



Shanghai

Photo: Nick N A/shutterstock



Prasit Rodphan/shutterstock

Shanghai is the shiniest gem in modern China's jewel box. It's a hip, contemporary city that charges into the future with all the energy of its famous Maglev train. At the same time, if you veer away from the sleek highways and glitzy shopping streets, you can still stumble upon a more traditional Shanghai, with all its character and flavour. In the tiny back streets, wet-market vendors peddle their wares — buckets of bright green vegetables, fish flapping in shallow plastic bowls, and heaps of crayfish crawling over each other.



ABCStock/shutterstock



wang song/shutterstock

Featured



Shanghai World Financial C...

For sweeping views over Shanghai, visit this 492-metre skyscraper. Also know...



Shanghai Disneyland Park

Opened in 2016, Shanghai Disneyland is the 6th Disneyland in the world. In l...



Jin Mao Tower

It's the view you're going for: on a clear day, Jin Mao Tower offers incredi...



Jade Buddha Temple

Founded in 1882, this Buddhist temple is known for its large, ornate jade Bu...



Xintiandi

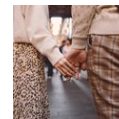
Xintiandi, an upscale car-free district in Shanghai, emerged in the late 199...

Top 5



The Bund

The Bund is Shanghai's iconic waterfront promenade, a living monument to the...



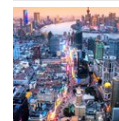
Tianai Road

Tianai Road, whose name translates as 'Sweet Love', is a 600-metre-long trib...



People's Square

People's Square forms the beating heart of Shanghai, a sprawling public spac...



Nanjing Road Pedestrian Street

Nanjing Road is a busy, 5.5-kilometre pedestrian



Yu Garden

Yu Garden embodies the quintessence of classical ancient Chinese gardens sou...

THE CITY



ABCDstock/shutterstock

Shanghai's most famous attraction is the Bund. This was where the colonial merchants of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries built the headquarters for their trading firms and banks. Still today, these vast, august edifices boom of power — but now the roofs are topped with the red and yellow flags of the People's Republic and the buildings below house designer clothing shops as well as banking headquarters.

Across the Huangpu River, there's been a greater transformation still. Only 30 years ago, this was sleepy farmland — now, Pudong is a booming financial and economic district. Just back from the waterfront lies the old city, a tangle of tiny lanes where the locals still live as they have for decades. Even in these traditional lanes, though, the wrecking ball is wreaking its havoc: walk around them now before it's too late. Further west lies the French Concession, where large colonial houses are being rapidly converted into high-end bars and restaurants.

For shoppers, Shanghai is still a kind of heaven. Markets are regularly being uprooted and rehoused as part of the urban planners' mission to make the city better and brighter than ever before. There are still fabulous deals to be had at the fabric market, wonderful trinkets and antiques in Dongtai Road and good-value

custom-made furniture for those with a shipping crate to spare.

DO & SEE



wang song/shutterstock

Shanghai really is a delightful city to explore. See skyscrapers alongside surviving colonial buildings and visit the Shanghai Museum to get an insight into the city's past and just how rapidly it has changed within the last decade. Early birds simply must take a stroll through one of Shanghai's many parks, where thousands gather daily for their morning exercise.

The Bund



The Bund is Shanghai's iconic waterfront promenade, a living monument to the city's complex history. On one side, a row of grand, floodlit colonial-era buildings lines the boulevard, while across the Huangpu River, the futuristic skyscrapers of Pudong create a dazzling neon spectacle. This striking contrast between old and new is best experienced at dusk, when the lighting of both shores transforms the area into a breathtaking tableau. A stroll along the Bund offers a quintessential Shanghai experience, capturing the city's dynamic blend of tradition and modernity.

Photo: ABCDstock/shutterstock

Address: Zhongshan Road (E-1), Waitan, Huangpu, Shanghai

Tianai Road



Tianai Road, whose name translates as 'Sweet Love', is a 600-metre-long tribute to romance. Local tradition holds that couples who walk its

length hand-in-hand will earn a blessing for their future together. The stroll is punctuated every 20 metres by a framed love poem, 28 in total, and a dedicated red mailbox awaits love letters, each stamped with a special seal bearing the word 'love'.

Photo: Oleggg/shutterstock

Address: Tianai Lu, Luxun Park, Hongkou District, Shanghai

People's Square



People's Square forms the beating heart of Shanghai, a sprawling public space that functions as the city's central crossroads.

Flanked by major institutions like the Shanghai Museum, the Grand Theatre, and the Municipal Building, the area is a focal point for politics, culture, and commerce. Beyond its grand edifices, it also serves as a major shopping destination and a constant, pulsing hub of urban life.

Photo: f11photo/shutterstock

Address: People's Square, Huangpu, Shanghai

Nanjing Road Pedestrian Street



Nanjing Road is a busy, 5.5-kilometre pedestrian thoroughfare that serves as Shanghai's primary shopping destination.

Stretching from the Bund to Jing'an Temple, its eastern section is a vibrant, all-weather pedestrian arcade. While historic stores remain, the street is now a dynamic mix of international brands, modern shopping malls, and specialty stores. The constant flow of shoppers, street performers, and the sheer energy of the area make a walk along Nanjing Road essential for feeling the metropolitan pulse of the city.

