

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens Reconsider Travel to the People's Republic of China (PRC), including the Special Administrative Regions (SARs) of Hong Kong and Macau due to arbitrary enforcement of local laws. See specific risks and conditions in each jurisdiction. Commercial transportation options for international departure and arrival are available. Exercise increased caution in the PRC due to wrongful detentions. Commercial transportation options for international departure and arrival are available. Exercise increased caution in the PRC due to wrongful detentions. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/Consulate

[86] (10) 8531-3000; US Embassy in Beijing, 55 An Jia Lou Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100600, China; <https://china.usembassy-china.org.cn/>; BeijingACS@state.gov

LGBTQ+ Travelers

When venturing abroad, LGBTQ+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html>

Telephone Code

86

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 120; Fire: 119; Police: 110, 122 (traffic accident)

Vaccinations

An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for some travelers. See WHO recommendations <http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Extremely diverse; tropical in south, subarctic in north

Currency (Code)

Renminbi yuan (RMB)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

220 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): A, C, I



Major Languages

Standard Chinese or Mandarin, Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghainese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages

Major Religions

folk religion 21.9%, Buddhist 18.3%, Christian 5.2%, Muslim 2%, Hindu < 0.1%, Jewish < 0.1%

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

Time Difference

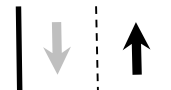
UTC+8 (13 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time); note: despite its size, all of China falls within 1 time zone

International Driving Permit

An IDP is not recognized. Tourists are not allowed to drive in China.

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Classical Gardens of Suzhou; Potala Palace; Shanghai's Promenade; Hangzhou's Historic West Lake; Qing Zhao Mausoleum; Leshan Giant Buddha; Hong Kong Skyline; Zhangjiajie National Forest Park; Great Wall; Terracotta Army; Forbidden City; Summer Palace; Tiananmen Square; Longmen Grottoes

Cultural Practices

Give and receive everything with two hands.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is not officially recognized, though the practice has become increasingly common among tour guides, top-end restaurants, tour bus drivers, and hotel staff. Tipping about 10% is appreciated. Make sure a service charge has not already been included. Taxi drivers often do not accept tips.

Souvenirs

Silk items, jade and pearl items, calligraphy sets, antique ceramics, designer fashions, electronics

Traditional Cuisine

Peking Roast Duck — maltose syrup (a natural sweetener produced from fermented grains) glazed-duck roasted until brown; the skin is served dipped in a sugar-garlic sauce and the meat is served with sweet bean sauce, spring onions, pancakes, and cucumber sticks

