[Template:Other uses](/wiki/Template:Other_uses" \o "Template:Other uses) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates)

[Template:Infobox settlement](/wiki/Template:Infobox_settlement) [Template:Infobox Chinese](/wiki/Template:Infobox_Chinese)

**Shanghai** is the most populous [city](/wiki/City) in both [China](/wiki/China)[[1]](#cite_note-1)[[2]](#cite_note-2) and Asia as well as the [most populous city proper](/wiki/List_of_cities_proper_by_population) in the world.[[3]](#cite_note-3) It is the second most populous of the four [direct-controlled municipalities](/wiki/Direct-controlled_municipalities_of_China) in [mainland China](/wiki/Mainland_China), with a population of more than 24 million [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of).[[4]](#cite_note-4) It is a global [financial center](/wiki/Financial_center),[[5]](#cite_note-5) and a transport hub with the [world's busiest container port](/wiki/List_of_world's_busiest_container_ports).[[6]](#cite_note-6) Located in the [Yangtze River Delta](/wiki/Yangtze_River_Delta) in [East China](/wiki/East_China), Shanghai sits on the south edge of the mouth of the [Yangtze](/wiki/Yangtze) in the middle portion of the Chinese coast. The municipality borders the provinces of [Jiangsu](/wiki/Jiangsu) and [Zhejiang](/wiki/Zhejiang) to the north, south and west, and is bounded to the east by the [East China Sea](/wiki/East_China_Sea).[[7]](#cite_note-7) For centuries a major administrative, shipping, and trading town, Shanghai grew in importance in the 19th century due to European recognition of its favorable [port](/wiki/Port_of_Shanghai) location and economic potential. The city was one of [five](/wiki/Treaty_ports) forced open to foreign trade following the British victory over China in the [First Opium War](/wiki/First_Opium_War) while the subsequent 1842 [Treaty of Nanking](/wiki/Treaty_of_Nanking) and 1844 [Treaty of Whampoa](/wiki/Treaty_of_Whampoa) allowed the establishment of the [Shanghai International Settlement](/wiki/Shanghai_International_Settlement) and the [French Concession](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession). The city then flourished as a center of commerce between east and west, and became the undisputed financial hub of the [Asia-Pacific](/wiki/Asia-Pacific) region in the 1930s.[[8]](#cite_note-8) However, with the Communist Party takeover of the mainland in 1949, trade was limited to socialist countries, and the city's global influence declined. In the 1990s, the [economic reforms](/wiki/Economic_reform_in_the_People's_Republic_of_China) introduced by [Deng Xiaoping](/wiki/Deng_Xiaoping) resulted in an intense re-development of the city, aiding the return of finance and foreign investment to the city.[[9]](#cite_note-9) Shanghai is a popular tourist destination renowned for its historical landmarks such as [The Bund](/wiki/The_Bund_(Shanghai)), [City God Temple](/wiki/City_God_Temple_of_Shanghai), [Yu Garden](/wiki/Yu_Garden), the extensive [Lujiazui](/wiki/Lujiazui) skyline, many skyscrapers, and major museums including the [Shanghai Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Museum) and the [China Art Museum](/wiki/China_Art_Museum). It has been described as the "showpiece" of the booming [economy of mainland China](/wiki/Economy_of_China).[[10]](#cite_note-10)[[11]](#cite_note-11)

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## Etymology and names[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

The two [Chinese characters](/wiki/Chinese_character) in the city's name are [Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext) (*shàng*, "above") and [Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext) (*hǎi*, "sea"), together meaning "Upon-the-Sea". The earliest occurrence of this name dates from the 11th-century [Song dynasty](/wiki/Song_dynasty), at which time there was already a river confluence and a town with this name in the area. There are disputes as to exactly how the name should be understood, but [Chinese](/wiki/China) historians have concluded that during the [Tang dynasty](/wiki/Tang_dynasty) Shanghai was literally on the sea.[[12]](#cite_note-12) Shanghai is officially abbreviated [Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext) (*Hù*) in [Chinese](/wiki/Chinese_language),[[13]](#cite_note-13) a contraction of [Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext) (*Hù Dú*, lit "[Harpoon](/wiki/Harpoon) Ditch"),[[14]](#cite_note-14)[[15]](#cite_note-15) a 4th- or [Template:Nowrap](/wiki/Template:Nowrap) [Jin](/wiki/Jin_Dynasty_(265–420)) name for the mouth of [Suzhou Creek](/wiki/Suzhou_Creek) when it was the main conduit into the ocean.[[14]](#cite_note-14) This character appears on all motor vehicle license plates issued in the municipality today.

Another alternative name for Shanghai is *Shēn* ([Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext)) or *Shēnchéng* ([Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext), "Shen City"), from [Lord Chunshen](/wiki/Lord_Chunshen), a third-century BC nobleman and prime minister of the [state of Chu](/wiki/Chu_(state)), whose fief included modern Shanghai.[[14]](#cite_note-14) Sports teams and newspapers in Shanghai often use Shen in their names, such as [Shanghai Shenhua F.C.](/wiki/Shanghai_Shenhua_F.C.) and [*Shen Bao*](/wiki/Shen_Bao).

*Huating* ([Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext)) was another early name for Shanghai. In AD 751, during the mid-[Tang dynasty](/wiki/Tang_dynasty), Huating County was established at modern-day [Songjiang](/wiki/Songjiang_Town), the first [county-level administration](/wiki/County_(China)) within modern-day Shanghai. Today, Huating appears as the name of a four-star hotel in the city.[[12]](#cite_note-12) The city also has various nicknames in English, including "Pearl of the Orient" and "[Paris](/wiki/Paris) of the East".[[16]](#cite_note-16)[[17]](#cite_note-17)

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

[thumb|left|300px|The walled](/wiki/File:Old_City_of_Shanghai_will_walls_and_seafront.jpg) [Old City of Shanghai](/wiki/Old_City_of_Shanghai) in the 17th century [left|thumb|300px|Shanghai in the 1930s, with the](/wiki/File:Shanghai_1935_S1_AMS-WO.jpg) [Shanghai International Settlement](/wiki/Shanghai_International_Settlement) and [Shanghai French Concession](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession)

### Ancient history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

During the [Spring and Autumn period](/wiki/Spring_and_Autumn_period), the Shanghai area belonged to the [Kingdom of Wu](/wiki/Wu_(state)), which was conquered by the [Kingdom of Yue](/wiki/Yue_(state)), which in turn was conquered by the [Kingdom of Chu](/wiki/Chu_(state)).<ref name=ancient>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> During the [Warring States period](/wiki/Warring_States_period), Shanghai was part of the fief of [Lord Chunshen](/wiki/Lord_Chunshen) of Chu, one of the [Four Lords of the Warring States](/wiki/Four_Lords_of_the_Warring_States). He ordered the excavation of the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River). Its former or poetic name, the Chunshen River, gave Shanghai its nickname of "Shen".<ref name=ancient/> Fishermen living in the Shanghai area created a fishing tool called the *hu*, which lent its name to the outlet of [Suzhou Creek](/wiki/Suzhou_Creek) north of the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_of_Shanghai) and became a common nickname and [abbreviation](/wiki/Chinese_abbreviations) for the city.

### Imperial history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[upright|thumb|200px|Square Pagoda at Xingshengjiao Temple built during the](/wiki/File:Square_Tower_of_Songjiang.jpg) [Song Dynasty](/wiki/Song_Dynasty)

During the [Song dynasty](/wiki/Song_dynasty) (960–1279) Shanghai was upgraded in status from a village to a market town in 1074, and in 1172 a second sea wall was built to stabilize the ocean coastline, supplementing an earlier dike.[[18]](#cite_note-18) From the [Yuan dynasty](/wiki/Yuan_dynasty) in 1292 until Shanghai officially became a municipality in 1927, central Shanghai was administered as a county under Songjiang Prefecture, whose seat was at the present-day [Songjiang District](/wiki/Songjiang_District).[[19]](#cite_note-19) Two important events helped promote Shanghai's development in the [Ming dynasty](/wiki/Ming_dynasty). A [city wall](/wiki/City_wall) was built for the first time in 1554 to protect the town from raids by [Japanese pirates](/wiki/Wokou). It measured [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) high and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in circumference.[[20]](#cite_note-20) During the Wanli reign (1573–1620), Shanghai received an important psychological boost from the erection of a [City God Temple](/wiki/City_God_Temple_of_Shanghai) in 1602. This honour was usually reserved for places with the status of a city, such as a [prefectural capital](/wiki/府) not normally given to a mere [county town](/wiki/镇), as Shanghai was. It probably reflected the town's economic importance, as opposed to its low political status.[[20]](#cite_note-20) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Shanghai_1928_Bund_Cenotaph.jpeg)[The Bund](/wiki/The_Bund_(Shanghai)) in 1928; the WWI monument in the foreground was destroyed by the Japanese during WWII [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Shanghai_Nanking_Road_1930s.jpeg)[Nanking Road](/wiki/Nanjing_Road) in the 1930s [thumb|left|Shanghai filmed in 1937](/wiki/File:1937_Shanghai,_China_VP8.webm)

During the [Qing dynasty](/wiki/Qing_dynasty), Shanghai became one of the most important sea ports in the [Yangtze Delta](/wiki/Yangtze_Delta) region as a result of two important central government policy changes: In 1684, the [Kangxi Emperor](/wiki/Kangxi_Emperor) reversed the Ming dynasty prohibition on oceangoing vessels – a ban that had been in force since 1525; and in 1732 the [Yongzheng Emperor](/wiki/Yongzheng_Emperor) moved the customs office for [Jiangsu](/wiki/Jiangsu) province ([Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext); see [Customs House, Shanghai](/wiki/Customs_House,_Shanghai)) from the prefectural capital of [Songjiang](/wiki/Songjiang_Town) to Shanghai, and gave Shanghai exclusive control over customs collections for Jiangsu's foreign trade. As a result of these two critical decisions, by 1735 Shanghai had become the major trade port for all of the lower [Yangtze](/wiki/Yangtze) region, despite still being at the lowest administrative level in the political hierarchy.[[21]](#cite_note-21)

### Early modern history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

International attention to Shanghai grew in the 19th century due to [European](/wiki/Europe) recognition of its economic and trade potential at the Yangtze. During the [First Opium War](/wiki/First_Opium_War) (1839–1842), British forces occupied the city. The war ended with the 1842 [Treaty of Nanking](/wiki/Treaty_of_Nanking), which allowed the British to dictate opening the [treaty ports](/wiki/Treaty_ports), Shanghai included, for international trade.[[22]](#cite_note-22) The [Treaty of the Bogue](/wiki/Treaty_of_the_Bogue) signed in 1843, and the [Sino-American Treaty of Wanghia](/wiki/Treaty_of_Wanghia) signed in 1844 forced Chinese concession to European and American desires for visitation and trade on Chinese soil. Britain, France (under the 1844 [Treaty of Whampoa](/wiki/Treaty_of_Whampoa)), and the [United States](/wiki/United_States) all carved out [concessions](/wiki/Concession_(territory)) outside the [walled city of Shanghai](/wiki/Old_City_of_Shanghai), which was still ruled by the Chinese.

