpling Shanghai made famous; eat it a minute after the basket lands.

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

Known for it: Nanxiang Mantou Dian (Yu Garden) 南翔馒头店（豫园店）

> 您好，我想点一笼小笼包，麻烦您了。
> Hello, I would like a steamer of xiaolongbao, please.



生煎包

Pan-fried soup buns

Crisp-bottomed buns the city argues over: thin-soupy or springy-dry, both schools are here.

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

Known for it: Dahucheng 大壶春（云南南路店） · Yang's Fry-Dumpling 小杨生煎（吴江路店）

> 您好，来四只生煎包，谢谢您。
> Four pan-fried buns, please, thank you.



大闸蟹

Hairy crab

Steamed mitten crab with ginger-vinegar dip; go October to December or skip it.

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

> 您好，现在的大闸蟹多少钱一只？麻烦您推荐一下。
> How much is a hairy crab now? Please recommend one for me.

- Hairy crab is an autumn food: females peak in the ninth lunar month, males in the tenth. Outside September to December you pay top price for thin roe, so ask the month and the origin before ordering.
- Tourist-strip crab banquets around the City God Temple quote prices per 500 g for live crab; a single animal can run past 300 yuan. Fix the total price for the table before anyone brings a crab out.

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

Also here: Shanghai Museum East · Shanghai Disneyland · Zhujiajiao water town



2

Suzhou 苏州

Classical gardens, canals and water towns

2 days here · 🚄 from Shanghai: about 1h04 (an estimate)

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

- Shanghai → Suzhou: about 1h04 by train (usually Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station 上海虹桥站 → Suzhou Railway Station 苏州站) — worked out over the rail network.
  an estimate
- Zhouzhuang is about 1h15 from Suzhou old city (Guanqian–Pingjiang) (29 km) — or sleep in Zhouzhuang water town for it.
  an estimate
- Suzhou: The Second Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University — 苏州大学附属第二医院（核工业总医院）, 苏州市三香路1055号 · international department · ☎ 0512-68282030.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Guanqian Street–Pingjiang Road 观前街—平江路 (8 min to Suzhou Railway Station 苏州站) · Shantang Street–Shilu 山塘街—石路 (10 min to Suzhou Railway Station 苏州站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Humble Administrator's Garden Day 5

Classical garden of ponds, pavilions and borrowed views

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS (MAR 1 – MAR 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (APR 1 – MAY 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUN 1 – JUN 30)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUL 1 – OCT 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, WINTER (NOV 1 – MAR 1)	07:30–17:00 · last entry 16:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥80

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The central third is the essence of the garden; cross the Small Flying Rainbow bridge — the only one visitors may walk — and end at the bonsai court in the west*

> *It clusters with the Suzhou Museum, Lion Grove and Pingjiang Road — all within one walk*

Show the driver · Humble Administrator's Garden

拙政园



Lingering Garden Day 5

Suzhou garden of corridors and rockeries

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS (MAR 1 – MAR 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (APR 1 – MAY 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUN 1 – JUN 30)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUL 1 – OCT 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, WINTER (NOV 1 – MAR 1)	07:30–17:00 · last entry 16:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

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

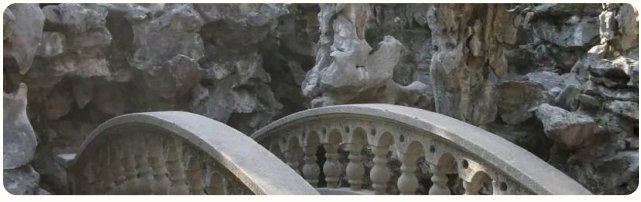
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Xiyuan Temple is a 10-minute walk away — garden plus working temple in one outing, with Shantang Street as the third stop*

> *Late autumn sets the Ming-era west rockery's maples red — the garden's best-photographed week*

Show the driver · Lingering Garden

留园



Lion Grove Garden

Suzhou garden full of rockeries

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS (MAR 1 – MAR 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (APR 1 – MAY 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUN 1 – JUN 30)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUL 1 – OCT 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, WINTER (NOV 1 – MAR 1)	07:30–17:00 · last entry 16:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

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

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The Taihu-rock labyrinth hides 9 paths and 21 caves — visitors genuinely get lost in it, so keep your group together and allow the time*

Show the driver · Lion Grove Garden

狮子林



Master of the Nets Garden

Small Suzhou garden of clever views

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS (MAR 1 – MAR 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (APR 1 – MAY 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUN 1 – JUN 30)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS (JUL 1 – OCT 31)	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
HOURS, WINTER (NOV 1 – MAR 1)	07:30–17:00 · last entry 16:30

