



Xi'an

Photo: Nateethep Ratanavipanon/Shutterstock.com



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Walking through Xi'an is like stepping back in time. The towering ancient city walls, the quiet streets around the Drum and Bell Towers, and the bustling markets all carry a sense of history. You can almost hear the whispers of ancient merchants who walked the Silk Road or feel the presence of emperors who once ruled here. Xi'an is a place where the past and present exist side by side in a way that feels both natural and humbling.

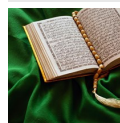


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Featured



Muslim Quarter

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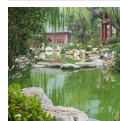
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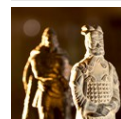
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Huashan Mountain

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Ancient City Wall

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THE CITY

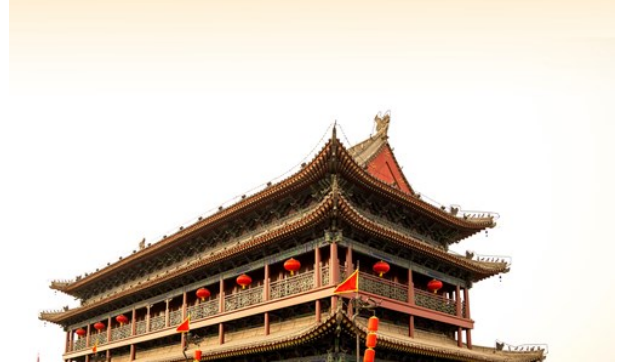


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Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi province, is one of China's most historically significant cities. Known as Chang'an in ancient times, it was the starting point of the Silk Road and served as the heart of the Chinese empire for over a millennium. The city was the capital for several powerful dynasties, including the Qin, Han, and Tang, and it is steeped in the legacies of these periods. Today, visitors walk the same streets once trodden by emperors and merchants, with relics from these eras still visible in the city's architecture and attractions.

Xi'an's most famous landmark is the Terracotta Army, a vast collection of life-sized clay soldiers guarding the tomb of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang. Discovered in 1974, this awe-inspiring find is just one of many archaeological treasures that reveal the city's ancient splendour.

DO & SEE



VLADJ55/Shutterstock.com

Xi'an's historical significance is impossible to miss. From the Terracotta Warriors — the legacy of China's first emperor — to the Ancient City Wall, one of the most complete city walls still in existence, there's plenty to explore here.

Daciensi Temple Complex and Giant Wild Goose Pagoda



The Daciensi Temple complex, anchored by the striking Daciensi Tower, stands as one of Xi'an's most treasured landmarks. Originally built during the Tang Dynasty by Emperor Gaozong in memory of his mother, this historic site carries the weight of centuries. Legend has it that after the famed monk Xuanzang's epic journey to India to obtain sacred Buddhist scriptures, he returned here to translate them, setting up the temple as one of the earliest centres of Buddhist learning in China.

Within the temple grounds, the iconic Dayan Pagoda (also known as the Giant Wild Goose Pagoda) draws most of the attention. Built in the 7th century, it's an enduring symbol of China's first female ruler, Empress Wu Zetian, and her devotion to Buddhist teachings. Architecturally, the pagoda is a masterpiece of Tang Dynasty

design, and climbing its steep, stone steps rewards you with sweeping views of Xi'an below.

Photo: TAO WANG/Pexels

Address: Daci'en Temple, Yanta Road, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm

Phone: +86 29 8552 7958

Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum



The Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum is home to the world-famous Terracotta Army, built to protect China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, in the afterlife. Crafted more than 2,200 years ago, the army consists of thousands of life-sized clay soldiers, chariots, and horses, each with distinct facial features and expressions. The incredible level of detail and preservation means that, even after over two millennia, these warriors still stand guard over their long-deceased ruler.

Photo: benjasanz/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lintong District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-5pm

Phone: +86 29 8139 9001

Xiaoyan Pagoda



Xiaoyan Pagoda (Small Wild Goose Pagoda) is shorter than its larger counterpart, the Dayan Pagoda (Giant Wild Goose Pagoda), but it boasts more floors. Built around 700 AD, like the Dayan Pagoda, it was primarily constructed to house the sacred Buddhist scriptures brought to China by the famous monk Xuanzang.

