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1. Geographical location

Shanghai is one of the largest and most prosperous cities in China. It is found near the Yangtze River Delta, more precisely towards the eastern tip of the river. Towards the North Shanghai it is close to one of the estuaries of Yangtze River and Hangzhou bay to the south. The Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces are its neighbours towards the west making it a highly prosperous city due to its placement. It geographical positioning has seen it rise to become one of the most instrumental port cities in China. The numerous rivers and lakes found within the city are instrumental in allowing for efficient transportation and irrigation all year round.



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Shanghai Is Surrounded By A Myriad Of Beautiful Cities All A Train Ride Away. The High-speed Railway Allows For Short And Quick Rides That Range From Thirty Minutes To One Hour. Suzhou Is One Of The Cities That Borders Shanghai And Which Lie About Forty Minutes From Shanghai On The High-speed Trains. For Visitors Wishing To Tour Other Water Towns That Neighbour Shanghai, Tongli And Zhouzhuang Are Also Relatively Close With A Span Of One Hour To Two Hours Driving Time. Nanxun And Xitiang Are Examples Of Other Water Towns That Are Very Near To Shanghai Wuxi Is Another City That Is Two Hours Away From Shanghai.

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3. Significance

Shanghai is a trading and shipping hub for China and thus represents one of the most instrumental commercial centres of the world. The city focuses on imports and exports with a population that is well over twenty million. This population plays huge role in bolstering the purchasing power of the city making it a crucial business centre. Enterprise and foreign trades make it an instrumental city but its artistic and scientific characteristics bolster its position in the China and the world at large. The city has a significant number of art-craft industries and has become a major export centre of antiques and objects of Chinese art.



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4. History

The history of shanghai stands shoulder to shoulder with that of the development of modern China. Its history can be traced back to thousands of years when it was an agricultural village. During the Ming dynasty, Shanghai was an important textile and cotton center with a population of up to 200,000. However as the Qing dynasty came to an end, Shanghai was emerging as a number one trading port in China. However, the economic reforms that China implemented in the early 1990s have been instrumental in redefining it into one of the most crucial financial centers in Asia.

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5. Cultural identity

Shanghai has remained the confluence of western and eastern cultures over the years. A glimpse of its old self can always be noted behind the ultra-modernity architecture and way of life. For one, a great deal of the architecture in the region is made up of a tinge of traditional Chinese aspects and modern elements introduced through western imperialism. A great deal of what is considered as modernity in China can be traced back to the Shanghai because of its role as an economic and cultural center for a better part of the twentieth century. Shanghai has also been considered to be a major influence on the cyberpunk culture.





6. Natural resources

The greatest natural resource that Shanghai is known for is its rich waters composed of innumerable lakes and rivers. As a matter of fact 11% of Shanghai's territory is made up of water with many of the rivers being tributaries to the Huangpu River. With its origin at the Taihu Lake, the river is ice-free all year round and thus makes it an instrumental water way for the city. Towards the East China Sea, Shanghai is also dotted with innumerable aquatic resources. Shanghai is also located at the very mouth of the Yangtze which is home to over a hundred fish species.

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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Oriental Pearl Tower

Address: Il Century Ave, Pudong, Shanghai, China

Location: 31.2396889, 121.49975530000006

Contact: +86-2158791888

Website: http://www.orientalpearltower.com/

Nearest Public Transport : Lujiazui (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee : Combo Ticket (Shanghai Municipal History Museum, the upper sphere, and Huangpu River Cruise) – 180 \$ The upper sphere, The Space Module, the lower sphere, and Shanghai Municipal History Museum – 220 \$ The Upper sphere, Shanghai Municipal History Museum and the lower sphere and – 160 \$ Shanghai Municipal History Museum and The Upper sphere – 120 \$

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 08:00 hrs to 21:30 hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time: 10 minutes

Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.2. Yuyuan Garden

Address : 218 Anren St, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode: 200000

