

# SHANGHAI

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## CITY GUIDE



# INTRODUCTION

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Shanghai is one of the four municipalities of China. Located on the southern estuary of the Yangtze, it is the most populous urban area in China, and the second most populous city proper in the world (after Chongqing). Shanghai is a global financial, innovation and technology, and transportation hub, with the world's busiest container port.

As of 2022 Shanghai had a population of 24.8 million, making it China's most populated city. Shanghai's average temperature during the summer is 29°C, with a mild winter (average 9°C) and a comfortable and dry Autumn. Spring is humid and rainy. The total GDP of Shanghai is around US\$658 bn.

 24.2 million

29°C   9°C

**GDP** \$494 billion

# **C O N T E N T S**

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**Culture**

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# C U L T U R E

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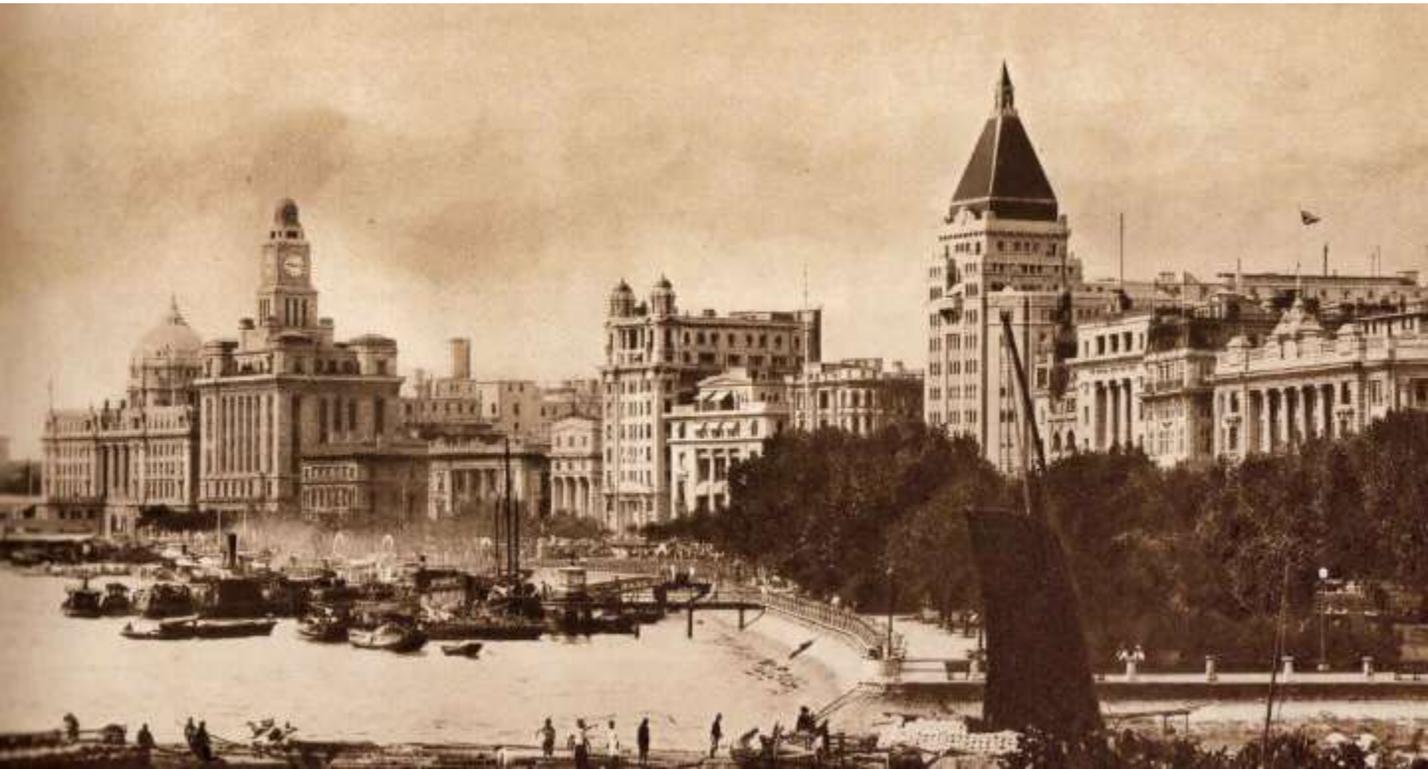
Shanghai-style Culture is also called Hai Pai Culture by Chinese people. It reference to the culture of Shanghai, including the food, clothing, buildings, custom, and language.

