



# Hangzhou

Prepare | Travel | Experience

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Hutong School

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## Introduction

Hangzhou is the capital of Zhejiang Province and is often referred to as the “city of innovation” or “China’s Silicon Valley”. As China’s tech hub, Hangzhou is home to the headquarters of popular e-commerce giant Alibaba alongside countless other cutting edge multinationals and start-ups. Besides e-commerce and technology, Hangzhou offers various opportunities in a wide range of industries including fashion, sports, education and international business. However, Hangzhou’s appeal does not only lie in its economic might; the city is also one of China’s most popular tourist destinations, boasting the famous West Lake, Lingyin Temple, Leifeng Pagoda, Xixi Wetlands National Park and countless other sites and attractions.

In this e-book we will cover everything from the beginning to the end of your Hutong School adventure. We will walk you through the pre-arrival stage, how to survive your first few days, how to get the most out of each week and what to do at the weekend. This includes, nightlife, cultural activities, weekend getaways and money-saving tips.



# Chapter 1: Before Your Arrival

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Coming to China requires a lot of preparation. Fortunately, our team will help you with all the paperwork. Once you have your visa, it's time to start packing and get ready for an amazing time in Hangzhou! Here are our tips on how to prepare for your adventure.

## What to pack?

### Toiletries and Medicine

Hangzhou is a large, international modern city so most foreigners can find all the toiletries and medicines that they need. Deodorants are not as common in China as in the West so if you prefer a specific brand, you may want to consider stocking up before coming to Hangzhou. Women should come prepared with all the feminine hygiene products that they will need during their stay.

If you require prescription medication or medicine that you feel may be harder to find in China, then it is best to bring enough to last your time here in Hangzhou.

### Clothes

Hangzhou generally has a mild climate and goes through four seasons. Summers are hot and very humid, Winters are cold and overcast, Spring is warm and Autumns are cool. Make sure you pack the right clothes for the season(s) in which you will be in Hangzhou. It's always worth having a small umbrella with you in case of sudden showers.

### Miscellaneous

Hangzhou is very picturesque so keen photographers will definitely want to bring a camera with enough batteries and SD cards to snap up every cool place they come across. Streaming junkies might want to consider bringing some TV shows and films with them on a hard drive as many popular streaming services are not available in China or are very slow. However, there are also some popular Chinese streaming sites with a decent selection of foreign TV and film.

### However

That being said the best advice is to pack light. Hangzhou has many great shopping centres and markets where almost anything can be found for a decent price. You may want to consider bringing only the essentials and then buying anything else you need once you get here. You'll have more space for presents, snacks and other souvenirs when you return home.



# What to Install?

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### VPN

We can't stress this enough, but subscribing to a VPN service before you arrive in China will save you a lot of trouble. Internet in China is heavily controlled and the country blocks every website with information that could be damaging to society. Several social media sites and many Google services as well as VPN websites that offer services to bypass this Great Firewall are not available in China. So if you want to send a Facebook message or tweet something to your friends and family to let them know you landed safely, get that VPN software installed ASAP!

**Great news!** Students from Hutong School are entitled to a 20% discount comprised of free days and a monetary discount from VP Alien:

- Subscription of 3 months: monetary discount + half month free
- Subscription of 6 months: monetary discount + 1 month free
- Subscription of one year: 2 months free





## Apps

Another thing you should do to get prepared before you arrive in the Middle Kingdom is installing some apps on your smart phone or tablet, especially if you have an Android device that uses Google Play Store. Here are some apps expats in Shanghai can't live without!

### Chinese Learning Apps

**Pleco:** one of the best smart phone dictionaries for Chinese. The dictionary is free, the feature to draw characters on your phone costs extra

**ChinesePod:** from newbie level to advanced, ChinesePod offers over 3500 podcasts and videos about all kinds of situations

**Google Translate:** now comes with an offline dictionary for Chinese, so you won't need VPN

**WayGo:** visual translator that reads Chinese characters and translates them into English

**MORE**  
magazines

## Food

**MoreHangzhou:** in this app you can find all the must-go places in Hangzhou, not only for food, but also bars, clubs and hang out places are listed here.