Photo: Akira/Unsplash

Address: Jianfu Temple, Xi'an

Opening hours: Wed-Mon 9am-4pm, Tue closed

Huashan Mountain



Huashan, or Mount Hua, is one of China's five great mountains and holds a special place in Taoist tradition, with several sacred temples and ancient pavilions dotting its steep paths. The mountain is renowned for its dramatic, knife-edge trails that reward climbers with awe-inspiring views, though there's also a cable car for a more leisurely ascent. From the top, the sight of clouds weaving between rugged peaks is truly breathtaking.

Located about 120 kilometres from Xi'an, Huashan makes an unforgettable day trip for those looking to experience the grandeur of China's mountainous landscapes.

Photo: aphotostory/Shutterstock.com

Address: Huashan Mountain, Huayin, Weinan, China

Ancient City Wall



Encircling the heart of Xi'an, the Ancient City Wall stretches almost 12 kilometres and stands as one of China's best-preserved city walls. Built over 600 years ago during the Ming Dynasty, this massive structure invites exploration by foot or bike, with the entire loop offering a unique way to see Xi'an from above. Walking or cycling along the wall, you'll pass traditional watchtowers and gates that once guarded the city's entrances.

Photo: chungking/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2, South Street, Beilin District, Xi'an
Opening hours: Daily 8am-10pm
Phone: +86 28 8556 8847

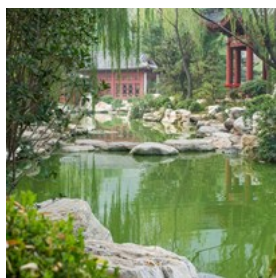
Drum Tower (Gulou)



The Drum Tower, originally built in the 14th century without a single iron nail, is a testament to ancient Chinese craftsmanship. This remarkable structure holds 24 drums, representing the traditional Chinese solar terms that marked the seasons. Reconstructed in the 17th century, the tower remains a focal point of Xi'an's history. Visitors can climb to the top for sweeping views of the old city and enjoy live drum performances held every other hour.

Photo: Squirrel_photos/Pixabay
Address: 74 Yajie, Beilin District, Xi'an
Opening hours: Open daily from 8:30am to 9:30pm during the peak season (March to November) and from 8:30am to 6pm in the off-season (December to February).
Phone: +86 29 8727 3526

Huaqing Hot Springs



Situated beside the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and Lishan National Forest Park, the Huaqing Hot Springs are renowned for their mineral-rich waters, long believed to have skin-rejuvenating qualities. This historic site was favoured by one of China's most famous beauties, Consort Yang Yuhuan, during the Tang Dynasty. Known as one of the 'Four Great Beauties' of ancient China, Yang would bathe in these very springs. Today, visitors can soak in the same restorative waters and explore the serene gardens and palatial remnants that once hosted emperors and their consorts.

Photo: YANGCHAO/Shutterstock.com
Address: 38 Huaqing Road, Lintong District, Xi'an
Opening hours: Daily 7am-7pm

Qinglong Temple



Qinglong Temple, or the Temple of the Green Dragon, is a historic site known for its deep ties to both Chinese and Japanese Buddhism. Established during the Tang Dynasty, it gained further significance when the Japanese monk Kukai (founder of Shingon Buddhism) came to study here in the 9th century. The temple is also renowned for its stunning cherry blossoms, which are particularly spectacular during the annual festival held in March and April. With both Japanese and Chinese cherry blossom varieties, the temple grounds transform into a sea of pink and white flowers, attracting many visitors, especially in late March to early April, when the blossoms are at their peak.

Photo: asharkyu/Shutterstock.com
Address: Xiyang Road, Yanta District in Xi'an
Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm
Phone: +86 29 8552 1498

Great Mosque of Xi'an



One of the oldest and largest mosques in China, the Great Mosque of Xi'an is a fascinating blend of Islamic and Chinese architectural styles. Built in the 8th century, it's a stunning example of how different cultures can come together in harmony. As you wander through its peaceful courtyards, you'll spot pagoda-like minarets, intricately carved wooden beams, and beautiful Arabic calligraphy—all set against a backdrop of

serene gardens. The mosque is still an active place of worship, offering visitors a chance to witness the unique fusion of Chinese and Islamic traditions.

Photo: RPBaiao/Shutterstock.com

Address: 30 Huajue Lane, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 8am-7:30pm

Shaanxi History Museum



If you're looking to get a sense of the region's ancient past, the Shaanxi History Museum is where you need to go. The museum is packed with artefacts from thousands of years of history, reflecting the importance of Shaanxi as the heart of several key Chinese dynasties. Among its vast collection, one of the main draws is the display of four original Terracotta Warriors. As you wander through the museum, you'll come across everything from detailed bronze tools and pottery to fascinating tomb relics, each telling a different part of the region's story.