Photo: Luciano Mortula - LGM/shutterstock

Address: Nanjing Road Pedestrian Street

Yu Garden



Yu Garden embodies the quintessence of classical ancient Chinese gardens south of the Yangtze River — a creation of maximum out of

minimum. While it takes a familiar person only five minutes to walk from the entrance to the exit, most first-time visitors find themselves lost in this little paradise with fish ponds, rockeries, plants, bridges and buildings of various types arranged along zigzagging paths. The ingenious use of Chinese gardening art in combination with the garden's 400-plus years of history makes Yu Garden one of the most popular tourist attractions in Shanghai.

Photo: Greir/shutterstock

Address: 279 Yu Yuan Lao Jie, Huangpu, Shanghai

Internet: www.travelchinaguide.com/attraction/shanghai/yuyan_garden.htm

Xintiandi



Xintiandi, an upscale car-free district in Shanghai, emerged in the late 1990s as a vibrant shopping, dining, and entertainment hub.

Originally a neighbourhood of traditional Shikumen houses, many were replaced with modern apartments to improve living conditions, sparking concerns about the potential loss of cultural heritage. In response, the government preserved some Shikumen structures, blending history with contemporary flair. Today, Xintiandi stands as a dazzling landmark, boasting fine restaurants, chic clubs and luxury boutiques, seamlessly integrating Shanghai's past with its cosmopolitan present.

Photo: cyo bo/shutterstock
Address: Xintiandi, Shanghai

Tianzifang



Tianzifang captures the soul of old Shanghai within a maze of narrow, stone-paved lanes. This regenerated corner of the former French

Concession has become a bohemian enclave, where art galleries, craft workshops and intimate cafés occupy renovated shikumen houses. Wandering these alleys offers a welcome contrast to the city's modern skyline, revealing a more human-scale and creative side of this Chinese megalopolis.

Photo: cyo bo/shutterstock
Address: Taikang Road, Huangpu, Shanghai

Jin Mao Tower



It's the view you're going for: on a clear day, Jin Mao Tower offers incredible 360-degree panoramas across the city. It's 88 storeys high and located at number 88 — have you guessed that eight is a lucky number for the Chinese? There are offices up to the 50th floor, then the Grand Hyatt hotel from floors 53 to 87. A public observation deck is located on the top floor. Otherwise, forget the lucky numbers and go for a drink at the Grand Hyatt's Cloud 9 bar, just one storey below.

Photo: Luciano Mortula - LGM/shutterstock
Address: 88 Shiji Boulevard, Lujiazui, Pudong, Shanghai

Jade Buddha Temple



Founded in 1882, this Buddhist temple is known for its large, ornate jade Buddha sculptures: a sitting Buddha, and a smaller reclining Buddha representing the Buddha's death. Today, there is plenty to see on the premises, including multiple beautiful Buddha statues.

Photo: Anek Soowannaphoom/shutterstock
Address: 170 Anyuan Road, Putuo District, Shanghai
Internet: www.travelchinaguide.com/attraction/shanghai/jade_temple.htm

Shanghai Disneyland Park



Opened in 2016, Shanghai Disneyland is the 6th Disneyland in the world. In line with the company's promise, this Disneyland is

'authentically Disney and distinctly Chinese'. The park has seven themed areas: Mickey Avenue, Gardens of Imagination, Fantasyland, Treasure Cove, Adventure Isle, Tomorrowland, and Toy Story Land. This is also the only Disneyland where you can see all the Disneyland princesses introduced so far, including Mulan.

Photo: Erickson Stock/shutterstock

Address: Shanghai Disneyland Park, Pudong, Shanghai

Internet: www.shanghaidisneyresort.com/en

Shanghai Circus World



Shanghai Circus World is a premier venue dedicated to the city's famed acrobatic arts. It offers a spectacular evening of entertainment,

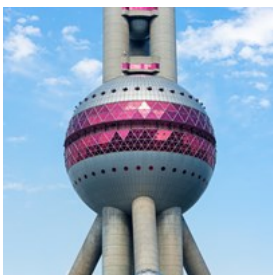
featuring highly skilled troupes performing breathtaking acts of contortion, balance, and strength. The shows are renowned for their elaborate choreography, vibrant costumes, and integration of live music, creating a visually stunning and immersive experience. A performance here is considered a quintessential Shanghai activity, showcasing a unique and celebrated aspect of Chinese cultural heritage.

Photo: KinoMasterskaya/shutterstock

Address: 2266 Gonghexin Road, Zhabei Qu, Shanghai

Internet: www.shanghaimaxicheng.com/en

Oriental Pearl TV Tower



As one of the tallest towers in Asia, Oriental Pearl TV Tower is a distinct landmark of Shanghai. Located opposite The Bund, it is

one of the hottest city attractions, as well as an entertainment venue containing dining and

shopping spots. There is an observation deck at the 263-metre mark, which offers amazing views of Shanghai.

Photo: Daniel Fung/shutterstock

Address: 1 Shiji Boulevard, Lujiazui, Pudong, Shanghai

Internet: www.travelchinaguide.com/attraction/shanghai/oriental_pearl.htm

Shanghai Ocean Aquarium



Shanghai Ocean Aquarium is the largest sea aquarium in Asia, divided into nine thematic zones including China, South America, Australia,

Africa, Polar, Deep Ocean, and more. This is where you can discover more than 15,000 marine creatures and almost all sea species found in Asia. Do not miss the underwater tunnels.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/shutterstock

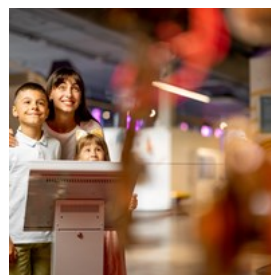
Address: 1388 Lujiazui Ring Road, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +86 21 5877 9988

Internet: www.sh-aquarium.com/en

Shanghai Science & Technology Museum



This interactive museum turns scientific theories into an exciting, interactive experience for guests of all ages. Learn about the structure of the

Earth's surface by travelling hundreds of metres down to its core, explore animal diversity by taking a stroll through rainforests and deserts, and understand the theory of gravity by riding a bicycle on a steel string hanging in the air.