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *On season nights the garden stages Kun opera and pingtan in its halls — shows run about every 20 minutes*

> *Suzhou's smallest residential garden spends its space like a large one — plan half a day, not a fly-by*

Show the driver · Master of the Nets Garden

网师园



Zhouzhuang Day 6

Water town of bridges and stone lanes

Give it: a full day

About 1h15 by bus from Suzhou old city (Guanqian–Pingjiang) (an estimate)

HOURS	08:00–21:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥80–100 (depends on the ticket)

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *From Suzhou, direct buses leave the railway station's north square every 30-40 minutes (about an hour); from Shanghai, metro line 11 to Huaqiao then the Kunshan tourist bus*

> *Tour groups land after 10:00 and holidays jam the lanes solid — walk the town before 9 or stay overnight for the nightfall-and-morning frames*

Show the driver · Zhouzhuang

周庄镇

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



松鼠桂鱼

Squirrel-shaped mandarin fish

Fish carved into a flower, fried crisp and drowned in sweet-sour; Suzhou dinner theatre.

Usually contains: fish, tree nuts, alcohol, soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Deyue Lou 得月楼（观前店） · Songhelou 松鹤楼（观前店）

> 您好，我们想点一条松鼠桂鱼，麻烦您了。
> Hello, we would like one squirrel-shaped mandarin fish, please.



苏式汤面

Suzhou noodle soup

Fine noodles in clear or red broth, toppings ordered separately; Kunshan's aozao style is the famous branch.

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

Known for it: Yuxingji 裕兴记

> 您好，我想点一碗汤面，加一份焖肉浇头，麻烦您了。
> Hello, one noodle soup with a braised pork topping, please.

响油鳝糊

Sizzling eel puree

Minced eel piled and finished with hot oil that sizzles tableside; order the noodles under it.

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

Known for it: Deyue Lou 得月楼（观前店）

> 您好，请给我们来一份响油鳝糊，谢谢您。
> Hello, one sizzling eel for us, please.

- Suzhou cooking is sweeter than most of China expects; the squirrel fish glaze and the noodle broth all carry sugar. Order one sweet dish and one savory noodle, not three sweet courses.
- The famous noodle shops close their kitchens mid-afternoon and seasonal bowls like fengzhen pork noodles run only May to September; go at breakfast or you will get the ordinary menu.

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

Also here: Classical Gardens of Suzhou · Tongli · Tiger Hill Pagoda



3

Hangzhou 杭州

West Lake, tea hills and classical gardens

3 days here

🚄 from Suzhou: about 2h03 (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Hangzhou (6 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Suzhou → Hangzhou: about 2h03 by train (usually Suzhou Railway Station 苏州站 → Hangzhou East Railway Station 杭州东站) — worked out over the rail network.
  an estimate
- Mount Tianmu is about 2h15 from Hangzhou (Hubin, West Lake east shore) (90 km).
  an estimate
- Hangzhou: Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine (Qingchun Campus) — 浙江大学医学院附属邵逸夫医院（庆春院区）, 浙江省杭州市上城区庆春东路3号 · international department · English spoken · ☎ +86-571-86006118.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Hubin / West Lake east shore 湖滨（龙翔桥） (18 min to Hangzhou East Railway Station 杭州东站) · Southern Song Imperial Street–Qinghefang 南宋御街—河坊街 (20 min to Hangzhou East Railway Station 杭州东站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



West Lake (Zhejiang) Day 7

A lake that shaped a thousand years of painting

Give it: half a day

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	Free
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *The full loop runs about 12 km or five hours on foot — cut it short across the Su or Bai causeway*

> *Guo's Villa is the quiet garden on the lakeshore — a small entry and a pot of lakeside tea keep the crowds out*

Show the driver · West Lake (Zhejiang)

西湖



Lingyin Temple

Incense smoke and carvings at Hangzhou's great temple

Give it: half a day

HOURS	07:30–17:30 · last entry 17:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *A chairlift or easy stairs climbs from the temple area to the hilltop North Peak temple*

> *Arrive with the 7:30 opening and walk Feilaifeng carvings first then the temple halls then the quieter Yongfu and Taoguang temples uphill*

Show the driver · Lingyin Temple

灵隐寺



Liuhe Pagoda Day 8

Tall pagoda looking over the Qiantang River

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS, SUMMER (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:00–17:30
HOURS, WINTER (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:00–16:55

