



Hangzhou

Photo: gyn9037 / Shutterstock.com



Anton_Ivanov / Shutterstock.com

Like Yin and Yang, Hangzhou, the capital city of the Zhejiang Province, has two sides that complete each other. This historic city is a showcase for traditional medicine, religion and art as well as a shining example of China's rapid economic development. Combining idyllic natural beauty, a grand heritage through the ages and an air of affluence, Hangzhou is one of the country's most livable and pleasant cities to linger in.

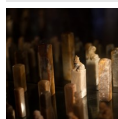


gui jun peng / Shutterstock.com



rongyiquan / Shutterstock.com

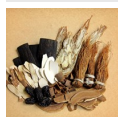
Featured



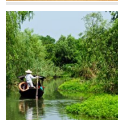
Xiling Seal Art Society /
Founded in 1904, Xiling Seal Art Society was dedicated to the research of tr...



Longjing Tea Fields /
To immerse yourself into China's age-old tea tradition, visit the Longjing T...



Chinese Medicine Museum / ...
Acquaint yourself with mysterious and rather exotic remedies collected in th...

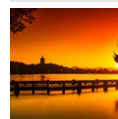


Xixi Wetland Park /
Take a boat trip or a hike through the lush, airy Xixi Wetland Park as part ...



China Silk Museum /
This educational museum tells the fascinating story of silk - from silk worm...

Top 5



West Lake /
West Lake's every scenic spot has a poetic name and a tale associated with i...



Leifeng Pagoda /
This 1,000-year old pagoda continues to capture the imagination of the Chine...



Evening Bell at Nanping Hi...
In old times, the temple bell resounded throughout Nanping Hill every day, s...



Song Dynasty Town /
The Song Dynasty Town (or Songcheng) is an exciting, albeit slightly kitschy...



Pagoda of Six Harmonies /
Pagoda of Six Harmonies stands on the bank of Qiantang River, safeguarding t...

THE CITY



gui jun peng / Shutterstock.com

Along with Suzhou, Hangzhou was extolled by ancient Chinese as "Paradise on Earth" - a metaphor that Marco Polo, the famous Venetian traveler, eagerly echoed, going as far as to pronounce Hangzhou the "finest, most splendid city in the world".

Although today such grand claims to greatness may be contested by other worthy contenders, Hangzhou truly is a beautiful corner of the world. Stunningly set by the West Lake with its weeping willows, Hangzhou is a favorite subject in many watercolor paintings by Chinese artists - its temples, bridges and causeways make for some incredibly serene, inspiring landscapes. Hangzhou is very foreigner-friendly, with an ever-growing community of expats calling the city home. The east bank of the West Lake is crowded with eateries and bars frequented by locals and visitors alike; the west side is known as a quieter area where one can explore some of Hangzhou's unspoiled nature. Hangzhou is also known for its rather vibrant music scene - lots of local clubs regularly host live music shows, and music festival season comes twice a year - in spring and autumn.

DO & SEE



rongyiquan / Shutterstock.com

Most visits to Hangzhou center around the West Lake. To hit some of the most important sights, dedicate a day to simply strolling around the body of water - monuments like the Leifeng Pagoda and Jinci Temple are located directly on its shores, much like many others. The lake's east bank is where fashionable eateries, bars and scenic spots are concentrated; even further to the east (around Jiefang Lu) begins the new Hangzhou, where fashionable stores and modern amenities can be found.

West Lake /



West Lake's every scenic spot has a poetic name and a tale associated with it. Any local can point a wandering visitor to the best spot to enjoy the

dawn or the setting sun. The best way to appreciate it in all its splendor is to rent a bicycle and take a ride around.

Photo: *rongyiquan / Shutterstock.com*

Address: West Lake, Hangzhou

Leifeng Pagoda /



This 1,000-year old pagoda continues to capture the imagination of the Chinese for the legend behind it - one of captivity, magic and a triumph of good over evil. The top of the five-storey pagoda is accessible by lift and the view over the West Lake from here is truly amazing.