A city is alive when it is full of culture and Shanghai (mainly referring to Hai Pai) culture is at the root of Shanghai's energy and charm. The unique culture of Shanghai is the result of being affected by a lot of different cultures, including cultures of different areas of China, cultures of other Asian countries, and western cultures.

Hai Pai culture means "The Ocean absorbs the flows of hundreds of rivers", because it characterizes the culture of Shanghai so well. Shanghai is open to diversity from foreign cultures to traditional Chinese cultures, and from elite cultures to folk cultures.

# HISTORY & NATURAL

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The western part of modern-day Shanghai was inhabited 6000 years ago. During the Spring and Autumn period (approximately 771 to 476 BC), it belonged to the Kingdom of Wu, which was conquered by the Kingdom of Yue, which in turn was conquered by the Kingdom of Chu. During the Warring States period (475 BC), Shanghai was part of the fief of Lord Chunshen of Chu, one of the Four Lords of the Warring States. He ordered the excavation of the Huangpu River. Its former or poetic name, the Chunshen River, gave Shanghai its nickname of "Shēn". Fishermen living in the Shanghai area then created a fish tool called the hù, which lent its name to the outlet of Suzhou Creek north of the Old City and became a common nickname and abbreviation for the city.

# C U I S I N E

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Shanghai cuisine emphasises the use of condiments and meanwhile retaining the original flavours of the raw ingredients. Sugar is an important ingredient in Shanghai cuisine, especially when used in combination with soy sauce. Another characteristic is the use of a great variety of seafood and freshwater food. One of Shanghai's signature dishes is Xiaolongbao, a type of steamed bun made with a thin skin of dough and stuffed with pork or minced crabmeat, and soup. The delicious soup can be held inside until it is bitten.

# T O U R I S M

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Tourism in general is a major industry of the city. In 2019, 361 million domestic tourists and 897 million overseas tourists visited Shanghai for an approximate increase of 0.4% from the previous year. The conference and meeting sector is also growing. In 2019, the city hosted 1043 international gatherings, approximately increase of 1.07% from the previous year.

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 2019 at just RMB953 (US\$138.57).

# F I N A N C E



Shanghai is a global financial centre, ranking 6th in the 2022 edition of the Global Financial Centres Index (and second most competitive in Asia after Singapore and Hong Kong) published by the Z/Yen Group and China Development Institute.

In 2022, the Shanghai Stock Exchange ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> respectively in terms of total market capitalization, total turnover, and capital raised, becoming one of the top exchanges in the world.

By the end of 2022, there were 1071 foreign-invested financial institutions. In September 2013, with the backing of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang the city launched the 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.

# CITY MAP



Shanghai is situated at  $31^{\circ}41'$  north latitude and  $121^{\circ}29'$  east longitude. The city, whose name literally means "on the sea", is located on the east China coast just to the south of the mouth of the Yangtze river. Bordering on Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces on the west, Shanghai is washed by the East China Sea on the east and Hangzhou Bay on the south. It also occupies a central location along China's coastline. Thanks to its advantageous geographic location, Shanghai is an excellent sea and river port, boasting easy access to the vast hinterland.