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

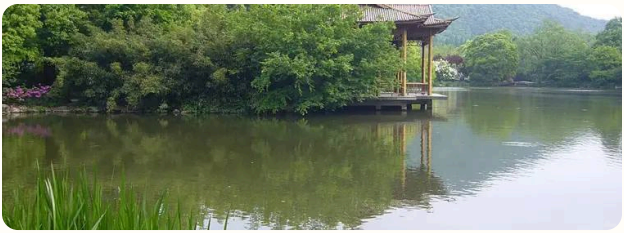
CLOSED	None — open every day

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Liuhe Pagoda stands by the Qiantang River about 15 minutes by cab from the lake — the park beside it lines up miniature world pagodas*

Show the driver · Liuhe Pagoda

六和塔



Xixi National Wetland Park Day 8

A wetland of waterways and reed beds

Give it: half a day

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

Not yet checked

> *Xixi is the locals' wetland — reeds birds and quiet channels at a fraction of West Lake's crowds; buses leave from Huanglong stadium*

Show the driver · Xixi National Wetland Park

西溪湿地



Phoenix Mosque Day 8

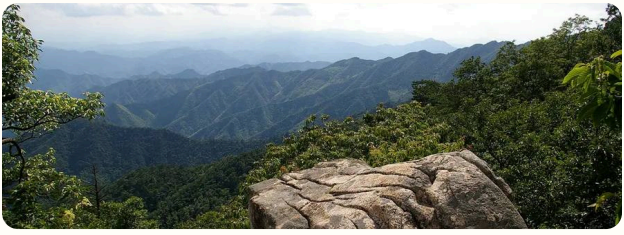
One of China's oldest mosques, in Hangzhou

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet
TICKET	Free
Not yet checked	
FOREIGN PASSPORT	Not online — buy at the ticket window with your passport
Not yet checked	

Show the driver · Phoenix Mosque

凤凰寺



Mount Tianmu Day 9

Forest and cloud on a Zhejiang ridge

Give it: a full day

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

Show the driver · Mount Tianmu

天目山



东坡肉

Dongpo pork

One wobbling square of wine-braised pork belly in a small pot; the dish the lake city answers for.

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

Known for it: Louwailou 楼外楼（孤山路总店）

> 您好，请给我们来一份东坡肉，谢谢您。
> Hello, one dongpo pork for us, please.



西湖醋鱼

West Lake fish in vinegar gravy

Whole grass carp under sweet vinegar; right kitchen, great; wrong kitchen, muddy. Choose by name.

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

Known for it: Louwailou 楼外楼（孤山路总店）

> 您好，麻烦您给我们来一条西湖醋鱼。
> Hello, one West Lake fish in vinegar gravy, please.

龙井虾仁

Longjing tea shrimp

Spring tea leaves and white river shrimp in one wok; the quiet signature of Hangzhou.

Usually contains: shellfish: shrimp, crab, clams, oysters, shrimp and crab, egg, alcohol, lard (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Louwailou 楼外楼（孤山路总店）

> 您好，麻烦您给我们来一份龙井虾仁。
> Hello, one shrimp with Longjing tea, please.

- West Lake fish lives or dies by the kitchen: a proper shop starves the carp in clear water first, a lazy one serves mud. Order it at a named old-line restaurant or choose another fish.
- The lakeside famous restaurants run long waits on weekends; the menu is the same a street back at half the price and minus the lake view.

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

Also here: Qiandao Lake · Hu Qing Yu Tang · Baochu Pagoda



4

Huangshan 黄山

Granite peaks above cloud, and old Huizhou villages below

3 days here

🚄 from Hangzhou: about 2h02 (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Huangshan (3 cards) · Help in Chinese · Emergency

- Hangzhou → Huangshan: about 2h02 by train (usually Hangzhou East Railway Station 杭州东站 → Huangshan North Railway Station 黄山北站) — worked out over the rail network.
  an estimate
- Huangshan is about 1h19 from Tunxi (48 km) — or sleep in Beihai (on the mountain) for it.
  an estimate
- Xidi is about 1h05 from Tunxi (37 km) — or sleep in Hongcun for it.
  an estimate
- Hongcun is about 1h15 from Tunxi (45 km) — or sleep in Hongcun for it.
  an estimate

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Tunxi Old Street 屯溪老街 (30 min to Huangshan North Railway Station 黄山北站) · Tangkou (mountain gate) 汤口镇 (65 min to Huangshan North Railway Station 黄山北站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Huangshan Day 11

Granite peaks often above a sea of clouds

Give it: 2 days

About 1h by tour bus from Beihai (on the mountain) (an estimate)