Photo: RossHelen/shutterstock

Address: 2000 Shiji Boulevard, Pudong, Shanghai
Phone: +86 21 6862 2000
Internet: en.sstm.org.cn

Shanghai World Financial Center



For sweeping views over Shanghai, visit this 492-metre skyscraper. Also known as SWFC or "the bottle opener", this second-tallest building in

Shanghai features an indoor observatory from the 94th to 100th floors. Walk across the impressive Sky Bridge on the 97th floor and experience the tallest observatory in the world on the 100th floor.

Photo: ZCOOL HelloRF/shutterstock

Bund Sightseeing Tunnel

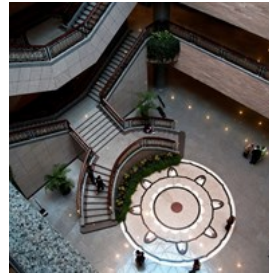


Visit the Bund Sightseeing Tunnel soon, before its quirky charm is potentially replaced by a standard commuter route. For now, it remains the most unconventional way to travel between the Bund and Pudong. The five-minute journey is a sensory spectacle of pumping music, psychedelic light shows, and abstract narration — an experience that is unapologetically flashy and genuinely entertaining.

Access the tunnel from the Bund end on Nanjing Road East, or from the Pudong side near the Riverside Promenade.

Photo: robert paul van beets/shutterstock
Address: 349 Zhongshan Road (E-1), Waitan, Huangpu, Shanghai

Shanghai Museum



The Shanghai Museum on People's Square holds one of China's most significant collections of ancient art. Its five floors showcase a remarkable trove of over 120,000 cultural relics, with standout displays of bronzes, ceramics, calligraphy and paintings. Among its many treasures is an object of national importance: one of only three known Han-dynasty 'transparent' bronze mirrors in existence.

Photo: Openfinal/shutterstock

Address: 201 Renmin Avenue, People's Square, Huangpu, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm

Phone: +86 21 6372 3500

Internet: www.shanghaimuseum.net/mu/frontend/pg/en/index

DINING



bigfatcat/shutterstock

The Chinese like to eat, and Shanghai is a city where this characteristic national trait finds its ultimate reflection. From chic and elegant international restaurants to local dumpling joints, Shanghai is where you can easily eat your way around the globe. Whether you like your portions exquisitely presented or prefer a tangled mountain of noodles, you will find it all here.

Crystal Jade



With its menu featuring scrumptious dumplings, pork belly and roast meat, this place serves some of the best Shanghainese and

Cantonese cuisine. This (originally Singaporean) chain restaurant offers a unique dining experience with exceptional food quality and good service.

Photo: Shaiith/shutterstock

Address: 123 Xingye Road, Xintiandi, South Block Plaza, Shanghai

Opening hours: Sat-Tue 11am-10:30pm; Wed-Fri 11am-4pm / 5pm-10:30pm

Phone: +86 21 6385 8752

Internet: www.crystaljade.cn/en

M on the Bund



Created by Australian restaurateur Michelle Garnaut, M on the Bund is an award-winning restaurant serving high-end Asian and

Western food in classy surroundings. With its terrace overlooking the Bund, it boasts one of the best locations in town.

Photo: 10 FACE/shutterstock

Address: 20 Guangdong Road, Waitan, Huangpu, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 11:30am-2:30pm / 5:30pm-10:30pm

Phone: +86 21 6350 9988

Internet: m-restaurantgroup.com/m-on-the-bund

South Beauty



South Beauty, Shanghai's most popular Szechuan restaurant chain, is renowned for its hot and spicy cuisine, a favourite among Chinese food

lovers. Diners flock to its multiple locations to savour authentic tongue-numbing dishes in stylish surroundings, making it a top destination for both locals and tourists seeking a fiery culinary experience.

Photo: Stephano T/shutterstock

Address: 881 Yan An Road, Jing'an District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6247 6682

CHAR Bar



This excellent restaurant is located on the top floor of Hotel Indigo, and, thanks to being perched so high, offers great views and an even better

menu selection. Their speciality is meat, but if a juicy steak isn't what you're feeling, seafood and delicious desserts are available as well.

Photo: Pear C/shutterstock

Address: Hotel Indigo Shanghai on The Bund, 585 Zhongshan Dong Er Road, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 3302 9999

Internet: www.ihg.com/hotelindigo/hotels/us/en/shanghai/shgnb/hoteldetail/dining

El Willy



For an authentic Spanish dining experience, visit this acclaimed restaurant located in a charming 1928 colonial house.

Specialising in modern tapas, the restaurant prides itself on using the

finest ingredients to prepare its dishes. Its exceptional cuisine has earned recognition through multiple culinary awards, making it a must-visit for Spanish food enthusiasts.

