

专家手册

外国专家来华
工作生活指南

the
foreign
experts'

HANDBOOK

a guide to
living and
working in
China

By the State Bureau of Foreign Experts,
The People's Republic of China

中华人民共和国国家外国专家局

THE FOREIGN EXPERTS' HANDBOOK

**— A Guide to Living and Working
in China**

**By the State Bureau of
Foreign Experts, PRC**

**NEW WORLD PRESS
BEIJING, CHINA**

编号: ISBN 7-80005-045-9
17223-236/Z · 008

专家手册

国家外国专家局 编著

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新世界出版社出版

北京燕南印刷厂印刷

中国国际图书贸易总公司发行

(中国国际书店)

北京399信箱

1988年第一版

00630

17-EC-2060p

First Edition 1988

Cover design: Richard Hentz

ISBN 7-80005-045-9

Published by

NEW WORLD PRESS

24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing, China

Distributed by

**CHINA INTERNATIONAL BOOK TRADING
CORPORATION (GUOJI SHUDIAN)**

P.O. BOX 399, Beijing, China

Printed in the People's Republic of China



The national emblem of the People's Republic of China

中 华 人 民 共 和 国 国 徽



The national flag of the People's Republic of China

中 华 人 民 共 和 国 国 旗

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FOREWORD

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, specialists in many different fields have been invited to come and work in China. They include technical, management and scientific personnel, teachers, journalists and publishers. The shift of emphasis of our work onto the building of the economy and the implementation of the policy in 1978 of opening to the outside world and promoting a thriving domestic economy has created a greater demand for specialist personnel from abroad. In fact the number of foreign experts working in China today has increased ninefold since 1978.

However, people who either wish to work in China themselves or to recommend others to work in China often have difficulty in finding out what kind of Chinese work units and departments and which regions wish to employ foreign personnel, as well as in which fields and at what level. Similarly, they often have no idea as to what treatment foreign experts in China may expect, or of procedures of application or recommendation, as well as what preparations to make and what to bring when coming to China.

This handbook is designed to help answer these questions and to provide the necessary information for

those whose knowledge of China is limited. Moreover, it should clarify some basic points that those wishing to work in China or to recommend others to do so, as well as those already working here may need to know. It may seem a little overexplicit for those who already have some knowledge of the situation, or else may seem too sketchy, but it is hoped that they may then pick out points for reference according to their own requirements, or use the handbook as a guide to further their knowledge of relevant work units, departments, and regions of China. *The Foreign Experts' Handbook — A Guide to Living and Working in China* covers application procedures, necessary preparations, arrival, treatment of experts, traveling in China, local customs, extending one's contract, departure, etc., as well as giving a general outline of China. Its appendices provide additional information such as relevant laws and regulations, useful addresses and telephone numbers, and a list of universities and colleges. There is a fairly detailed index at the front for our readers' convenience.

The chief editor of the book (in Chinese) is Chen Baochen, the assistant chief editor Gao Lüduan and the executive editor Bi Lianggan. Also involved in the writing are Bi Lianggan, Lu Wei, Chen Yangjin, Sun Zhaohua, Dou Guanggui, Chang Qifeng, He Fagui, Lei Fengyun, Li Xiaochun and others from the State Bureau of Foreign Experts. The editors wish to show their gratitude to the above, and to concerned departments, ministries and foreign experts for their help and support.

State Bureau of Foreign Experts,
People's Republic of China
Beijing, April 7, 1987

I. AN OUTLINE OF CHINA

China is the abbreviation for the People's Republic of China. The national flag of China consists of five yellow stars on a red field. The national emblem has Tiananmen (the Gate of Heavenly Peace) at the center surrounded by wheat stalks with a cog-wheel at the bottom. The capital of China is Beijing.

1. Size and Geographical Location

China is situated at the east of the Asian landmass on the west coast of the Pacific Ocean. The land covers more than 5,200 kilometers from east to west, extending for over sixty degrees of longitude, and 5,500 kilometers from north to south, or over forty-nine degrees of latitude. With a surface area of 9.6 million square kilometers, which is one-fifteenth of the total world surface, it is the biggest country in Asia and the third largest in the world, being surpassed only by the Soviet Union and Canada.

Its borders extend for over 20,000 kilometers, joining it with twelve countries: to the east is Korea; to the northwest and northeast lies the Soviet Union; the Mongolian People's Republic lies to the north; Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan are to the west and southwest, and Burma, Laos and Vietnam are to the south. To the east and southeast across the Yellow Sea, East China Sea and South China Sea lie

Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei. China's coastline is over 14,000 kilometers long, and it has over 5,000 offshore islands, the two largest of which are Taiwan and Hainan.

2. Topography and Rivers

China's terrain is mountainous in the west and low-lying in the east, and most of the major rivers flow from west to east. Its surface features are varied, and include mountains, plateaus, basins, deserts, grasslands and hills. The country can be divided into sixteen topographical regions as follows: the Northeast Plain, the North China Plain, the Central-Lower Yangtze River Plain, the South China Sea Islands, the Southeastern Hills, the Shandong Hills, the Changbai Mountainous Region, the Southwestern Gorges, the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau, the Loess Plateau, the Qiling Mountainous Region, the Sichuan, Junggar and Tarim basins, the Inner Mongolian Plateau and the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau. The world's highest peak, the 8,848 meter-high Mt. Qomolangma (also known as Mt. Everest), lies on the Sino-Nepalese border.