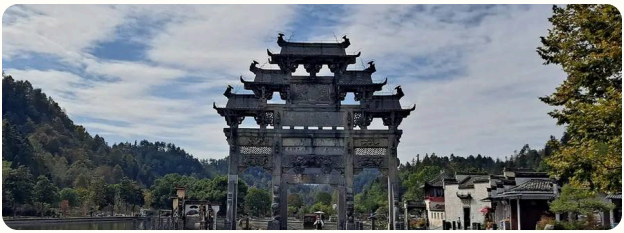
HOURS (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:00–17:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
HOURS, PEAK SEASON (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	07:00–17:00
HOURS, WINTER (WHICH MONTHS: NOT CHECKED YET)	times not stated by the venue
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport
TICKET	¥190
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
FOREIGN PASSPORT	Yes, with a passport
✓ Checked Mon, Oct 5, 2026 · source	

> *Carry water and snacks up: 600 ml bottles run about 10 yuan on the summit*

> *In winter the paths ice over — vendors at the base sell cheap slip-on spikes — and Lotus and Celestial Capital (Tiandu) peaks take turns to close for rest periods of several years, so check which is open*

Show the driver · Huangshan

黄山



Xidi Day 12

Ming and Qing lanes in whitewashed Huizhou style

Give it: half a day 30 min by bus from Hongcun

HOURS	07:00–21:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥94
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *Enter before 9 a.m. — both Xidi and Hongcun fill with tour groups by late morning*

> *If you prefer quiet over postcard-perfect, Xidi draws fewer tour groups than Hongcun and its lanes stay walkable at midday*

Show the driver · Xidi

西递村



Hongcun Day 12

Village built around a moon-shaped pond

Give it: half a day

About 5 min by foot from Hongcun (an estimate)

HOURS	times not stated by the venue
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥94
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *Arrive by 7-8 a.m.: mist on the South Lake and locals at the wells, all gone by the time tour groups land mid-morning*

> *Hongcun is the prettier but busier of the two villages; morning and evening light are when it photographs best*

Show the driver · Hongcun

宏村村

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT

臭鳜鱼

Stinky mandarin fish

The Huizhou classic: fish fermented till it smells strong but tastes clean and garlicky-tender.

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

> 您好，请给我们来一条臭鳜鱼，谢谢您。
> Hello, one stinky mandarin fish for us, please.

黄山烧饼

Huangshan plum-veg buns

Palm-size crisp buns baked with pickled greens and pork fat; pocket snacks for the climb.

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

> 您好，请给我来十个黄山烧饼，麻烦您了。

Hello, ten Huangshan baked buns for me, please.



毛豆腐

Hairy tofu

Fuzz-cultured tofu griddled till golden; order it with chili sauce and eat it brave.

Usually contains: soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，麻烦您给我们来一份毛豆腐。

Hello, one order of hairy tofu, please.

- Everything on the mountain itself is carried up on foot, so expect water at 6-10 yuan and instant noodles at 10. Eat a proper meal in Tunxi old street before you go up.
- Stinky mandarin fish is sold by weight, and some menus quietly price it per 500 g rather than per fish; confirm the whole-fish price before you nod.

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

Also here: Ancient Huizhou



5

Nanjing 南京

Ming tombs, city walls and a long imperial past

2 days here

🚄 from Huangshan: about 3h30 (an estimate)

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

- Huangshan → Nanjing: about 3h30 by train (usually Huangshan North Railway Station 黄山北站 → Nanjing South Railway Station 南京南站) — worked out over the rail network.
  an estimate
- Nanjing: Nanjing Drum Tower Hospital, Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing University Medical School — 南京鼓楼医院（南京大学医学院附属鼓楼医院），南京市中山路321号 · ☎ 025-83106666（总机）.
  Not yet checked

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Xinjiekou 新街口 (17 min to Nanjing South Railway Station 南京南站) · Fuzimiao–Laomendong 夫

子庙—老门东 (16 min to Nanjing South Railway Station 南京南站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Memorial Hall of the Victims in Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Invaders Day 13

Gate 1 (main memorial) 一号门

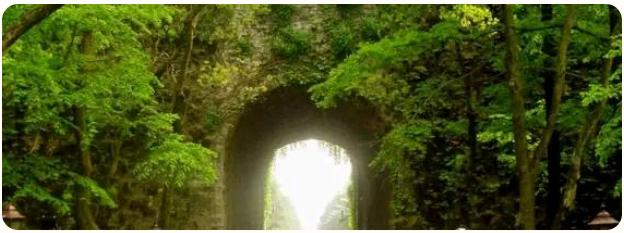
Sober memorial to the 1937 Nanjing massacre

HOURS	08:30–17:30 · last entry 16:30
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required — opens 7 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	Free
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Gate 1 (main memorial)

