

Jetset Journals


no.1

2026

# SHANGHAI

3 Days

Cityguide



a travel guide

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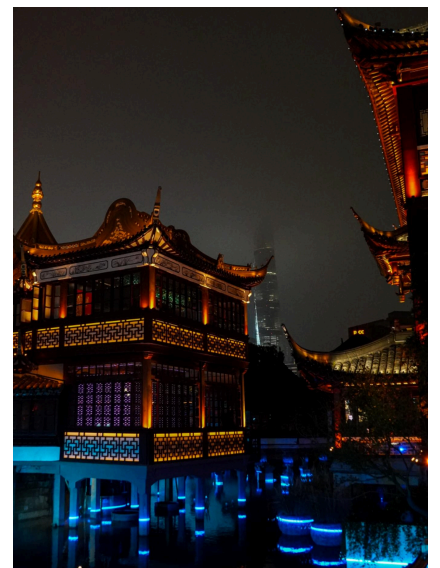
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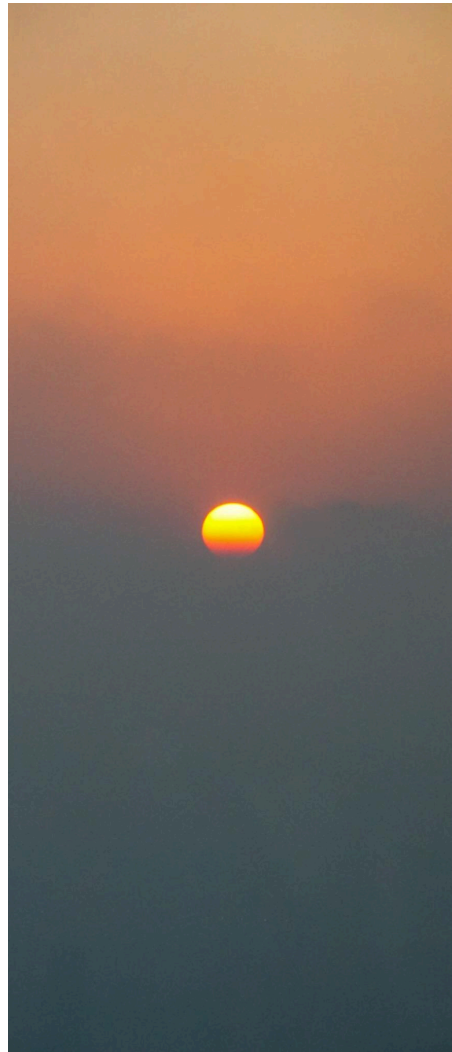


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# INTRO

Shanghai—this megacity is China’s largest and, as you’d expect, has a lot to offer. But what really won us over wasn’t so much its classic highlights as its overall vibe.

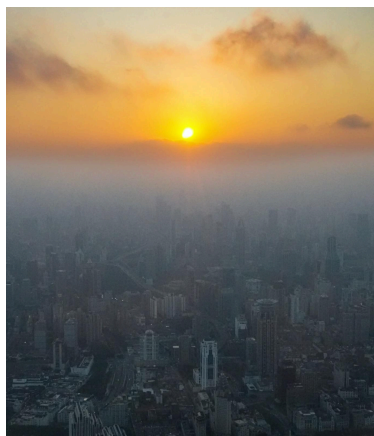
There are several direct flights to Shanghai from Europe. From the airport in Beijing, as in nearly all Chinese cities, you can easily and affordably take a Didi (the Chinese equivalent of Uber) or the Maglev magnetic levitation train, which takes you to the city center. Within the city, the metro runs.

It’s important to download the two main payment apps, Alipay and WeChat, in advance and link your credit card to them.

In addition to the three apps mentioned above, I can also recommend the eSIM from Airalo, which includes a VPN, because without a VPN, you won’t be able to use many Western apps like WhatsApp, Instagram, or Google Maps in China. The alternative to Google Maps in China is AMap. You should plan to spend at least three days in the Chinese metropolis.

In these three days, you’ll get a good sense of this economic hub, and from here you can also visit the “Venice of China”—Zhujiajiao. The trip there takes less than an hour and makes for a nice change of pace.

# HIGHLIGHTS



## 01.

### Shanghai Tower

The Shanghai Tower isn't just an observation tower; as of early 2026, it is currently the tallest tower in China and the third-tallest in the world.