Photo: Atosan / Shutterstock.com

Address: 15 Nanshan Road, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 8h - 17h30

Phone: +86 571 8798 2111

Tickets: 40 RMB

Internet: jing.leifengta.com

Evening Bell at Nanping Hill /



In old times, the temple bell resounded throughout Nanping Hill every day, summoning to pray for good fortune at Jingci Temple. Emperor

Kangxi once said that the temple rouses one into deep thoughtfulness, and today monks of Jingci Temple still adhere to their daily sutra-chanting and meditation.

Photo: WIL / Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Nanshan Lu, Nanping Hill, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 8h - 17h30

Tickets: 15 RMB

More Info: Across from Leifeng Pagoda

Song Dynasty Town /



The Song Dynasty Town (or Songcheng) is an exciting, albeit slightly kitschy, theme park in Hangzhou. This is one of China's largest dynastic theme parks, replicating the architecture and street scenes of that era. The park's main attraction, however, aren't its countless exotic exhibits, but a top-notch song and dance show that ranks amongst the finest in the world.

Photo: dttmstock / Shutterstock.com

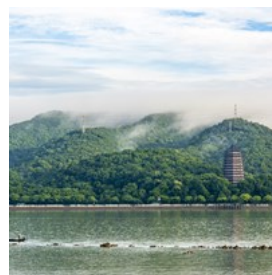
Address: 148 Zhijiang Road, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h - 18h

Tickets: 310 - 580 RMB

Internet: www.songcn.com

Pagoda of Six Harmonies /



Pagoda of Six Harmonies stands on the bank of Qiantang River, safeguarding the turbulent waters. A magnificent view of the

Qianjiang River Bridge (the first modern steel-structured bridge with combined railway and road functions) unfolds from the top.

Photo: ilovehz / Shutterstock.com

Address: 16 Zhijiang Lu, Xihu District, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 6h - 17h30

Tickets: 10 RMB

Wu Zhen /



About 80 km from Hangzhou city and just an easy hour bus ride away, Wu Zhen is a town where time passes without notice. More and more tourists have discovered the time-worn cobbled

stone streets, crow-stepped gable, wooden doors and long, narrow alleys of Wu Zhen.

Still, the life of the locals seem undisturbed. They still keep to their traditional customs, like drinking Sanbai Wine, making traditional maltose and sipping morning tea until 9.30 am, the same leisurely and pleasing way their great grandfathers did.

With the newly created Wu Zhen International Theater Festival, the town shows also a touch of modern culture.

Photo: Raywoo / Shutterstock.com
Address: Wu Zhen, Tongxiang City, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 7h20 - 18h
Tickets: 100 - 180 RMB
Internet: en.wuzhen.com.cn/english/

Longjing Tea Fields /



To immerse yourself into China's age-old tea tradition, visit the Longjing Tea Fields (or any of the other tea fields further to the west).

Longjing is an exquisite variety of tea native to the region, and visitors will get a chance to sample the noble drink during a tea ceremony.

Photo: zhu difeng / Shutterstock.com
Address: 141 Longjing Lu, Xihu District, Hangzhou Shi
Opening hours: 24/7
Tickets: Free to the public

Fei Lai Feng & Lingyin Temple /



Bring time to the serene Fei Lai Feng mountain park and marvel at the area's hundreds of Buddha stone carvings, surrounded by lush

greenery and an indescribable tranquil atmosphere. Much of the walk will entail hiking uphill to Lingyin Temple, so bring comfortable shoes.

Photo: Banalities / Flickr(image cropped)
Address: Lingxi South Roadin, Xihu Distict, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 7h - 18h15
Tickets: 75 RMB
Internet: www.lingyinsi.org
More Info: In the Lingyin area

Xixi Wetland Park /



Take a boat trip or a hike through the lush, airy Xixi Wetland Park as part of a tour or on your own. Explore the abundant vegetation and wildlife, absorb the tranquility and grab a bite at one of the food stands in the compact shopping area next to the boat docks.