Photo: lunamarina/shutterstock

Address: 501, 22 Zhongshan Road, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 5404 5757

Internet: elwilly.com

Franck



Located in the French Concession of Shanghai, Franck Bistrot is a beloved destination for food and wine enthusiasts. This French street-style bistro offers fine French cuisine, featuring dishes like foie gras, poulet rôti, and tartare de bœuf, all served in a romantic setting. The restaurant also has its own wine cellar with 300 labels.

Photo: siamionau pavel/shutterstock

Address: 376 Wukang Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +86 21 6437 6465

Internet: www.instagram.com/franck.bistrot

Paradise Dynasty



Paradise Dynasty is an innovative Zhejiang cuisine restaurant renowned for its high-quality dishes with delightful twists. Its most famous offering, the '8-colour Xiao Long Bao', has gone viral on Chinese social media, captivating food lovers with its vibrant presentation and unique concept.

The '8-colour Xiao Long Bao' features eight

steamed dumplings in different colours and flavours, meant to be eaten in a specific order to fully appreciate the taste journey. Diners start with the original flavour, followed by ginseng, foie gras, black truffle, cheese, crab roe, garlic, and finishing with Szechuan. This progression from light to rich flavours ensures an unforgettable and meticulously crafted dining experience.

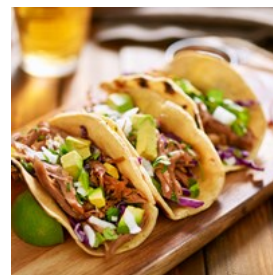
Photo: Fengianum/shutterstock

Address: Shanghai International Trade Plaza, 999 Huaihai Zhong Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 11am-9:30pm

Internet: www.paradisegp.com/_cn

Maya



Maya serves Mexican food from the Yucatan Peninsular with an Asian touch, using exclusively fresh ingredients and experimenting with bold

flavours. The extensive brunch menu is what originally earned Maya its fame. The food is healthy and hearty, with dishes like casserole, roast chicken enchiladas and roast duck quesadilla.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/shutterstock

Address: 568 Julu Road, Jing'An, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6289 6889

Internet: maya-shanghai.com

CAFÉS



Lili Gluck/shutterstock

While tea remains the historic beverage of choice, Shanghai has wholeheartedly embraced coffee in recent years. A modern café culture has flourished, with dozens of new shops opening across the city. The scene is diverse, catering to every preference: from international chains and quick-service counters favoured by locals on the go, to specialty roasteries and traditional tea houses offering a more contemplative experience.

RAC Coffee & Bar



RAC Coffee & Bar is a celebrated fixture in Shanghai's former French Concession, housed within a characterful lane house with a distinctive

green facade and a sun-drenched central courtyard. It is renowned for its authentic savoury galettes and crêpes, which are a cornerstone of its popular all-day brunch menu. The buckwheat crêpe with mushrooms and smoked meat is an absolute standout. As evening falls, the venue transitions into a natural wine bar with a French-Asian bistro menu. Its vibrant, convivial atmosphere and versatile offering make it a perennially busy destination, where securing a courtyard table is considered a prized spot.

Photo: Vanhouteen/shutterstock

Address: 322 Anfu Road, Xuhui District, Xuhui District

Internet: www.instagram.com/racsh

Metal Hands



Metal Hands is a standout specialty coffee shop known for its industrial-chic aesthetic and inventive, meticulously crafted

drinks. Two signature creations define its menu: the Pistachio Dirty, served in a glass rimmed with crushed nuts, and the visually distinctive Lychee 'Poached Egg' Latte, where a drop of lychee syrup on the milk foam resembles a sunny-side-up egg. While the café's raw, metallic decor creates a cool, modern atmosphere, the focus remains squarely on high-quality, house-roasted beans and the skilled baristas who prepare them, making it a destination for both coffee connoisseurs and those seeking a unique sensory experience.

Photo: denira/shutterstock

Address: 37 Yongjia Road, Huangpu, Shanghai

Internet: www.instagram.com/metalhandscoffee.co

% Arabica Coffee



The % Arabica Coffee brand, with over 20 locations in Shanghai and over 230 in the world, has become a prominent feature of the city's café

scene. Its flagship store is situated in the historic Ferguson Lane on Wukang Road, a location chosen for its architectural charm. The café's minimalist, light-filled aesthetic is a hallmark of the brand. While the atmosphere is a key draw, the coffee itself is consistently praised, with the smooth Spanish Latte and Matcha Latte standing

out as popular choices. This combination of design and quality has secured its popularity among both locals and visitors.

Photo: ren hosoya/unsplash

Address: 374 Wukang Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai

Internet:

arabica.com/en/location/arabica-shanghai-wukang-lu

Horiguchi Coffee



Horiguchi Coffee is a highly respected Japanese roastery, now with an outpost in a quiet corner of Shanghai's Bund. As a pioneer of specialty coffee in Japan, the brand is known for its direct relationships with growers and a meticulous, quality-focused approach. The Shanghai café reflects this ethos, offering a selection of seasonal single-origin beans for hand-brewed coffee. The serene, retro-Japanese ambiance is complemented by a unique touch: customers can select their drink from a numbered flavour profile and have it served in a beautiful, unique Arita ware ceramic cup, which is also available for purchase.

Photo: exploringzhongguo/unsplash

Address: YWCA Building, 1st Floor, 133 Yuanmingyuan Road, Huangpu, Shanghai

Internet: www.kohikobo.co.jp/en

Antique Garden



Antique Garden is an excellent find in the French Concession, only steps away from the green Fuxing Park. Relaxing jazz music often plays in the background, and they serve coffee, beer, wine and champagne, along with a few dishes to choose from. Most of the antiques and

vintage items inside are up for sale.