The [Chinese](/wiki/China)-held old city of Shanghai fell to the rebels of the [Small Swords Society](/wiki/Small_Swords_Society) in 1853 but was recovered by the Qing government in February 1855.[[23]](#cite_note-23) In 1854, the [Shanghai Municipal Council](/wiki/Shanghai_Municipal_Council) was created to manage the foreign settlements. Between 1860–1862, the [Taiping rebels](/wiki/Taiping_Rebellion) [twice attacked](/wiki/Battle_of_Shanghai_(1861)) Shanghai and destroyed the city's eastern and southern suburbs, but failed to take the city.[[24]](#cite_note-24) In 1863, the British settlement to the south of [Suzhou Creek](/wiki/Suzhou_Creek) (northern [Huangpu District](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai)) and the American settlement to the north (southern [Hongkou District](/wiki/Hongkou_District)) joined in order to form the [Shanghai International Settlement](/wiki/Shanghai_International_Settlement). The French opted out of the Shanghai Municipal Council and maintained [its own concession](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession) to the south and southwest.

[thumb|right|"](/wiki/File:BattleOfShanghaiBaby_retouched.jpg)[Bloody Saturday](/wiki/Bloody_Saturday_(photograph))": a baby in the ruins of the old [Shanghai South Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_South_Railway_Station) after [Japanese](/wiki/Imperial_Japanese_Navy_Air_Service) bombing in August 1937

Citizens of many countries and all [continents](/wiki/Continent) came to Shanghai to live and work during the ensuing decades; those who stayed for long periods – some for generations – called themselves "[Shanghailanders](/wiki/Shanghailander)".[[25]](#cite_note-25) In the 1920s and 1930s, almost 20,000 [White Russians](/wiki/White_Movement) and Russian Jews fled the newly established Soviet Union and took up residence in Shanghai. These [Shanghai Russians](/wiki/Shanghai_Russians) constituted the second-largest foreign community. By 1932, Shanghai had become the world's fifth largest city and home to 70,000 foreigners.[[26]](#cite_note-26) In the 1930s, some 30,000 Jewish refugees from Europe arrived in the city.[[27]](#cite_note-27) The [Sino-Japanese War](/wiki/First_Sino-Japanese_War_(1894-1895)) concluded with the [Treaty of Shimonoseki](/wiki/Treaty_of_Shimonoseki), which elevated Japan to become another foreign power in Shanghai. Japan built the first factories in Shanghai, which were soon copied by other foreign powers. Shanghai was then the most important financial center in the Far East. All this international activity gave Shanghai the nickname "the Great Athens of [China](/wiki/China)"[[28]](#cite_note-28) Under the [Republic of China](/wiki/Republic_of_China_(1912–49)), Shanghai's political status was raised to that of a municipality on 14 July 1927. Although the territory of the foreign concessions was excluded from their control, this new Chinese municipality still covered an area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), including the modern-day districts of Baoshan, Yangpu, Zhabei, Nanshi, and Pudong. Headed by a Chinese mayor and municipal council, the new city government's first task was to create a new city center in Jiangwan town of Yangpu district, outside the boundaries of the foreign concessions. The "[Greater Shanghai Plan](/wiki/Greater_Shanghai_Plan)" included a public museum, library, sports stadium, and city hall, which were partially constructed when the plan was interrupted by the Japanese invasion.[[29]](#cite_note-29) On [28 January 1932](/wiki/January_28_Incident), Japanese forces struck and the [Chinese](/wiki/China) resisted, fighting to a standstill; a ceasefire was brokered in May. The [Battle of Shanghai](/wiki/Battle_of_Shanghai) in 1937 resulted in the occupation of the Chinese administered parts of Shanghai outside of the International Settlement and the French Concession. The foreign concessions were occupied by the Japanese on 8 December 1941 and remained occupied until Japan's surrender in 1945, during which time [war crimes](/wiki/Japanese_war_crimes) were committed.[[30]](#cite_note-30) On 27 May 1949, the [People's Liberation Army](/wiki/People's_Liberation_Army) took control of Shanghai. Under the new People's Republic of China (PRC), Shanghai was one of only three municipalities not merged into neighboring provinces over the next decade (the others being [Beijing](/wiki/Beijing) and [Tianjin](/wiki/Tianjin)).[[31]](#cite_note-31) Shanghai underwent a series of changes in the boundaries of its subdivisions over the next decade. After 1949, most foreign firms moved their offices from Shanghai to [Hong Kong](/wiki/Hong_Kong), as part of a foreign divestment due to the Communist victory.

### Modern history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[thumb|Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone](/wiki/File:Pudong_district_roads_traffic_skyscrapers,_Shanghai.JPG) During the 1950s and 1960s, Shanghai became the center for radical [leftism](/wiki/Left-wing_politics) since it was the industrial centre of China with most skilled industrial workers. The radical leftist [Jiang Qing](/wiki/Jiang_Qing) and her three cohorts, together the [Gang of Four](/wiki/Gang_of_Four), were based in the city.[[32]](#cite_note-32) Yet, even during the most tumultuous times of the [Cultural Revolution](/wiki/Cultural_Revolution), Shanghai was able to maintain high economic productivity and relative social stability. During most of the history of the PRC, Shanghai has been a comparatively heavy contributor of tax revenue to the central government, with Shanghai in 1983 contributing more in tax revenue to the central government than Shanghai had received in investment in the prior 33 years combined.[[33]](#cite_note-33) This came at the cost of severely crippling welfare of [Shanghainese people](/wiki/Shanghainese_people) and Shanghai's infrastructural and capital development. Its importance to the fiscal well-being of the central government also denied it economic liberalizations begun in 1978. Shanghai was finally permitted to initiate economic reforms in 1991, starting the massive development still seen today and the birth of [Lujiazui](/wiki/Lujiazui) in [Pudong](/wiki/Pudong).

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|left|300px|This map of Shanghai (*center and east*),](/wiki/File:Yangtze_River_Delta.gif) [Jiangsu](/wiki/Jiangsu) (*north*), and Zhejiang (*south*) shows the developed areas around Shanghai, [Nanjing](/wiki/Nanjing) (*dark green*), and [Hangzhou](/wiki/Hangzhou) in green. [Provincial](/wiki/Province_(PRC)) boundaries are in purple, sub-provincial boundaries in gray. [thumb|right|alt=Landsat-7. 15 August 2005.|This natural-color](/wiki/File:Shanghai_Landsat-7_2005-08-15.jpg) [satellite](/wiki/Landsat-7) image shows the urban area of Shanghai in 2005, along with [its major islands](/wiki/Islands_of_Shanghai) of (*from northwest to southeast*) [Chongming](/wiki/Chongming_Island), [Changxing](/wiki/Changxing_Island_(Shanghai)), [Hengsha](/wiki/Hengsha_Island), and the [Jiuduansha](/wiki/Jiuduansha) shoals off Pudong.

Shanghai lies on China's east coast roughly equidistant from [Beijing](/wiki/Beijing) and [Guangzhou](/wiki/Guangzhou). The [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_of_Shanghai) and modern downtown Shanghai are now located in the center of an expanding [peninsula](/wiki/Peninsula) between the [Yangtze River Delta](/wiki/Yangtze_River_Delta) to the north and [Hangzhou Bay](/wiki/Hangzhou_Bay) to the south, formed by the [Yangtze's](/wiki/Yangtze_River) natural [deposition](/wiki/Deposition_(geology)) and by modern [land reclamation](/wiki/Land_reclamation) projects. The provincial-level Municipality of Shanghai administers both the eastern area of this peninsula and many of its [surrounding islands](/wiki/Islands_of_Shanghai). It is bordered on the north and west by [Jiangsu](/wiki/Jiangsu), on the south by [Zhejiang](/wiki/Zhejiang), and on the east by the [East China Sea](/wiki/East_China_Sea). Its northernmost point is on [Chongming Island](/wiki/Chongming_Island), now the second-largest [island in mainland China](/wiki/Islands_of_China) after its expansion during the 20th century.<ref name=eos>["Chongming Island" in the *Encyclopedia of Shanghai*, p. 52.](http://zhuanti.shanghai.gov.cn/encyclopedia/en/Default2.aspx#52) Shanghai Scientific & Technical Publishers (Shanghai), 2010. Hosted by the Municipality of Shanghai.</ref> The municipality does not, however, include an exclave of [Jiangsu](/wiki/Jiangsu) on northern Chongming or the two islands forming Shanghai's [Yangshan Port](/wiki/Yangshan_Port), which are part of [Zhejiang's](/wiki/Zhejiang) [Shengsi County](/wiki/Shengsi_County). This [deep-water port](/wiki/Deep-water_port) was made necessary by the increasing size of [container ships](/wiki/Container_ship) but also the [silting](/wiki/Silting) of the Yangtze, which narrows to less than [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) as far out as [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) from [Hengsha](/wiki/Hengsha_Island).[[34]](#cite_note-34) Downtown Shanghai is bisected by the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River), a man-made tributary of the [Yangtze](/wiki/Yangtze_River) that was created by order of [Lord Chunshen](/wiki/Lord_Chunshen) during the [Warring States Period](/wiki/Warring_States_Period). The historic center of the city was located on the west bank of the Huangpu ([Puxi](/wiki/Puxi)), near the mouth of [Suzhou Creek](/wiki/Suzhou_Creek), connecting it with [Lake Tai](/wiki/Lake_Tai) and the [Grand Canal](/wiki/Grand_Canal_of_China). The central financial district [Lujiazui](/wiki/Lujiazui) has grown up on the east bank of the Huangpu ([Pudong](/wiki/Pudong)). The destruction of local wetlands occasioned by the creation of [Pudong International Airport](/wiki/Pudong_International_Airport) along the peninsula's eastern shore has been somewhat offset by the protection and expansion of the nearby shoals of [Jiuduansha](/wiki/Jiuduansha) as a nature preserve.<ref name=4isle>["Fourth Island Wetland Emerging", pp. 1–2.](http://www.china.org.cn/environment/2009-12/08/content_19028666_2.htm) [*Shanghai Daily*](/wiki/Shanghai_Daily). 8 December 2009. Hosted at China.org.</ref>