# ATTRACTIONS

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## THINGS TO DO AND SEE IN SHANGHAI

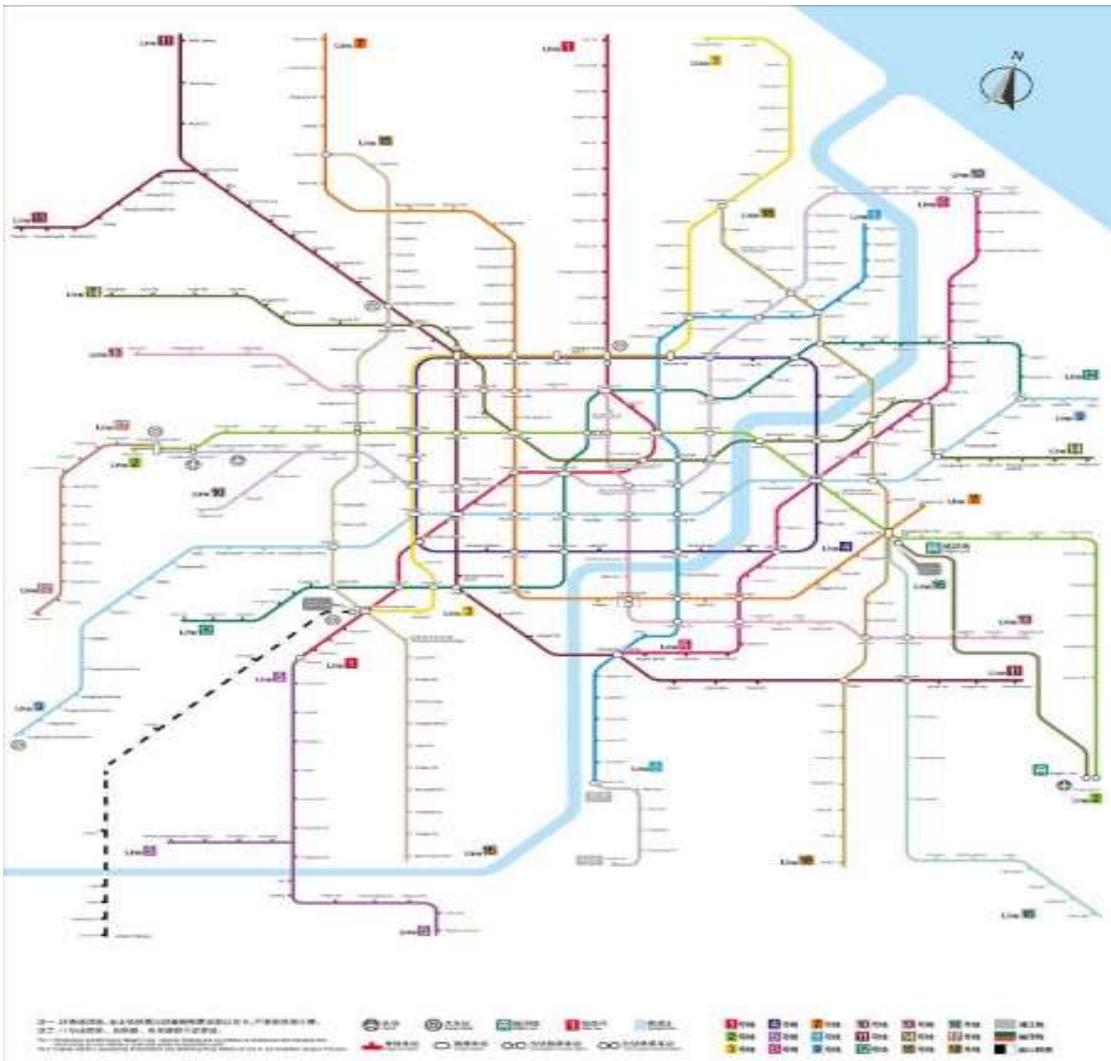
Shanghai is a truly large city so it is worth deciding on your destination itinerary before you set foot on the streets, and a good idea to have the name of your accommodation written in Chinese for the return journey.

**The Bund** is a popular tourist destination and is an embanked riverfront along the Huangpu River. Views here offer a great visual comparison between the city's historical buildings down one side and more modern buildings on the other, including some of the tallest and most inspiring structures in Asia.

