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谢先泽

Travel in China: An English Reader

中国旅行： 英语读本

New for 2006, all of China's World Heritage Sites are presented in detail.

中国之旅的英语导游，世界遗产的全面推介

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研习旅游英语，纵览世界遗产



西南财经大学出版社
Southwestern University of Finance & Economics Press



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An English Reader

中国旅游：英语读本

主 编	谢先泽				
副 主 编	潘演强				
编写成员	谢先泽	潘演强	张 媛	李良沛	
	郑贤贵	梁 霞	袁 滔	陈月梅	



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● 作者简介

谢先泽，四川烹饪高等专科学校（四川旅游学院（筹））副教授，博士研究生。曾任教于四川理工学院和海南大学。在《解放军外国语学院学报》、《甘肃社会科学》、《华东师范大学学报》、《东北师范大学学报》、《华中师范大学学报》、《西南师范大学学报》、《西南民族大学学报》、《贵州师范大学学报》、《江西师范大学学报》等期刊发表论文20余篇，译著1部：《世界宗教全书》（45万字，中国长安出版社，2006年），参编教材2部：《四川英语导游景点讲解》（中国旅游出版社，2004年）、《西南旅游英文基础教程》（北京大学出版社，2004年）。近年来，曾先后前往英国、加拿大、法国、荷兰、比利时、意大利、新加坡、马来西亚等国家和香港地区进行学术交流和考察。

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主 编：谢先泽

副 主 编：潘演强

编写成员：谢先泽 潘演强 张 媛 李良沛

郑贤贵 梁 霞 袁 滔 陈月梅

前言 Preface

The reform and opening up of China to the outside world greatly boosted the development of tourism industry, which has lead to a steadily increasing influx of English speaking tourists into China over the last two decades. The demand for talented professionals proficient both in English and tourism, and English tour guides in particular, is growing as quickly as tourists pour in. To meet the need, many universities and colleges set about offering curriculum of English for tourism. This book is primarily intended to be a reader for students with a major in English for tourism. Meanwhile, it can also serve as a reference to those who are now working in the tourism industry. In addition, to our overseas friends who are interested in China or are planning a trip to China, we are confident this book will provide them with useful information.

This book is divided into three parts. Part 1 is a collection of articles on China, China's tourist resources and natural and cultural heritages. They help readers gain some basic knowledge of China and the national World Heritage sites, which is necessary to promote tourism and for the understanding of China's tourist attractions, particularly the sites that have been included on the World Heritage List so far. Part 2 introduces 48 separate famous tourist destinations, with priority given to the 33 World Heritage sites. Part 3 is devoted to introducing the intangible heritage of China, considering that traveling is not just a process of sightseeing but also a process of learning the culture. The entries of this part center around China's traditional festivals, arts and crafts, operas, calligraphy and paintings, etc., which are presented to expand the readers' knowledge of traditional Chinese culture. This book covers all the 33 World Heritage sites of China with general information, namely two of which, the Yin Ruins and Sichuan Giant Panda Habitat, were added to the List in July, 2006. Its panoramic view of all the 33 sites is what sets this book apart from books for extensive English reading currently in use.

This book is meant to be an extensive reading coursebook, so the information provided is in a general sense. Flexible use of it may help to bring its desired role into full play. Locality is a factor needed to be taken into consideration. Teachers and students may choose to work on the entries that are of immediate use, while the rest shall be read by the students on their own.

The completion of this book would by no means have been smooth or even possible without referring to articles in books and on websites listed at the end of the book, without the valuable advice and help of Editor Liu Li and other staffs of SWUFE Press, without the warmhearted encouragement and funding of Dr. Huang Weibin and Prof. Lu Yi, Secretary of CPC Party Committee and President of Sichuan Higher Institute of Cuisine. When the book is coming off the press, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to them all, particularly the writers of the articles we have referred to, even though most of whom are anonymous. Our heart-felt thanks also goes to writers of various works we have referred to but not listed otherwise. The book is also a result of close collaboration of the writers, each of whom undertook the creation of about ten entries. Mr. Xie Xianze, planner of the book and writer of 18 entries, carefully proofread the whole book jointly with Mr. Pan Yanqiang, Ms. Zhang Yuan and the American Teacher Christopher Micheal Conley.

We have tried our best to make this book perfect though we know it is impossible. We are ready to take suggestions and corrections of errors from all readers, so that we can make improvements for the next edition.

Compilers
September, 2006

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Part 1

Basic Information for Traveling in China

中国旅游综述

1. China in Brief

中国概况

Each year China welcomes thousands of English-speaking tourists as well as students, teachers, scientists, artists, business men and women who come to China to sightsee or on other purposes. The following offers a fast and ready reference of basic facts of China as a guide for visitors and others.

Formal name: People's Republic of China (PRC)

Capital: Beijing

Head of State: President Hu Jintao elected on March 15, 2003.

National flag: Red flag with five stars.

National emblem: Tiananmen Gatetower under five stars, encircled by ears of grain and with a gear wheel below.

Animal: The giant panda is considered a Chinese national treasure. Just over 1,000 survive in the wild, most of them to be found in Sichuan Province. In July, 2006, the giant panda habitat in Sichuan province was inscribed on the World Heritage List as a natural property at the 30th session of the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee.

Flower: China does not have an official national flower, but the tree peony can be regarded as a national favorite. The tree peony received the most votes in an unofficial survey conducted in 1994 in every district in China asking people to select a national flower.

Bird: More bird species live in China than any other place in the world. Shaanxi Province's red ibis is also a national treasure. Only some 1,500 of this highly endangered bird species exist. Other cranes found in China include the Siberian white, common, black-necked, sarus, hooded, white-naped and sandhill.

Tree: The oldest tree in the world is China's ginkgo, which first appeared during the Jurassic Age some 160 million years ago.

National anthem: March of the Volunteers, written in 1935, with lyrics by