The observation deck is located at a height of over 560 meters.

It's best to buy a ticket for the Shanghai Tower 1–2 days in advance and choose a time slot in the late afternoon or early evening, when the sun bathes the city in orange light and you can see the full scale of the megacity.

## 02.

### Bund

The Bund is the name given to the promenade that stretches approx. 1.5 km along the Huangpu River. The promenade is particularly notable for its view of the opposite riverbank, where the modern financial district of Pudong is located. The skyline, featuring the Oriental Pearl Tower, Shanghai Tower, and more, is one of the city's landmarks. The view is especially worth seeing at night, when the skyline is illuminated.

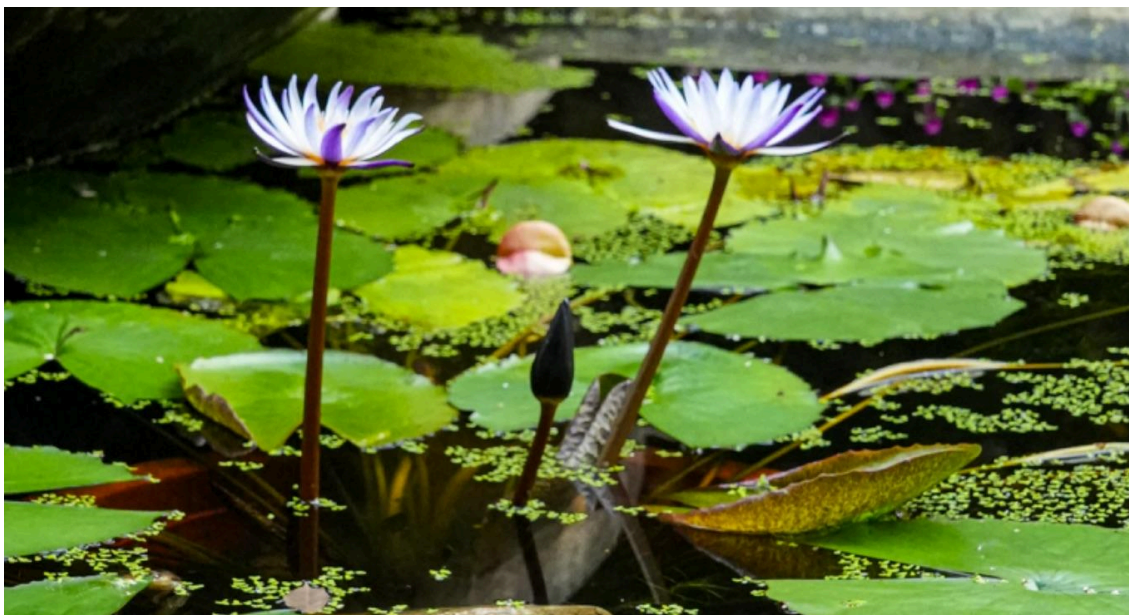
## 03.

### Yu Yuan Garden

Yu Yuan Garden is also one of the city's highlights and is well worth a visit both during the day and at night.

The complex consists of various small and large temples, ponds, teahouses, and street food stalls.

In the evening, light shows take place here and the temples are illuminated in red—definitely worth seeing.



## 04.

### **Oriental Pearl Tower**

While the Oriental Pearl Tower remains one of the city's most famous landmarks thanks to its distinctive shape, at just over 460 meters tall, it is clearly dwarfed by the Shanghai Tower.

## 05.

### **Zhujiajiao Daytrip**

A day trip to the small suburb of Zhujiajiao is definitely worth it. It's no wonder this little town, with its canals, green spaces, and wooden houses, is often called the Venice of China.

## 06.

### **Jing`an Tempel**

Jing'an Temple and its adjacent park are located right in the heart of the city, surrounded by shopping centers, restaurants, and malls.

The temple, with its golden roof, is a stunning sight, especially when illuminated at night.

## 07.

### **People`s Square Park**

People's Square Park is something like the city's green lung.

Here, you can take a walk, relax, and find some peace and quiet.

