

# Gateway Shànghǎi

## 上海

No-one visits Shànghǎi with visions in their heads of steep, muddy rice terraces or ethnic minorities circle dancing. Say 'Shànghǎi' to someone, and they're much more likely to imagine something closer to the captivating swirl of sex, fashion, money and neon lights that the city came to stand for in the pre-communist days. And even if reality doesn't always equate with the brand image, Shànghǎi's pulsing metropolis somehow demands a stopover – this is the 21st century, PRC style. So leave the yak in Sichuān, slip on your best shoes and get ready to do some urban exploring – there's more here to see than you might think.

See Lonely Planet's *Shanghai* guide for additional information.

### FAST FACTS

- Area code: ☎ ###
- Population: ###
- Stat

### INFORMATION

#### Bookshops

**Foreign Languages Bookstore** (外文书店; Wàiwén Shūdiàn; ☎ 6322 3200; 390 Fuzhou Rd; 福州路390号; ☎ 9.30am-6pm, to 7pm Fri & Sat; 📍 Middle Henan Rd) The best spot to stock up on reading material.

#### Emergency

**Ambulance** (☎ 120)

**Fire** (☎ 119)

**Police** (☎ 110)

**Public Security Bureau** (PSB; 公安局; Gōngānjú; ☎ 6854 1199; 1500 Minsheng Rd; 民生路1500号; ☎ 9am-5pm Mon-Sat; 📍 Shanghai Science & Technology Museum) Near Jinxiu Rd (锦绣路).

#### Internet Access

Internet cafés are all over town, but there's a frequent turnover of locales. You'll need your passport for ID in most places.

#### Maps

English maps of Shànghǎi are available at the Foreign Languages Bookstore (see above), major hotel bookshops and occasionally from street hawkers (most of the latter are Chinese-only).

The bilingual *Shanghai Tourist Map*, produced by the Shanghai Municipal Tourism

Administration, is free at hotels and Tourist Information Centres (see opposite).

#### Media & Internet Resources

If you're looking for entertainment ideas, the first thing to do is to grab a free copy of the monthly *That's Shanghai* from a top-end hotel, followed swiftly by issues of *City Weekend*, *Shanghai Talk* or the weekly *SH (8 Days)*. These offer an instant plug into what's on in town, from art exhibitions and club nights to restaurant openings.

The best local websites are listed below.

**www.cityweekend.com.cn** A good listings site with archived articles.

**www.shanghaist.com** Quirky local news blog.

**www.smartshanghai.com** For fashion, food, fun and frolicking.

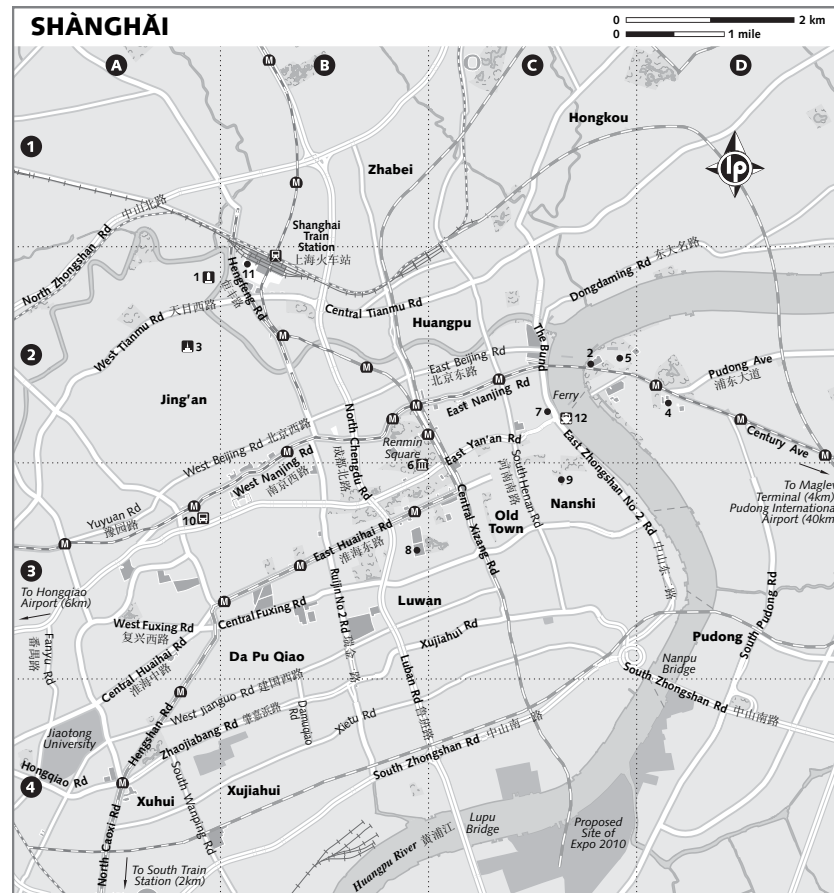
**www.thatssh.com** Always on top of what's happening in Shànghǎi entertainment.