Photo: Zhao jian kang / Shutterstock.com
Address: Zhoujia Village, Xihu District, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 8h30 - 17h30
Phone: +86 571 8810 6688
Tickets: 150 RMB
Internet: xixiwetland.com.cn

Chinese Medicine Museum /



Acquaint yourself with mysterious and rather exotic remedies collected in this authentic museum housed inside a traditional mansion right on the commercial Hefang street. Explore herbs and roots and see stuffed animals (some - a sight not for the faint of heart) used in traditional healing.

Photo: vivi14216 / pixabay.com
Address: 95 Dajing Alley, Shangcheng District, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 9h - 17h
Phone: +86 571 8701 5379
Tickets: 5 RMB

China Silk Museum /

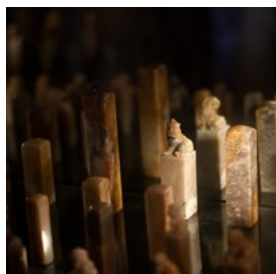


This educational museum tells the fascinating story of silk - from silk worms to finished product (some exquisite exhibits are on display), with

demonstration of traditional weaving techniques. Admission is free, and explanations in English are provided.

Photo: LoggaWiggler / pixabay.com
Address: 73-1 Yuhuang Shan Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 9h - 17h
Phone: +86 571 8703 5150
Tickets: Free to the public
Internet: www.chinasilkmuseum.com

Xiling Seal Art Society /



Founded in 1904, Xiling Seal Art Society was dedicated to the research of traditional Chinese calligraphy and seal carving art. Today, it is

also a museum where more than 6000 authentic works of ancient Chinese artists are preserved, a boutique where you can get stone carved seals or calligraphy with your own name on it. Even the well preserved Qing dynasty style architecture of the society alone is a piece of art.

Photo: Tom Thai / flickr(image cropped)
Address: 31 Gushan Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 8h - 17h
Phone: +86 571 8781 0693
Internet: exlys.jd.com

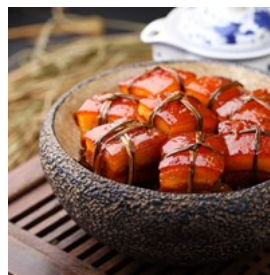
DINING



grass-lifeisgood / Shutterstock.com

Hangzhou is famous for its traditional cuisine, hearty yet light on the palate. Some of the signature dishes are Beggar's Chicken baked in fragrant lotus leaves, West Lake fish, which can be steamed or stewed, and Dongpo Pork stewed in soy sauce, a dish invented and named after ancient China's most famous poet nine centuries ago. This is a divine dish where the meat is cooked to such tenderness it melts in the mouth.

Zhi Wei Guan /



An institution in itself, Zhi Wei Guan proudly claims a history of almost 100 years. There is an old saying that people stop their carriage attracted

by aromas from the Zhi Wei Guan restaurant and dismount from their horses. Today, the restaurant still ranks as the top restaurant in Hangzhou.

Photo: [cnfoodphoto / Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)
Address: 83 Renhe Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 6h - 22h
Phone: +86 571 8702 8213
More Info: Near Dongpo Road

Lou Wai Lou /



Louwailou is located at the foot of Gushan, near the beautiful West Lake. More than 150 years old, Louwailou has served many famous persons in

history including China's most famous revolutionary, Dr. Sun Yat-sen and the late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai.

Photo: Nipapun / pixabay.com

Address: 28 Gushan Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h30 - 14h30 and 16h30 - 20h30

Phone: +86 571 8796 9682

Internet: www.louwailou.com.cn

Zhang Sheng Ji /



Zhangshengji is guided by ancient secret recipes and the principle that "food and medicine have the same origin". Various artisan dishes are

available depending on the season - duck, pork, fish, shrimp and more. It is a combination of ancient food medication and modern culinary arts, provide an authentic experience. It is a rather typical Chinese restaurant with private rooms and banquet halls.

Photo: Brent Hofacker / Shutterstock.com

Address: 77 Shuanglin Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 11h - 14h and 17h - 21h

Phone: +86 571 8602 7777

Wai Po Jia /



To acquaint yourself with local Hangzhou cuisine, head to one of Grandma's Kitchen's many locales scattered throughout the city. It's a locals' and

tourists' favorite, whose picture menu makes it easy to navigate the many unfamiliar words that might sound confusing to the unprepared visitor. From green tea chicken to fresh potherb of the season, the menu of the restaurant is what locals could get at their grandma's. Oh and it is vegan friendly.