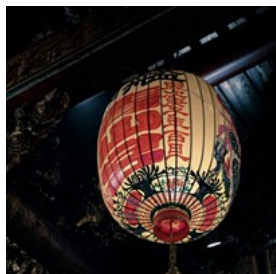
Photo: jhenning/Pixabay

Address: 91 Xiaozhai E Road, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 8am-6pm, Mon closed

Phone: +86 29 8525 3806

Temple of the Eight Immortals (Ba Xian An)



Xi'an's largest Taoist temple, the Temple of the Eight Immortals, dates back to the Song Dynasty and remains an active place of worship. The temple was supposedly built on the site of an ancient wine shop and is said to have been constructed to protect against subterranean divine thunder.

As you explore the temple, you'll notice vivid scenes from Taoist mythology painted around the courtyard. The temple also has an intriguing historical connection: in 1901, Empress Cixi, mother of China's last emperor, sought refuge here after fleeing Beijing during the Boxer Rebellion.

Photo: Henry & Co./Unsplash

Address: 12 Beihuo Lane, Changle Lane, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 7:30am-6pm

Muslim Quarter



The Muslim Quarter in Xi'an has been home to the city's Muslim community for centuries. Stretching north from the Drum Tower, the quarter is a maze of narrow alleys and lively backstreets. It is home to halal butcher shops, small mosques, food markets brimming with local delicacies, and stores selling everything from spices to traditional crafts. It's a fascinating place to explore, with the scents of sizzling street food filling the air, and it offers a unique glimpse into the cultural fusion that defines Xi'an.

Photo: Ali Burhan/Unsplash

Address: Bei Yuan Men, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Gao's Grand Courtyard

Once the residence of a wealthy family, Gao's Grand Courtyard offers a fascinating glimpse into traditional life in Xi'an. The historic house is an excellent example of ancient architecture, with each section of the courtyard serving a specific purpose in the family's daily life. As you explore, you'll also encounter a range of artistic experiences, from traditional shadow play to intricate paper cutting and painting.

Address: 144 Bei Yuan Men, Lianhu District, Xi'an
Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-10:30pm

DINING



Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com

The cuisine of Xi'an is heavily influenced by the flavours of Northwestern China. With a significant Muslim population of over 600,000, the city's food is distinct from traditional Chinese cuisine, particularly through the use of lamb, as pork is avoided in Muslim cooking. Rice is often replaced with flatbreads, and dishes like pita bread soaked in lamb soup are staples. The city's international vibe also brings in diverse cuisines, including Western, Japanese, Korean, and South Asian influences.

First Noodle Under The Sun



Xi'an has earned its reputation as the kingdom of noodles, with a history of wheat cultivation and noodle-making that spans over a thousand years. Today, noodle dishes in Xi'an come in hundreds of variations across the province—served with or without soup, boiled or sautéed, thick or thin, round or flat, sweet or spicy. Noodles have become a staple of local life, each variety offering a new way to experience the city's unique flavours.

At First Noodle Under the Sun, one of Xi'an's most celebrated noodle restaurants, you'll find signature dishes that showcase this noodle-making tradition.

Photo: cobraphotography/Shutterstock.com

Address: 19 Dong Mutou Shi, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Five Zen5es



Five Zen5es offers a broad selection of Chinese and Japanese dishes, from the refreshing Liangpi and delicate steamed flounder

to savoury dim sum, there's something for everyone. Don't miss the traditional hot soup with BBQ eel and chicken, where both the rich flavour and generous portion size will leave you satisfied.

Photo: Slawomir Fajer/Shutterstock.com

Address: 66 Ci En Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an

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

More Info: Located inside the Westin Hotel

Redfort Indian Restaurant



Redfort Indian Restaurant offers an extensive selection of authentic Indian dishes served in a setting that transports you to a historic fort.

Enjoy the immersive experience of live Indian dance performances while savouring flavourful curries, tandoori specials, and rich biryanis.

