A TRAVEL BOOK FOR ONE TRIP

Guangzhou: a travel guide to take with you

3 days · 1 place





1 **Guangzhou** 广州 3 days

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

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Checked for you

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

- 4 things to book or do.

WHAT TO DO, AND WHEN

☐	**Check its page**	Chen Clan Academy: when tickets open is not checked yet. Book through its WeChat account “广东民间工艺博物馆”, with your passport; each of you books under your own name. **广东民间工艺博物馆** 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 3 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.



1

Guangzhou 广州

Southern trading port with old mosques, cathedrals and dim sum

3 days here

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

- Shawan Old Town is about 49 min from Guangzhou (Beijing Road–Gongyuanqian) (25 km).
  an estimate
- Baomo Garden is about 49 min from Guangzhou (Beijing Road–Gongyuanqian) (25 km).
  an estimate
- Guangzhou: The First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University - International Medicine — 中山大学附属第一医院（国际医疗部）, 广州市中山二路58号 · international department · ☎ (020) 87332200-8225（国际医疗挂号）; (020) 87332200-8228（结果查询）; (020) 87334605（体检）.
  ✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026

WHERE I'M STAYING

Good areas: Beijing Road–Gongyuanqian 北京路—公园前 (27 min to Guangzhou South Railway Station 广州南站) · Zhujiang New Town 珠江新城 (35 min to Guangzhou South Railway Station 广州南站)

Hotel name

Address in Chinese

WHAT I'M GOING TO SEE



Canton Tower Day 1

Twisted tower over the Pearl River

Give it: 1–2 hours

About 25 min by metro from Guangzhou (Beijing Road–Gongyuanqian) (an estimate)

HOURS	09:30–22:30 · last entry 22:00
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥150
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source
FOREIGN PASSPORT	Yes, with a passport
	✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

> *Mondays run late for the thrill add-ons — Sky Drop from 12:00, Bubble Tram from 15:00 — so plan rides off Monday*

> *Ride the driverless APM line to the tower — a flat 2-yuan fare that skips the Line 3 crush entirely*

Show the driver · Canton Tower

广州塔



Huaisheng Mosque Day 1

One of China's oldest mosques

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet
TICKET	Free

Not yet checked

Chain it with Guangxiao Temple and the Six Banyan Trees pagoda — all within the same old-town walk

Non-Muslim visitors view the prayer hall from outside — the courtyards and screen-wall entry are the visit

Show the driver · Huaisheng Mosque

怀圣寺



Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall Day 1

Guangzhou hall honouring Sun Yat-sen

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	not checked yet
CLOSED	None — open every day

Not yet checked

It sits at Yuexiu Park's southern foot — hall first, then walk uphill into the park

Come in March for the 300-year kapok 'king' in bloom, and find the banyan-wrapped 'Tree in Tree' northwest of the hall

Show the driver · Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall

中山纪念堂



Chen Clan Academy Day 1

A clan hall packed with carvings and colour

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS (APR 15 – OCT 15)	09:00–18:00 · last entry 17:30
HOURS (OCT 16 – APR 14)	09:00–17:30 · last entry 17:00

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CLOSED	Tuesdays
BOOKING	Required ahead — real-name, with your passport
TICKET	¥10

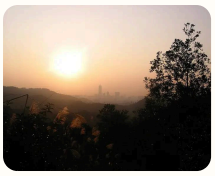
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Line 1 Chenjiaci station exit D lands at the door; one hour covers the halls

Pair it with the Liwan old-quarter walk — the academy anchors the same district as Shamian and the food streets

Show the driver · Chen Clan Academy

陈家祠



Baiyun Mountain (Guangdong) Day 2

The green ridge north of Guangzhou

Give it: half a day

HOURS	times not stated by the venue

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

CLOSED	None — open every day
TICKET	¥5

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Budget a full day for the whole mountain or half a day for the ridge-and-cable loop; the park is open all day

Cable car up (25 yuan) and down (20) saves the knees; the 10-yuan sightseeing bus stitches the ridge stops if you skip walking

Show the driver · Baiyun Mountain (Guangdong)