Photo: momo2050/shutterstock.com

Address: 3 Hubin Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h30 -14h and 16h - 21h

Phone: +86 571 8510 1939

More Info: Inside Intime Retail

Zhongshan Rd. Food Street /



Visitors are spoiled for choice at Zhongshan Road - walk down the 1400-meter-long foodie street, enjoy the Qing Dynasty style

architecture, and select from one of many casual dining restaurants with tables and chairs set up outside. Local Hangzhou flavors abound - most places serve up fresh seafood, noodles, steamed tiny bun and more.

Photo: aphotostory / Shutterstock.com

Address: Zhongshan Nanlu, Hangzhou

More Info: At the Drum Tower

Haidilao Hot Pot /



One of the many places offering hot pot-style dining, Haidilao has earned itself a reputations for impeccable service and

cleanliness. The originally spicy pot, which came from Sichuan, is adapted to the locals' taste. Select the desired ingredients (from a vast array of products that are normally very well-stocked) and create your very own hot pot

mix. The restaurant is open 24/7, but might have long waiting time during rush hours.

Photo: norikko / Shutterstock.coö
Address: 135 YanAn Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 24/7
Phone: +86 571 8708 8050
More Info: Yong Jin Plaza 5 Floor

Carbon



Elegantly set directly on the West Lake, Carbon is a restaurant, café and bar that offers a fusion menu with a traceable emphasis on European (French, Italian and Spanish) cuisines. Although the restaurant is supervised by a Michelin one-star chef, the price is acceptable. Some signature dishes are Tuna Potato Lasagna, Périgord Black Truffle Risotto, and French Chicken Roti.

Photo: Alexander Rath / Shutterstock.com
Address: 10 Beishan Jie, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 11h - 23h
Phone: +86 571 8796 8775
More Info: Next to Biliantian Restaurant

JiangHu Qian Sushi /



One of Hangzhou's best picks when it comes to Japanese, the establishment prides itself on the top-notch quality of the ingredients

used in meal preparation and attentive service. Buzzing even on an early Monday night, the restaurant serves authentic Japanese cuisine right by the scenic West Lake. Reservation required.

Photo: Lisovskaya Natalia / Shutterstock
Address: 92 Xueshi Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: Mon - Fri 11h30 - 14h and 17h - 22 Sat, Sun

11h30 - 22h00
Phone: +86 571 8721 0517

Dong Yi Shun /



The Chinese restaurant with a, perhaps, rather uncharacteristic menu (it serves dishes typical of a local Muslim minority group), Dongyishun is the place to go for kebab (lamb, mutton and chicken), as well as yogurt, falafel and hummus. Picture menu available.

Photo: 8H / Shutterstock.com
Address: 99 Gaoyin Jie, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 10h30 - 22h
Phone: +86 571 8780 5163

Sawasdee /



This rather upscale restaurant aims to recreate authentic Thai flavors in a glamorous setting of an upmarket Hangzhou hotel. The menu features the familiar old Thai cuisine classics. Some vegetarian options are available. The staff speak both Chinese and English.

Photo: naito29 / Shutterstock.com
Address: 555 Fengqi Lu, Hangzhou
Opening hours: 11h30 - 14h30 and 17h30 - 22h30
Phone: +86 571 8761 6888
More Info: Wyndham Grand Plaza Royale Hotel - 2nd Floor

Green Tea Restaurant /



A very popular restaurant that is best visited at odd times to avoid rush hour crowds, this cosy eatery offers a unique ambiance, varied menu and

affordable prices. Try the clay pot dishes and do not skip the guilty pleasure of delicate Cantonese dim sum for dessert, numerous kinds are offered, and everyone is a piece of art.