Photo: norikko/Shutterstock.com

Address: 118 Laodong South Road, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Cyclist



Cyclist Restaurant offers a diverse selection of Italian and European dishes, ranging from fresh salads to hearty steaks. Pair your food

with a great choice of beer and wine, including refreshing fruit beer for a unique twist

Photo: nadianb/Shutterstock.com

Address: East Huangcheng Road, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 9am-10:30pm

Fan Ji Rou Jia Mo



Rou Jia Mo, often referred to as the 'Chinese hamburger', features tender, stewed meat that's braised for hours in a flavorful broth, seasoned with over 20 spices. The meat is finely chopped and served in freshly baked, soft flatbread. It's a must-try local snack, often enjoyed as a quick meal on the go. While Rou Jia Mo is a standout dish, don't miss the other traditional Xi'an options, such as hand-pulled ramen, cold rice noodles, fermented glutinous rice, and a variety of savoury and sweet snacks.

Photo: L.F/Shutterstock.com

Address: 53 Zhubishi Street, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-8:30pm

Chang'an Diner



Chang'an Diner brings together the many delicious and traditional street foods of Xi'an, which are often scattered across the city and tucked away in hidden alleyways. This restaurant

takes the hassle out of the search by offering a curated selection of these iconic dishes all in one place. Not only does it feature beloved local flavours, but it also adds a creative twist with innovative dishes like sweet fermented rice ice cream and Mahjong-shaped sesame dessert.

Photo: rodho / Shutterstock.com

Address: Seg International Shopping Mall, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

More Info: 6th floor

Lao Sun Jia



Lao Sun Jia is considered one of the best places to try Xi'an's famous dish, yang rou pao mo—a traditional mutton soup served with bread. The

restaurant also offers a variety of other local dishes, including beef and mutton steamed bread, as well as a selection of Western halal cuisine. Notably, the honorary chairman of the Chinese Kuomintang, Lien Chan, once described it as 'hundred years delicious'.

Photo: Paul_Brighton/Shutterstock.com

Address: 78 Dongguan Zheng Jie, Yanta District, Xi'an.

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

CAFÉS



Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com

Most of the cafés in Xi'an provide both European and Chinese food and drinks in a casual and relaxing environment. You can find a range of coffee shops from local to global chain instalments.

Qian Cao



Qian Cao is a charming café in Xi'an known for its matcha-inspired treats. This popular spot specialises in uji matcha desserts, with offerings

like matcha ice cream, matcha mille-feuille, and genmaicha drinks. It's a go-to for fans of Japanese flavours, especially those looking to enjoy a quiet moment with high-quality tea-based sweets.

Photo: Elena Veselova / Shutterstock.com

Address: Jiefang Road, Xincheng District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

More Info: Inside Minyue Garden

Maan Coffee /



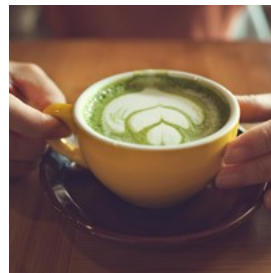
Maan Coffee brings you a cosy atmosphere with Turkish interior decor elements, all while you're being served a wide range of drinks and food ranging from brewed black coffee and cappuccino to fresh sandwiches and their signature waffles,

Photo: portumen/Shutterstock.com

Address: 163 Jiefang North Road, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Le Ban Coffee



Le Ban is known for its blend of café offerings, brunch options, and light meals like poke bowls, along with its extensive dessert and coffee menu.

Photo: AngieYeoh/Shutterstock.com

Address: Wenjing Road, Hansheng Plaza, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 9am-10pm

More Info: 1st floor

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



bbernard/Shutterstock.com

Xi'an's nightlife thrives in its buzzing bars, which are scattered throughout the city, from the central districts to the university areas. One of the most popular spots is Telford Lane, where a

variety of clubs cater to different tastes in music, atmosphere, and drinks. Most of the venues open around 8pm and close by 2am.

Tang Dynasty



Tang Dynasty is a premier entertainment theatre and dinner venue in Xi'an, offering a unique experience where guests can immerse themselves

in traditional Chinese performances. The show features elegant dance and music, inspired by ancient rituals once performed to pray for a good harvest and a prosperous life.

Photo: Lycheeart/Unsplash

Address: 75, North Chang'an Road, Xi'an

Jeno Belgium Pub



Jeno Belgium Pub offers a slice of Belgium with over 40 imported Belgian beers, from refreshing lambics to rich Trappist brews. This Western-style

bar serves up hearty fare, including pizzas and burgers with fries. The patio is perfect for kicking back with a pint, and as the evening unfolds, live music fills the air, drawing a lively crowd of locals and travellers.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 69 Shuncheng South Alley, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 5:30pm-2am

Phone: +86 29 8726 4019

Park Qin



Park Qin is the only Terracotta Warriors-themed bar in China. With a distinctive décor that includes replicas of the famous

warriors, the bar offers a lively atmosphere with excellent live music and a diverse selection of drinks.