**Shanghai Museum** founded in 1952 is designed by a local architect in the shape of a ding (ancient bronze cooking vessel) and can be found on People's Square. The museum houses over 120,000 exhibits including ancient Chinese bronze, jade artefacts, ceramics, paintings and furniture from the Ming and Qing dynasties.

Shanghai offers some great spiritual temples including the **Jade Buddha Temple** founded in 1882 displaying a jade Buddha statue nearly 2 metres tall and also a reclining Buddha made of marble donated from Singapore. The famous **Yuyuan Garden** is over 400 years old with classical Chinese architecture throughout. Visitors to the gardens have the chance to see six separate featured areas, each with their own unique attractions including pavilions, ponds with rockeries, old trees, oriental flowers, ancient wells and the famous Jade Rock over 3 metres tall.

# M E T R O



The Shanghai Metro is a rapid transit rail network in Shanghai, operating urban and suburban transit services to 14 of its 16 municipal districts and to Huaqiao Town, Kunshan, Jiangsu Province. The Shanghai Metro system is the world's largest rapid transit system by route length. It has seen substantial growth, significantly during the years leading up to the Expo 2010, and is still expanding quickly, with its most recent expansions having opened in 2018-2023. It is the largest component of the Shanghai metropolitan rail transit network, together with the Shanghai maglev train, the Zhangjiang Tram, the Songjiang Tram and the China Railway-operated commuter rail services to Jinshan. The metro system is also integrated with other forms of public transport in Shanghai.

# TAXI

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- There are several types of taxis in Shanghai. These include official taxis, unofficial taxis, ride-hailing apps (Didi), etc.
- It is important to ensure that legal taxis are recognized. Legal cabs tend to be light green, yellow or blue. In addition, the cabs are registered with license plates that start with AX or AT.
- The prices vary according to the type of taxi, but regular taxis fares start as follows:
  - Traffic Day(05:00 to 23:00)
    - Base Fare inc first 3km: CNY14
    - Price per km: CNY2.7
  - Traffic Day(23:00 to 05:00)
    - Base Fare inc first 3km: CNY18
    - Price per km: CNY3.1

# HOUSING

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- Large variety of accommodation is available, more can be found on the property proposal webpage of Maxxelli
- Apartments, townhouses, and villas in both western and traditional styles can be found, listed from high to low price ranges.

# S C H O O L I N G



Shanghai is considered to be a global destination for International Education, and has been referred to as an “Education Mecca”. This is because the city has consistently topped international rankings. In Shanghai, there are 3 types of Educational Institution’s expatriates can select from including, International Schools, Bilingual Schools, and International Divisions of Public Schools. Within the ecosystem of Shanghai, there is a large number of options for specifically desired curriculum, including American, British, French, German, and Singaporean International School options

# HEALTH CARE

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Most expats who have health insurance coverage provided by their company will choose one of these hospitals for foreigners in Shanghai when seeking medical care.

Most foreign medical insurance plans can be accepted for direct billing by these medical centers, while others can be used to get reimbursement after treatment based on receipts and doctor reports.



# S H O P P I N G

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Shanghai is hailed as the "Shopping Paradise" and "Oriental Paris". Shopping in Shanghai should not be missed any more than its other charming attractions. Providing the very best of shopping has become an indispensable part of the city's tourism industry.

To welcome more visitors, Shanghai has adopted Tax refund policy since July 1st, 2015 among tourists from foreign countries, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan. At present, there are 27 tax free stores in the city, mainly situated at Nanjing Road and around Yu Garden.



# NIGHTLIFE

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Shanghai has always enjoyed its status as an alluring entertainment spot, from its swinging jazz clubs in the 19th century to its sprawling rooftop bars today. While lots of cash usually helps fuel a night out here, that's not to say an expensive night is the only type of night you can have. In fact, perhaps because of this, it has helped launch a burgeoning underground scene, which has given birth to a number of impressive, home-grown DJs. Whatever type of night you're after, you'll find it in Shanghai.



# EMERGENCY CONTACTS

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<b>Contact</b>	<b>Number</b>
Police	110
Traffic Accident	122
Medical Emergency	120
Fire Emergency	119

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# Maxxelli

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