Photo: Nick Nguyen / Flickr(image cropped)

Address: 83 Longjing Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 11h - 22h

Phone: +86 571 8788 8022

CAFES



dourleak / shutterstock.com

When in Hangzhou, do not miss a traditional tea ceremony and savor a cup of Longjing tea, grown locally in the area. There are plenty of traditional tea houses to choose from, but one won't be hard-pressed to find modern coffee shops and Western-style cafés in the city either. Savor the local pudding-and-fruit desserts, and do not skip the exotic delicacies sold at street vendors' stalls.

Lan Shan Café /



This establishment takes pride in its delicate care of the entire coffee-making process and is somewhat of a "classic" coffee house.

Blue Mountain Café carefully chooses coffee beans, brewing methods and the right container that brings out the best in the drink.

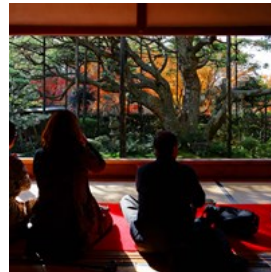
Photo: JIL Photo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 56-58 Ding'an Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h - 2h

Phone: +86 571 8701 8677

Fuquan Tea House /



This tea house is located inside a 1600-year-old temple. Surrounded by the woods, the place is separated from city. The temple has its own tea

farm and the monks themselves are in charge of the production. The water that's used for the tea is pumped from an on-site well behind the temple. It's a great place to get away from the noise and embrace Zen, finding tranquility within.

Photo: CHEN MIN CHUN/ shutterstock.com

Address: 16 Fayun Alley, Lingyin Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 9h - 18h

Phone: +86 571 8796 8993

More Info: Inside Yongfu Temple

Yi Shi /



Yi Shi is a quiet tea house hidden in the city. Tea here is served in a traditional way, with the entire set of a tea ceremony performance

and guiding explanations. Order a cup of tea and some traditional desserts, and enjoy some quality time with friends and family.

Photo: Beykov Maksim / shutterstock.com

Address: 13 Tianzhu Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h - 23h

Phone: +86 571 8797 6811

More Info: 30 Meters to the south gate of Lingyin Temple

Song Pin Tea House /



Founded in 1880, the tea-house has recently move into a renovated factory. The industrial design has become its signature. It is not only a high quality tea house, but also a museum where thousands of kinds of tea are exhibited, some even dating back to the Tang Dynasty.

Photo: samkin / Shutterstock.com

Address: 139 Liuhe Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 10h - 18h

Phone: +86 571 8800 0369

Internet: www.songpinhao.com

More Info: On the east side of Building No.30

ZidongWoxi Coffee /

coffee



Cafés that roast their own beans are few and far between, and Zidong Woxi is one of them. In-house roasting gives the coffee a unique

signature flavor. Its reputation among coffee-lovers ensures a constant flow of customers. If lost amid their numerous choices, take a cup of White Flat, the signature coffee, with which one can never go wrong.

Photo: Evgeny Karandaev/ Shutterstock.com

Address: 45 Dajing Alley, Qinghe Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 11h - 22h, closed every Wednesday

Phone: +86 157 5710 8917

ASKA Guesthouse /



ASKA Guesthouse is a Japanese style cat café 30 minutes away from the downtown. Their beans are generally Medium, City or even Italian roast.

It is a quiet place to hang out with friends located in the best spot to observe the blooming sweet osmanthus.

Photo: perfectlab/shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Yangjiashan, Manjuelong

Phone: +86 571 8646 0461

More Info: Take bus No.87 or No.87b, get off at Shuiledong Station (□ □ □ □). The coffee is right off the road.

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Minerva Studio / Shutterstock.com

Nanshan Lu (or the West Lake bar street) is where most of the nightlife in Hangzhou happens, though there are other hot spots in town. KTV (or Karaoke Television) is a favorite local evening pastime, but stick to Western-style establishments if you're not quite ready to exercise your vocal cords. There is plenty of life happening outside of bars and discos, too - try the night market for great bargains on knick-knacks and a taste of local street food.

Youtoo.Bar



Youtoo.Bar is an ideal place for friends to hangout. The friendly atmosphere makes it a good choice for a late night chat session.

Regular signers are mainly folk signers, and vibes are relaxing and gentle. Various kinds of beer are served, whereas the cocktail selection is

slightly more modest.