Shanghai's location on an [alluvial plain](/wiki/Alluvial_plain) means that the vast majority of its [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) land area is flat, with an average elevation of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[35]](#cite_note-35) Its sandy soil has required its skyscrapers to be built with deep concrete piles to stop them from sinking into the soft ground of the central area. The few hills such as [She Shan](/wiki/Sheshan_Hill) lie to the southwest and the highest point is the peak of [Dajinshan Island](/wiki/Dajinshan_Island) in Hangzhou Bay ([Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)).[[35]](#cite_note-35) The city has many rivers, canals, streams and lakes and is known for its rich water resources as part of the [Lake Tai](/wiki/Lake_Tai) drainage area.[[36]](#cite_note-36)

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

Shanghai has a [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) ([Köppen](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification) *Cfa*) and experiences four distinct seasons. Winters are chilly and damp, with northwesterly winds from [Siberia](/wiki/Siberia) can cause nighttime temperatures to drop below freezing, although most years there are only one or two days of snowfall. Summers are hot and humid, with an average of 8.7 days exceeding [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) annually; occasional downpours or freak [thunderstorms](/wiki/Thunderstorm) can be expected. The city is also susceptible to [typhoons](/wiki/Typhoon) in summer and the beginning of autumn, none of which in recent years has caused considerable damage.[[37]](#cite_note-37) The most pleasant seasons are spring, although changeable and often rainy, and autumn, which is generally sunny and dry. The city averages [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in January and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in July, for an annual mean of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). With monthly percent possible sunshine ranging from 34% in March to 54% in August, the city receives 1,895 hours of bright sunshine annually. Extremes since 1951 have ranged from [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on 31 January 1977 (unofficial record of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) was set on 19 January 1893) to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on 6 and 8 August 2013. A highest record of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) was registered in another station on 7 August 2013.[[38]](#cite_note-38)[[39]](#cite_note-39)[[40]](#cite_note-40)[[41]](#cite_note-41) [Template:Shanghai weatherbox](/wiki/Template:Shanghai_weatherbox) [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Cityscape[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

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## Politics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image) [Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

Like virtually all governing institutions in the mainland People's Republic of China, the politics of Shanghai is structured in a dual party-government system,[[42]](#cite_note-42) in which the [Party Committee Secretary](/wiki/Party_Committee_Secretary), officially termed the Communist Party of China Shanghai Municipal Committee Secretary (currently [Han Zheng](/wiki/Han_Zheng)), outranks the Mayor (currently [Yang Xiong](/wiki/Yang_Xiong_(politician))).

Political power in Shanghai is widely seen as a stepping stone to higher positions in the national government. Since [Jiang Zemin](/wiki/Jiang_Zemin) became the [General Secretary of the Communist Party of China](/wiki/General_Secretary_of_the_Communist_Party_of_China) in June 1989, all but one former Shanghai party secretary was elevated to the [Politburo Standing Committee](/wiki/Politburo_Standing_Committee_of_the_Communist_Party_of_China), the *de facto* highest decision-making body in China,[[42]](#cite_note-42) including Jiang himself (Party General Secretary),[[43]](#cite_note-43) [Zhu Rongji](/wiki/Zhu_Rongji) (Premier),[[44]](#cite_note-44) [Wu Bangguo](/wiki/Wu_Bangguo) (Chairman of the National People's Congress),[[45]](#cite_note-45) [Huang Ju](/wiki/Huang_Ju) (Vice Premier),[[46]](#cite_note-46) [Xi Jinping](/wiki/Xi_Jinping) (current General Secretary),[[47]](#cite_note-47) and [Yu Zhengsheng](/wiki/Yu_Zhengsheng). [Zeng Qinghong](/wiki/Zeng_Qinghong), a former deputy party secretray of Shanghai, also rose to the Politburo Standing Committee and became the Vice President and an influential power broker.[[48]](#cite_note-48) The only exception is [Chen Liangyu](/wiki/Chen_Liangyu), who was fired in 2006 and later convicted of corruption.[[49]](#cite_note-49) Officials with ties to the Shanghai administration form a powerful faction in the national government, the so-called [Shanghai Clique](/wiki/Shanghai_Clique), which was often thought to compete against the rival [Youth League Faction](/wiki/Youth_League_Faction) over personnel appointments and policy decisions.[[50]](#cite_note-50) [Xi Jinping](/wiki/Xi_Jinping), successor to [Hu Jintao](/wiki/Hu_Jintao) as [General Secretary](/wiki/General_Secretary_of_the_Communist_Party_of_China) and [President](/wiki/President_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China), was a compromise candidate between the two groups with supporters in both camps. [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Administrative divisions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[thumb|right|Map of central Shanghai](/wiki/File:Openstreetmap_central_Shanghai.svg)

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Shanghai is administratively equal to a [province](/wiki/Chinese_province) and is divided into 16 [county-level divisions](/wiki/County-level_division): 15 [districts](/wiki/District_of_China) and one [county](/wiki/County_(People's_Republic_of_China)). Even though every district has its own urban core, the real city center is between Bund to the east, Nanjing Rd to the north, Old City Temple and Huaihai Road to the south. Prominent central business areas include [Lujiazui](/wiki/Lujiazui) on the east bank of the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River), and [The Bund](/wiki/The_Bund_(Shanghai)) and [Hongqiao](/wiki/Hongqiao_Lu) areas in the west bank of the Huangpu River. The city hall and major administration units are located in [Huangpu District](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai), which also serve as a commercial area, including the famous [Nanjing Road](/wiki/Nanjing_Road_(Shanghai)). Other major commercial areas include [Xintiandi](/wiki/Xintiandi) and the classy [Huaihai Road](/wiki/Huaihai_Road) (previously *Avenue Joffre*) in [Huangpu District](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai) and [Xujiahui](/wiki/Xujiahui) (formerly [Romanized](/wiki/Romanization_of_Chinese) as *Zikawei or Siccawei*, reflecting the Shanghainese pronunciation) in [Xuhui District](/wiki/Xuhui_District). Many [universities in Shanghai](/wiki/List_of_universities_and_colleges_in_Shanghai) are located in residential areas of [Yangpu District](/wiki/Yangpu_District) and [Putuo District](/wiki/Putuo_District,_Shanghai).

Seven of the districts govern [Puxi](/wiki/Puxi) ([Template:Abbr](/wiki/Template:Abbr) "The West Bank"), the older part of urban Shanghai on the west bank of the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River). These seven districts are collectively referred to as Shanghai Proper ([Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang)) or the core city ([Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang)): [Huangpu](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai), [Xuhui](/wiki/Xuhui_District), [Changning](/wiki/Changning_District), [Jing'an](/wiki/Jing'an_District), [Putuo](/wiki/Putuo_District,_Shanghai), [Hongkou](/wiki/Hongkou_District), [Yangpu](/wiki/Yangpu_District)

[Pudong](/wiki/Pudong) ([Template:Abbr](/wiki/Template:Abbr) "The East Bank"), the newer part of urban and suburban Shanghai on the east bank of the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River), is governed by: [Pudong New Area](/wiki/Pudong_New_Area) (Chuansha County until 1992, merged with [Nanhui District](/wiki/Nanhui_District) in 2009 and with oversight of the [Jiuduansha](/wiki/Jiuduansha) shoals)

Seven of the districts govern suburbs, satellite towns, and rural areas further away from the urban core: [Baoshan](/wiki/Baoshan_District,_Shanghai) (Baoshan County until 1988), [Minhang](/wiki/Minhang_District) (original Minhang District & Shanghai County until 1992), [Jiading](/wiki/Jiading_District) (Jiading County until 1992), [Jinshan](/wiki/Jinshan_District) (Jinshan County until 1997), [Songjiang](/wiki/Songjiang_District) (Songjiang County until 1998), [Qingpu](/wiki/Qingpu_District,_Shanghai) (Qingpu County until 1999), [Fengxian](/wiki/Fengxian_District) (Fengxian County until 2001)

The islands of [Changxing](/wiki/Changxing_Island_(Shanghai)) and [Hengsha](/wiki/Hengsha_Island) and most (but not all[Template:Refn](/wiki/Template:Refn)) of [Chongming Island](/wiki/Chongming_Island) form: [Chongming County](/wiki/Chongming_County)

The former district of Nanhui was absorbed into Pudong District in 2009. In 2011 Luwan District merged with Huangpu District.

[Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), these county-level divisions are further divided into the following 210 [township-level divisions](/wiki/Administrative_divisions_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China#Township_level): 109 [towns](/wiki/Town_of_China), 2 [townships](/wiki/Townships_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China), 99 [subdistricts](/wiki/Subdistrict). Those are in turn divided into the following [village-level divisions](/wiki/Administrative_divisions_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China#Village_level): 3,661 neighborhood committees and 1,704 village committees.[[51]](#cite_note-51)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Administrative divisions of Shanghai** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| [Template:Image label begin](/wiki/Template:Image_label_begin) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) [Template:Image label](/wiki/Template:Image_label) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| [**Division code**](/wiki/Administrative_division_codes_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China)[**[52]**](#cite_note-52) | **English name** | [**Simp. Chinese**](/wiki/Simplified_Chinese) | [**Pinyin**](/wiki/Pinyin) | **Area in km2**[**[53]**](#cite_note-53) | **Population 2010**[**[54]**](#cite_note-54) | **Seat** | **Postal code** | **Divisions**[**[55]**](#cite_note-55) | | | | | |
| [**Subdistricts**](/wiki/Subdistrict_(China)) | [**Towns**](/wiki/Town_(China)) | [**Townships**](/wiki/Townships_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China) | [**Residential communities**](/wiki/Residential_community) | [**Villages**](/wiki/Villages_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China) |  |
| **310000** | **Shanghai Municipality** | [**Template:Nobold**](/wiki/Template:Nobold) | **Shànghǎi Shì** | **6340.50** | **23,019,196** | [**Huangpu District**](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai) | **200000** | **100** | **107** | **2** | **4024** | **1610** |  |
| **310101** | [**Huangpu District**](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai) | 黄浦区 | Huángpǔ Qū | 20.46 | 678,670 | [Waitan Subdistrict](/wiki/Waitan_Subdistrict) | 200000 | 10 |  |  | 189 |  |  |
| **310104** | [**Xuhui District**](/wiki/Xuhui_District) | 徐汇区 | Xúhuì Qū | 54.76 | 1,085,130 | [Xujiahui Subdistrict](/wiki/Xujiahui_Subdistrict) | 200000 | 12 | 1 |  | 306 |  |  |
| **310105** | [**Changning District**](/wiki/Changning_District) | 长宁区 | Chángníng Qū | 38.30 | 690,571 | [Jiangsu Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Jiangsu_Road_Subdistrict,_Shanghai) | 200000 | 9 | 1 |  | 184 |  |  |
| **310106** | [**Jing'an District**](/wiki/Jing'an_District) | 静安区 | Jìng'ān Qū | 37.37 | 1,077,284 | [Jiangning Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Jiangning_Road_Subdistrict) | 200000 | 13 | 1 |  | 283 | 1 |  |
| **310107** | [**Putuo District**](/wiki/Putuo_District,_Shanghai) | 普陀区 | Pǔtuó Qū | 54.83 | 1,288,881 | [Zhenru Town Subdistrict](/wiki/Zhenru_Town_Subdistrict) | 200000 | 8 | 2 |  | 245 | 7 |  |
| **310109** | [**Hongkou District**](/wiki/Hongkou_District) | 虹口区 | Hóngkǒu Qū | 23.48 | 852,476 | [Jiaxing Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Jiaxing_Road_Subdistrict,_Shanghai) | 200000 | 8 |  |  | 226 |  |  |
| **310110** | [**Yangpu District**](/wiki/Yangpu_District) | 杨浦区 | Yángpǔ Qū | 60.73 | 1,313,222 | [Pingliang Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Pingliang_Road_Subdistrict) | 200000 | 11 | 1 |  | 307 |  |  |
| **310112** | [**Minhang District**](/wiki/Minhang_District) | 闵行区 | Mǐnháng Qū | 371.68 | 2,429,372 | [Xinzhuang Town](/wiki/Xinzhuang,_Shanghai) | 201100 | 3 | 9 |  | 408 | 136 |  |
| **310113** | [**Baoshan District**](/wiki/Baoshan_District,_Shanghai) | 宝山区 | Bǎoshān Qū | 270.99 | 1,904,886 | [Youyi Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Youyi_Road_Subdistrict,_Shanghai) | 201900 | 3 | 9 |  | 350 | 108 |  |
| **310114** | [**Jiading District**](/wiki/Jiading_District) | 嘉定区 | Jiādìng Qū | 458.80 | 1,471,231 | [Xincheng Road Subdistrict](/wiki/Xincheng_Road_Subdistrict) | 201800 | 3 | 7 |  | 153 | 146 |  |
| **310115** | [**Pudong New Area**](/wiki/Pudong) | 浦东新区 | Pǔdōng Xīn Qū | 1210.41 | 5,044,430 | [Huamu Subdistrict](/wiki/Huamu_Subdistrict) | 201200 & 201300 | 12 | 24 |  | 829 | 371 |  |
| **310116** | [**Jinshan District**](/wiki/Jinshan_District) | 金山区 | Jīnshān Qū | 586.05 | 732,438 | [Shanyang Town](/wiki/Shanyang,_Shanghai) | 201500 | 1 | 9 |  | 88 | 124 |  |
| **310117** | [**Songjiang District**](/wiki/Songjiang_District) | 松江区 | Sōngjiāng Qū | 604.71 | 1,582,398 | [Fangsong Subdistrict](/wiki/Fangsong_Subdistrict) | 201600 | 4 | 11 |  | 185 | 86 |  |
| **310118** | [**Qingpu District**](/wiki/Qingpu_District,_Shanghai) | 青浦区 | Qīngpǔ Qū | 675.54 | 1,081,022 | [Xiayang Subdistrict](/wiki/Xiayang_Subdistrict) | 201700 | 3 | 8 |  | 97 | 184 |  |
| **310120** | [**Fengxian District**](/wiki/Fengxian_District) | 奉贤区 | Fèngxián Qū | 687.39 | 1,083,463 | [Nanqiao Town](/wiki/Nanqiao,_Shanghai) | 201400 |  | 8 |  | 107 | 177 |  |
| **310230** | [**Chongming County**](/wiki/Chongming_County) | 崇明县 | Chóngmíng Xiàn | 1185.49 | 703,722 | [Chengqiao Town](/wiki/Chengqiao) | 202100 |  | 16 | 2 | 67 | 270 |  |

[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|left|300px|Panoramic view of Pudong's skyline in 2010](/wiki/File:Shanghai_skyline_at_night,_panoramic._China,_East_Asia-2.jpg) [thumb|right|Increasing influence over global capital market:](/wiki/File:Shanghaistockexchange.jpg) [Shanghai Stock Exchange](/wiki/Shanghai_Stock_Exchange) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Yangshan-Port-Balanced.jpg)[Shanghai Port](/wiki/Shanghai_Port) is the world's busiest [container port](/wiki/Container_port) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Lujiazui_at_night,_Shanghai.JPG)[Lujiazui](/wiki/Lujiazui) at night, [Pudong](/wiki/Pudong)

Shanghai is the commercial and financial center of mainland China, and ranks 16th in the 2016 edition of the [Global Financial Centres Index](/wiki/Global_Financial_Centres_Index) published by the [Z/Yen Group](/wiki/Z/Yen) and [Qatar Financial Centre Authority](/wiki/Qatar_Financial_Centre).<ref name=GFCI>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> It was the largest and most prosperous city in [East Asia](/wiki/East_Asia) during the 1930s, and rapid re-development began in the 1990s.[[8]](#cite_note-8) This is exemplified by the Pudong District, a former swampland reclaimed to serve as a pilot area for integrated economic reforms. By the end of 2009, there were 787 financial institutions, of which 170 were foreign-invested.[[56]](#cite_note-56) In 2009, the [Shanghai Stock Exchange](/wiki/Shanghai_Stock_Exchange) ranked third among worldwide stock exchanges in terms of trading volume and sixth in terms of the total capitalization of listed companies, and the trading volume of six key commodities including rubber, copper and zinc on the [Shanghai Futures Exchange](/wiki/Shanghai_Futures_Exchange) all ranked first in the world.[[57]](#cite_note-57) In September 2013, with the backing of [Chinese Premier](/wiki/Chinese_Premier) [Li Keqiang](/wiki/Li_Keqiang) the city launched the [China (Shanghai) Pilot Free-Trade Zone](/wiki/China_(Shanghai)_Pilot_Free-Trade_Zone)-the first free-trade zone in mainland China. The Zone introduced a number of pilot reforms designed to create a preferential environment for foreign investment. In April 2014, [The Banker](/wiki/The_Banker) reported that Shanghai "has attracted the highest volumes of financial sector [foreign direct investment](/wiki/Foreign_direct_investment) in the Asia-Pacific region in the 12 months to the end of January 2014".[[58]](#cite_note-58) In August 2014, Shanghai was named [FDi magazine's](/wiki/FDi_magazine) Chinese Province of the Future 2014/15 due to "particularly impressive performances in the Business Friendliness and Connectivity categories, as well as placing second in the Economic Potential and Human Capital and Lifestyle categories".[[59]](#cite_note-59) In the last two decades Shanghai has been one of the fastest developing cities in the world. Since 1992 Shanghai has recorded double-digit growth almost every year except during the global recession of 2008 and 2009.[[60]](#cite_note-60) In 2011, Shanghai's total GDP grew to 1.92 trillion yuan (US$297 billion) with GDP per capita of 82,560 yuan (US $12,784).[[61]](#cite_note-61) The three largest service industries are [financial services](/wiki/Financial_services), retail, and real estate. The manufacturing and agricultural sectors accounted for 39.9 percent and 0.7 percent of the total output respectively.[[56]](#cite_note-56) Average annual disposable income of Shanghai residents, based on the first three quarters of 2009, was 21,871 RMB.[[62]](#cite_note-62) Located at the heart of the [Yangtze River Delta](/wiki/Yangtze_River_Delta), Shanghai has the world's busiest [container port](/wiki/Container_port), which handled 29.05 million [TEUs](/wiki/Twenty-foot_equivalent_unit) in 2010.[[63]](#cite_note-63) Shanghai aims to be an international shipping center in the near future.[[64]](#cite_note-64) Shanghai is one of the main industrial centers of China, playing a key role in China's heavy industries. A large number of industrial zones, including Shanghai Hongqiao Economic and Technological Development Zone, Jinqiao Export Economic Processing Zone, Minhang Economic and Technological Development Zone, and Shanghai Caohejing High-Tech Development Zone, are backbones of Shanghai's [secondary industry](/wiki/Secondary_industry). Heavy industries accounted for 78% of the gross industrial output in 2009. China's largest steelmaker [Baosteel Group](/wiki/Baosteel_Group), [China's](/wiki/China) largest [shipbuilding](/wiki/Shipbuilding) base – [Hudong-Zhonghua Shipbuilding Group](/wiki/Hudong-Zhonghua_Shipbuilding), and the [Jiangnan Shipyard](/wiki/Jiangnan_Shipyard), one of China's oldest shipbuilders are all located in Shanghai.[[65]](#cite_note-65)[[66]](#cite_note-66) Auto manufacture is another important industry. The Shanghai-based [SAIC Motor](/wiki/SAIC_Motor) is one of the three largest automotive corporations in China, and has strategic partnerships with [Volkswagen](/wiki/Volkswagen) and [General Motors](/wiki/General_Motors).[[67]](#cite_note-67) The conference and meeting sector is also growing. In 2012, the city hosted 780 international gatherings, up from 754 in 2011. The high supply of hotel rooms has kept room rates lower than expected, with the average room rate for four- and five-star hotels in 2012 at just RMB950 (US$153).[[68]](#cite_note-68) As of September 2013, Shanghai is also home to the largest free-trade zone in mainland China, the [China (Shanghai) Pilot Free-Trade Zone](/wiki/China_(Shanghai)_Pilot_Free-Trade_Zone). The zone covers an area of 29 km2 and integrates four existing bonded zones — Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone, Waigaoqiao Free Trade Logistics Park, Yangshan Free Trade Port Area and Pudong Airport Comprehensive Free Trade Zone. Several preferential policies have been implemented to attract foreign investment in various industries to the FTZ. Because the Zone is not technically considered PRC territory for tax purposes, commodities entering the zone are not subject to duty and customs clearance as would otherwise be the case. [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:Historical populations](/wiki/Template:Historical_populations) The [2010 census](/wiki/Sixth_National_Population_Census_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China) put Shanghai's total population at 23,019,148, a growth of 37.53% from 16,737,734 in 2000.[[69]](#cite_note-69)[[70]](#cite_note-70) 20.6 million of the total population, or 89.3%, are urban, and 2.5 million (10.7％) are rural.[[71]](#cite_note-71) Based on the population of its total administrative area, Shanghai is the second largest of the four [direct-controlled municipalities](/wiki/Direct-controlled_municipality_of_China) of China, behind [Chongqing](/wiki/Chongqing), but is generally considered the largest Chinese city because Chongqing's urban population is much smaller.[[1]](#cite_note-1) Shanghai also has 150,000 officially registered foreigners, including 31,500 Japanese, 21,000 Americans and 20,700 Koreans. Of course, this is based on official figures, so the real number of foreign citizens in the city is probably much higher.[[72]](#cite_note-72)

