

CHINA CHINA SOUTH KOREA Shanghai N Pacific Ocean

GENERAL INFORMATION Back in what some might consider its glamorous colonial days, Shanghai was called the Paris of the East. Shanghai sits on the Huangpu River, an 80-km (50 mile) – long tributary of Changjiang, locally also known as the Yangtze, and which provides Shanghai with ocean access. Once a muddy fishing village, Shanghai today is undergoing an impressive transformation that leaves one breathless. Where there were once neighborhoods of small houses, there are now high-rises. Where there were once handsome colonial-era buildings, there are now glitzy hotels. Indeed, to visit Shanghai today is to visit a giant public-works project with new highways, new ports, new bridges, new office towers.

Having suffered the ravages of war, turmoil and economic crisis, the fortunes of Shanghai have been revived thanks to the great Reform and Opening Up since 1978. A favorable national policy, efficient administration, regular market mechanism and a large number of talents have come together to enhance by leaps and bounds the city's economic development in recent years.

Now over 300 of the world's top 500 enterprises have opened branches in Shanghai, while many have their research and development centers or headquarters there. Pudong New Area has developed in just five years, and Lujiazui in Pudong has become one of the foremost world class financial and trade zones in Asia. Skyscrapers such as Jin Mao Tower and Shanghai Global Financial Center dominate the skyline, while landmark constructions like Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Pudong International Airport and Shanghai International Convention Center offer the finest and best of modern facilities.

These economic achievements are due to Shanghai's progress in the fields of politics, finance, trade, culture, science and technology. Various important international events have been held in Shanghai, including political conventions, commercial conferences, academic forums, sports events, cultural exhibitions, film festivals and fashion shows.

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PORT EXPLORER

Shanghai CHINA

Shanghai's rapid development has come as a great surprise to many in China and has international recognition. Shanghai has grown from a provincial city into an international metropolis on par with New York and Paris in just ten years.

HISTORY Distinctly a city of commerce, the region was already a trading center in 960 AD, flourishing for centuries and becoming an important trading port. Japanese pirates were attracted by this wealth, and after numerous attacks, Shanghai built a protective wall in the 16th century. The wall surrounded the old city center until 1912. While the wall eventually humbled the Japanese pirates, it failed to impede Western colonial intrusions. As a result of the Opium Wars in the 1840s, the British imposed upon China the Treaty of Nanjing, which, among many things, opened up Shanghai to Westerners.

Foreign concession areas took up most of what is now central Shanghai, save for the old walled Chinese part of the city. Soon Shanghai became the place to be -a city with the best culture, most opulent dance halls, the largest volume of business, and the tallest buildings. It became a mix of cultures that was always to define its internationalism.

New ideas also allowed for radicalism, a Shanghai tradition. The Communist Party was founded in the city in 1921, and the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s not only began here, but had its headquarters in Shanghai. But despite the enthusiasm of the Red Guards to demolish everything not defined as Socialist Realism – and that included anything foreign, Buddhist, or simply old – many buildings from colonial times have survived in the city. Unfortunately, however, many may not survive China's push to modernize.



PLACES OF INTEREST

SHANGHAI PLACES OF INTEREST

The Oriental Pearl TV Tower is located in Pudong Park in Lu-**I** jiazui, Shanghai. The tower, surrounded by the Yangpu Bridge in the northeast and the Nanpu Bridge in the southwest, creates a picture of 'twin dragons playing with pearls'.

Huangpu River, the most important shipping artery of Shanghai, wriggles like an undulating dragon from the mouth of the Yangtze River in Wusong to the East China Sea. The River is 114 kilometers (71 miles) long, 400 meters (0.25 miles) wide and has an average depth of nine meters (30 feet).

7 The **Bund**, also called the Zhongshan Road, is a famous water-J front and regarded as the symbol of Shanghai for hundreds of years. It starts from the Baidu Bridge, which is at the connecting point of the Huangpu River and the Suzhou Creek; and to the East, Jinling Road, and winds 1500 meters. Walking along the Bund, visitors can view on the opposite river bank the Oriental Pearl TV Tower and the Jin Mao Tower. Being one of the Top Ten Shanghai Attractions, the Bund is a really beautiful and special place which is worth visiting.

4 Standing in the center of Lujiazui Finance & Trade Zone in Pu-dong, The Shanghai World Financial Center (SWFC), is the

tallest comprehensive building in the world by far. It was completed in August 2008, with101 floors and a height of 492 meters (about 1,614 feet).

Z Yuyuan Garden is a famous classical garden located in Anren \mathcal{J} Jie, Shanghai. The garden was finished in 1577 by a government officer of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) named Pan Yunduan. Yu in Chinese means pleasing and satisfying, and this garden was specially built for Pan's parents as a place for them to enjoy a tranquil and happy time in their old age.