Location: 31.2272355, 121.4920939999995

Contact: +86-2163260830

Website: http://www.yugarden.com.cn/

Nearest Public Transport : Yu Garden (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 40 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 08:30 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

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7.1.3. Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center

Address: 100 Renmin Ave, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode : 200000

Location: 31.231415, 121.47540100000003

Contact: +8621-63184477

Website: http://www.supec.org/

Nearest Public Transport : People's Square (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults – 30 ¥ Group Visitors – 24 ¥

Open & Close Timing: Tuesday to Sunday - 09:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs; Monday

Closed

Time Required: 2

Expected Wait Time: 10 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.4. Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum

Address: 62 Changyang Rd, Hongkou, Shanghai, China,200082

Zipcode : 200082

Location: 31.254309, 121.5091669999993

Contact: +86-2165126669

Website: http://www.fao.fudan.edu.cn/

Nearest Public Transport : Dalian Rd (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 50 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 09:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time: 15 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.5. Shanghai Municipal History Museum

Address : Lujiazui Lu 2, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode: 200000

Location: 31.2398, 121.49970000000008

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Contact: +8621-58793003

Website: http://www.historymuseum.sh.cn/

Nearest Public Transport : Lujiazui (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee: 120 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 08:00 hrs to 21:30 hrs

Time Required: 1.5

Expected Wait Time: 15 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.6. Longhua Temple

Address: 2853 Longhua Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China

Zipcode: 2853

Location: 31.1738665, 121.45200869999996

Contact: +86-2164566085

Nearest Public Transport : Longhua Middle Road (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee: 10 ¥

Open & Close Timing: Every day - 07:00 hrs to 16:30 hrs

Time Required: 3

Expected Wait Time: 5 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.7. Jade Buddha Temple

Address: 170 Anyuan Rd, Jing'an, Shanghai, China,200040

Zipcode: 200040

Location: 31.2413465, 121.4451206

Contact: +86-2162663668

Website: http://www.yufotemple.com/

Nearest Public Transport : Changshou Road (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 40 ¥

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 08:00 hrs to 16:30 hrs

Time Required: 1.5

Expected Wait Time: 5 minutes

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Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.8. Shanghai Ocean Aquarium

Address : No.1388 Lujiazui Ring Road, Pudong New Area, Shanghai China,200120

Zipcode : 200120

Location: 31.2407027, 121.5017163

Contact: +86-2158779988

Website: http://www.sh-soa.com/zh/html/index.aspx

Nearest Public Transport : Lujiazui (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee: 160 ¥

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 09:00 hrs to 18:00 hrs

Time Required: 3

Expected Wait Time: 15 minutes

Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.9. Shanghai Zoo

Address: Changning, Hongqiao Road, No. 2381, Shanghai, China

Zipcode: 2381

Location: 31.1930274, 121.36259429999996

Contact: +86-2162687775

Website: http://www.shanghaizoo.cn/

Nearest Public Transport : Shanghai Zoo (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee: 40 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 07:30 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required: 2

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.10. Shanghai Wild Animal Park

Address: 178 111, Pudong, Shanghai, China

Zipcode: 178

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Location: 31.0558136, 121.71740840000007

Contact: +86 21 6118 0000

Website: http://www.shwzoo.com/

Nearest Public Transport : Wild Animal Park (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 130 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 08:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required: 3

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.11. City God Temple

Address: 249 Fangbang Middle Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200010

Zipcode: 200010

Location: 31.148474, 121.11340799999994

Contact: +8621-63284494

Website: http://www.shchm.org/

Nearest Public Transport : Nanjing East Rd (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 10 ¥

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 08:00 hrs to 16:30 hrs

Time Required: 2

Expected Wait Time: 5 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.12. Shanghai Madame Tussauds Wax Museum

Address : 2-68 Nanjing W Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode : 200000