China has many rivers, over five thousand of which have a drainage area of more than one hundred square kilometers. The Yangtze River is China's longest and the world's third longest river, flowing for some 6,300 kilometers from its source in the snow-clad Geladandong peaks of the Tanggula Mountain Range in Qinghai Province through Tibet, Sichuan, Yunnan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Anhui and Jiangsu provinces and autonomous region, and out into the sea at Shanghai. The Yellow River, China's second longest river, flows from its source in the Bayanhar Mountain Range of Qinghai

Province through Sichuan, Gansu, Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, Shanxi, Shaanxi, Henan, and Shandong provinces and autonomous region, emptying into the Bohai Gulf. Its total length is 5,464 kilometers and its drainage area 752,443 square kilometers.

3. Climate

Because of its vast land area and diversity of terrain, every region in China has different climatic conditions, ranging from tropical, subtropical, and warm-temperate, to temperate and cool-temperate. But for the most part the country lies in a temperate zone, i.e. the climate is warm and wet, with four distinct seasons. South China has both tropical and subtropical regions, while the north borders are in the frigid zone. The south of Yunnan Province and Hainan Island have a continual summer and the vegetation is green all year round. The coastal areas to the east are warm and humid, with four distinct seasons. The inland areas towards Northwest China have vast temperature differences between summer and winter, and often within the same day. In some parts of the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau the various climates of spring, summer, autumn and winter can be found simultaneously at the foot and summit of the mountains. In the towns of Kunming and Guiyang, the summer heat is not intense and the winter is mild, all four seasons being rather like spring. They are therefore known respectively as the First and Second Spring Cities.

The difference between the winter temperature in North and South China is marked, but in the summer it is much less so. For example, the difference between the average temperatures in the cities of Harbin in the North

and Guangzhou (Canton) in the South in January is more than 33°C, while in July it is only around 5°C.

COMPARISONS OF TEMPERATURE IN SIX MAJOR CITIES

Cities	Average January Temperature	Average July Temperature
Beijing	-4.8°C	25.8°C
Shanghai	3.5°C	28°C
Guangzhou	13.7°C	28.3°C
Wuhan	2.7°C	29.1°C
Urumqi	-15.8°C	23.9°C
Harbin	-19.7°C	22.5°C

4. Administrative Divisions

China is divided into twenty-two provinces, five autonomous regions, and three municipalities directly under the central government. Their area, population (according to figures from the *1985 China Yearbook*), and seat of government are shown in the table on the next page. (Pr stands for Province, M for Municipality and AR for Autonomous Region. A brief introduction to each province, municipality and autonomous region is given in Appendix 7.)

5. Population

China has the largest population of any country in the world. The 1986 census put the total population at over 1,060,080,000, or 22.6 percent of the total world population. Nearly eighty percent of China's population lives in the countryside, and the most populous province is Sichuan.

	Area (km ²)	Population (million heads)	Seat of Government
Beijing M	16,808	947	Beijing
Tianjin M	11,305	799	Tianjin
Hebei Pr	187,700	5,487	Shijiazhuang
Shanxi Pr	156,300	2,600	Taiyuan
Inner Mongolia AR	1,183,000	1,985	Huhot
Liaoning Pr	145,700	3,655	Shenyang
Jilin Pr	187,400	2,284	Changchun
Heilongjiang Pr	453,800	3,295	Harbin
Shanghai M	6,340	1,205	Shanghai
Jiangsu Pr	102,600	6,171	Nanjing
Zhejiang Pr	102,000	3,993	Hangzhou
Anhui Pr	139,700	5,103	Hefei
Fujian Pr	120,000	2,677	Fuzhou
Jiangxi Pr	167,000	3,421	Nanchang
Shandong Pr	153,000	7,637	Jinan
Henan Pr	167,000	7,646	Zhengzhou
Hubei Pr	185,900	4,876	Wuhan
Hunan Pr	210,000	5,561	Changsha
Guangdong Pr	212,000	6,166	Guangzhou
Guangxi Zhuang AR	236,200	3,806	Nanning
Sichuan Pr	570,000	10,112	Chengdu
Guizhou Pr	176,100	2,932	Guiyang
Yunnan Pr	394,000	3,362	Kunming
Tibet AR	1,228,400	197	Lhasa
Shaanxi Pr	205,600	2,966	Xi'an
Gansu Pr	454,300	2,016	Lanzhou
Qinghai Pr	737,000	402	Xining
Ningxia Hui AR	66,400	406	Yinchuan
Xinjiang Uygur AR	1,600,000	1,344	Urumqi
Taiwan Pr	35,788	1,901	Taipei

6. Nationalities

China has fifty-six nationalities, but the Han Chinese account for 93.3 percent of the total population. The remaining fifty-five nationalities are referred to as