Photo: Kudla/shutterstock

Address: 44 Sinan Road, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +86 21 5382 1055

Internet: rachelgouk.com/antique-garden-a-quirky-curio-filled-bar-near-sinan-mansions

Yang's Fried Dumpling



For the perfect pan-seared Shanghai dumplings filled with a thick, flavorful broth that's molten off the pork filling (shrimp and squid varieties on offer as well), stop by one of the famous local Yang's Dumpling chains.

Photo: Stripped Pixel/shutterstock

Address: 178 Ningbo Lu, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 6:30am-9pm

Phone: +86 21 6322 9763

Baker & Spice



Baker & Spice is a café and artisan bakery with several locations across China. It serves healthy, appetising café classics like salads and

sandwiches, along with a vast variety of baked goods and desserts. Hand made sourdoughs, Danish rye bread, and their signature carrot cake are just a few of the bakery treats you can expect to find here.

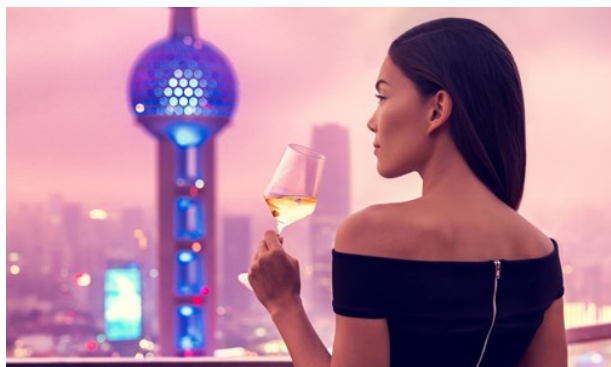
Photo: Monkey Business Images/shutterstock

Address: 195 Anfu Lu, Xuhui District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 6am-10pm

Phone: +86 21 5404 2733

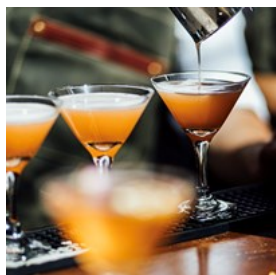
BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Maridav/shutterstock

Shanghai's energy is unyielding, with a nightlife that seamlessly transitions from dusk until dawn. The city's bar scene evolves at a breakneck pace, where new venues appear almost monthly. This is a far cry from more conservative eras, and modern Shanghai now wholeheartedly embraces the night. The options are vast, ranging from thumping electronic clubs and sleek cocktail bars to intimate venues featuring live jazz.

Cottons



The eponymous drinking hole of Cotton Ding has recently moved to a new home in a French Concession villa. The most intriguing element is its circular bed with white voile curtains. But anyone not needing a snooze can enjoy the torch-lit courtyard and the enticing sofas indoors.

Photo: BorisK9/shutterstock

Address: 132 Anting Lu, Xuhui District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 5pm-2am

Phone: +86 21 6433 7995

Internet: cottons-shanghai.com

The Glamour Bar



The Glamour Bar positions itself as a 'bar for grown-ups,' a claim supported by its art deco interior of hand-painted screens and a sleek chrome bar. The main attraction, however, remains the stunning vista of the Bund and Huangpu River. Its cultural calendar is just as compelling, featuring live jazz, literary readings, and serving as the home for the prestigious Shanghai International Literary Festival each March.

Photo: Svittlana/shutterstock

Address: 20 Guangdong Road, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 5:30pm-2am

Phone: +86 21 6350 9988

House of Blues & Jazz



House of Blues and Jazz is a relaxed venue which often hosts international live acts. There is no cover charge, and the drink menu is extensive, although mixed drinks are best skipped in favour of beer or wine. Opens in the afternoon; some dining options are available.

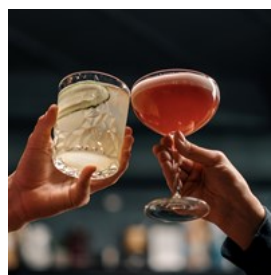
Photo: Valter Chiorino/shutterstock

Address: 60 Fuzhou Road, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 4pm-2am

Phone: +86 021 6323 2779

Barbarossa Lounge



Barbarossa holds three floors of Arabic opulence beside the lake in People's Park. With its delicious cocktails and serene atmosphere, it

attracts a glamorous crowd and is one of the city's finest for a relaxed drink out.

Photo: guys_who_shoot/shutterstock

Address: People's Park, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6318 0220

Boxing Cat Brewery



Boxing Cat Brewery is an award-winning small brewery with several locations across Shanghai. Here you can enjoy every type of beer

from malt to ale and many European favourites. They serve good pub grub, and the indoor screens are large enough to enjoy a sporting game fully.

Photo: janith priyasanka/shutterstock

Address: 521 Fuxing Road (M), Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6426 0360

Internet: www.instagram.com/boxingcatbrewery

Paramount



This Art Deco dance hall was the place to be seen in 1930s Shanghai (Charlie Chaplin once danced here), and it has now reopened for the twenty-first-century crowd. The clientele is mostly older, and the dancing done is old-style. This place is a real throwback to the glamour of old Shanghai, so strap on your dancing shoes and take to the floor for a whirl.

Photo: PeopleImages/shutterstock

Address: 218 Yuyuan Lu, Jing'an District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6249 8866

Dr Wine



Dr Wine offers a potent prescription for the evening, with a wine list that favours French vintages but spans the globe. The dimly lit,

two-storey space bears no resemblance to a clinic, but its remedies, available by the glass or bottle, are highly effective. To complement the pours, a menu of well-composed platters and delectable bar bites draws a consistent crowd.