Location: 31.2346489999999, 121.47346500000003

Contact: +86-2163597166

Website: https://wwwi.madametussauds.com/shanghai

Nearest Public Transport : People's Square (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: Adult Big Ticket: 190 ¥ per person Student Big Ticket: 150 ¥ per person Child Ticket (aged 3-11): 110 ¥ per person Senior Citizen Ticket (aged 65

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and above): 110 ¥ per person

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 10:00 hrs to 21:00 hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time: 30 minutes

Buy Ticket: No

7.1.13. Shanghai Museum of Glass

Address : Bldg 8, 685 Changjiang Xi Lu, near Gangsi Lu, Boashan District

Zipcode: 685

Location: 31.343784, 121.47276799999997

Contact: +86-2166181970

Website: http://www.shmog.org/

Nearest Public Transport: Tonghexincun (NR) – Subway Station

Entry Fee: 20 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 09:30 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket: Yes

7.1.14. Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden

Address: Chenhua Rd, Songjiang, Shanghai, China, 201602

Zipcode: 201602

Location: 31.07095179999999, 121.18103440000004

Contact: +86-2137792288

Nearest Public Transport : Dongjing (NR) – Bus Station

Entry Fee: 40 ¥

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 08:00 hrs to 17:30 hrs

Time Required: 1.5

Expected Wait Time: 10 minutes

Buy Ticket: No



7.2. Free 7.2.1. The Bund

Address : Zhongshan East 1st Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200085

Zipcode: 200085

Location: 31.2402611, 121.49057700000003

Contact: +86-2163231268

Nearest Public Transport : Nanjing East Road (NR) – Bus Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 24 hours

Time Required : 4 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Shanghai Museum

Address : No 201, Ren Min Da Dao, Huangpu District, Shanghai 200003,

P.R.CHINA

Zipcode: 200003

Location: 31.2283306999999, 121.47552780000001

Contact: +86-2163723500

Website: http://www.shanghaimuseum.net/

Nearest Public Transport : People's Square (NR) – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 09:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs

Time Required : 2 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Shanghai World Financial Center

Address : No.100, Century Ave., Pudong New Area, Shanghai China,200120

Zipcode : 200120

Location: 31.2345644, 121.50743940000007

Contact: +86-2138672008

Website: http://www.swfc-shanghai.com/

Nearest Public Transport: Dongchang Road – Subway Station

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Open & Close Timing: Every day – 08:00 hrs to 22:00 hrs

Time Required : 5 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Xintiandi

Address: 123 Xingye Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode: 200000

Location: 31.218971, 121.47466650000001

Contact: +86-2163112288

Website: http://www.shanghaixintiandi.com/p/sites/index.html

Nearest Public Transport : Xantiandi Station (NR) – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day - 24 hours

Time Required : 3 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Peace Hotel

Address : 20, Nanjing Road (E) Shanghai, China Post code 200002

Zipcode: 200002

Location: 31.25651829999999, 121.48014020000005

Contact: +86-2163216888

Website: http://www.fairmont.com/peace-hotel-shanghai/

Nearest Public Transport : Nanjing East Road (NR) – Subwa Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day - 24 hours

Time Required : 1 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Shanghai Old Street

Address : Nan Sha Lu Minhang Qu, Shanghai Shi China 200245

Zipcode: 200245

Location: 31.225319, 121.4969443

Nearest Public Transport : Xiaonanmen (NR) – Subway Station

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Open & Close Timing: Every day – 24 hours

Time Required : 2 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Nanjing Road

Address: Nanjing Road Pedestrian St, Huangpu, Shanghai, China, 200000

Zipcode: 200000

Location: 31.234774, 121.47479900000008

Contact: +86-2163526638

Nearest Public Transport : People's Square (NR) – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 10:00 hrs to 22:00 hrs

Time Required : 4 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Yuyuan Old Street

Address : China, Shanghai, Huangpu, Yuyuan New Rd, Yuyuan,200010

Zipcode: 200010

Location: 31.226372, 121.491954

Nearest Public Transport : Nanjing East Road (NR) – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 24 hours