Located in the center of Shanghai in People's Square, The **U** Shanghai Museum, is a large museum of ancient Chinese art. The museum style presentation surround visitors with artifacts demonstrating ancient wisdom and philosophy. The exterior design of the round dome and the square base symbolizes the ancient idea of a round heaven and a square land.

Jade Buddha Temple is one of the most famous Buddhist temples to be found in Shanghai. The White Jade Buddhas were brought here from Burma in the nineteenth century. One is seated while the other is in the recumbent position of Sakyamuni symbolizing the Buddha's attainment of enlightenment or nirvana. The temple also you will find reasonable prices and many special offers in the form of discounts and other promotions. Even the brand-name clothing is reasonably priced here. Maison Mode, located at #99, Huai Hai Road, claims to be the aristocrat on this street. You will find the leading designer brands such as Gucci, Ferragamo, Hugo Boss, Bally, Kenzo, etc. here. Yuyuan Shopping City, Xujiahui Shopping City, New Shanghai Shopping City and Jiali Sleepless City are the bustling "Four Cities of Shopping" in Shanghai.

has some impressive images of the Heavenly Kings. Although many people come to worship each day and burn incense at this very holy and active shrine, visitors are welcome. SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Shanghai and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables. LOCAL CURRENCY Chinese currency is called Renminbi (mean-

ing 'People's Currency') and is abbreviated to RMB. The standard LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Bargaining is considered essential unit is Yuan (referred to as Kuai in everyday speech). Foreign credit Most foreigners tend to be overcharged. You can bargain in shops, hocards can be used at post office ATMs, convenience stores and some tels and with taxi drivers and with most people. In large stores prices major banks. are marked. Your goal should be to pay the Chinese price, not the foreigner's price and do so politely. POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The most conve-

Tipping: Tour gratuities for the guide and driver are customary in China; the amount of the gratuity is entirely subject to guest's satisfaction with their trip experience. Tips for hotel bellhops and airport porters are a must. Taxi drivers generally expect a gratuity. Good hotels and restaurants generally add a 10% service charge, but waiters and waitresses usually expect more.

Avoiding Offense: Nude bathing at beaches is not allowed. Bathing attire should be conservative. Do not give a gift of white flowers except at funerals. Do not write anything in red ink as this conveys anger and hostility. Leaving chopsticks sticking vertically in a bowl is a bad omen as it resembles incense sticks in a bowl of ashes, a death sign When handing someone an item, present it with both hands as a sign of respect.

Local Cuisine: Xia Zi Da Wu Shen is noted as the most famous seafood dish in Shanghai cuisine. Dried sea cucumber is immersed in water to restore its original size and then stewed with oil, yellow wine, soybean sauce, broth, sugar, shallot, starch sauce and shrimp roe. This dish is nutritious with rich protein and minerals and is said to effectively control cancer. Ba Bao La Jiang is typical among the few spicy dishes in Shanghai Cuisine. It is a Benbang dish featuring great flavor and bright color. Bean sauce and chili sauce are blended and stir-fried with shelled shrimps, chicken, chicken stock, pork, pig offal, dried small shrimps, bamboo shoots and various kinds of seasoning. This dish with such a great number of ingredients gives us some idea of how delicate Shanghai cuisine can be. You Bao He Xia is a good choice if you like sea food. Live shrimp are deep-fried and then sirfried with a special sauce made of yellow wine, soybean sauce, sugar, shallot sauce and ginger sauce. The dish tastes fairly sweet and fresh.

Shanghai's local snacks should not be missed. You should try the famous Nanxiang steamed stuffed buns, crab-yellow pastry, fried stuffed buns, chop rice cake, vegetable stuffed buns, Leisha dumplings and wontons. Various "snack streets" in Shanghai have many restaurants and eateries to tempt you. Wujiang Road, Old Town God Temple Snack Street, South Yunnan Road and Xianxia Road are the best among them.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Shopping areas in Shanghai are clearly divided into "Four Streets and Four Cities". Nanjing Road, one of the four streets, enjoys the reputation of No.1 Commercial Street in China. Parkson Shopping Center on the Huaihai Road is worth visiting. Here

nient post office is Shanghai Post Office Head Office, located at #276 Suzhou Beilu, Shanghai, which is 2 km from Gaoyanglu Pier.

- Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card:
- AT&T: 108.11
- MCI: 108.12 or 108712
- TRANSPORTATION Taxis are limited at the pier. Taxis cruise the streets in town and are easily found at hotels.
- USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES
- Mandarin is the main language used locally. English is spoken in many locations.
- Hello ni hao.
- Good bye. zai jian.
- How much? duo shao gian?
- Thank-you xie xie
- You're welcome huan ying guang ling
- I'm sorry/excuse me dui bu qi
- I don't understand wo bu dong
- Where is the toilet? ce suo zai na li?