#### Medical Services

**Huashan Hospital** (华山医院; Huáshān Yīyuàn; ☎ 6248 9999, ext 2351; 12 Central Wulumuqi Rd; 乌鲁木齐中路12号; 📍 Jing'an Temple) Hospital treatment and out-patient consultations are available at the 15th-floor foreigners' clinic; a 24-hour pharmacy is located outside the hospital.

#### Money

Almost every hotel has money-changing counters. Most tourist hotels, restaurants and banks accept major credit cards. ATMs at various branches of the Bank of China and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) accept most major cards.



#### SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

50 Moganshan Road Art Centre 莫干山路50号	1	A2
China Sex Culture Museum		
中华性文化和性健康教育展	2	C2
Jade Buddha Temple 玉佛寺	3	A2
Jinmao Tower 金茂大厦	4	D2
Municipal Historical Museum		
上海市历史发展陈列馆		(see 5)
Oriental Pearl Tower 东方明珠广播电视塔	5	C2
Shanghai Museum 上海博物馆	6	B3
Three on the Bund 外滩三三	7	C2
Xintiandi 新天地	8	B3
Yuyuan Gardens & Bazaar 豫园	9	C3

#### TRANSPORT

Airport City Terminal 机场城市航站楼	10	A3
Longmen Hotel Ticket Office		
龙门宾馆火车票售票处	11	B2
Tour Boats 黄浦江游览船	12	C2

Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank (HSBC; 汇丰银行; Huifeng Yínháng) has ATMs in the Shanghai Centre (上海商城) on West Nanjing Rd, at Pudong Airport arrivals hall and at 15 East Zhongshan No 1 Rd (中山东一路15号) on the Bund.

#### Tourist Information

Tourist Information and Service Centres (旅游咨询服务中心; Lǚyóu Zīxún Fúwù Zhōngxīn) are located near several major tourist sights. The standard of English varies from good to nonexistent and the centres primarily function to book hotel rooms, put you on a tour and sell you souvenirs, but free maps and some information are available.

Useful branches include **Century Square** (世纪广场; ☎ 5353 1117; 561 East Nanjing Rd; 南京东路561号; (M) Middle Henan Rd) and **Jing'an** (静安寺; ☎ 6248 3259; 1699 West Nanjing Rd; 南京西路1699号; (M) Jing'an Temple), across the road from the Airport City Terminal and Jing'an Temple.

The international arrivals hall of Hongqiao Airport has a tourist information booth with staff who give out maps and are helpful. There was no comprehensive tourist information booth at Pudong International Airport at the time of writing, but plans were afoot to install one. The useful **Shanghai Information Centre for International Visitors** (上海国际访问者中心; Shànghǎi Guójì Fāngwènzhě Zhōngxīn; ☎ 6384 9366; No 2, Alley 123, Xingye Rd; 兴业路123弄2号新天地; (M) South Huangpi Rd) is at Xintiandi (right).

## Travel Agencies

**China International Travel Service** (CITS; 中国国际旅行社; Zhōngguó Guójì Lǚxíngshè) East Jinling Rd (☎ 6323 8770; 5th fl, Guangming Bldg, 2 East Jinling Rd; 金陵东路2号); West Beijing Rd (☎ 6289 4510, 6289 8899; 1277 West Beijing Rd; 北京西路1277号; (M) Middle Henan Rd) Can book air and train tickets. The East Jinling Rd branch is located near the south Bund; the West Beijing Rd branch is the head office.