Photo: PopTika/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Shun Cheng Xi Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 7:30pm-3am

Near Wall Bar



Near Wall Bar offers a relaxed spot to enjoy craft beers and pub food, just inside the city's historic South Gate. The bar has a unique vibe with its

casual yet inviting atmosphere and outdoor seating that lets you enjoy the view of the ancient city wall.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shuncheng Xiang West Section, Nanmen, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 4pm-2am

3As4 Bar



This trendy bar offers a mix of Chinese-style cocktails, a pool table, and even a film projector. It's also a great place to catch the game during

sports nights.

Photo: Volodymyr Burdiak/Shutterstock.com

Address: Defu Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an

SHOPPING



chuyuss/Shutterstock.com

When it comes to shopping in Xi'an, the starting point would be the vicinity of the Zhonglou Tower, where many famous shopping malls and international plazas gather and make it a prime shopping spot. This is also a great place to hunt for souvenirs. For those who like Xi'an cuisine, the locals have made many of their favourite snacks and dishes available in vacuum-sealed easy-to-carry packaging for those who may want to bring quite literally, a piece of Xi'an home.

Seg International Shopping Center



Seg International Shopping Center is one of Xi'an's largest commercial hubs, boasting seven floors of shopping, dining, and

entertainment. The centre features everything from local and international brands to a cinema, karaoke spots, and a range of restaurants. It's also home to the famously long escalator, claimed to be the longest in Asia at 51 metres, which takes visitors directly to the 6th floor.

Photo: r.classen / Shutterstock.com

Address: 8 Xiaozhai East Road, Xiaozhai district, Xi'an

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Hua Jue Xian



Hua Jue Xiang (HuaJue Lane) is a charming, historical street tucked away in Xi'an's Muslim Quarter, offering a unique blend of culture and commerce. Stalls here sell a range of goods, from antiques and unique gadgets to books and souvenirs. The street is also home to the Great Mosque, one of China's oldest and most significant mosques

Photo: Iryna Hromotska / Shutterstock.com

Address: Hua Jue Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an

Xi Cang



Hidden near Xi'an's city wall, the Xi Cang Bird and Flower Market opens at dawn every Thursday and Sunday, drawing locals and travellers in search of something unique. Wandering through, you'll find an unusual mix: cages of songbirds, tiny turtles, and pet rabbits alongside bonsai trees, vintage books, and antique oddities. With vendors setting up before sunrise, it's a lively hub of trading and bargaining that captures a slice of Xi'an's traditional spirit.

Photo: BlueOrange Studio / Shutterstock.com

Address: Near Miaohoujie Street in the Lianhu District

Opening hours: Every Thursday and Sunday Morning.

Luomashi Pedestrian Street



Luomashi Pedestrian Street is located along East Street in Xi'an's Beilin District, near the Minsheng Department Store. Known for its

bustling shopping scene, Luomashi offers a mix of fashion boutiques, department stores, and delicious food spots. This spot is sometimes called the "Wangfujing of Xi'an" for its popularity and the latest trends it showcases.

Photo: leungchopan/Shutterstock.com
Address: Dong Da Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an

Ancient Culture Street



Ancient Culture Street (Shuyuanmen Street) is a serene and picturesque spot, offering a glimpse into the city's artistic heritage. This historical street is lined with over a hundred shops selling traditional calligraphy brushes, handmade paper, and a variety of handicrafts and antiques. Unlike the bustling tourist areas, it offers a calmer experience, ideal for leisurely walks and browsing unique artwork and souvenirs.

Photo: Delpixel/Shutterstock.com
Address: Shuyuanmen, Beilin District, Xi'an

TOURIST INFORMATION



chungking/Shutterstock.com

Passport/Visa



Most travellers visiting mainland China are required to obtain a visa before arrival. Tourist visas (L visas) are typically issued for stays of up to 30 or 60 days and must be obtained in advance from a Chinese embassy or consulate.

Citizens of Japan, Singapore, and Brunei are permitted to enter China without a visa for stays of up to 15 days for tourism, business, or family visits.

Keep in mind that travellers who plan to visit Hong Kong or Macau in addition to mainland China may require separate visas for these regions, as they have different entry requirements from mainland China.

