

## VISITOR INFORMATION: IEEE WCNC 2013

Shanghai is the most populous city in China and one of the most populous cities in the world. A global city, Shanghai exerts influence over global commerce, finance, culture, art, fashion, research and entertainment. The city is located at the middle portion of the Chinese coast, and sits at the mouth of the Yangtze River.

The city is a tourist destination renowned for its historical landmarks such as the Bund and City God Temple, and its modern and ever-expanding Pudong Skyline including the Oriental Pearl Tower. Today, Shanghai is the largest centre of commerce and finance in mainland China, and has been described as the "showpiece" of the world's fastest-growing major economy.

Shanghai is a city with a fascinating past, a thrilling future and a present that combines the two in a way that few other world-class cities can.

From the space-inspired architecture of recent buildings such as the Oriental Pearl TV Tower to the city's unique 'shikumen' (stone gateway) communities and some of the world's finest remaining examples of Art Deco architecture, the physical city sets the tone for this amazing metropolis of contrasts.

Alongside centuries-old historic temples you will find dazzling shopping malls with enormous wall-screen digital displays hawking the very latest in fashion and electronics.

Lining the western shore of the city's central watercourse, the Huangpu River, is the Bund - a row of magnificent buildings dating from Shanghai's International Settlement era – a time when the city was China's 'window to the west'.

In the early part of the 20th century, Shanghai was truly in full swing - a cosmopolitan trading port that included among its visitors Charlie Chaplin, P.G. Wodehouse, Christopher Isherwood and other such film and literary luminaries – all attracted by Shanghai's reputation as the excitement capital of the East.

Today, it's as an economic powerhouse that Shanghai's making its name. It has regained its place as perhaps China's most forward-looking city and offers travelers an experience unlike any other.

### Currency & Banking Services

RMB is the only currency in circulation in China. Most foreign currencies and traveler's cheques recognized by international can easily be exchanged at the commercial banks, hotels and the international airports. Banks working hours is 9:00-16:00 from Monday to Saturday.

It's acceptable for such credit cards as Visa, MasterCard, American Express and DinersClub at most of the hotels, restaurants and large shops. Visa and MasterCard can withdraw RMB on automatic teller machines in the commercial banks.

## Working Hour

The office hour of the government department: 9:00-17:00 from Monday to Friday. The office hour of business sector such as supermarket and shopping mall: 10:00-22:00, usually from Monday to Sunday.

## Telecommunication Service

Local Calls: RMB0.3 (about US\$ 0.05)/ per min

Domestic Long-distant Calls: RMB0.8 (about US\$ 0.15)/ per min

International Calls: RMB9.2 (about US\$1.5)/per min

(Note: The above price is for reference only.)

For the domestic long-distance calls, just dial the area code first, then the local telephone number.

For the international calls, dial the country code first, then the area code and the local telephone number.

## Public Service Numbers

Ambulance: 120; Police: 110; Fire: 119; Public Directory: 114

## Smoking

Ban on smoking in many public places. There are smoking and smoking-free areas in most restaurants.

## Power Supply

The voltage in China is 220-240V, 50Hertz and the electric shavers socket used in hotels is 110V or 220V.

## Shanghai Attractions

(partially cite <http://www.travelchinaguide.com>)

## The Bund & Huangpu River

Huangpu River is not only the mother river of Shanghai, which divides the city into east and west parts, but also assembles the splendid tourist attractions of the city. Situated on the east bank of the Huangpu River, the Bund is the symbol of Shanghai. New finance and commercial houses as well as grand buildings built in 1930s in the European architectural styles cluster along the Bund. At night bright lights add to the happy atmosphere as people stroll along the wide riverside promenade.

## [Nanjing Road](#)

Nanjing Road is considered to be the 'No. 1 commercial street in China', which has been a landmark for this city for a long time. Along its 5.5 kilometers, you will find over 600 shops that on average are visited by some 1.7 million people each day. Here, you could purchase everything wanted, spanning from special and cheap souvenirs of Shanghai to the luxurious world famous brands.

## [Yuyuan Garden](#)

Yuyuan Garden is the largest of Shanghai's ancient gardens with Ming and Qing architectural styles. The garden has six areas, each with its own style. The Grand Rockery, in the center of the Garden, is the most renowned sight. Near the garden, there is the City God Temple of Shanghai, where various local snack shops and streets are scattered around.

## [Jade Buddha Temple](#)

It is one of the most famous Buddhist shrines in Shanghai. The White Jade Buddhas were brought here from Burma in the nineteenth century. One is seated while the other is in the recumbent position of Sakyamuni symbolizing the Buddha's attainment of enlightenment or nirvana. The temple also has some impressive images of the Heavenly Kings. Although many people come to worship each day and burn incense at this very holy and active shrine, visitors are welcome.

## [Shanghai Xin Tian Di](#)

If you want to experience the historical and cultural atmosphere of the city, Xin Tian Di is a wise choice. Composed of Shikumen and modern architectural style, now it has become a hot and fashionable pedestrian street in the center of the city. Actually, it stands for the popular and leisurely life style of this city's new generation. The outdoor cafés, bars and romantic restaurants can be seen everywhere. Similar Attraction: Tianzifang.

## [Attractions around Shanghai](#)

There are multiple attractions around Shanghai, including:

[Suzhou Tours](#) (It takes half an hour by train from Shanghai to Suzhou)

Praised as the 'Oriental Venice', Suzhou features a scenic water town with numerous ponds and streams. The tour to Suzhou will enthrall you with the unique and lingering charm of its city landscape, especially the many fantastic gardens, which have high reputation for their tranquil beauty, featured landscapes and architectural splendours. As well as these features, Suzhou is famous for its local products which include embroidery, decorated fans and fine brocades; you are sure to find a souvenir of your visit here.



Suzhou attractions

[Hangzhou Tours](#) (It takes less than 40 minutes by high speed train from Shanghai to Hangzhou)

If there is a heaven on earth then this is it! Noted for its natural beauty and cultural heritage, the city of Hangzhou offers a very special cultural experience, and with its charming West Lake, it attracts many tourists. It is here that the famous Grand Canal ends. The city is famed also for two major Chinese inventions - silk and tea; products you may wish to seek out during your visit along with other local goods. The city was much vaunted in his writings by the famous Italian explorer - Marco Polo. Leading attractions here include the Six Harmonies Pagoda, Red Carp Pond, the Lingyin Temple.



Hangzhou attractions

## [Local Information](#)

### **Weather**

April is the best time to travel in Shanghai. The weather in Shanghai is generally very pleasant in April. The temperature in April is usually between 10 to 20 degree Celsius, or 50 to 68 Fahrenheit. There will be little rain in April. The average precipitation is less than 2mm.

**Standard Time Zone:** China Standard Time