**Shanghai Spring International Travel Service** (春秋国际旅行社; Chūnqiū Guójì Lǚxíngshè; ☎ 6351 6666; www.china-sss.com; 342 Central Xizang (Tibet) Rd; 西藏中路342号; (M) People's Sq) Centrally located, IATA-bonded and good for air tickets.

**STA Travel** (☎ 6353 2683; www.statravel.com.cn; Suite 305, 158 Hanzhong Rd; 汉中中路158号; ☎ 9am-6pm Mon-Fri, 10.30am-3.30pm Sat; (M) Hanzhong Rd) Sells train and air tickets, and can issue ISIC cards.

## Visas

**Public Security Bureau** (PSB; 公安局; Gōngānjú; ☎ 6854 1199; 1500 Minsheng Rd; 民生路1500号; ☎ 9am-5pm Mon-Sat; (M) Shanghai Science & Technology Museum) Handles visas and registrations; 30-day visa extensions cost around Y160. Near Jinxiu Rd (锦绣路).

## SIGHTS

Most first-time visitors gravitate towards the **Bund** (外滩; Wàitān; (M) Middle Henan Rd), the picturesque waterfront promenade that embodies old Shanghai. Walk the strip, take a cruise on the Huangpu River (see p91) or relax at some fabulous restaurants and bars with views of futuristic Pudong across the river – the most popular address of late is the swish **Three on the Bund** (外滩三号; Wàitān Sānhào; www.threeonthebund.com).

**Renmin Square** (人民广场; Rénmín Guǎngchǎng; (M) People's Sq), or People's Sq, is home to the top museums in the city, including the must-see **Shanghai Museum** (上海博物馆; Shànghǎi Bówùguǎn; ☎ 6372 3500; 2 Renmin Ave; 人民大道2号; adult/child & student Y20/5; ☎ 9am-5pm Sun-Fri, to 7pm Sat), which showcases the most impressive collection of traditional Chinese art in the country. It's not to be confused with the **Shanghai Art Museum** (上海美术馆; Shànghǎi Měishùguǎn; ☎ 6327 2829; 325 West Nanjing Rd; 南京西路325号; adult/student Y20/10; ☎ 9am-5pm, last entry 4pm), the modern art gallery housed in the former racecourse club.

The **Old Town** (南市; Nánshì) is slowly succumbing to the pressures of real estate development, but has retained enough charm (and temples) to make for some great strolls. A good starting point is the perpetually crowded **Yuyuan Gardens & Bazaar** (豫园; Yùyuán; ☎ 6326 0830; 218 Anren Street; 安仁街218号; adult/child Y30/10; ☎ 8.30am-5.30pm), a 16th-century garden surrounded by souvenir hawkers of all ages. Near the garden's entrance are the justifiably famous Nanxiang Steamed Bun Restaurant (see opposite) and **Huxinting Teahouse** (湖心亭茶馆; Húxīntíng Cháguǎn; ☎ 6373 6950; ☎ 6am-9.30pm).

Further west is the delightful **French Concession** (法国租界; Fǎguó Zūjiè), whose leafy boulevards are bursting with boutiques, hip bars and chic restaurants. The epicentre of it all is style-conscious **Xintiandi** (新天地; www.xintiandi.com; cnr Taicang Rd & Madang Rd; 太仓路和马当路的路口; (M) South Huangpi Rd), several blocks of renovated traditional *shikumen* houses, low-rise tenement buildings built in the early 1900s.

Across the river from the Bund is unmistakable **Pudong** (浦东; (M) Lujiazui), former farmland now forested with towers both bizarre and breathtaking, including China's tallest buildings, the **Shanghai World Financial Center** (上海环球金融中心; Shànghǎi Huánqiú Jīnróng Zhōngxīn; 100 Century Ave; 世纪大道100号) and the **Jinmao Tower** (金茂大厦; Jīnmào Dàshà; ☎ 5047 5101; 88 Century Ave; 世纪大道88号; adult/child Y70/35; audio tour Y15; ☎ 8.30am-10pm). Choose between the observation deck (88th floor) or drinks in the Cloud 9 Bar (87th floor). Other notable sights include the excellent **Municipal Historical Museum** (上海城市历史发展陈列馆; Shànghǎi Chéngshì Lìshǐ Fāzhǎn Chénlìguǎn; ☎ 5879 1888; basement, Oriental Pearl Tower, 1 Shiji Dadao; 世纪大道1号; admission Y35; ☎ 8am-9.30pm) and the eye-opening **China Sex Culture Museum** (中华性文化和性健康教育展; Zhōnghuá Xìng Wénhuà hé Xìng Jiànkāng Jiàoyùzhǎn;