Visa and entry policies may change frequently. Be sure to confirm the latest requirements with your nearest Chinese embassy or consulate before travel.

Photo: ConvertKit/Unsplash

Best Time to Visit



The best time to visit Xi'an is spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November). The weather is just right - not too hot, not too cold - which makes it perfect for exploring iconic landmarks like the Terracotta Army or the city walls. In spring, the parks are alive with blooming flowers, while autumn brings stunning foliage, especially at places like Mount Hua. If you time it right, you might also catch the

Mid-Autumn Festival in September or October, with its lanterns, mooncakes, and festive vibes.

Photo: Akira/Unsplash

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'.

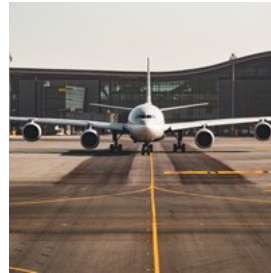
To bypass these restrictions, many travellers use a VPN (Virtual Private Network), which can help access blocked sites. However, it's important to note that VPN use in China is legally complicated. While some VPN services are still used, unauthorized VPNs may be subject to scrutiny, and there have been 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

familiarise 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

Xianyang International Airport (XIY)



Xianyang International Airport is the main gateway to Xi'an, situated about 41 km northwest of the city centre — a journey that takes

roughly an hour. Convenient transport options include shuttle buses, which run to key locations like the Bell Tower and the main train station, and taxis, which are faster but more expensive. Car rental services are also available for greater flexibility.

Photo: Bao Menglong/Unsplash

Address: Xianyang International Airport

Public Transport



Xi'an boasts an extensive bus network, a growing subway system with several lines covering key areas, and a tram system that is especially useful for reaching central locations. Buses and trams are an affordable and efficient way to travel, though they can be crowded during peak hours. The Xi'an Metro is one of the best options for tourists, with easy access to major attractions like the Terracotta Army and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda.

For added convenience, travellers can use a Transit Card, available for buses, subways, and even some taxis. This rechargeable card offers

discounted fares compared to cash payments and can be topped up at metro stations or convenience stores.

Photo: Che Media/Shutterstock

Taxi



Taxis are generally easy to find in Xi'an, especially near major tourist sites and transport hubs. They are typically yellow with a green stripe, and they are metered. For non-Mandarin speakers, it is better to have the destination written in Chinese characters to avoid miscommunication with the drivers.

To make getting around easier, ride-sharing apps like Didi are very popular in Xi'an. These apps can be accessed via WeChat or Alipay, which are widely used in China for everything from payments to transport. The apps offer a simple booking process and convenient payment options, and many even provide an English interface for non-Chinese speakers.

Photo: Waldemar/Unsplash

Pharmacy



In Xi'an, major pharmacy chains include Xi'an Yikang Pharmacy, with over 1,600 stores across Northwest China, and China Resources Pharmacy, also known for its nationwide reach.

Photo: Diana Polekhina/unsplash

Address: Xi'an Yikang Pharmacy, - 18, Fangxin Road, Xi'an

Post



Post offices in Xi'an typically operate from 8:30am to 6pm on weekdays. They offer a wide range of services, including both domestic and international mail, parcel delivery, express shipping, and postal banking. For travellers, the Bell Tower Post Office, located at the northeast corner of Bell Tower Square in the city centre, is one of the most convenient locations. It is easily accessible and central to many tourist destinations.

Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/unsplash

Address: Northeast corner of Bell Tower Square

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-6pm, Sat & Sun closed

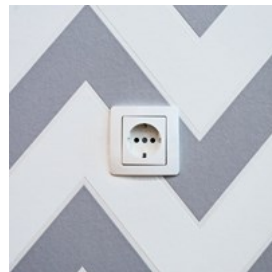
Telephone



Country code: +86 Area code: 29

Photo: Pawel Czerwinski/Unsplash

Electricity



In China, the standard voltage is 220V at a frequency of 50Hz. There are three kinds of sockets widely used in Mainland China: type A, C, and I. Type C, which has two round pins, is the one commonly seen in most European countries.

Photo: Neven Krcmarek/Unsplash

Population

Metro area: 9.6 million (2024)

Currency

Chinese Yuan (CNY), also known as the Renminbi (RMB)

Newspapers

Xi'an Evening News

Shaanxi Daily

China Daily

Emergency numbers

Police: 110

Ambulance: 120

Fire: 119