Photo: qwasder1987 / Shutterstock.com

Address: 85 Shuguang Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 20h - 03h

Phone: +86 571 8797 6788

Jz Club /



Jz Club is the the venue for live jazz music. This place also serves food and holds regular jam sessions and concert series. Savor a cocktail or

your drink of choice as music fills the air in this low-lit, laid-back venue by the West Lake waterfront.

Photo: Roman Voloshyn / Shutterstock.com

Address: 6 Liuying Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 6h - 2h

Phone: +86 571 8702 8298

More Info: The yellow house by the crossroad

Aurora



One of the city's most stylish venues, the Aurora Cocktail Lounge is celebrated as the place to be for cocktail connoisseurs. With fabled

Jojo behind the bar, cocktails here are above par and live up to some of the most elevated expectations - choose from the menu or select a base alcohol to be worked with. I you like chill bar, this is the place to go.

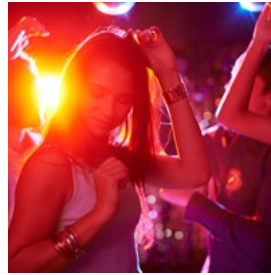
Photo: IVL / Shutterstock.com

Address: 86 East Huancheng Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 8h - 2h

Phone: +86 571 8580 3206

G+ Club



At G-Plus, the party is on every single night of the week with lively crowds filling the dance floor and letting loose to tunes spun by some of the hottest DJs. Expats and visitors frequent the establishment, so expect a very welcoming, potpourri public.

Photo: Pressmaster / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Baochu Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 24/7

Phone: +86 571 2819 5888

More Info: Next to Queen Club

Eudora Station /



Located on the scenic east bank of the lake, Eudora Station is an expats' darling that frequently hosts live bands and serves decent Western food. There is an airy outdoor terrace on the roof, from which an incredible view unfold before the party-goers.

Photo: Prostock-studioBy / Shutterstock.com

Address: 101-7 Nanshan Lu, Hangzhou

Phone: +86 571 8791 4760

Traveller Bar /



The owner of this 3-storey, hip bar likes to travel around the world and has encrusted the establishment's walls with interesting artifacts from his trips. Regular live music shows are hosted. There is also a board for those interested to leave a message seeking travel companions.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 176 Shuguang Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 7h - 2h

Phone: +86 571 8796 8846

More Info: Next to Old Captain Bar

Joy /



This rather standard bar features an extensive drink list. The staff and crowd are very welcoming of foreigners, even though the public

here mostly consists of locals. It's a rather low-key establishment, so head elsewhere for some rowdier party vibes.

Photo: Aleksei Isachenko / Shutterstock.com

Address: 87 Nanshan Lu □ Hangzhou

Opening hours: 19h - 02h

Phone: +86 571 8782 0753

More Info: Across from Linglong Town

SHOPPING



WIL / Flickr (image cropped)

The shopping is best along Yan'an Lu and Jiefang Lu. If you're looking to stock up on native produce, Hangzhou is known for its silk products and there are special shops dedicated to it as well as an entire mall on Xinhua Lu. Another famous local product is tea - the most loved blends are Dragon's Well and the more delicate White Chrysanthemum. A number of modern malls have sprung up in the past years,

but these are mostly occupied by high-end brand stores.

Hefang Street /



The street may feel a bit too polished, but is far from being your average tourist trap and shouldn't be mistaken for one.

Some of the best street food in Hangzhou is to be had here, and multiple local shops crowd the area - find anything from pearls, to herbal remedies to tea and various souvenirs.

Photo: WIL / Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Hefang Jie, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 24/7

More Info: Although the street is always open, most of the shops and stands close at 23h

Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors /



Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors boast a 300 year long history. There is a staggering over 100 varieties and 400 specifications, ranging

from industrial scissors, to tailor scissors to hairdressing scissors, to gift and souvenir scissors and collectors' series.

Photo: Pezibear / Pixabay

Address: 225 Yan'an Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 9h - 21h, close every Thursday

Phone: +86 571 8708 8935

Internet: www.zhangxiaoquan.cn

Wu Lin Road Fashion Street /



Wu Lin Road is one of the main leisure and shopping spots for women's fashion in downtown Hangzhou.