## Religion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:Pie chart](/wiki/Template:Pie_chart) Due to its cosmopolitan history, Shanghai has a blend of religious heritage as shown by the religious buildings and institutions still scattered around the city. According to a 2012 survey[[73]](#cite_note-73) only around 13% of the population of Shanghai belongs to organised religions, the largest groups being Buddhists with 10.4%, followed by Protestants with 1.9%, Catholics with 0.7% and other faiths with 0.1%. Around 87% of the population may be either irreligious or involved in [worship of nature deities and ancestors](/wiki/Chinese_folk_religion), [Confucian churches](/wiki/Confucian_churches), [Taoism](/wiki/Taoism) and [folk religious sects](/wiki/Chinese_salvationist_religions).

There are folk religious temples such as a [Temple of the Chenghuangshen](/wiki/City_God_Temple_of_Shanghai) ([City God](/wiki/City_God_(China))), at the heart of the old city, and a temple dedicated to the [Three Kingdoms](/wiki/Three_Kingdoms) general [Guan Yu](/wiki/Guan_Yu). The White Cloud Temple of Shanghai is an important Taoist centre in the city. The [*Wenmiao*](/wiki/Wen_Miao,_Shanghai) (Temple of the God of Culture) is dedicated to [Confucius](/wiki/Confucius).

[Buddhism](/wiki/Buddhism), in its [Chinese varieties](/wiki/Chinese_Buddhism), has had a presence in Shanghai since ancient times. The [Longhua Temple](/wiki/Longhua_Temple), the largest temple in Shanghai, and the [Jing'an Temple](/wiki/Jing'an_Temple), were first founded in the Three Kingdoms period. Another important temple is the [Jade Buddha Temple](/wiki/Jade_Buddha_Temple), which is named after a large statue of [Buddha](/wiki/Gautama_Buddha) carved out of [jade](/wiki/Jade) in the temple. In recent decades, dozens of modern temples have been built throughout the city.

[Islam](/wiki/Islam) came into Shanghai 700 years ago and a mosque was built in 1295 in Songjiang. In 1843, a teachers' college was also set up. The Shanghai Muslim Association is located in the [Xiaotaoyuan Mosque](/wiki/Xiaotaoyuan_Mosque) in [Nanshi](/wiki/Nanshi_District,_Shanghai).

Shanghai has one of the largest proportions of [Catholics](/wiki/Catholic_Church) in China (2003).[[74]](#cite_note-74) Among Catholic churches, [St Ignatius Cathedral](/wiki/St._Ignatius_Cathedral_of_Shanghai) in [Xujiahui](/wiki/Xujiahui) is one of the largest, while [She Shan Basilica](/wiki/She_Shan_Basilica) is an active pilgrimage site.

Other forms of [Christianity in Shanghai](/wiki/Christianity_in_Shanghai) include [Eastern Orthodox](/wiki/Eastern_Orthodox) minorities and, since 1996, registered Christian Protestant churches. During World War II thousands of Jews descended upon Shanghai in an effort to flee [Hitler's](/wiki/Hitler) regime. The Jews lived side-by-side in a designated area called [Shanghai Ghetto](/wiki/Shanghai_Ghetto) and formed a vibrant community centered on the [Ohel Moishe Synagogue](/wiki/Shanghai_Jewish_Refugees_Museum),[[75]](#cite_note-75) which is preserved remnant of this portion of Shanghai's complex religious past.[[76]](#cite_note-76)

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

[thumb|right|University City District in Songjiang](/wiki/File:Songjiang_ecupl.jpg)

Shanghai took the top spot in the 2009 and 2012 [Program for International Student Assessment](/wiki/Program_for_International_Student_Assessment) (PISA), a world-wide study of academic performance of 15-year-old students conducted by the [OECD](/wiki/OECD). Shanghai students, including migrant children, scored highest in every aspect (math, reading and science) in the world. The study concludes that public-funded schools in Shanghai have the highest educational quality in the world.[[77]](#cite_note-77)[[78]](#cite_note-78) Critics of PISA results counter that in Shanghai and other Chinese cities, most children of migrant workers can only attend city schools up to the ninth grade, and must return to their parents' hometowns for high school due to [hukou](/wiki/Hukou_system) restrictions, thus skewing the composition of the city's high school students in favor of wealthier local families.[[79]](#cite_note-79)[thumb|left|185px|](/wiki/File:Xuhui_Liberary_Scene_01.jpg)[Shanghai Jiao Tong University](/wiki/Shanghai_Jiao_Tong_University) Library Shanghai is the first city in the country to implement 9-year mandatory education. The 2010 census shows that out of Shanghai's total population, 22.0% had a college education, double the level from 2000, while 21.0% had high school, 36.5% middle school, and 1.35% primary school education. 2.74% of residents age 15 and older were illiterate.[[80]](#cite_note-80) Shanghai has more than 930 kindergartens, 1,200 primary and 850 middle schools. Over 760,000 middle schools students and 871,000 primary school students are taught by 76,000 and 64,000 teaching staff respectively.[[81]](#cite_note-81) Shanghai is a major center of higher education in China with [over 30 universities and colleges](/wiki/List_of_universities_and_colleges_in_Shanghai). A number of [China's most prestigious universities](/wiki/List_of_universities_in_China) are based in Shanghai, including [Fudan University](/wiki/Fudan_University), [Shanghai Jiao Tong University](/wiki/Shanghai_Jiao_Tong_University), [Tongji University](/wiki/Tongji_University), [East China Normal University](/wiki/East_China_Normal_University) (these universities are selected as "[985 universities](/wiki/Project_985)" by the Chinese Government in order to build world-class universities). In 2012 [NYU Shanghai](/wiki/NYU_Shanghai) was established in [Pudong](/wiki/Pudong) by [New York University](/wiki/New_York_University) in partnership with East China Normal University as the first Sino-US joint venture university. In 2013 the Shanghai Municipality and the [Chinese Academy of Sciences](/wiki/Chinese_Academy_of_Sciences) founded the [ShanghaiTech University](/wiki/ShanghaiTech_University) in the [Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park](/wiki/Zhangjiang_Hi-Tech_Park) in Pudong. This new research university is aiming to be a first-class institution on a national and international level.[[82]](#cite_note-82) The cadre school [China Executive Leadership Academy in Pudong](/wiki/China_Executive_Leadership_Academy_in_Pudong) is also located in Shanghai.

Children with foreign passports are permitted to attend any public school in Shanghai. Prior to 2007 they were permitted to attend 150 select public schools. In 2006 about 2,000 non-Chinese nationals under 18 years of age attended Shanghai public schools.[[83]](#cite_note-83) Students with [Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi](/wiki/Hanyu_Shuiping_Kaoshi) (HSK) above 3 or 4 may attend public schools using [Mandarin Chinese](/wiki/Mandarin_Chinese) as the medium of instruction, while students below HSK 3–4 may attend international divisions of public schools or private international schools.[[84]](#cite_note-84) Shanghai has the largest number of international schools of any city in China. In November 2015 Christopher Cottrell of the [*Global Times*](/wiki/Global_Times) wrote that Shanghai "prides itself on its international schools".[[85]](#cite_note-85)

## Transport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

### Public transport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:A_maglev_train_coming_out,_Pudong_International_Airport,_Shanghai.jpg) [Maglev](/wiki/Shanghai_Maglev_Train) with a top speed of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) exiting the [Shanghai Pudong International Airport](/wiki/Shanghai_Pudong_International_Airport) [Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

Shanghai has an extensive public transport system, largely based on metros, buses and taxis. Payment of all these public transportation tools can be made by using the [Shanghai Public Transportation Card](/wiki/Shanghai_Public_Transportation_Card).

