

Shanghai



CHINA TRAVEL KIT SERIES

Shanghai



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

上海旅游:英文 / 王慧敏等编著.

ISBN 978-7-119-05136-9

I.上… Ⅱ.王… Ⅲ.旅游指南一上海市—英文

IV. K928.951

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2007) 第157304 号

上海旅游

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王慧敏 王泽光 朱 达 郑 琦 张 晨 国务院新闻图片库

英文审定:徐明强

责任编辑:杨春燕 杨 璐

装 帧 设 计:北京华子图文设计公司

印刷监制: 韩少乙

© 2008 外文出版社

出版发行:

外文出版社 (中国北京西城区百万庄大街 24号)

邮政编码: 100037

网 址: http://www.flp.com.cn

电 话: 008610-68320579 (总编室)

008620-68327750(版权部)

印刷: 北京外文印刷厂

2008年(32开)第1版

2008年第1版第1次印刷

(英)

ISBN 978-7-119-05136-9

12000

85-E-654P

建议上架:旅游类

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Home Page:

http://www.flp.com.cn

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ISBN 978-7-119-05136-9 © Foreign Languages Press, Beijing, China, 2008

Published by

Foreign Languages Press

24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing 100037, China

Distributed by

China International Book Trading Corporation 35 Chegongzhuang Xilu, Beijing 100044, China P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Printed in the People's Republic of China





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OPART ONE ?? ABOUT SHANGHAI CHINA TRAVEL KIT

CHINA TRAVEL KIT SERIES SHANGHAI Co



The architecture on the Bund has witnessed Shanahai's striking changes.

In General

Iso named as Hu or Shen in Chinese and literally meant "on the sea," Shanghai is situated at the south of the Yangtze River Delta on China's east coast. As a commercial and financial center of China, as well as a famous historical site and a cultural city, Shanghai is a well-known international metropolis. It has Jiangsu Province lying to its north and Zhejiana Province to its south.

Time Zone and Area

Shanghai, like the rest of China, is eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Its entire administrative area, including all surrounding suburbs, townships and farmland, covers a total area of 6,341 sq. km. (about 2,440 sq. miles). The well-

known Pudong New Area occupies around 523 sq. km., and Chongming Island is the third largest island in China.

Weather

Because of the good location, Shanghai enjoys a pleasant climate, with distinct weathers in each season. The yearly average temperature is around 18°C (35°F) and the annual precipitation is



The pure, noble and beautiful magnolia is Shanghai's city flower.



An interior view of the Great World in the 1930s

about 1,240 mm (488 inches).

The city flower is the Magnolia. Shanghai's environment is gradually improving. Now people in Shanghai can easily enjoy blue sky and white clouds most days of a year, which was very rare twenty years ago.

Shanghai is world-famous not only for its prosperous economy and cosmopolitanism, but also for its rich human resources. Shanghai has experienced tremendous

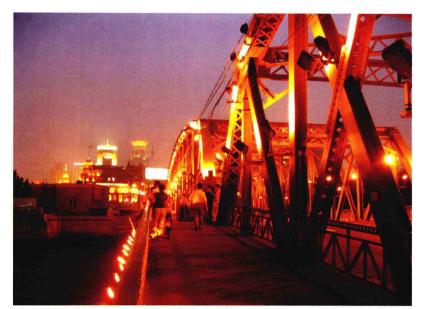


The Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a world-influential organization.

changes in the recent twenty-plus years. Today, as in the past, many world-famous celebrities live or work in Shanghai, in the fields of politics, science, economy, education, art, culture, and sports. Today, tourists can easily find many of the residences or memorial halls of famed Shanghai residents dotted throughout the city.

The variety of life, the diversity of cultures and the vigor of development characterize today's Shanghai. In addition, Shanghai boasts key universities and over a thousand scientific institutes, museums, and exhibition halls.

Co



The one-hundred-one-year-old Waibaidu Bridge has witnessed Shanghai's many changes.

Yesterday

any people say that "If you wish to know what happened in China two thousand years ago, please go to Xi'an; if you want to understand what happened one thousand years ago, you'd better go to Beijing; if you are interested in knowing China's history of the past century, Shanghai is undoubtedly the best place." However, on no account does it mean that Shanghai is merely a new city. As a matter of fact, Shanghai is an old city with about 1,000 years of history, as well as a vigorous young one.