一号门

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



Ming Palace

Ruins of a Ming dynasty imperial palace

Give it: 1–2 hours

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

Not yet checked

Show the driver · Ming Palace

明故宫



Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum

Grand tomb of modern China's founding father

Give it: half a day

About 35 min by metro from Nanjing (Xinjiekou) (an estimate)

HOURS	08:30–17:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport
TICKET	Free

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The climb runs 480-plus metres from the archway to the Sacrificial Hall — pace the stairs and pause at the music-hall lawn with its pigeons*

Show the driver · Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum

中山陵



Ming Xiaoling Day 14

Tomb of the first Ming emperor

Give it: half a day

About 35 min by metro from Nanjing (Xinjiekou) (an estimate)

HOURS	times not stated by the venue

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥70

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *The 1,800-metre Sacred Way with its stone animal pairs is the heart of the visit — it bends where earlier dynasties ran straight*

> *Line 2 to Muxuyuan exit 1, then a 20-minute walk north*

Show the driver · Ming Xiaoling

明孝陵



City Wall of Nanjing Day 14

Ming dynasty wall you can walk on

Give it: half a day

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

> *Jiefang Gate gives the panorama over Xuanwu Lake and Jiming Temple — metro Lines 3/4 Jimingsi exit 4, five minutes north*

Show the driver · City Wall of Nanjing

南京城墙

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT



盐水鸭

Nanjing salted duck

Cold salted duck with white skin and a faint osmanthus scent; the single taste of this city.

> 您好，麻烦您帮我们斩半只盐水鸭，谢谢您。

Hello, could you chop half a salted duck for us, please?

鸭血粉丝汤

Duck-blood vermicelli soup

Duck blood, liver and glass noodles in broth; eaten standing with a queue of locals.

Usually contains: offal, broth, soy (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，我想点一碗鸭血粉丝汤，麻烦您了。

Hello, I would like a bowl of duck-blood vermicelli soup, please.

牛肉锅贴

Beef potstickers

Crescent beef dumplings fried in rapeseed oil till the bottoms lace; halal stalls do them best.

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

> 您好，请给我们来一两牛肉锅贴，谢谢您。

Hello, one portion of beef potstickers for us, please.

- Salted duck from vacuum-packed gift shops tastes of the bag; have it chopped fresh at a duck

shop where locals queue with their own plates.

- Snack streets inside the Confucius Temple scenic zone charge two to three times street price for smaller bowls; walk five minutes out of the gate for the same dishes.

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

Also here: Purple Mountain · Nanjing Fuzimiao · Nanjing Museum



Imperial palaces, the Great Wall and old hutong lanes

4 days here

🚄 from Nanjing: about 4h22 (an estimate)

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

- Nanjing → Beijing: about 4h22 by train (usually Nanjing South Railway Station 南京南站 → Beijing South Railway Station 北京南站) — worked out over the rail network.
  an estimate
- 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

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 16

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

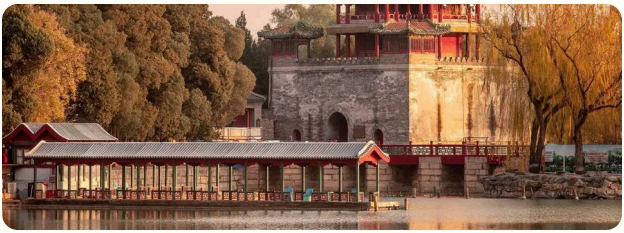
CLOSED	None — open every day
BOOKING	Required — opens 30 days ahead, real-name
TICKET	¥40

✓ 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 17

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 17

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 18

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 18

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 18

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



7

Xi'an 西安

Terracotta Army and the old city walls

3 days here

🚄 from Beijing: about 4h10 (an estimate)

Where I'm going in Xi'an (9 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 19

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 20

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 20

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

Bell Tower of Xi'an Day 21

Wooden tower at the city's centre

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Bell Tower of Xi'an

西安钟楼



Xi'an City Wall Day 21

South Gate (Yongningmen) 南门（永宁门）

A full Ming wall you can ride around

HOURS	08:00–22:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · South Gate (Yongningmen)

南门（永宁门）

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

Muslim Quarter Day 21

Street food and old Hui neighbourhood

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 5 min by foot from Xi'an (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

> *West of the main lane the branch streets keep the food and lose the crush*

> *Night is the scene — neon and griddles — but breakfast and lunch bring thinner crowds with the same food*

Show the driver · Muslim Quarter

回民街



Epang Palace Day 21

Earthworks of a Qin dynasty palace that was never finished

Give it: 1–2 hours

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

Not yet checked

Show the driver · Epang Palace

阿房宫



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: Shaanxi History Museum · Small Wild Goose Pagoda · Banpo