白云山



Yuexiu Park Day 2

Guangzhou's big green hill, with the five-ram statue

Give it: half a day

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

Not yet checked

Enter the main gate from metro Line 2 Yuexiu Park exit B1; Five Rams statue, Zhenhai Tower and the Ming wall loop in half a day

Show the driver · Yuexiu Park

越秀公园



Shawan Old Town Day 3

A Panyu old town of grey brick and ancestral halls

Give it: half a day

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

Not yet checked

Show the driver · Shawan Old Town

沙湾街道



Baomo Garden Day 3

Lingnan garden with ponds, bridges and carved stone

Give it: 1–2 hours

HOURS	08:30–17:30

Not yet checked

TICKET	¥54

✓ Checked Wed, Oct 7, 2026 · source

Show the driver · Baomo Garden

宝墨园

早茶点心

Cantonese morning tea - dim sum

Sit down to a pot of tea and keep the steamer baskets coming: shrimp dumplings, pork buns, chicken feet; the meal is the activity, and it can easily fill a morning.

Usually contains: shellfish: shrimp, crab, clams, oysters, shrimp and crab, pork, wheat (flour, wheat gluten), soy, egg, lard (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Dian Dou De (De Dian) 点都德 · Guangzhou Restaurant 广州酒家 · Tou Tou Koi (Tao Tao Ju) 陶陶居

> 您好，两位饮早茶，麻烦您先来虾饺和叉烧包。

Table for two for morning tea; har gow and BBQ pork buns to start, please. Thank you.



虾饺

Steamed shrimp dumplings

Translucent-skinned dumplings of whole shrimp and bamboo shoot; the first test of a dim sum house

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

Known for it: Pan Xi Restaurant 泮溪酒家 · Dian Dou De (De Dian) 点都德

> 您好，先来一笼虾饺，麻烦您了。

One steamer of har gow first, please. Thank you.



肠粉

Rice-noodle rolls

Silky steamed rice sheets rolled around shrimp or beef under sweet soy

Usually contains: shellfish: shrimp, crab, clams, oysters, shrimp and crab, beef, pork, egg, soy, wheat (flour, wheat gluten) (a guide — always show your allergy card)

Known for it: Dian Dou De (De Dian) 点都德

> 您好，一份鲜虾肠粉，麻烦您少放酱油。

One shrimp cheung fun, light on the soy, please. Thank you.



叉烧包

Barbecued pork bun

A fluffy white steamed bun that splits open over glossy sweet-savoury pork filling; one of the four classic dim sums and the first thing old-timers judge a teahouse by.

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

Known for it: Guangzhou Restaurant 广州酒家 · Tou Tou Koi (Tao Tao Ju) 陶陶居

> 您好，一笼叉烧包，麻烦您趁热上。

One steamer of BBQ pork buns, served hot, please. Thank you.

- At old Guangzhou teahouses you order from a paper card or a phone app, not from trolleys; ask the server to walk you through the card once before you tick.
- Beer-fish style weight pricing also applies to seafood here: ask the per-500-gram price and confirm the weight before it goes to the kitchen.

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

Also here: Guangzhou Chimelong Tourist Resort · Zhenhai Tower · Lianhua Hill

APPENDIX

The plan, roughly

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

Day 1–3	Guangzhou
✈	Fly home from Guangzhou

APPENDIX

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

- Guangzhou: The First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University - International Medicine — 中山大学附属第一医院（国际医疗部）, 广州市中山二路58号 · international department · ☎ (020) 87332200-8225（国际医疗挂号）; (020) 87332200-8228（结果查询）; (020) 87334605（体检）.

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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

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 Guangzhou (8 cards)

Emergency

Checking in at a hotel or guesthouse

酒店入住

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

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.

GUANGZHOU 广州

← Guangzhou

Sight · Canton Tower

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

广州塔

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Huaisheng Mosque

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

怀圣寺

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

中山纪念堂

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Chen Clan Academy

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

陈家祠

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Baiyun Mountain (Guangdong)

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

白云山

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Yuexiu Park

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

越秀公园

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Shawan Old Town

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

沙湾街道

您能帮我叫辆车或者指一下路吗？谢谢！

Sight · Baomo Garden

您好，我是外国游客，我想去

宝墨园

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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