Shanghai's rapid transit system, the [Shanghai Metro](/wiki/Shanghai_Metro), incorporates both subway and light railway lines and extends to every core urban district as well as neighboring suburban districts.

[Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), there are 14 metro lines (excluding the [Shanghai Maglev Train](/wiki/Shanghai_Maglev_Train) and [Jinshan Railway](/wiki/Jinshan_Railway)), 329 [stations](/wiki/List_of_Shanghai_Metro_stations) and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of tracks in operation, making it the [longest network in the world](/wiki/List_of_metro_systems).[[86]](#cite_note-86) On 22 October 2010, it set a record of daily ridership of 7.548 million.[[87]](#cite_note-87) The fare depends on the length of travel distance starting from 3 RMB.

In 2010, Shanghai returned tram, this time as a modern rubber tyred Translohr system, in Zhangjiang area of East Shanghai as [Zhangjiang Tram](/wiki/Zhangjiang_Tram).

Shanghai also has the world's most extensive network of urban [bus](/wiki/Bus) routes, with nearly one thousand bus lines, operated by numerous transportation companies.[[88]](#cite_note-88) The system includes [the world's oldest trolleybus system](/wiki/Trolleybuses_in_Shanghai). Bus fare normally costs 2 RMB.

[Taxis](/wiki/Taxis) are plentiful in Shanghai. The base fare is currently ¥14 (inclusive of a ¥1 fuel surcharge; ¥18 between 11:00 pm and 5:00 am) which covers the first [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). Additional kilometers cost ¥2.4 each (¥3.2 between 11:00 pm and 5:00 am).[[89]](#cite_note-89)

### Roads[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

Shanghai is a major hub of [China's expressway network](/wiki/Expressways_of_China). Many national expressways (prefixed with G) pass through or terminate in Shanghai, including [G2 Beijing–Shanghai Expressway](/wiki/G2_Beijing–Shanghai_Expressway) (overlapping [G42 Shanghai–Chengdu](/wiki/G42_Shanghai–Chengdu_Expressway)), [G15 Shenyang–Haikou](/wiki/G15_Shenyang–Haikou_Expressway), [G40 Shanghai–Xi'an](/wiki/G40_Shanghai–Xi'an_Expressway), [G50 Shanghai–Chongqing](/wiki/G50_Shanghai–Chongqing_Expressway), [G60 Shanghai–Kunming](/wiki/G60_Shanghai–Kunming_Expressway) (overlapping G92 Shanghai–Ningbo), and [G1501 Shanghai Ring Expressway](/wiki/G1501_Shanghai_Ring_Expressway). In addition, there are also numerous municipal expressways prefixed with S (S1, S2, S20, etc.). Shanghai has one [bridge-tunnel crossing spanning the mouth of the Yangtze](/wiki/Yangtze_River_bridges_and_tunnels) to the north of the city.

In the city center, there are several elevated expressways to lessen traffic pressure on surface streets, but traffic in and around Shanghai is often heavy and traffic jams are commonplace during rush hour. There are bicycle lanes separate from car traffic on many surface streets, but bicycles and motorcycles are banned from most main roads including the elevated expressways.

Private car ownership in Shanghai has been rapidly increasing in recent years, but a new private car cannot be driven until the owner buys a license in the monthly private car license plate auction. Around 11,500 license plates are auctioned each month and the average price is about 84,000 RMB ($12,758). According to the municipal regulation in 2016, only those who are Shanghai registered residents or have paid social insurance or individual incomer tax for over 3 years in a row. The purpose of this policy is to limit the growth of automobile traffic and to alleviate congestion.[[90]](#cite_note-90)

### Railway[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[thumb|left|The lobby of](/wiki/File:上海南火車站-大堂.JPG) [Shanghai South Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_South_Railway_Station) Shanghai has four major railway stations: [Shanghai Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_Railway_Station), [Shanghai South Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_South_Railway_Station), [Shanghai West Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_West_Railway_Station), and [Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station](/wiki/Shanghai_Hongqiao_Railway_Station). Three are connected to the [metro network](/wiki/Shanghai_Metro) and serve as hubs in the [railway network of China](/wiki/Rail_transport_in_the_People's_Republic_of_China). Two main railways terminate in Shanghai: [Jinghu Railway](/wiki/Jinghu_Railway) from Beijing, and [Huhang Railway](/wiki/Huhang_Railway) from Hangzhou. Hongqiao Station also serves as the main Shanghai terminus of three high-speed rail lines: the [Shanghai–Hangzhou High-Speed Railway](/wiki/Shanghai–Hangzhou_High-Speed_Railway), the [Shanghai–Nanjing High-Speed Railway](/wiki/Shanghai–Nanjing_High-Speed_Railway), and the [Beijing–Shanghai High-Speed Railway](/wiki/Beijing–Shanghai_High-Speed_Railway). [175px|thumb|](/wiki/File:Pudong_International_Airport_at_night.jpg)[Shanghai Pudong International Airport](/wiki/Shanghai_Pudong_International_Airport) terminal at night

### Air[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

Shanghai is one of the leading air transport gateways in Asia. The city has two commercial airports: [Shanghai Pudong International Airport](/wiki/Shanghai_Pudong_International_Airport) and [Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport](/wiki/Shanghai_Hongqiao_International_Airport).[[91]](#cite_note-91) Pudong Airport is the main international airport, while Hongqiao Airport mainly operates domestic flights with limited short-haul international flights. In 2010 the two airports served 71.7 million passengers (Pudong 40.4 million, Hongqiao 31.3 million), and handled 3.7 million tons of cargo (Pudong 3.22 million tons, Hongqiao 480 thousand tons).[[92]](#cite_note-92)[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Architecture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|right|Renovated](/wiki/File:Xintiandi_gem.jpg) [shikumen](/wiki/Shikumen) lanes in [Xintiandi](/wiki/Xintiandi), now a high-end restaurant and shopping center [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:The_Paramount,_Shanghai.JPG)[Paramount](/wiki/Paramount_(Shanghai)), a historical [dancehall](/wiki/Dancehall). [Art Deco](/wiki/Art_Deco) structure, built 1931–1932. [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Shanghai_Exhibition_Center.jpg)[Shanghai Exhibition Centre](/wiki/Shanghai_Exhibition_Centre), an example of [Soviet neoclassical architecture](/wiki/Stalinist_architecture) in Shanghai [thumb|right|Site of the](/wiki/File:Site_of_the_First_National_Congress_of_the_Communist_Party_of_China.jpg) [First National Congress of the Communist Party of China](/wiki/Museum_of_the_First_National_Congress_of_the_Chinese_Communist_Party), a typical [*shikumen*](/wiki/Shikumen) building in the former [French Concession](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession).

Shanghai has a rich collection of buildings and structures of various [architectural styles](/wiki/Architectural_style). [The Bund](/wiki/The_Bund_(Shanghai)), located by the bank of the [Huangpu River](/wiki/Huangpu_River), contains a rich collection of early 20th-century architecture, ranging in style from [neoclassical](/wiki/Neoclassical_architecture) [HSBC Building](/wiki/HSBC_Building,_Shanghai) to the [art deco](/wiki/Art_deco) [Sassoon House](/wiki/Peace_Hotel). A number of areas in the former foreign concessions are also well-preserved, the most notable ones being the [French Concession](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession). Shanghai has one of the world's largest number of Art Deco buildings as a result of the construction boom during the 1920s and 1930s. One of the most famous architects working in Shanghai was [László Hudec](/wiki/László_Hudec), a Hungarian-Slovak architect who lived in the city between 1918–1947. Some of his most notable Art Deco buildings include the [Park Hotel](/wiki/Park_Hotel_Shanghai) and the Grand Theater. Other prominent architects who contributed to the Art Deco style are Parker & Palmer, who designed the Peace Hotel, Metropole Hotel, and the Broadway Mansions, and Austrian architect GH Gonda who designed the Capital Theatre. The Bund's first revitalization started in 1986 with a new promenade by the Dutch Architect Paulus Snoeren, the completion was in the mid-1990s.

[thumb|upright|left|](/wiki/File:0352_20090626_Shanghai.jpg)[Shanghai World Financial Center](/wiki/Shanghai_World_Financial_Center) (left) and [Jin Mao Tower](/wiki/Jin_Mao_Tower) (right) In recent years, a large number of architecturally distinctive and even eccentric buildings have sprung up throughout Shanghai. Notable examples of contemporary architecture include the [Shanghai Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Museum), [Shanghai Grand Theatre](/wiki/Shanghai_Grand_Theatre) in the [People's Square](/wiki/People's_Square_(Shanghai)) precinct and [Shanghai Oriental Art Center](/wiki/Shanghai_Oriental_Art_Center). Despite rampant redevelopment, the old city still retains some buildings of a traditional style, such as the [Yuyuan Garden](/wiki/Yuyuan_Garden), an elaborate traditional garden in the [Jiangnan](/wiki/Jiangnan) style.

One uniquely Shanghainese cultural element is the [*shikumen*](/wiki/Shikumen) (石库门) residences, which are two- or three-story [townhouses](/wiki/Townhouses), with the front yard protected by a high brick wall. Each residence is connected and arranged in straight alleys, known as a [*longtang*](/wiki/Longtang) (弄堂), pronounced *longdang* in [Shanghainese](/wiki/Shanghainese). The entrance to each alley is usually surmounted by a stylistic stone arch. The whole resembles [terrace houses](/wiki/Terrace_house) or [townhouses](/wiki/Townhouse) commonly seen in Anglo-American countries, but distinguished by the tall, heavy brick wall in front of each house. The name "shikumen" means "stone storage door", referring to the strong gateway to each house.