Time Required : 3 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. People's Square

Address : Wusheng Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,200000

Zipcode : 200000

Location: 31.22967, 121.47616100000005

Nearest Public Transport : People's Square (NR) – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 24 hours

Time Required : 4 Buy Ticket : No

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7.2.10. She Shan Cathedral

Address: China, Shanghai, Songjiang, Sheshanzhen, Huanshan Rd, West Sheshan

Yama,201602

Zipcode: 201602

Location: 31.0940624, 121.19235750000007

Contact: +8621-57651521

Nearest Public Transport : Sheshan (NR) – Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Every day – 08:30 hrs to 18:30 hrs

Time Required : 2 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Zhujiajiaozhen

Address: No.36 Meizhou Road, Zhujiajiao Town, Qingpu District, Shanghai

201713, China

Zipcode: 201713

Location: 31.103516, 121.046963

Nearest Public Transport : Shajiadai Rd- Bus station

Open & Close Timing: Every day - 24 hours

Time Required : 3 Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. French Concession

Address : Puxi Central, Huangpu District, Shanghai 200000, China

Zipcode : 200000

Location: 31.2109, 121.4575999999996

Nearest Public Transport : Xintiandi (NR) – Bus Station

Open & Close Timing: Every day – 24 hours

Time Required : 3 Buy Ticket : No

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8. Key sites sports & adventure

• Hiking -

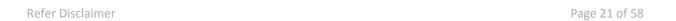
Address : Sheshan Town, Songjiang District, Shanghai 201600, China

Location: 31.095892,121.194359

Nearest Public Transport : Sheshan (NR) – Bus Station

Open / Close Time : Every day – 24 hours

Time Required: 4.00





9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Shanghai Stadium is one of the sporting areas a person can visit while in Shanghai. It is a multi-purpose stadium that is often used to host football matches. Having been built back in 1997, the stadium has a capacity of 57000. Shanghai also has an indoor stadium which is a multi-purpose stadium used mainly for indoor game such as swimming and table tennis. Shanghai offers its visitors a myriad other sporting activities to try out such as skateboarding. Shanghai boasts of one of the largest skateboarding parks at Jiangwan SMP Skate Park, which is a gigantic 13,700 sq. meters with the highest ramp in the world.

• Shanghai International Circuit:

Address: 2000 Yining Rd, Jiading, Shanghai, China

Location: 31.33949900000001,121.2216379999998

Contact No: +86 21 6956 9116

Website: http://www.jussevent.com/circuit.aspx

Shanghai Stadium:

Address : 1111 Caoxi N Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China,200030

Location: 31.18345800000001,121.44374800000003

Contact No : +86 21 6438 5200 Website : http://www.ssc.sh.cn/

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10. Spas and relaxation

• The Puli Hotel and Spa:

Address : 1 Changde Rd, Jing'an, Shanghai, China, 200040

Location: 31.2222917,121.44831850000003

Contact No: +86 21 3203 9999

Website: http://www.thepuli.com/zh-hans/?m=o&plaintext=o

ZEN MASSAGE:

Address: 210 Wuyuan Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China,2000030

Location: 31.2125928,121.44539370000007

Contact No: +86 21 3368 1227

Website: http://www.zenmassage.cn/cn/home.htm

The Peninsula Spa at The Peninsula:

Address : 32 Zhongshan East 1st Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China, 200002

Location: 31.2338707,121.49159450000002

Contact No: +86 21 2327 6599

Website: http://www.peninsula.com/en/default#/Shanghai/en/Wellness/

The_Peninsula_Spa/

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11. Events calendar

Month

Events Kinky Boots

Al Hirschfeld Theatre (1st) Wicked

Gershwin Theater (1st) Furnitek China

Shanghai New International Expo Center (7th) Fantasy

Luxor (1st)
Hong Kong Shopping Festival

Hong Kong Shopping Festival is one of the festival you shouldn't miss. You can shop your heart out during this festival as good are available at discounts and also the shops are open for long. Ladies Friday at Maison Camus Shanghai