As early as 6,000 years ago the land to the west of today's Shanghai came into being. And then a primitive village settlement was

formed. After the Spring and Autumn Period (770-221 BC), Shanghai came under the jurisdiction of the State of Wu (222-280 BC). The town of Shanghai was first founded in the 11th century as a tiny fishing village. It remained so for hundreds of years. By the 17th century it had grown into a port of medium size. It became China's largest textile center in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). In the 18th century, Shanghai developed its cotton industry



Race Course Club, (also called Pao Ma Ting), at the beginning of the 20th century.

Com

and attracted merchants from all corners of the world. After the Opium War (1840), Shanghai was reduced to a semi-colonial status.

At that time, there emerged British and American boundary lines and the French Concession, which were ruled entirely by foreigners. They enjoyed "extraterritoriality" freedom from prosecution under Chinese law. Influenced by both Chinese and international cultures, Shanghai developed a diversely mixed culture.

When talking about the history of Shanghai, we must mention the Small Sword Society, which briefly overruled the city in the mid-1850s. That secret society was affiliated later with the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom. At present, we can still find many relics of the society in Yu Yuan Garden. (Please refer to p.72)

After the last empire, the Qing Dynasty, was overthrown in 1911, China had its first republic – Republic of China, led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen. However, civil wars had never ended among warlords. In 1921, the Chinese Communist Party held its first National Congress in secret in a house in the French Concession. (Please refer to p.104) In 1924, Kuomintang (also known as the Nationalist Party) led by Chiang Kai-shek joined forces with the Communists to reunify the whole country.

By the 1930s, Shanghai had grown into the fifth biggest city in the world, so it had to expand itself to meet the ballooning population. In the late 1930s, Shanghai was factually under the control of the Japanese. After the Pearl Harbor Incident, the whole city, including the French Concession and International Settlement, fell under Japanese control. In 1945, the Second World War ended, and Shanghai was freed from Japanese occupation.

Since the founding of the People's



The Bund in 1940s





Old Shanghai Tea House

老上海传统点心品尝馆





Old Shangh Tea Hou



An old Western-type house standing on Huashan Road.

Republic of China in 1949, Shanghai has experienced tremendous changes. Opium dens were closed, prostitutes were given medical treatment and taught skills to make a living, and the worst of the slums were gradually cleared away. Shanghai's economy grew quickly, and had been one of the major industrial and port cities in China.

After China adopted its reform and open-door policy in late 1970s, especially since the early 1990s when Deng Xiaoping visited the city and decided to make Shanghai regain its position as the "dragon's head" of the Chinese economy, Shanghai has been forg-

ing ahead at full speed.

It is known to all that about 30. years ago people had to squeeze into and out of buses with tremendous efforts. It was commonly said at that time that in a crowded bus there were about 11 shoes within a square meter. One of the most convincible examples is the evepopping improvement of the housing conditions. Those shabby and low houses built in the 1920s and 1930s were bulldozed while hundreds of skyscrapers have mushroomed around the city. Shanahai is matching towards the stature of a true international metropolis.

GC0020



Nanjing Road is Shanghai's main artery, commonly thought of as China's No. 1 commercial street.

Rapid Development

Being a municipality under the direct jurisdiction of the Central Government, Shanghai is China's largest metropolitan and industrial base in China. There are 166 different kinds of industry in all throughout China, and 157 of these can be found in Shanghai.

Shanghai has maintained the longest period of contact with foreign countries among all the cities in China. Up to now, more than half of the Fortune 500 companies have made investment in Shanghai.

Shanghai is the leading port in China and it is a center of technology, trade, finance, information, and culture. In addition, it is one of the biggest cities in the world and a famous international port.

The city's service industry now represents a growing part of Shanghai's economy. Finance and insurance, commerce, real estate, tourism, and information technology represent the key sectors for development. The Shanghai Stock Exchange and various specialized markets have developed rapidly here. The Bund has evolved into a center for international finance and trade. (Please refer to p.22)

Shanghai also has the country's largest foreign exchange trading center, as well as the home of many foreign banks and insurance companies, some of which are clustered in the Bund and Lujiazui Area. (Please refer to p.106)

Shanghai is also developing modern farming in its suburban areas. The government-supported "Basket Project" has been successful in enriching food supplies in the city.