8

Chengdu 成都

Pandas, teahouses and the Dujiangyan irrigation works

4 days here

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

Where I'm going in Chengdu (8 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 22

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)

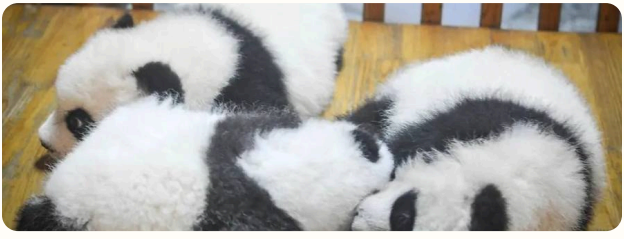
HOURS	not checked yet

> *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 23

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 24

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.

Chengdu Museum Day 25

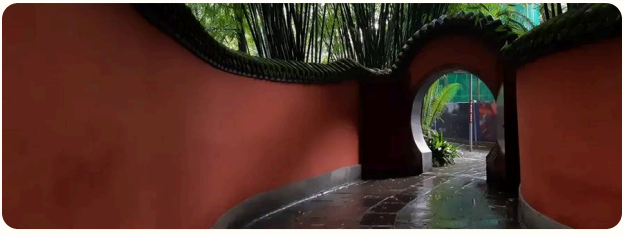
Chengdu's history under one roof

Give it: half a day

HOURS	09:00–17:00 · last entry 16:30
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	Mondays
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

Show the driver · Chengdu Museum

成都博物馆



Du Fu Thatched Cottage Day 25

A poet's refuge, rebuilt many times

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	09:00–18:00 · last entry 17:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥50
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

> *Huanhua Stream park and the Sichuan Museum sit adjacent — one ticketed garden plus free parkland makes the half-day*

> *The garden keeps a four-season calendar — plum in spring, lotus in summer, chrysanthemum in autumn, orchid in winter*

Show the driver · Du Fu Thatched Cottage

杜甫草堂



Temple of Marquis Wu Day 25

Chengdu shrine to Zhuge Liang

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	09:00–18:00 · last entry 17:00
	Not yet checked
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥50

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Temple of Marquis Wu

武侯祠

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: Jinsha site · Wenshu Monastery · Luodai Old Town



9

Chongqing 重庆

A hilly river city known for its lights and steep streets

3 days here

🚄 from Chengdu: about 1h02 (an estimate)

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

- Chengdu → Chongqing: about 1h02 by train (Chengdu East Railway Station 成都东站 → Chongqing West Railway Station 重庆西站).
  an estimate
- Chongqing: The First Affiliated Hospital of Chongqing Medical University, International Medical Center (Jinshan Campus) — 重庆医科大学附属第一医院（金山院区国际医疗中心）, 重庆市两江新区金渝大道50号（综合病房楼17–18层） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 023-88955818（国际医疗中心）; +86 18623389261（English）; 023-65659393（金山院区）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Jiefangbei–Hongyadong 解放碑—洪崖洞 (25 min to Chongqing North Railway Station 重庆北站) · Guanyinqiao 观音桥 (18 min to Chongqing North Railway Station 重庆北站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE

Liziba monorail Day 26

A city train that runs through a building

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 15 min by metro from Jiefangbei (an estimate)

HOURS 06:32–23:50

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Budget 20-45 minutes to catch one or two trains and land your shot — it is a photo stop, not a half-day*

> *Sunset into night is the show — the lit train threading the lit block — and unlike most Chongqing viewpoints this one stays free*

Show the driver · Liziba monorail

李子坝



Hongyadong Day 26

Stilted buildings lit up over the Jialing

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet

> *Hongya Cave is free and best at night — Line 2 Linjiangmen Exit D, or Line 1 Xiaoshizi Exits 6 and 9; the classic full-front angle is from Qiansimen Bridge*

Show the driver · Hongyadong

洪崖洞

Ciqikou old town Day 27

A riverside old town of lanes and teahouses

Give it: half a day

About 35 min by metro from Jiefangbei (an estimate)

HOURS	not checked yet

> *Arrive before 9 — the lanes are at their emptiest in the early morning, and the light then flatters the timber fronts*

> *This one is original, not a reconstruction — give it a couple of hours for the hilltop temple and the riverside restaurant boats, in on Line 1*