Maison Camus (12th)
Summer intensive Chinese class

Hua Ting Hotel & Towers Shanghai (1st) Cinte Techtextil China



Shanghai New International Expo Center (12th) TIM Expo Shanghai

Shanghai New International Expo Center (13th) Money Fair Shanghai

Shanghai Exhibition Center (2nd)



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12. Key local guides and tours

Shanghai is a huge and vast city and while the thrill of exploring alone may be tempting, using a guide or tour service is essential in ensuring that you get to experience the most out of the visit. Jean Liu is an incredible guide for those wishing to explore Shanghai. The price ranges from \$65 to \$300 depending on the nature of the tour. Kelly Yang is another reliable guide while in Shanghai. His rates range from \$95 to \$500based on the nature of the tour he is giving. Harris Gu is another guide that is well versed with the Shanghai region and who charges

between \$50 to \$400.

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13. Transportation hubs

The city of Shanghai has two airports, Shanghai Pudong International Airport and Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport . Pudong Airport is the major one catering to international travel and is 40 km away from the Shanghai city centre. The taxi ride from the airport to the city will cost around 200 \$ for one hour journey. There are also airport buses to various destinations. The Maglev train is the fastest mode of public transport in Shanghai and connects the Pudong Airport to the metro rail system. Three major railway stations serve Shanghai. They are Shanghai Railway Station , Shanghai South Railway Station and Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station .

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14. Transportation cost

The government fixes the taxi fares in Shanghai and starts at 14 ¥ for the first 3 kilometres and 2.50 ¥ for every kilometre after that. The bus system is an extensive network with about 1000 bus lines. Bus fare can range from 1 ¥ to 2 ¥ or higher. Metro ride will cost around 3 ¥ to 11 ¥ as per the distance covered. One way ticket is charged by trains at 4 ¥ and a monthly pass is offered at 200 ¥. The normal tariff of taxis starts at 14 ¥. The Shanghai Public Transportation Card is the most convenient way to ticketless travel in public transport systems in and around Shanghai. The card gives access to buses, metros, ferries, taxis, car parks, fuel stations, Maglev train, auto repair, etc. The card can be recharged in multiples of 10 ¥.

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15. Baggage allowance

Chinese Railway system has some restrictions on the size and weight of luggage the passenger can carry in a train. If it is larger or heavier than the allowed amount, it has to be transported using the consignment service. However, the metro system in Shanghai puts no such limitation on the amount of baggage that can be carried. Since the metro serves the airport, it is normally expected that the passengers may carry a lot of luggage with them. There is no baggage charge in metros or other public transport systems.

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16. Restaurant & Nightlife

For the best places to eat, and night life, Shanghai, , is well-known as the center of the city's nightlife.

Food -

For the best places to eat, and night life, Shanghai, , is well-known as the center of the city's nightlife.

Lost Heaven:

Address: 38 Gaoyou Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China

Location: 31.2100088,121.43804799

Contact No: +86 21 6433 5126

Open / Close Time : Every day – 11:30 hrs to 13:30 hrs; 17:30 hrs to 22:15

hrs

• Fu 1088:

Address: 375 Zhenning Rd, Changning, Shanghai, China

Location : 31.2219363,121.4358949 Contact No : +86 21 5239 7878

Open / Close Time : Every day – 11:00 hrs to 14:30 hrs; 17:30 hrs to 22:30

hrs

• Mr & Mrs Bund:

Address : China, Shanghai, Huangpu, Zhongshan East 1st Rd, 181, Bund

Eighteen

Location: 31.2383802,121.48952550

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Contact No: +86 21 6323 9898