This shopping haven is 1,650 meters long and stretches from Qingchun Road in the south to Stadium Road in the north, lined with stores and boutiques all the way. Haggling is often expected.

Photo: Maridav / Shutterstock.com

Address: Wu Lin Lu, Hangzhou

More Info: Most of the stores close at 22h

Wushan Lu Night Market /



Haggle away at Hangzhou's most popular night market - great bargains on clothing and accessories are to be had, and knock-off brand-name

items are aplenty, if that's something for you. After shopping, grab a bite at one of the many busy street food stands.

Photo: Patchanee Samutrarai / Shutterstock.com

Address: Huixing Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 6h - 23h

More Info: Crossing of Youdian Lu and Renhe Lu

Silk Market /



For great bargains on silk, head to the Silk Market - a collection of small shops and vendors selling all manner of items made from the

noble fabric. To get the best deals, prepare to haggle hard - and you will be duly rewarded. Prices may vary significantly from one shop to another.

Photo: kthlp / pixabay.com

Address: Fengqi Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 8h - 17h30

Xihu Longjing Tea /



You can not go home without taking some Longjing Green Tea. Hangzhou is one of the most famous tea producing areas in China,

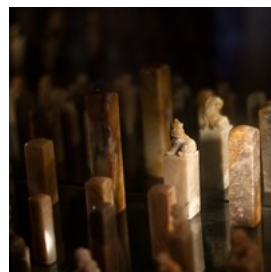
its Longjing tea dubbed "tea of Emperors". The long history and delicate processing makes it one of the finest teas in the world under a protected brand. To ensure the tea you're purchasing is authentic, choose a government-certified outlet such as Xihu Longjing Tea.

Photo: margaret tong / Shutterstock.com

Address: 15 Lingyin Lu, Hangzhou

Phone: +86 137 3804 3079

Xiling Seal Art Society /



Founded in 1904, Xiling Seal Art Society was dedicated to the research of traditional Chinese calligraphy and seal carving art. Today, it is

also a museum where more than 6000 authentic work of ancient Chinese artists are preserved, a boutique where you can get stone carved seal or calligraphy with your own name on it. Even the well preserved Qing dynasty style architecture of the society alone is a piece of art.

Photo: Tom Thai / flickr(image cropped)

Address: 31 Gushan Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: Open daily from 8h - 17h

Phone: +86 571 8781 0693

Email: <https://exlys.jd.com/>

Wangxingji Fan Industrial Co., Ltd. /



Set up more than 100 years ago as the only comprehensive fan-making enterprise in China, Wangxingji produces about 15 series and more than 400 high quality types of elegant fans with many new varieties emerging. This place is well known for its intricate craftsmanship and graceful appearance.

Photo: Traci Rasmusson / Shutterstock.com

Address: 62 Renhe Lu, Hangzhou

Opening hours: 8h - 22h

Phone: +86 571 8783 0144

Internet: www.wangxingji.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



user1462795718

Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport



Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport is located on the south bank of Qiantang River, 27 kilometers away from the downtown area of

Hangzhou and 15 kilometers from Xiaoshan Town. A ride from the airport to Wu Lin Road takes about 50 minutes.

Shuttle buses run regularly between the airport

(Gate 14 area) and the city center, where they make multiple stops (Huanglong Tourist Center, bus stations, etc.). There is a taxi stand at the airport (Gate 10).

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport, Hangzhou

Internet: www.hzairport.com/en/

Best Time to Visit



Late spring or early autumn would be the best time to visit Hangzhou. Hangzhou is a typical subtropical city where four seasons are

distinguishable. Winter is cold and dry while during the summer time, temperatures can go up till 32 degrees or even higher, along with abundant rainfall and a risk of typhoons. Try to avoid Chinese public holidays such as between October 1st and 7th, during which the city could be flooded by local tourists.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Passport / Visa



For citizens of the following countries, visa is not requested for short term stays : - 90 days : Bosnia and Herzegovina, San Marino - 60 days :

Mauritius

- 30 days : Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Ecuador, Fiji, Grenada, Qatar, Serbia, Seychelles, Tonga, United Arab Emirates.