Show the driver · Ciqikou old town

磁器口



People's Liberation Monument Day 27

Clock tower at the centre of Chongqing's pedestrian streets

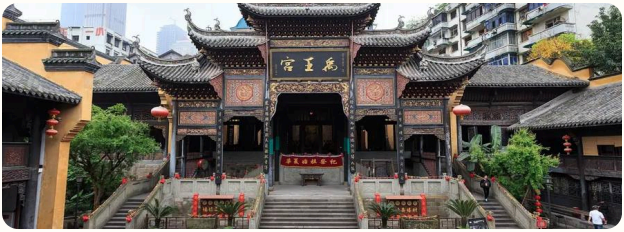
Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet

> *The Liberation Monument block is Chongqing's Times Square — a pedestrian zone with 3,000-plus stores radiating from the monument*

Show the driver · People's Liberation Monument

抗战胜利纪功碑暨人民解放纪念碑



Huguang Huiguan Day 27

Guild hall where merchants from Huguang met

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet

Show the driver · Huguang Huiguan

湖广会馆

Yangtze cable car Day 28

A cable car across the Yangtze in the city

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 10 min by foot from Jiefangbei (an estimate)

HOURS, SUMMER (MAR 1 – NOV 30)	08:00–22:00
HOURS, WINTER (DEC 1 – FEB 28)	08:00–21:00

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

BOOKING	Can be booked 0 days ahead — whether you must is not checked yet

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *A five-minute, 1,166-metre crossing above the river - the city sliding past under your feet is half the sight*

> *Ride one way and come back on the metro — sunset crossings have the best views and the biggest queues, early morning the calmest*

Show the driver · Yangtze cable car

长江索道

Three Gorges Museum

The story of the river before the dam

Give it: half a day

HOURS	09:00–17:00 · last entry 16:00
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	
CLOSED	Mondays
TICKET	Free
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

Show the driver · Three Gorges Museum

重庆中国三峡博物馆

Great Hall of the People (Chongqing)

A domed hall above a wide city square

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet
TICKET	¥10
✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source	

Show the driver · Great Hall of the People (Chongqing)

重庆人民大礼堂

WHAT I'M GOING TO EAT

重庆小面

Chongqing noodles

One bowl of alkaline noodles under chilli oil, pea-and-meat sauce and pickles, the breakfast the whole city runs on.

Usually contains: wheat (flour, wheat gluten), peanut (and peanut oil), sesame, soy, lard (a guide — always show your allergy card)

> 您好，二两豌杂面，微辣，加个煎蛋，麻烦您了。

Hello, a small bowl with pea and meat sauce, mild spice, add a fried egg please.



重庆火锅

Chongqing hotpot

The mother pot: beef tallow, a brick of dried chillies and a river of offal, sharper and heavier than Chengdu's.

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

Known for it: Qiaotou hotpot 桥头火锅（南岸总店） · Pei Jie hotpot (Raffles City) 珮姐老火锅（来福士店）

> 您好，两位要微辣鸳鸯锅，油碟加蒜泥，麻烦您了。

Hello, mild half-and-half pot for two, garlic in the sesame-oil dip please.

梯坎豆花

Step-lane tofu rice

Silky tofu set on a step-side stall, dipped in garlic-chilli-soy and chased with rice, lunch for pocket change.

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

> 您好，一份豆花饭，蘸水辣一点，谢谢您。

Hello, one tofu-pudding rice set, spicy dip please.

- Chongqing noodle shops default to full local heat; say wei la for mild or mian la for no chilli oil when ordering.
- Old-style hotpot broth is beef tallow: it clouds and whitens as it cools — that is normal, not spoiled.

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

Also here: Fengsheng Town

APPENDIX

The plan, roughly

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

Day 1–4	Shanghai
Day 5–6	Suzhou travel day: about 1h04 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 7–9	Hangzhou travel day: about 2h03 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 10–12	Huangshan travel day: about 2h02 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 13–14	Nanjing travel day: about 3h30 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 15–18	Beijing travel day: about 4h22 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 19–21	Xi'an travel day: about 4h10 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 22–25	Chengdu travel day: about 3h05 by fast train (an estimate)
Day 26–28	Chongqing travel day: about 1h02 by fast train (an estimate)
✈	Fly home from Chongqing

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

- Shanghai: Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, International Medical Center — 复旦大学附属华山医院（国际医疗中心）, 上海市乌鲁木齐中路12号 · international department · ☎ 021-52889999（总机）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Shanghai: Ruijin Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, International Medical Department (VIP Medical Care Center) — 上海交通大学医学院附属瑞金医院（国际医疗部/特需医疗保健中心）, 上海市黄浦区瑞金二路197号（国际部门诊在10号楼1层） · international department · ☎ 021-64678970（国际部门诊预约）; 021-64370045（总机）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Suzhou: The Second Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University — 苏州大学附属第二医院（核工业总医院）, 苏州市三香路1055号 · international department · ☎ 0512-68282030.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Hangzhou: Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine (Qingchun Campus) — 浙江大学医学院附属邵逸夫医院（庆春院区）, 浙江省杭州市上城区庆春东路3号 · international department · English spoken · ☎ +86-571-86006118.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026
- Nanjing: Nanjing Drum Tower Hospital, Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing University Medical School — 南京鼓楼医院（南京大学医

学院附属鼓楼医院）, 南京市中山路321号 · ☎ 025-83106666（总机）.