Website: http://www.mmbund.com/

Open / Close Time : Monday to Wednesday – 17:30 hrs to 22:30 hrs; Thursday & Friday – 17:30 hrs to 2:00 hrs; Saturday – 11:30 hrs to 14:00 hrs; 17:30 hrs to 2:00 hrs; Sunday - 11:30 hrs to 14:00 hrs; 17:30 hrs to 22:30 hrs

Yè Shanghai:

Address: China, Shanghai, Huangpu, Huangpi S Rd, 338 11 11 11 16 11

Xintiandi

Location: 31.220884,121.47527300

Contact No: +86 21 6311 2323

Website: http://www.elite-concepts.com/

Open / Close Time : Every day - 11:30 hrs to 14:30 hrs; 17:30 hrs to 22:30

hrs

• El Willy:

Address : Zhongshan East 2nd Rd, Huangpu Qu, Shanghai Shi, China,

200002

Location : 31.230678,121.49398700 Contact No : +86 21 5404 5757

Shanghai People's 7:

Address : 805 Julu Rd, Jing'an, Shanghai, China,200040

Location : 31.2194567,121.45039410 Contact No : +86 21 5404 0707

Open / Close Time : Every day - 11:30 hrs to 14:00 hrs; 18:00 hrs to

midnight

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• Bar Rouge:

Address: 18 Zhongshan East 1st Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai, China,2000085

Location: 31.2383756,121.48951609

Contact No: +86 21 6339 1199

Website: http://www.bar-rouge-shanghai.com/

Open / Close Time : Every day – 18:00 hrs to 03:00 hrs

Hollywood Shanghai:

Address: 46 Yueyang Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China,2000031

Location : 31.2074971,121.4519325 Contact No : +86 21 6466 7662

Website: http://www.hollywoodshanghai.com/

The Camel Sports Bar:

Address: 1 Yueyang Rd, Xuhui, Shanghai, China,2000031

Location: 31.2088888,121.45210139

Contact No : +86 21 6437 9446

Open / Close Time : Every day – 09:00 hrs to 02:00 hrs

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17. Average meal cost

As one of the most fascinating cities in the world, Shanghai offers an eating and dining experience like no other. The nature of business in Shanghai makes it a relatively expensive destination as compared to the rest of China. The prices vary from the amount paid for street foods as compared to those in restaurants. The average cost of breakfast in Shanghai ranges from 1.5 ¥ to 6 ¥. For lunch and a dinner, you may have to part with a total of 3 ¥ to 10 ¥. A pint of beer while in Shanghai ranges between 3 ¥ to 5 ¥ depending on the side of town.



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18. Shopping

Shanghai is a shopper's paradise in every sense that has gone on to attain the label 'Paris of Orient'. The city has thousands of shops and stores at your disposal. To get the true picture of the shopping potential of Shanghai, the city has a 4,130,000 sq. meters. To experience the best shopping while in Shanghai a number of streets. From pedestrian streets to specialty shopping areas, you are likely to be spoilt of choice while in Shanghai. From embroidery products, to handcrafts or modern electronics and clothing, Shanghai will surely meet your need. Nanjing Road, Sichuan Road and Xujiahui commercial district are some of the places a tourist can try out.

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19. Tourist benefits

For those tourists that wish to make their way to Shanghai, a great deal of benefits and advantages can be assured during the visit. One of the greatest advantages of shopping in Shanghai is getting VAT tax refunds for goods purchased during the tour. To earn tax refunds a tourist has to ensure that they purchase their goods in specified tax free stores, after which they will have to claim a tax refund form. The goods have to be carried during departure if the refunds are to be made. After inspection and verification by customs rebates can be received at the refund counter.

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20. Essential local apps

Baidu Maps is one of the apps that you can utilize while in Shanghai. For the best street views while walking or driving through Shanghai, the best maps of the city can be found through Baidu. From 2D to 3D views, the maps allow a person to have real-time traffic data and navigation. Explore Shanghai is another application that can be explored by visitors to Shanghai. The app utilizes the ever increasing metro network to plan a user's route. Alongside route planning the app allows the user to be able to utilize the full map of the subway while in Shanghai.