The shikumen is a cultural blend of elements found in Western architecture with traditional [Lower Yangtze](/wiki/Jiangnan) (Jiangnan) Chinese architecture and social behavior. All traditional Chinese dwellings had a courtyard, and the shikumen was no exception. Yet, to compromise with its urban nature, it was much smaller and provided an "interior haven" to the commotions in the streets, allowing for raindrops to fall and vegetation to grow freely within a residence. The courtyard also allowed sunlight and adequate ventilation into the rooms.

Less than Beijing, the city also has some examples of [Soviet](/wiki/Soviet_Union) [neoclassical architecture](/wiki/Neoclassical_architecture) or [Stalinist architecture](/wiki/Stalinist_architecture). These buildings were mostly erected during the period from the founding of the [People's Republic](/wiki/People's_Republic_of_China) in 1949 until the [Sino-Soviet Split](/wiki/Sino-Soviet_Split) in the late 1960s. During this decade, large numbers of Soviet experts, including architects, poured into China to aid the country in the construction of a communist state. Examples of Soviet neoclassical architecture in Shanghai include what is today the [Shanghai Exhibition Centre](/wiki/Shanghai_Exhibition_Centre).

The Pudong district of Shanghai is home to a number of skyscrapers, many of which rank among the tallest in the world. The most prominent examples include the [Jin Mao Tower](/wiki/Jin_Mao_Tower) and the taller [Shanghai World Financial Center](/wiki/Shanghai_World_Financial_Center), which at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) tall is the tallest skyscraper in [mainland China](/wiki/Mainland_China) and [ranks third](/wiki/List_of_tallest_buildings_and_structures_in_the_world) in the world. The distinctive [Oriental Pearl Tower](/wiki/Oriental_Pearl_Tower), at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), is located nearby, and its lower sphere is now available for residential occupation. Another high rise in the Pudong area is the newly finished [Development Tower](/wiki/Development_Tower), standing at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[93]](#cite_note-93) The [Shanghai Tower](/wiki/Shanghai_Tower), completed in 2015, is the tallest building in China, as well as the second tallest in the world.[[94]](#cite_note-94) With a height of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), the building has 128 floors and a total floor area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) above ground.[[95]](#cite_note-95)

## Environment[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

### Parks and resorts[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[left|thumb|](/wiki/File:People_Square_seen_from_Urban_Planning_Exhibition_Center.JPG)[People's Square](/wiki/People's_Square_(Shanghai)) seen from Urban Planning Exhibition Center [thumb|Enchanted Storybook Castle of](/wiki/File:Enchanted_Storybook_Castle_of_Shanghai_Disneyland.jpg) [Shanghai Disneyland](/wiki/Shanghai_Disneyland) The extensive public park system in Shanghai offers the citizens some reprieve from the urban jungle. By the year 2012, the city had 157 parks, with 138 of them free of charge.[[96]](#cite_note-96) Some of the parks, aside from offering a green public space to locals, became popular tourist attractions due to their unique location, history or architecture. The former racetrack turned central park, [People's Square](/wiki/People's_Square_(Shanghai)) park, located in the heart of downtown Shanghai, is especially well known for its proximity to other major landmarks in the city. [Fuxing Park](/wiki/Fuxing_Park), located in the former [French Concession of Shanghai](/wiki/Shanghai_French_Concession), features formal French-style gardens and is surrounded by high end bars and cafes. [Zhongshan Park](/wiki/Zhongshan_Park) in northwestern central Shanghai is famous for its monument of [Chopin](/wiki/Frédéric_Chopin), the tallest statue dedicated to the composer in the world. Built in 1914 as Jessfield Park, it once contained the campus of [St. John's University](/wiki/Saint_John's_University,_Shanghai), Shanghai's first international college; today, it is known for its extensive rose and peony gardens, a large children's play area, and as the location of an important transfer station on the [city's metro system](/wiki/Shanghai_Metro). [Shanghai Botanical Garden](/wiki/Shanghai_Botanical_Garden) is located [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) southwest of the city center and was established in 1978. One of the newest parks is in the [Xujiahui](/wiki/Xujiahui) area – Xujiahui Park, built in 1999 on the former grounds of the Great Chinese Rubber Works Factory and the EMI Recording Studio (now La Villa Rouge restaurant). The park has a man-made lake with a sky bridge running across the park, and offers a pleasant respite for Xujiahui shoppers. Other well-known Shanghai parks include: [People's Square Park](/wiki/People's_Square_(Shanghai)), [Gongqing Forest Park](/wiki/Gongqing_Forest_Park), [Fuxing Park](/wiki/Fuxing_Park), [Zhongshan Park](/wiki/Zhongshan_Park_(Shanghai)), [Lu Xun Park](/wiki/Lu_Xun_Park_(Shanghai)), [Century Park](/wiki/Century_Park_(Shanghai)), and [Jing'an Park](/wiki/Jing'an_Park).

The [Shanghai Disney Resort](/wiki/Shanghai_Disney_Resort) Project was approved by the government on 4 November 2009.[[97]](#cite_note-97) It is currently under construction. The [resort](/wiki/Resort) is planned to be operational by 2016.[[98]](#cite_note-98)A $4.4 billion theme park and resort in Pudong will have a castle that will be the biggest among Disney's resorts.[[99]](#cite_note-99)

### Environmental protection[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

Public awareness of the environment is growing, and the city is investing in a number of environmental protection projects. A 10-year, US$1 billion cleanup of [Suzhou Creek](/wiki/Suzhou_Creek), which runs through the city-center, was expected to be finished in 2008,[[100]](#cite_note-100) and the government also provides incentives for transportation companies to invest in [LPG](/wiki/Liquefied_petroleum_gas) [buses](/wiki/Bus) and [taxis](/wiki/Taxicab). Additionally, the government has moved almost all the factories within the city center to either the outskirts or other provinces in the recent decades.[[101]](#cite_note-101)

### Air pollution and government reaction[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Shanghai_haze_in_Huangpu_Distract_20131206.jpg)[Huangpu District](/wiki/Huangpu_District,_Shanghai) during the [2013 Eastern China smog](/wiki/2013_Eastern_China_smog)

[Air pollution](/wiki/Air_pollution) in Shanghai is low compared to other [Chinese cities](/wiki/List_of_cities_in_China_by_urban_population), but still substantial by world standards.[[102]](#cite_note-102) During the December [2013 Eastern China smog](/wiki/2013_Eastern_China_smog), air pollution rates reached between 23 and 31 times the international standard.[[103]](#cite_note-103)[[104]](#cite_note-104) On 6 December 2013, levels of PM2.5 [particulate matter](/wiki/Particulate_matter) in Shanghai rose above 600 micrograms per cubic meter and in the surrounding area, above 700 micrograms per cubic metre.[[104]](#cite_note-104) Levels of PM2.5 in [Putuo District](/wiki/Putuo_District,_Shanghai) reached 726 micrograms per cubic meter.[[105]](#cite_note-105)[[106]](#cite_note-106) As a result, the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission received orders to suspend students' outdoor activities. Authorities pulled nearly one-third of government vehicles from the roads, while a mass of construction work was halted. Most of inbound flights were cancelled, and more than 50 flights were diverted at [Pudong International Airport](/wiki/Pudong_International_Airport).[[107]](#cite_note-107) On 23 January 2014, [Yang Xiong](/wiki/Yang_Xiong_(politician)), the [mayor of Shanghai](/wiki/Mayor_of_Shanghai) municipality announced that three main measures would be taken to manage the air pollution in Shanghai, along with surrounding Anhui, Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces.[[108]](#cite_note-108) The measures involved delivery of the 2013 air cleaning program, linkage mechanism with the three surrounding provinces and improvement of the ability of early warning of emergency situation.[[108]](#cite_note-108) On 12 February 2014, [China's](/wiki/China) cabinet announced that a 10-billion-renminbi (US$1.7-billion) fund will be set up to help companies to meet new environmental standards.[[109]](#cite_note-109)

## Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

[thumb|left|Shanghai still contains some picturesque historic rural suburban areas.](/wiki/File:ShanghaiMinxang11.jpg) [thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:Shanghai_Expo_Cultural_Center.jpg) [Mercedes-Benz Arena](/wiki/Shanghai_Arena), previously known as the Expo Cultural Center during the [world expo in 2010](/wiki/Expo_2010).

Because of Shanghai's status as the cultural and economic center of East Asia for the first half of the twentieth century, it is popularly seen as the birthplace of everything considered modern in China. It was in Shanghai, for example, that the first motor car was driven and (technically) the first train tracks and modern sewers were laid. It was also the intellectual battleground between socialist writers who concentrated on [critical realism](/wiki/Critical_realism_(philosophy_of_the_social_sciences)), which was pioneered by [Lu Xun](/wiki/Lu_Xun), [Mao Dun](/wiki/Mao_Dun), [Nien Cheng](/wiki/Nien_Cheng) and the famous French novel by André Malraux, [*Man's Fate*](/wiki/Man's_Fate), and the more "[bourgeois](/wiki/Bourgeois)", more romantic and aesthetically inclined writers, such as [Shi Zhecun](/wiki/Shi_Zhecun), [Shao Xunmei](/wiki/Shao_Xunmei), [Ye Lingfeng](/wiki/Ye_Lingfeng), and [Eileen Chang](/wiki/Eileen_Chang).

In the past 5 years Shanghai has been widely recognized as a new influence and inspiration for [cyberpunk](/wiki/Cyberpunk) culture.[[110]](#cite_note-110) Futuristic buildings such as the [Oriental Pearl Tower](/wiki/Oriental_Pearl_Tower) and the [neon](/wiki/Neon)-illuminated [Yan'an Elevated Road](/wiki/Yan'an_Elevated_Road) are a few examples that have helped to boost Shanghai's cyberpunk image.