Not yet checked

- 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
- Chongqing: The First Affiliated Hospital of Chongqing Medical University, International Medical Center (Jinshan Campus) — 重庆医科大学附属第一医院（金山院区国际医疗中心）, 重庆市两江新区金渝大道50号（综合病房楼17–18层） · international department · English spoken · ☎ 023-88955818（国际医疗中

心）；+86 18623389261（English）；023-65659393（金山院区）.

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

- Huangshan: a hospital with services for visitors is not checked yet — in an emergency, call 120.

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
- Shanghai: a taxi from Pudong Airport to People's Square costs around 180 yuan and takes about 50 minutes; from Hongqiao Airport about 30 minutes and 100-150 yuan, depending on traffic. Taxi pick-up points are outside the arrivals level of each terminal.
  1. Follow the Taxi signs on the arrivals level to your terminal's pick-up point
  2. Check the meter starts when you set off

  If that doesn't work Ask at the airport information counter on the arrivals level

  ✓ 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 Shanghai (11 cards)

Where I'm going in Suzhou (5 cards)

Where I'm going in Hangzhou (6 cards)

Where I'm going in Huangshan (3 cards)

Where I'm going in Nanjing (5 cards)

Where I'm going in Beijing (8 cards)

Where I'm going in Xi'an (9 cards)

Where I'm going in Chengdu (8 cards)

Where I'm going in Chongqing (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 _____ ，就说： _____ 。太感谢了！

phone number　　what to say

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.

SHANGHAI 上海

← Shanghai

Sight · Site of the First Congress of the Chinese Communist Party

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

中国共产党第一次全国代表大会会址

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · The Bund

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

外滩

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Oriental Pearl Tower

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

东方明珠广播电视塔

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Yu Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

豫园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Jin Mao Tower

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

金茂大厦

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Shanghai Museum, People's Square

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

上海博物馆

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Tianzifang

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

田子坊

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Longhua Pagoda

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

龙华塔

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Wukang Road

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

武康路

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Shanghai Science and Technology Museum

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

上海科技馆

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Saint Ignatius Cathedral

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

徐家汇天主堂

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

SUZHOU 苏州

← Suzhou

Sight · Humble Administrator's Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

拙政园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Lingering Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

留园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Lion Grove Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

狮子林

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Master of the Nets Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

网师园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Zhouzhuang

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

周庄镇

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

HANGZHOU 杭州

← Hangzhou

Sight · West Lake (Zhejiang)

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

西湖

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Lingyin Temple

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

灵隐寺

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Liuhe Pagoda

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

六和塔

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Xixi National Wetland Park

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

西溪湿地

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Phoenix Mosque

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

凤凰寺

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Mount Tianmu

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

天目山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

HUANGSHAN 黄山

← Huangshan

Sight · Huangshan

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

黄山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Xidi

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

西递村

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Hongcun

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

宏村村

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

NANJING 南京

← Nanjing

Sight · Gate 1 (main memorial)

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

一号门

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Ming Palace

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

明故宫

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

中山陵

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Ming Xiaoling

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

明孝陵

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · City Wall of Nanjing

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

南京城墙

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

← 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！

XI'AN 西安

← Xi'an

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！

Sight · Bell Tower of Xi'an

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

西安钟楼

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · South Gate (Yongningmen)

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

南门（永宁门）

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Muslim Quarter

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

回民街

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Epang Palace

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

阿房宫

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！

Sight · Chengdu Museum

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

成都博物馆

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Du Fu Thatched Cottage

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

杜甫草堂

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Temple of Marquis Wu

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

武侯祠

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

CHONGQING 重庆

← Chongqing

Sight · Liziba monorail

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

李子坝

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Hongyadong

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

洪崖洞

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Ciqikou old town

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

磁器口

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · People's Liberation Monument

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

抗战胜利纪功碑暨人民解放纪念碑

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Huguang Huiguan

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

湖广会馆

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Yangtze cable car

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

长江索道

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Three Gorges Museum

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

重庆中国三峡博物馆

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Great Hall of the People (Chongqing)

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

重庆人民大礼堂

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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