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21. Driving

Despite the huge traffic within a great part of the city, a number of tourists may wish to have the thrill and experience of driving around. In such a situation a tourist will need a driving license before they can be allowed to drive around. Unlike most cities, Shanghai does not accept International Driving Licenses, but rather allows for conversions from a tourist's country license to a local one. A tourist will have to take a computerized test which does not necessarily involve taking an actual driving test. You will however, have to make a 90% score before qualifying for a local driving license.

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22. Travel essentials

If you are planning to make your way to Shanghai, you will need to pack a number of essential accessories to avoid inconveniences during the visit. The electrical system in Shanghai is marked at 220 volts and as such you will need to carry an adapter plug and a power converter to avoid power surges for your electronic gadgets. If you are travelling with your electronics, it is also essential for you to remember to carry an extra padded bag to avoid shocks that might cause damage and breakages to your gadgets while your move around the big city.





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24. Local currency

Renminbi is the local currency of Shanghai. It is denoted as RMB or CNY. Yuan is its basic unit. I USD = 6.65 Yuan



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25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Currency exchange services are usually found at airports, banks, and top-end 4 star or 5 star hotels in China. Shanghai is no exception. Shanghai Pudong Airport has exchange offices for international travellers. However, banks offer the best exchange rates compared to other exchange vendors. You will also have to pay a commission to private vendors anywhere ranging from 2.5% - 25%. Almost all major credit/debit card providers have service in Shanghai and their cards are accepted in ATMs in and around the city. When using ATMs for obtaining local currency with your bank's cards, exchange rates and fees (up to \$ 5 or more) of card providers and withdrawing banks will be applicable. Banks also set daily withdrawal limits of up to 2500 ¥ per transaction.

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26. Staying connected

For communication and making international calls while in Shanghai the least concern should be finding an appropriate communication line to use. China Mobile or China Unicom is the major mobile phone service providers at your disposal. Your communication needs will determine the plan you select during your stay. The easiest way to make the greatest deal in regards to communication while in Shanghai is to use a prepaid SIM which is also rechargeable. For your internet needs while in Shanghai, ADSL or dial-up service is the best alternative. For regions that do not have cable internet access cable modems come in handy.





27. Time Zone

The city of Shanghai follows China Time Zone with UTC + 08:00 hours.



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28. Languages

Chinese is widely spoken throughout the city. The Wu Chinese dialect follows it with Mandarin and Cantonese.



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29. Political Scenario

As the very first city in china to embrace modernity, a great deal of its practices is influenced by western ideology and practices. However, upon the launch of the Cultural Revolution in 1966 by Mao, the city was left struggling to regain its prominence. It however, it struggled to dissociate itself from the communist ideology and instead established itself as a libertarian hub. In modern times however, the city conforms to the Communist Party of China which is the ruling party within the country. Shanghai remains a crucial political position within the politics of China with many of its leaders finding their way through senior government in national politics.

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30. Economic Scenario

As a crucial financial, shipping and trading center in China Shanghai is a represents one of the most instrumental commercial centers of the world. Due to its strategic positioning as a port, it remains as a leading power within the country. The city focuses on imports and exports with a population that is well over twenty million. This population plays huge role in bolstering the purchasing power of the city making it a crucial business center. Enterprise and foreign trades make it an instrumental city but its artistic and scientific characteristics bolster its position in the China and the world at large.





31. Religious belief

Shanghai has a diverse religious culture. Largest majority of believers are Buddhists constituting 10.4% of the population. Protestants form 1.9%, 0.7% is Catholics, and people following other faiths constitute 0.1%. People who do not follow any religion and those who believe in traditional faiths together come to about 87%. These traditional faiths may include Taoism, Confucian belief, and other folk religions. The largest number of Catholics in China is in Shanghai.



