I arrived by a taxi after my flight from Beijing. The taxi driver was not thrilled about the short distance, but I tipped him RMB 50 and he seemed happy about it. He got out and helped me with my bags.

Check-in procedures was mostly seamless… that included the photocopying of my passport.

In terms of transportation, you can take buses, taxis, and you can take a bus to the subway station. Just be aware that if you plan on taking a bus, you’ll have a walk and maybe a street to cross. I prefer taxis as they are more convenient most of the time, but just something to note. There is a parking lot for guests as well as 30 minutes of free entry. I believe that you can request a parking voucher if you are eating here.

My room was on the second floor. That meant one level up on the elevator (but you all know that). It also means a long walk. I went on the outdoor boardwalk and soaked in the tropical weather.

The hallways are long! Mine took a long walk… and it was long… and it was long. This hotel is a huge complex with restaurants and large rooms for business meetings (and dining, you and your business partners would sit down and talk over some dim sum) and a few conference rooms. FYI the rooms can end up having windows that face another hallway… never fun!

Anyways the room had two beds,

A large TV (which I should really get to start measuring soon),

A desk (and chair for the desk),

And views of the wall outside the window that leads to nowhere. No, I did not have a view of the hallway, yet it’s ironic enough that I have a view facing the actual outside of the hotel that’s not the outside…

The bathroom was fairly standard for a Chinese hotel… I appreciate that shampoos are still in the mini bottles. Yes. I will always say that for a hotel because bulk dispensers failed. Miserably. *Yes, the environment is a problem to worry about, but we need to balance it with health and safety of everyone. I wonder why hotels don’t use biodegradable products anyways…*

I had lunch downstairs at the Taoyuan restaurant. Seating was full… which meant I got tossed all the way to the Tea Room (not literally). It was… mostly full but I snagged a seat.

I checked stuff off the menu.

I had a steamed custard bun,

And a “Roasted Goose” (which came with rice)…

The steamed custard bun was cold on the outside, but the actual custard was boiling hot on the inside. The “Roasted Goose” is in air quotes because it did not taste at all like that… in other words, maybe order items such as buns and fried rice because those are basically the safe options. Judging based on the exterior of the hotel, the rooms, the pool, the lobby, among many other things, my food experience was a disappointment. They say “never judge a book by its cover,” well I say I’ve gone in enough to be able to judge that book by both the cover and the content.

I planned to have dinner here with my friend. Instead I let him pick. And it was a nice choice. The food was noticeably much better. Granted he paid and picked, so I was kind of blinded.

Breakfast buffet was excellent… so many options. I’ll just share pictures.

And my favorite would be the noodle soup, made to order. It was so awesome. If it was available for lunch, I would’ve taken it in a heartbeat.

So I think this hotel is ok for a stay. Don’t expect to eat good food unless it’s breakfast. And if you’re planning to stay for longer than mine, bring your own food or eat out. The Taoyuan restaurant is mostly bad on Dim Sum (though I heard it’s much nicer if it’s ordered off a more expensive menu).