### Language[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

The [vernacular](/wiki/Vernacular) language spoken in the city is [Shanghainese](/wiki/Shanghainese), a dialect of [Wu language](/wiki/Wu_Chinese). While the official language nationwide is [Standard Mandarin](/wiki/Standard_Chinese), itself mutually unintelligible with Wu Chinese. Most Shanghai residents are the descendants of immigrants from the two adjacent provinces of Jiangsu and Zhejiang who moved to Shanghai in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The population of those regions speak different dialects of [Wu Chinese](/wiki/Wu_Chinese). From the 1990s, many migrants outside of Wu-speaking area have come to Shanghai for work. They often cannot speak the local language and therefore use Mandarin as a [lingua franca](/wiki/Lingua_franca).

Modern Shanghainese is based on different dialects of Wu: the [Suzhou dialect](/wiki/Suzhou_dialect), the [Ningbo dialect](/wiki/Ningbo_dialect), and dialects of Shanghai's traditional areas (now lie within the Hongkou, Baoshan and Pudong districts). The [prestige dialect](/wiki/Prestige_dialect) of Wu Chinese is spoken within the Chinese city of Shanghai prior to its modern expansion. Known as "the local tongue" ([Template:Linktext](/wiki/Template:Linktext)), it is influenced to a lesser extent by the languages of other nearby regions from which large numbers of people have migrated to Shanghai since the 20th century, and includes a significant number of terms borrowed from European languages. The prevalence of Mandarin fluency is generally higher for those born after 1949 than those born before, while the prevalence of English fluency is higher for people who received their secondary and tertiary education before 1949 than those who did so after 1949 and before the 1990s.

### Museums[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

[thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:Shanghai_Museum_exterior_1.jpg) [Shanghai Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Museum), located on the [People's Square](/wiki/People's_Square_(Shanghai))

Shanghai boasts several museums[[111]](#cite_note-111) of regional and national importance. The [Shanghai Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Museum) has one of the best collections of Chinese historical artifacts in the world, including a large collection of [ancient Chinese bronzes](/wiki/Ancient_Chinese_bronze). The [China Art Museum](/wiki/China_Art_Museum), located in the former [China Pavilion](/wiki/China_Pavilion) of [Expo 2010](/wiki/Expo_2010), is the largest art museum in Asia. [Power Station of Art](/wiki/Power_Station_of_Art) is built in a converted power station, similar to London's [Tate Modern](/wiki/Tate_Modern). The [Shanghai Natural History Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Natural_History_Museum) and the [Shanghai Science and Technology Museum](/wiki/Shanghai_Science_and_Technology_Museum) are major natural history and science museums. In addition, there is a variety of smaller, specialist museums housed in important archaeological and historical sites such as the [Songze](/wiki/Songze_culture) Museum, the [Museum of the First National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party](/wiki/Museum_of_the_First_National_Congress_of_the_Chinese_Communist_Party), the site of the [Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea](/wiki/Provisional_Government_of_the_Republic_of_Korea), the former [Ohel Moshe Synagogue](/wiki/Ohel_Moshe_Synagogue) (Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum), and the [General Post Office Building](/wiki/General_Post_Office_Building,_Shanghai) (Shanghai Postal Museum). The [Rockbund Art Museum](/wiki/Rockbund_Art_Museum) is also in Shanghai. There are also many art galleries, concentrated in the [M50 Art District](/wiki/M50_Art_District) and [Tianzifang](/wiki/Tianzifang).

### Cinema[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

Shanghai was the birthplace of [Chinese cinema](/wiki/Cinema_of_China)[[112]](#cite_note-112) Newspapers include: [Template:Div col](/wiki/Template:Div_col)

* [*Jiefang Daily*](/wiki/Jiefang_Daily)
* [*Oriental Sports Daily*](/wiki/Oriental_Sports_Daily)
* [*Shanghai Daily*](/wiki/Shanghai_Daily)
* [*Shanghai Star*](/wiki/Shanghai_Star)
* [*Xinmin Evening News*](/wiki/Xinmin_Evening_News)
* [*Wen Hui Bao*](/wiki/Wen_Hui_Bao)
* [*Wenhui Book Review*](/wiki/Wenhui_Book_Review)

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Newspapers formerly published in Shanghai include: [Template:Div col](/wiki/Template:Div_col)

* [*Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*](/wiki/Der_Ostasiatische_Lloyd) (German)
* [*Gelbe Post*](/wiki/Gelbe_Post)
* [*North China Daily News*](/wiki/North_China_Daily_News)
* [*Shanghai Evening Post & Mercury*](/wiki/Shanghai_Evening_Post_&_Mercury)
* [*Shanghai Gazette*](/wiki/Shanghai_Gazette)
* [*Shanghai Jewish Chronicle*](/wiki/Shanghai_Jewish_Chronicle)
* [*Shanghai Herald*](/wiki/Shanghai_Herald)
* [*Shanghai Mercury*](/wiki/Shanghai_Mercury)
* [*The Shanghai Post*](/wiki/The_Shanghai_Post_(German-language_newspaper)) (German paper)
* [*Shanghai Times*](/wiki/Shanghai_Times)
* [*Shen Bao*](/wiki/Shen_Bao) (Shanghai News)

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Broadcasters:

* [Shanghai Media Group](/wiki/Shanghai_Media_Group)

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

[thumb|right|F1](/wiki/File:Shanghai_F1_Circui_01.jpg) [Chinese Grand Prix](/wiki/Chinese_Grand_Prix) in Shanghai [thumb|](/wiki/File:Tsonga_Potro_2008_Tennis_Masters.jpg)[Shanghai Masters](/wiki/Shanghai_Masters) in Qizhong Stadium Shanghai is home to several [football](/wiki/Association_football) teams, including two in the [Chinese Super League](/wiki/Chinese_Super_League) – [Shanghai Shenhua](/wiki/Shanghai_Shenhua) and [Shanghai SIPG](/wiki/Shanghai_SIPG_F.C.). Another professional team, [Shanghai Shenxin](/wiki/Shanghai_Shenxin), is currently in [China League One](/wiki/China_League_One). China's top tier The [Shanghai Sharks](/wiki/Shanghai_Sharks) of the [Chinese Basketball Association](/wiki/Chinese_Basketball_Association) developed [Yao Ming](/wiki/Yao_Ming) before he entered the [NBA](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association). Shanghai also has an ice hockey team, [China Dragon](/wiki/China_Dragon), and a baseball team, the [Shanghai Golden Eagles](/wiki/Shanghai_Golden_Eagles), which plays in the [China Baseball League](/wiki/China_Baseball_League). [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:YaoMingoffense.jpg)[Yao Ming](/wiki/Yao_Ming) Shanghai is the hometown of many outstanding and well-known Chinese professional athletes, such as Yao Ming, the 110-meter hurdler [Liu Xiang](/wiki/Liu_Xiang), the [table-tennis](/wiki/Pingpong) player [Wang Liqin](/wiki/Wang_Liqin) and the former world women's single champion and current Olympic silver medalist [badminton](/wiki/Badminton) player [Wang Yihan](/wiki/Wang_Yihan).

Beginning in 2004, Shanghai started hosting the [Chinese Grand Prix](/wiki/Chinese_Grand_Prix), one round of the [Formula One World Championship](/wiki/Formula_One_World_Championship). The race was staged at the [Shanghai International Circuit](/wiki/Shanghai_International_Circuit). In 2010, Shanghai also became the host city of German Touring Car Masters ([DTM](/wiki/Deutsche_Tourenwagen_Masters)), which raced in a street circuit in Pudong.

Shanghai also holds the [Shanghai Masters](/wiki/Shanghai_Masters_(tennis)) tennis tournament which is part of [ATP World Tour Masters 1000](/wiki/ATP_World_Tour_Masters_1000), and the [BMW Masters](/wiki/BMW_Masters) and [WGC-HSBC Champions](/wiki/WGC-HSBC_Champions) golf tournaments.[[119]](#cite_note-119) The [Shanghai Cricket Club](/wiki/Shanghai_Cricket_Club) is a cricket club based in Shanghai. The club dates back to 1858 when the first recorded cricket match was played between a team of [British Naval](/wiki/British_Navy) officers and a Shanghai 11. Following a 45-year dormancy after the founding of the [China](/wiki/China) in 1949, the club was re-established in 1994 by expatriates living in the city and has since grown to over 300 members. The [Shanghai cricket team](/wiki/Shanghai_cricket_team) was a cricket team that played various international matches between 1866 and 1948. With cricket in the rest of [China](/wiki/China) almost non-existent, for that period they were the [de facto](/wiki/De_facto) [Chinese national side](/wiki/China_national_cricket_team).

## International relations[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

{| class="wikitable collapsible collapsed" |- ! colspan="4"|Shanghai is [twinned](/wiki/Twin_towns_and_sister_cities) with:[[120]](#cite_note-120)|-

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Yokohama**](/wiki/Yokohama), [Japan](/wiki/Japan) – *since 1973* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Osaka**](/wiki/Osaka), [Japan](/wiki/Japan) – *1974* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Milan**](/wiki/Milan), [Italy](/wiki/Italy) – *1979* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Rotterdam**](/wiki/Rotterdam), [Netherlands](/wiki/Netherlands) – *1979* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**San Francisco**](/wiki/San_Francisco), [United States](/wiki/United_States) – *1979* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Osaka Prefecture**](/wiki/Osaka_Prefecture), [Japan](/wiki/Japan) – *1980* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Zagreb**](/wiki/Zagreb), [Croatia](/wiki/Croatia) – *1980* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [**Hamhung**](/wiki/Hamhung), [North Korea](/wiki/North_Korea) – *1982* * [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) 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## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

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## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

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## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

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* [Official Website](http://www.shanghai.gov.cn/shanghai/node17256/index.html)
* [Template:Dmoz](/wiki/Template:Dmoz)
* [WikiSatellite view of Shanghai at WikiMapia](http://wikimapia.org/#lang=en&lat=31.224252&lon=121.472397&z=11&m=b)
* [Template:OSM relation](/wiki/Template:OSM_relation)

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