- 15 days : Brunei, Japan, Singapore.

Holders of passports issued by the following 49 countries do not require a visa for a 144-hour

stay if they are transiting through Hangzhou Airport or Shanghai Hongqiao Airport. However, passengers need to provide ticket showing their first destination, which should be outside China, nor could it be in the same country as the inbound flight.

- All European Union citizens, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Iceland, Japan, Macedonia, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Qatar, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States.

- Messengers who enter China by Shanghai or Hangzhou Airport under transition condition can not leave the area of Zhejiang, Suzhou, and Shanghai.

Photo: TukTuk Design

Internet Access and VPN in China



Due to the Internet policy of China, certain websites and applications are not accessible from the mainland, which includes those very commonly

used in the west (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Google, Skype and more). Some travellers have been able to gain access to those via a VPN service (installed prior to arrival in China).

Make sure you comply with local laws and regulations when deciding on whether or not to employ a VPN, and which one to choose (if you do, only use those explicitly allowed by the Chinese government, and only use them for authorised purposes to avoid any trouble). There have been reports of foreigners in China getting their cell service cut off in response to unauthorised use of VPN being detected; restoring cell service required a trip to the local police station where contents of the device were

investigated and certain apps removed.

Giving that Google is banned in China, Google Maps might not be the most accurate and reliable source of information. Some local apps such as Baidu Maps and AutoNavi tend to work better than Google Maps.

Photo: TukTuk Design / Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



There is an extensive and reliable bus network in Hangzhou, although bus schedules are all in Chinese only. Buses with a "Y" prefix are the ones

that circulate among the tourist hot spots.

Tickets can be bought directly from the driver (a bus card may be purchased at kiosks in advance). There are also 3 subway lines and 5 under construction.

There are 3 railway stations in Hangzhou, Hangzhou Station, Hangzhou South Station and Hangzhou East Station.

The easiest way to get to Hangzhou Station is to take the subway line 1. Other stations are served by buses.

The public transportation is convenient in Hangzhou and buses serve most tourist sites. There are also bicycle rentals, with a deposit, to enjoy a journey around the West Lake.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Taxi



Taxis are relatively easy to flag down, especially from public places such as bus stops and attraction sites. Getting a cab right off the street

normally works faster than calling to order one, as most telephone operators do not speak English and the service is generally relatively slow. The price is 3 km/11 yuan and than 2,5 yuan / km.

You can also use taxi cab hailing service with WeChat or Alipay (like Chinese version of Uber).

Some Taxi companies for booking in advance:

Hangzhou Taxi +86 571 28811111

Hangzhou Leyuan Transport Company +86 571 85311193

Hangzhou Volkswagen Taxi Company +86 571 2720397

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Post Office



China Post has many branches around Hangzhou. Post boxes are relatively easy to locate and are dark green in color.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: 313 Zhongshanzhong Lu, Shangcheng Qu

Phone: +86 571 8791 5721

Internet: www.chinapost.com.cn

Pharmacy



There are numerous pharmacies scattered throughout the city. Ask your hotel for assistance if you need help finding one. In the city centre,

multiple pharmacies are located along Quingchun Road and Fengqi Road.

Photo: Gemma Garner

Address: Huanlong Pharmacy, 88 Shangjiefang Lu, Shangcheng Qu

Opening hours: Open daily from 9h - 21h30

Phone: +86 571 8778 3857

Electricity



220 V/50 Hz Adapter needed

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Telephone



Country code: +86 Area code: 571

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Population

9,468,000 (2017)

Currency

1 RMB =10 Jiao

Opening hours

Most offices are open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 or 6 pm. Some bank branches also operate on weekends. Shopping centers and department stores are usually open seven days a week until 9 or 10 pm.

Newspapers

Hangzhou Daily
City News

Emergency numbers

Police: 110
Ambulance: 120
Fire Brigade: 119

Tourist information

Hangzhou Tourist Information Centre
Located on Yan'an Rd, WuShan ShangQuan, Shangcheng Qu
Open: daily 8 am-4 pm