2789 Riverside Ave; 滨江大道2789号; admission Y20; ☎ 8am-10.30pm Mon-Thu, to 10pm Fri-Sun).

Further afield are the **Jade Buddha Temple** (玉佛寺; Yùfó Sì; ☎ 6266 3668; 170 Anyuan Rd; 安远路170号; admission Y20; ☎ 8.30am-4.30pm) and the nearby galleries at the **50 Moganshan Rd Art Centre** (Mogānshānlù Wúshí Hào; 50 Moganshan Rd; 莫干山路50号; admission free), the nexus of the city's art scene.

## SLEEPING

Rooms are often marked down considerably; make sure to ask for a discount.

### The Bund & Renmin Square

**Easy Tour Youth Hostel** (上海易途青年酒店; Shànghǎi Yítú Qīngnián Jiǔdiàn; ☎ 6327 7766; 57 Jiangyin Rd; 江阴路57号; dm/s/d Y50/180/220; (M) People's Sq) The setting and location – just west off Renmin Sq in a building with a bit of history – are up there with the best, but it's a bit drab and some rooms are damp.

**Ming Town Hiker Youth Hostel** (明堂上海旅行者青年旅馆; Míngtáng Shànghǎi Lǚxíngzhě Qīngnián Lǚguǎn; ☎ 6329 7889; 450 Central Jiangxi Rd; 江西中路450号; dm from Y55, d Y200; (M) Middle Henan Rd; (L)) A short hike from the Bund, rooms include tidy four- and six-bed dorms with pine bunk beds and three good-value luxury doubles.

**Captain Hostel** (船长青年酒店; Chuánzhǎng Qīngnián Jiǔdiàn; ☎ 6323 5053; www.captainhostel.com.cn; 37 Fuzhou Rd; 福州路37号; dm Y70, d Y450-1200; (M) Middle Henan Rd; (L)) An old turn-of-the-century building off the Bund, the Captain has clean dorms with bunk beds, OK double rooms and a top-floor bar for rum, drunken sailors and long views over the Huangpu River.

**Pujiang Hotel/Astor House Hotel** (浦江饭店; Pújiāng Fàndiàn; ☎ 6324 6388; www.pujianghotel.com; 15 Huangpu Rd; 黄浦路15号; dm Y80, d Y580-1280; (M) Middle Henan Rd) This historic hotel is at the north end of the Bund with loads of stylish midrange rooms. There is also one dorm room, but it's generally full.

**Jinjiang Inn** (锦江之星旅馆; Jīnjiāng Zhīxīng Lǚguǎn; ☎ 6326 0505; www.jj-inn.com; 33 South Fujian Rd; 福建南路33号; s/d Y199/239; (M) Middle Henan Rd) This central branch of this hotel chain has bright, airy doubles with shower rooms, some with pleasant views over parkland on the noisier Fujian Rd side.

**East Asia Hotel** (东亚饭店; Dōngyà Fàndiàn; ☎ 6322 3233; fax 6322 4598; 680 East Nanjing Rd; 南京东路680号; d from Y420; (M) People's Sq) Renovated in 2005, the two-star East Asia Hotel is a popular and long-standing fixture on the cheap Shànghǎi room circuit. Reception is on the 2nd floor through a clothing shop.

**Westin Shanghai** (威斯汀大饭店; Wēisīting Dàfàndiàn; ☎ 6335 1888; www.westin.com; 88 Central Henan Rd; 河南中路88号; d from Y2915; (M) Middle Henan Rd; (L)) A stylish component of the Bund Center, this is the best hotel in the district. Home to several top restaurants and the Banyan Tree spa.