Photo: fornStudio/shutterstock

Address: 177 Fumin Lu, Jing'an District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 5403 5717

SHOPPING



kitzcorner/shutterstock

Shanghai's shopping scene is a vibrant mix of luxury boutiques, modern malls, and bustling street markets. High-end destinations like Nanjing Road, Huaihai Road, and the IFC Mall in Pudong feature flagship stores of international luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton and Gucci. Modern shopping malls, including Plaza 66, Grand Gateway 66, and IAPM Mall, provide a blend of luxury, mid-range, and high-street brands, along with diverse dining and entertainment options.

For a more local experience, street markets like Tianzifang, Yuyuan Bazaar, and AP Plaza offer

everything from traditional crafts and souvenirs to trendy fashion and accessories.

Time-honoured department stores like Shanghai No. 1 Department Store and Jiuguang Department Store showcase a wide range of products, including clothing, cosmetics, and home goods.

Specialty areas such as the French Concession and Xintiandi feature boutique shops and unique designer stores, blending upscale retail with historic charm. Additionally, tech enthusiasts can explore Xujiahui and Cybermart for the latest gadgets.

Three on the Bund



Three on the Bund, situated in a historic building on Shanghai's iconic Bund, is a premier lifestyle destination offering a blend of fine dining, luxury retail and cultural events. Home to renowned restaurants like Jean-Georges and Mercato, it provides gourmet cuisine with stunning views of the Huangpu River. The venue also features art galleries, fashion boutiques and wellness centres.

Photo: ZCOOL HelloRF/shutterstock

Address: 3 Zhongshan Dong Yi Lu, Huangpu District, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6323 3355

Tianshan Tea City



The ground level of Tianshan Tea City really is a tea lover's paradise: the variety of teas on offer is seriously impressive, and most shop owners will conduct free-of-charge tastings

to help you decide on a variety to purchase. Floors two and three are given over to porcelain and tea-making paraphernalia.

Photo: Pixel-Shot/shutterstock

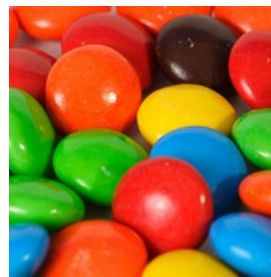
Address: 518 Zhongshan West Road, Changning District, Shanghai,

Opening hours: Daily 10am-9:30pm

Phone: +86 21 6259 9999

Internet: www.dabutong.com

M&M's World



The only M&M's World in Asia, and the fifth globally, welcomes candy lovers with much more than just delicious chocolates. This

world-famous chocolate bean brand's store features the iconic M&M tube wall, alongside a variety of T-shirts, toys, and an array of souvenirs, making it a fun and vibrant destination for fans of all ages.

Photo: Felix Mizionnikov/shutterstock

Address: G Floor Shimao Festival City, 829 Nanjing East Road, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +86 2316 2888

Internet: www.mms.com/en-us/explore/mms-stores/shanghai

Joy City



With international brands and more than 40 Chinese brands selling fashion-forward outfits, digital gadgets, and a dazzling sky screen, this

spacious place is one of the best places to shop in the area. Exhibitions are held occasionally in the lobby of the shopping mall.

Photo: ZCOOL HelloRF/shutterstock

Address: 166 Xizang Bei Lu, Zhabei District, Shanghai

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm
Phone: +86 21 3633 8833

Disney China Flagship Store



The world's largest Disney store is crowned by a six-metre-tall replica castle, which comes to life with a brief spectacle every hour. Inside, dedicated zones celebrate Mickey Mouse, Disney Princesses, Pixar and Marvel. For a unique memento, the shop sells exclusive merchandise that blends classic Disney characters with Shanghai-themed designs, creating a truly memorable stop for enthusiasts.

Photo: michaeljung/shutterstock

Address: 180 Fenghe Lu, Pudong New District, Shanghai
Internet: www.shanghaidisneyresort.com/en/experience/shop/world-disney-store

Shanghai Old Street



Shanghai Old Street offers a vivid recreation of a historic market, providing a glimpse into the city's commercial life a century ago. The area blends sightseeing, shopping, and cultural exhibits, all housed in architecture that showcases the distinctive 'Hai Pai' style — a graceful fusion of Eastern and Western influences. Its 225 shops are carefully curated, with many specialising in traditional handicrafts, antiques, calligraphy, and jewellery, making it a rewarding place to browse for a unique souvenir.

Photo: Jo Panuwat D/shutterstock

Address: Fang Bang Zhong Lu, Huangpu District, Shanghai
Internet: www.travelchinaguide.com/attraction/shanghai/old-street.htm

TOURIST INFORMATION



Jo Panuwat D/shutterstock

Best Time To Visit



Most of Shanghai's attractions are city sights, so the change of seasons has little impact. However, given the weather, it is

recommended to visit in spring or autumn, for winter might get too cold and summer too hot for comfort. There is also the possibility of typhoons during summertime and even early autumn. Try to avoid Chinese public holidays, such as between October 1st and 7th, during which the city could be flooded by local tourists.

Photo: Maridav/Shutterstock

Shanghai Pudong International Airport (PVG)



Shanghai has two airports one of them is the international airport in Pudong, 35 km from the city centre. From the Pudong Airport, the most

enthralling way to travel is on the Maglev (the high-speed magnetic-rail train) to Longyang Road in Pudong. There is an underground station and a taxi rank at Longyang Road for onward

travel.