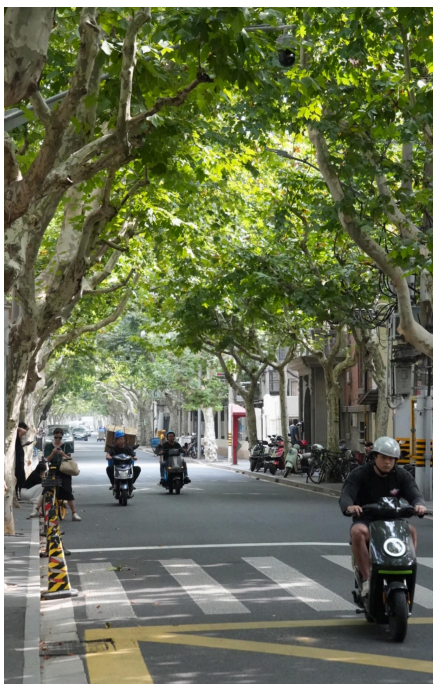
However, it's not exactly quiet here on weekends, when mothers bring their sons here to find a wife.



## 08. Nanjing Road

At over 5 km long, Nanjing Road is one of the longest streets in the world. Here you'll find numerous malls, shopping stores, as well as restaurants and cafés.

A visit to this bustling street is also well worth it in the evening, when the bars open and the retro-style neon signs light up.



## 09. French Concession

As I mentioned earlier, Shanghai is also—and in particular—known for the pleasant atmosphere in its trendy neighborhoods, and one of these neighborhoods is the so-called French Concession, centered around Wukang and Anfu Roads, with its many cafés and restaurants.



## 10. Food

Like the rest of the country, Shanghai has a lot to offer in terms of cuisine, and thanks to its status as an international business hub, you'll also find plenty of excellent international restaurants here.

Otherwise, seafood is particularly typical and popular here—especially crab, which is served in sauces or dumplings.



## DAY TO DAY

**Day 1** - Shanghai was the last stop on our tour of China, and we arrived in the city in the late afternoon.

After checking in, we drove straight to the Shanghai Tower, where we enjoyed the sunset over the city from the observation deck.

Once we were back down, we made a quick stop at the Bund promenade, at the quieter northern end, and looked across the Huangpu River at the illuminated Shanghai skyline in the Pudong district.

For dinner, we went to Ren He Guan in Jing'an, where we also took in the temple.

**Day 2** - We took it easy on the second day.

We started with breakfast at BASDBAN and strolled through the beautiful streets of the French Concession, around Anfu and Wukang Road, where we grabbed a coffee at 13 de Marzo Coffee.

Around noon, we headed toward East Nanjing Road and went to Lilai Snack Dumplings for lunch.

After spending the afternoon around People's Square Park and the early evening at Yu Yuan Garden, we enjoyed some Yunnan cuisine at Lost Heaven.

**Day 3** - On our last day in the city—and in China in general—we had kept the option open to visit the small town of Zhujiajiao, but then decided to spend a relaxing day in the city instead because the weather wasn't great, where, after breakfast at Butterful & Creamorous, we strolled through the narrow alleys of Tianzifang, bought a few souvenirs, and had dinner at Thai Gallery. We capped off the day with a walk beneath the neon signs of Nanjing Road before leaving the next day.

# WHERE TO EAT

\* check AMap for Location

## Restaurants:

### ★ Lost Heaven

Delicious Yunnan-Cuisine - Tealeave-salad  
17 Yan'an Rd (E), Waitan, Huangpu

### ● Ren He Guan

Great dinner with noodles and crab roe  
45CP+HW5, Taogan Rd, Songjiang District

### ● Lailai Snack Dumpling

Delicious dumplings with crabs  
504 Tianjin Rd, Huangpu, Shanghai



### ● Thai Gallery

Good thai restaurant in Jing'an  
189 Huashan Rd, 久光 Jing'An, China, 200041



## Cafés:

### ● Butterful & Creamorous\*

Nice café, several locations  
(Check on AMap)

### ● BAs d BAN

Cool café with nice bakery  
China, CN 中国上海市静安区愚园路546号 邮政  
邮政编码: 编码: 200010

### ★ 13 de Marzo Coffee\*

Delicious coffee, also to-go  
Anfu Road (Check on AMap)

In Shanghai—and in China in general—you shouldn't rely on Google reviews. We've personally tested all of the recommendations here and can vouch for them; some of them can only be found on AMap, not Google Maps.

# WHERE TO SLEEP

Shanghai also has a variety of excellent hotels and accommodations.

During our stay, we chose the  
**Holiday Inn Shanghai Jing'An**  
and were very satisfied.

The hotel was reasonably central and super modern and new.

Click here for the hotel:



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