## French Concession

**Mason Hotel** (美臣大酒店; Měichén Dàjiǔdiàn; ☎ 6466 2020; www.masonhotel.com; 935 Central Huaihai Rd; 淮海中路935号; s/d Y900/1080; (M) South Shaanxi Rd) From its discreet outward appearance to the small and well-proportioned lobby (with Art Deco-style motifs and casual black leather furniture), this boutique-style hotel is both relaxed and intimate.

**Jinchen Hotel** (金陵大酒店; Jīnchén Dàjiǔdiàn; ☎ 6471 7000; www.jinchenhotel.com; 795-809 Central Huaihai Rd; 淮海中路795-809号; s & d from Y980; (M) South Shaanxi Rd) Arranged over seven floors, the small, brick Jinchen is excellent, offering clean, tastefully furnished rooms.

**Ruijin Guesthouse** (瑞金宾馆; Ruijīn Bīnguǎn; ☎ 6472 5222; www.shedi.net.cn/outedi/ruijin; 118 Ruijin No 2 Rd; 瑞金二路118号; s & d Y1200; (M) South Shaanxi Rd) The Ruijin has elegant grounds and a series of old mansions converted into rooms. Some of the city's most romantic and stylish restaurants and bars charmingly nestle in the gardens.

## Pudong

**Captain Hostel Zhangyang Rd** (船长青年酒店; Chuánzhǎng Qīngnián Jiǔdiàn; ☎ 5836 5966; www.captainhostel.com.cn; 527 East Laoshan Rd; 崂山东路527号; dm Y60, s/d Y198/450; (M) Dongchang Rd; (L)) The Pudong location is less than ideal, though the Captain runs a tight ship.

**Grand Hyatt** (金茂凯悦大酒店; Jīnmào Kǎiyuè Dàjiǔdiàn; ☎ 5049 1234; www.hyatt.com; 88 Century Ave; 世纪大道88号; d from Y2590; (M) Lujiazui; (L)) No place for those with vertigo, the Grand Hyatt shoots up 33 stylish stores from the 54th floor of the Jinmao Tower.

## EATING

If you're on a budget, look for the innumerable food courts (such as Megabyte; 大食代; Dàshídài) in malls everywhere. For a more sophisticated culinary experience, head to the ultra-chic Three on the Bund (see opposite) or the Xintiandi complex (opposite), where choices range from traditional Shanghainese to Thai and Italian.

**Nanxiang Steamed Bun Restaurant** (南翔馒头店; Nánxiāng Mántóudiàn; ☎ 6355 4206; 85 Yuyuan Rd; 豫园路85号; meals Y10-20; ☎ 7am-10pm) This eatery serves up the city's most famous dumplings (小笼包).

**Vegetarian Life Style** (枣子树; Zǎozǐ Shù; ☎ 6384 8000; 77 Songshan Rd; 嵩山路77号; mains Y20-38; 🚶 South Huangpi Rd) For light and healthy Chinese organic vegetarian food, with precious little oil and creative chefs.

**Bǎoluó Jiǔlóu** (保罗酒楼; ☎ 5403 7239; 271 Fumin Rd; 富民路271号; mains Y20-50; 🚶 Changshu Rd) Join Shanghainese night owls queuing down the street to get into this amazingly busy place. Open till 6am, it's a great place to get a feel for Shànghǎi's famous buzz.

**Ajisen** (味千拉面; Wèiqiān Lāmian; ☎ 6360 7194; 327 East Nanjing Rd; 南京东路327号; meals Y30; 🚶 Middle Henan Rd) Choose from among mouthwatering Japanese noodle dishes via easy-to-use photo menus. Handy branches throughout town.

## GETTING THERE & AWAY

### Air

Shànghǎi has two airports: most international flights operate out of Pudong airport in the southeast, while domestic flights fly out of Hongqiao airport in the west (with occasional exceptions).

Daily domestic flights connect Shànghǎi to every major city in China's Southwest (and usually leave several times a day). Prices for these include Chángshā (Y890), Chéngdū (Y1610), Chóngqìng (Y1490), Guilín (Y1310), Guiyáng (Y1600), Kūnmíng (Y1900), Lǐjiāng (Y2430), Nánning (Y1660), Yíchāng (Y1080) and Zhāngjiājìè (Y1330), but most travel agencies will normally offer discounted fares of up to 40%.