Metro Line 2 is available when departing or arriving at Pudong International Airport. Operating Time 6 am 10 pm and leaves every 8.5 minutes.

A taxi from Pudong Airport to the city centre takes up to an hour. Make sure you have your destination written in Chinese.

The airport has regular shuttle buses to many areas in the city and the major hotels have desks at the airport and will arrange the transfer.

Photo: Bao Menglong/Unsplash

Address: Shanghai Pudong International Airport

Phone: +86 21 96990

Internet: www.shairport.com/ensh/index.html

Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport (SHA)



Another airport called Hongqiao Airport, which handles domestic flights, lies 15 km from downtown. Both Metro and buses run from this airport. A taxi from Hongqiao Airport will take 30-45 minutes. Make sure you have your destination written in Chinese. Hongqiao Airport has regular shuttle buses to many areas in the city. The major hotels have desks at the airport and will arrange the transfer.

Photo: CHUTTERSNAAP/Unsplash

Address: Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport

Phone: +86 21 96990

Internet: www.shairport.com/ensh/index.html

Maglev



If you fly into Shanghai's International Airport in Pudong, be sure to take the Maglev into town rather than a taxi or regular metro. The Maglev is China's futuristic magnetic levitation train and the fastest ride in its technological repertoire. The journey only lasts a few minutes, but during that time the train can reach a top speed of 430 kilometres per hour (although the average is closer to 300 km/h).

Photo: cyo bo/shutterstock

Internet Access and VPN in China



Due to China's strict internet policies, access to many popular Western websites and apps—such as Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), Google services (including Google Maps), Skype, and others—is restricted. These websites are blocked as part of the government's internet censorship efforts, commonly known as the 'Great Firewall'.

To bypass these restrictions, many travellers use a VPN (Virtual Private Network), which can help access blocked sites. However, it's important to note that VPN use in China is legally complicated. While some VPN services are still used, unauthorized VPNs may be subject to scrutiny, and there have been reports of foreigners experiencing disruptions to their mobile service or being asked to visit the local police station if the use of a VPN is detected. It's critical to comply with local laws and regulations regarding VPN usage. If you choose to use a

VPN, ensure it's approved by the Chinese government and used for legitimate purposes.

Since Google Maps is often unreliable in China due to restrictions on Google's services, travellers should consider using local alternatives such as Baidu Maps and AutoNavi (Gaode Maps). These apps offer more accurate and comprehensive mapping and navigation within China. However, most of these services are primarily in Chinese, so it might be helpful to familiarize yourself with their basic functions or use translation tools. Baidu Maps, in particular, is widely used and provides detailed information about public transport, routes, and traffic.

Photo: Christin Hume/Unsplash

Metro



The Shanghai Metro is an efficient, affordable, and user-friendly mode of transportation for visitors. Its network has over 400 stations connecting major business districts, tourist attractions, residential areas, and airports. All metro stations and trains have signs and announcements in both Chinese and English, making it easier for non-Chinese speakers to navigate. Trains run frequently, usually every 2-5 minutes during peak hours and every 5-10 minutes during off-peak times.

You can pay for metro rides using the Shanghai Public Transportation Card (also known as the Shanghai Jiaotong Card), which can be topped up at stations and convenience stores. Mobile payment options like Alipay and WeChat Pay are also widely accepted. There are several mobile apps available that provide real-time information

about the metro system, including maps, schedules, and route planners.

Photo: noina/Shutterstock

Bus



Buses in Shanghai are usually busy and the network can be complicated to negotiate for non-speakers of Chinese. The 911, which runs along Huaihai Road, can be useful.

Keep some loose change when travelling by bus, coins need to be placed in the slot at the entrance.

Photo: Ant Rozetsky/Unsplash

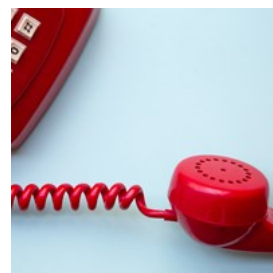
Taxi



In Shanghai, finding a taxi is generally easy, especially in busy areas, commercial districts, and nearby hotels and tourist attractions. Ride-sharing apps like DiDi, the most popular in China, offer a convenient alternative to traditional taxis.

Photo: Gustavo/Unsplash

Telephone



Country code: +86 Area code: 21

Photo: Miryam León/unsplash

Electricity



You'll likely encounter Type A, Type I, and Type C outlets in mainland China. Type A outlets accept two flat parallel pins, Type I outlets take three flat pins in a triangular pattern, and Type C outlets — two round pins. It's always a good idea to have a universal travel adapter that can handle all three types, just in case. Make sure your device is compatible with 220V power supply.

Photo: Chutharat Kamkhuntree/shutterstock

Post



The main post office in Shanghai is located at 395 Tiantong Road in the Hongkou District. It is situated near the northern end of the Bund, making it easily accessible from many central locations in Shanghai. The Shanghai General Post Office provides a full range of postal services, including mail and parcel delivery, express services, and various other postal and financial services. It's also a tourist attraction in itself, inviting you to explore the Shanghai Postal Museum housed in the same building.

Photo: NavinTar/shutterstock

Address: 395 Tiantong Road, Hongkou, Shanghai

Pharmacy



Pharmacies are not hard to find in the city, just look for the green cross. One of the main pharmacy chains in Shanghai is called Yifeng.

