

INTRODUCTION

Well-known as the 'Oriental Pearl', Shanghai is the largest economic centre in China and is also one of the largest ten big cities in the world. In 2010, Shanghai will host The World Expo on the waterfront of the Huangpu River from 01 May-31 Oct, see www.expo2010china.com.

POPULATION

Shanghai has a population of over 19 million.

ELECTRICITY

220V, and in most medium-high level hotels, power transformer sockets are fixed in the toilet for shaving and hair-drying.

CLIMATE

Shanghai has a north subtropical marine monsoon climate with four distinct seasons, short spring and Autumn and long summer and winter. Spring and Autumn are the best seasons for tourists to visit Shanghai.

TRANSPORTATION

Air

Shanghai is the only city in Chinese mainland which has two international airports.

The Pudong International Airport and Hongqiao International Airport link Shanghai with most of the domestic and overseas big cities. Air China, China Eastern and Qantas offer direct services between Sydney and Shanghai.

Railway

There are three railway passenger stations in Shanghai, including Shanghai Railway Station, Shanghai West Railway Station and Shanghai South Railway Station.

Urban Transportation

Shanghai has an excellent urban transportation system. Different buses run to and fro between the traffic hubs, scenic spots, streets and lanes, together with taxis and subways.

Sightseeing Bus

The sightseeing bus is a green tourist bus with the words 'City Sightseeing' on it.

The route of the bus covers some of the main scenic spots in

Shanghai and with a unified ticket price of 18 yuan, tourists can buy a ticket once and get on or off freely at any stop of the bus for that day.

CUISINE

Shanghai Cuisine is one of the most popular schools of cuisine and is famous for cooking of freshwater food, seafood, poultry and beasts and vegetables in season.

Famous Shanghai dishes include Black Sea Cucumber with Shrimps Roe, Fried Crab Ovum, Stir Fried Bamboo Shoots and Saute Eggplant in Soy Sauce.

Popular restaurants include Shanghai Old Restaurant, Fu Ji Restaurant, Jinjiang Old Shanghai Moon and Meilong Town Restaurant.

ACCOMMODATION

Shanghai offers over 1000 hotels, hostels and inns, among which more than 300 are star-rated and provide quality services.

SHOPPING

Shanghai is a 'shopping paradise'. In general, the shops in Shanghai are open from 8am to 8pm, with some staying open until 10pm.

Popular shopping spots include Nanjing Lu, Huaihai Zhonglu and Sichuan Lu Shopping Streets; Xujiahui Commercial Center; Night Life City by Shanghai Railway Station and Yuyuan Tourist Mart.

FESTIVALS/CELEBRATIONS

There are many festivals and celebrations in Shanghai including various flower festivals, Longhua Temple Fair, Shanghai Tourist Festival and Shanghai International Tea Culture Festival.

ENTERTAINMENT

Drama, dancing, music, acrobatic and film are the main leisure and entertainment activities for the Shanghainese and domestic and overseas visitors.

There are many fashion show teams, pop singers and accompany bands acting at local restaurants, song and dance halls and bars. Recreational activities available include bowling, tennis, golf, pottery arts, weaving and photographing.

THINGS TO DO

Shanghai is famous for its modern metropolitan look and rich historical and cultural resources.

Some modern tourist attractions, such as the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Shanghai Museum, Shanghai Grand Theater, Shanghai Circus World, Jin Mao Tower and Shanghai Magnetic Suspension Train are attracting more and more domestic and overseas visitors.

The Bund

The Bund is the symbol of Shanghai in the western bank of Huangpu River.

Tourists enjoy the river scenery and when it becomes dark, tens of large buildings stand upright along the river glittering with lights, like golden palaces, providing the most beautiful nightscape.

People's Square

The People's Square is the largest public square and the political and cultural centre in the heart of Shanghai. The Shanghai Museum, Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center and Shanghai Grand Theater are located in the Square. There is a musical spray pond in the centre of the square.

Yuyuan Garden

Located in the northeast of the Old City Proper, the Yuyuan Garden was first built in 1559.

The main scenic spots in it include the Grand Rockery, the Dragon Wall and Huijing Tower.

Oriental Pearl TV Tower

Built in 1994 with a height of 468 metres, the Oriental Pearl TV Tower is situated in Lujiazui of Pudong New Area.

There are three superdome spheres, which include a revolving restaurant and a sightseeing veranda. The Tower can receive 6,000 visitors daily.

Ocean Seabed World Aquarium

The Ocean Seabed World is a new-concept aquarium under the Yinchu Lake of Changfeng Park.

The aquarium includes over 10,000 aquatic animals of 300 varieties.



Modern Architecture



Shanghai Grand Theater



Pudong New Area



Yuyuan Garden



Jin Mao Tower