### Boat

At the time of writing, boat cruises up the Yangzi River were no longer departing from Shànghǎi. Most cruises now only run between Chóngqìng and Yíchāng (Húběi).

### Train

Shànghǎi is reasonably well connected to the Southwest via rail, though journeys can be epic in duration. The easiest option for buying tickets is at the **Longmen Hotel ticket office** (龙门宾馆火车票售票处; Lóngmén Bīnguǎn huǒchēpiào shòupiàochù; ☎ 6317 9325; 🕒 8am-9pm), a short walk west of the **Shanghai train station** (上海站; Shànghǎi zhàn; 🚶 Shanghai Train Station). You can book sleepers up to nine days in advance here, with a Y5 service charge. You can also buy tickets at the much more chaotic ticket office that is to the southeast of the train station (no service charge). Be aware that some trains may depart from the

**South train station** (上海南站; Shànghǎi Nánzhàn; 🚶 Shanghai South Train Station).

Hard sleeper prices for major destinations include: Chángshā (Y272, 18½ hours), Chéngdū (Y259 to Y452, 35 to 45 hours), Chóngqìng (Y475, 42 hours), Guilín (Y341, 26 hours), Guiyáng (Y405, 32½ hours), Kūnmíng (Y502, 43½ hours) and Nánning (Y387, 33 hours).

## GETTING AROUND

Your best bet for getting around the city is the metro system (tickets Y3 to Y6; for map see <http://urbanrail.net/as/shan/shanghai.htm>); Lines 1 and 2 cover everywhere of importance, with the exception of the Old Town.

Taxis are also reasonably cheap and easy to flag down, but try to avoid rush hours between 8am and 9am, and 4.30pm and 6pm. The cost is Y11 for the first 3km and Y2.10 for each kilometre thereafter. From 11pm, there's a 10% surcharge.

## To/From the Airport

Always check your ticket to be sure which airport you're arriving at or departing from. Buses run from 7am to 11pm.

**Hongqiao Airport** (虹桥机场; Hóngqiáo Jīchǎng; ☎ 6268 8918) is 18km from the Bund; getting there takes about 30 minutes if you're lucky, or over an hour if you're not. You can take bus 925 from Renmin Sq to the airport. A CAAC bus (Y5) goes from the northeast corner of Central Yan'an Rd and North Shaanxi Rd in the French Concession. Both buses leave the airport from directly in front of the domestic departure hall. Taxis from the centre of town cost from Y50 to Y70, depending on the route taken, traffic conditions and the time of day. Hongqiao Airport is famous for its astonishing taxi queues; sometimes it takes around an hour to get in a taxi.

**Pudong International Airport** (浦东国际机场; Púdōng Guójī Jīchǎng; ☎ 3848 4500) is 30km southeast of the city. **Airport bus 1** (☎ 3848 4500; Y30) runs between Hongqiao and Pudong airports, bus 2 (Y19) runs from Pudong International Airport to the **Airport City Terminal** (机场城市航站楼; Jīchǎng Chéngshì Hángzhànlóu; 🚶 Jing'an Temple) near Jing'an Temple on West Nanjing Rd, and bus 5 (Y18) goes from the Pudong International Airport to the Shanghai train station via Pǔdōng. A taxi to Pudong International Airport from the city centre (one hour) costs around Y140.

The **Maglev train** (☎ 2890 7777) runs from the Pudong airport to its terminal near the Longyang Rd metro station (one way/return Y50/80). Trains from here run every 20 minutes from 8.30am to 5.30pm and hit warp speed at 430km/h.

### Boat

The Huangpu River offers some stirring views of the Bund and the riverfront activ-

ity. Most **tour boats** (黄浦江游览船; huángpǔjiāng yóulǎnchuán; ☎ 6374 4461; 219-239 East Second Zhongshan Rd; 中山东二路219-239号; 1hr cruise Y25-Y50, 3½hr cruise Y70-120) depart from the Bund's dock, near East Jinling Rd. Popular 30-minute **cruises** (Y40-70; 🕒 10am-8pm) depart hourly from the Pearl Dock in Lujiazui, Pǔdōng.

For an abbreviated boat tour, catch the **Bund-Pǔdōng ferry** (Y0.50, air-con Y2), which shuttles regularly across the Huangpu River.

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