Besides being a major supermarket chain, Lianhua Supermarket also operates pharmacies within many of its stores, offering a wide range of over-the-counter medications and health products.

Photo: Dima Mukhin/Unsplash

Address: Shanghai Yifeng Super Drugstore - Wangyun Road, Huangpu, Shanghai

Phone: +86 21 6366 5987

Population

24.8 million

Currency

Chinese Yuan (CNY), also known as the Renminbi (RMB) and usually called renminbi

Opening hours

Most offices are open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm or 6pm. Some bank branches open on Saturday mornings. Shopping centres and department stores are usually open seven days a week until 8pm or 10pm.

Internet

www.meet-in-shanghai.net

Emergency numbers

Police: 110

Ambulance: 120

Fire: 119

Tourist information

Xiao Lujiazui Tourist Service Center in Pudong New Area Gate No 1, Oriental Pearl Tower, 1 Shiji Boulevard, Lujiazui, Pudong, Shanghai
Open daily 9am–6:30pm

Anping Jie	D3	Huqiu Lu	D1	Sipailou Lu	D4
Baihe Lu	B1	Jiangxi Nanlu	C3	Songshan Lu	A3
Beihai Lu	B2	Jiangxi Zhonglu	D1 D2	Songxue Jie	C4
Beijing Donglu	B1 D1	Jiangyin Lu	A2	Taicang Lu	A4
Beijing Xilu	A1 B1	Jinan Lu	B4	Taoyuan Lu	B3
Beisuzhou Lu	C1 D1	Jingling Zhonglu	B3	The Bund	D2
Changsha Lu	B1	Jinjia Fang	B4 C4	Tianjin Lu	B1 C1
Changsheng Jie	C3 C4	Jinling Donglu	C3	Waibaidu Bridge	D1
Chongde Lu	B4	Jinling Xilu	A3	Wangting Lu	A3
Chongqing Beilu	A2 A3	Jiucang Jie	C3	Weihai Lu	A2
Dagu Lu	A3	Jiujiang Lu	B2 C2 D2	Wenzhou Lu	A1
Dajing Lu	B4 C4	Jiujiaochang Lu	C3 C4	Wufu Long	C1
Danfeng Lu	D4	Kongjia Long	C4	Wuhu Lu	C2
Danshui Lu	A3 A4	Kuaiji Lu	B4	Wusheng Lu	A3 B3
Dianchi Lu	D1	Lishui Lu	D3	Wutong Lu	D4
Dongmen Lu	D4	Liuhekou Lu	B4	Xiamen Lu	B1
Dongqinglian Jie	C3	Longmen Lu	B3	Xianggang Lu	D1
Dongtai Lu	B4	Luxiangyuan Jie	C3 C4	Xianzuo Jie	D4
Fangbang Zhonglu	B4 C4 D4	Madang Lu	A3 A4	Xinchang Lu	A1
Fengyang Lu	A1 B1	Nanbei Gaojia Lu	A1 A2 A3 A4	Xingye Lu	A4
Fujia Jie	D4	Nanjing Donglu	B1 D1 D2	Xinyong'an Lu	D3
Fujian Zhonglu	C1 C2	Nanjing Xilu	A1 A2	Xinzha Lu	B1
Fuxing Donglu	B4 C4	Nansuzhou Lu	C1 D1	Xizang Nanlu	B4
Fuxing Zhonglu	B4	Ningbo Lu	B1 C1 D1	Xizang Zhonglu	B1 B2
Fuyou Lu	C3 D4	Ninghai Donglu	C3	Xueyuan Lu	C4 D4
Fuzhou Lu	B2 C2	Ninghai Xilu	A3 B3	Yangshou Lu	D4
Gangu Jie	D3 D4	Niuzhuang Lu	B1	Yan'an Donglu	A3 C2 C3 D3
Guangdong Lu	B2 C2 D2	Pu'an Lu	B3 B4	Yan'an Donglu Tunnel	D2 D3
Guangqi Lu	D4	Qinglian Jie	B4 C3 C4	Yiging Jie	C4
Guangxi Beilu	B1 B2	Renmin Lu	B3 B4 C3 D3	Yongshou Lu	B3
Guangxi Nanlu	B3	Renmin People's Square	B2	Yuanmingyuan	D1
Gujia Long	C1	Sanpailou Lu	C4	Yunnan Nanlu	B3
Guling Lu	B1	Shandong Nanlu	C3	Zhejiang Nanlu	C3
Hankou Lu	B2 C2 D2	Shandong Zhonglu	C2	Zhejiang Zhonglu	B2
Henan Beilu	C1	Shantou Lu	B2	Zhifu Lu	B1
Henan Nanlu	C3 C4	Shanxi Beilu	C1	Zhonghua Lu	B4 D4
Henan Zhonglu	C1 C2	Shanxi Nanlu	C1	Zhongshan Dong 1-Lu	D2
Houjia Lu	C4	Shengze Lu	C3	Zhongshan Dong 2-Lu	D3
Huanghe Lu	A1	Shizi Jie	C4	Zhoujin Lu	C4 D4
Huangpi Beilu	A2	Shouning Lu	B4	Zihua Lu	C4
Huangpi Nanlu	A3 A4	Shunchang Lu	A4	Zijin Lu	C3
Huauhai Donglu	A3 B3 C3	Sichuan Nanlu	D3	Zizhong Lu	A4 B4
Hubei Lu	C2	Sichuan Zhonglu	D1 D2		