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32. Visa requirements

Shanghai has the 144-Hour Visa Free Transit policy that enables international travellers to transit in the city for 144 hours or six days while travelling to another country through China. The passengers can move around Shanghai during this period, but not to any other cities. In order to get this visa, the passengers have to enter and exit from eligible transit ports, and also should have a valid visa for a third country and a confirmed ticket for further journey towards the destination country. The passenger should come from a country that has access to this policy. You need to have a visa to enter China. 'L' type of visa is the most common that is valid for up to 30 days. You can also have multiple entries with 6 months or a year's long visa. They are typically valid for 30 to 90 days from the date of issue.

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33. Essential vaccination

It is recommended to have routine vaccinations with Tdap, MMR, Chickenpox and Pneumonia.



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34. Theft and Safety

Petty crimes like theft and pick-pocketing can happen in crowded areas. Travellers should be cautious while moving around with money and important travel documents. Never keep cash or purse in the back pockets. Also make sure that you leave no valuables in hotel rooms while going out.



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35. Embassy/Consulate

Shanghai has 76 foreign representations that include 70 consulates general, 5 consulates, and 1 representative office. They are located in areas of easy access like Wu Yi Road, Nanjing Road, Loushanguan, Shanghai International Trade Centre, Changle Road, Dawning Centre, and the like. You can get more information at http://www.embassypages.com/city/shanghai.



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36. Accessibility

As Shanghai is one of the largest cities across the entire world, there are wheelchair taxis, sidewalks, attractions and sights accessibility with airport accessibility.



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37. Emergencies

It is always necessary to have the most important numbers while traveling to any new city. Dial 120 for ambulance, 119 for fire and 110 for police. For local emergency, contact Ruijin Hospital or Huashan Hospital . Shanghai United Family Hospital and Clinics accepts insurance.



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38. Do's and Don'ts

Do's – • You can shake hand while meeting new people. • Understand the basic superstitions and beliefs of Chinese people. • Try saying 'No' in a polite way always. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts – • Avoid talking about deaths or politics. • Do not compare China to Japan. • Do not point fingers at the residents here while talking. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import. • Avoid touching people as they are not comfortable being touched. • Do not gift umbrellas or clocks.

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39. Tipping basics

Shanghai, like the rest of China is against tipping the service providers. Tips are often left untouched even if you decide to leave a few RMBs in restaurants or bars. Taxi drivers are not paid any tip other than the regular fare they charge.



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40.Pet info

China does not allow bringing pet animals other than cats and dogs along with tourists. There are many documents required if you want to take your pet into the country. A vaccination certificate that gives complete information about the rabies vaccination taken for the animal has to be produced and verified at the airport before you get out. You will also need a quarantine certificate and an Animal Health Certificate given by authorized personnel of the country from where you depart. Guide animals can be taken into a bus or train if they are properly leashed and do not cause any inconvenience to other passengers.



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Conclusion - Why to select this destination

Why Choose Shanghai? Any qualms about visiting Shanghai can be erased by the fact that Shanghai is one of the richest and largest cities of china. The city is a finance and commerce centre and is home to thousands of international and local companies. Accessibility is another plus for the largest and most busy cities in china. Water ways, planes, trains and buses are all avenues that can be used to access this beautiful city. Shanghai is a shopping paradise that offers all the products and services one can imagine. For instance, the latest luxurious goods can be found at Nanjing Road while innumerable open air markets can be found with a huge assortment of traditional goods. For the party lovers and goers Shanghai has an endless life all day round and perhaps one of the most colourful nightlife imaginable. The diversity of culture provides a unique mix of viewpoints for travellers and tourist. Theatres with dance, acrobatics, opera and dance form part of the entertainment industry of Shanghai. Innumerable bars and night clubs dot the night life of the beautiful Shanghai. The city is a meeting point for western and eastern cultures both of which can be capture while exploring the beauty and culture of the city.

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