**DianPing:** this app is only in Chinese, so you'll need some grasp of Chinese characters

### Getting around in Hangzhou

**Apple Maps:** detailed and accurate app to find your way through the city

- **Google Maps:** another great option, but you will need VPN

**China Trains:** helps you plan your journey from A to B and shows the availability of tickets

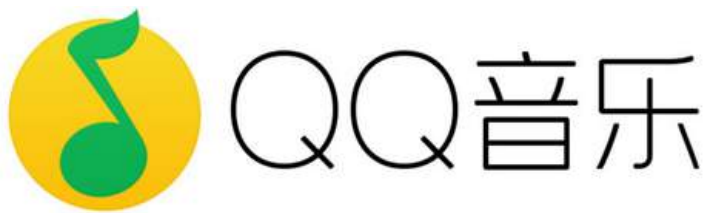
**Hangzhou Metro:** clean and easy-to-use app that brings you from one metro station to another

### Keeping in Touch

**WeChat:** one of the most important social media apps in China. When meeting someone new, simply scan their QR code with your phone and you have a new WeChat contact! WeChat will become your best friend in China as it can be used to pay for almost anything!



## Before Your Arrival



### Entertainment

**QQ Music & Netease Music:** Two popular Chinese music apps with a wide range of mostly free music, both Chinese and foreign. Great alternatives if your favourite music providing service back home doesn't work in China.

**Aiyiqi & Tencent Video:** These video streaming services are Chinese alternatives to Netflix and Amazon prime. Both feature a decent range of Western tv shows and films, although some foreign titles are partially censored.



### Other

**Alipay:** if you have a Chinese bank account, install this app, link it to your bank card, and you can pay basically anything with this app. Super useful when you're out of cash

**Taobao:** China's largest e-commerce platform. You'll find anything and everything here, from electronics and clothes to food and beverages. If you have access to a Chinese bank account and can speak some English, this app is a must

**Converter:** to convert units used in China to those used in your country

**Air Quality China:** to check the air pollution level. This app alerts you when the air quality is too bad, so you'll know when it's best to stay inside

# How to Survive Your First Week



## Chapter 2: How to Survive Your First Week



### Registration

After a long flight and taxi ride all you will want to do is go to your accommodation and relax. However, everyone arriving in China for anything other than travel must register at a police station. A member of staff from Hutong School will help you with registration, so don't make any plans for as soon as you arrive.

### Transportation Card

Next up, you will want to get a Hangzhou Public Transportation card. These can be bought at any subway station and let you pay for the subway and buses easily.

Alternatively, if you have a Chinese bank account you can use your contactless card or Alipay to pay for transportation fares.



### Sim Card

Next up, you will want to get yourself a sim card. China is mobile mad and if you look around any subway carriage you will see that everyone is on their phones listening to music, shopping. There are three carriers in China from who you can get a sim card and all offer relatively similar deals and packages: China Mobile, China Telecom and China Unicom. Most new users will need to pay a sim card deposit of 50-100 RMB.





## Dos & Dont's

### Do: Explore Chinese Cuisine

If you think that you know Chinese food then think again. Real Chinese cuisine is very different from what you find in Chinese restaurants abroad. Even if you consider yourself a dumpling and kung pao chicken connoisseur, you'll want to try out the full range of authentic cuisine that Hangzhou has to offer.



### Don't: Go crazy on the street food

While we know that it smells absolutely divine, it might be wise to stay off the street food for your first week and give your stomach time to adapt to the local Chinese cuisine. Even veterans of living in China sometimes struggle to handle the street food and it's always a risk ordering seafood skewers from a guy running a barbecue stand in the middle of the street. However, street food is still an exciting and important part of Chinese cuisine, so once you get used to the local food you should definitely give it a go!

While slightly less appealing than other types of street food in terms of smell, stinky tofu is still a must try Chinese delicacy and an experience in itself. You'll find this infamous fermented tofu dish at night markets, roadside stands or outside metro stations and is recognizable by its strong odor.

# How to Survive Your First Week

## Do: Watch out for the traffic

While Hangzhou is relatively orderly, many foreigners are still shocked by the driving. Don't expect traffic rules to always be obeyed like in Europe or the US. Cars will always take priority over pedestrians on the road so you should adapt to their driving behaviour and look both ways when crossing the street. Cars will often not stop at zebra crossings or for green lights, so always be wary of your surroundings. In China, cars in the right-hand lane can turn in regardless of whether the light is green or not, so watch out for this when crossing at a corner.

## Do: Memorize important Chinese characters

Try to memorize some basic characters that can help you in day-to-day life. This includes characters commonly found on restaurant menus. This will help you out big time in your first week eating out in China.

Chicken	jīròu	鸡肉
Beef	niúròu	牛肉
Pork	zhūròu	猪肉
Rice	mǐfàn	米饭
Fried rice	chǎofàn	炒饭
Seafood	hǎixiān	海鲜
Noodles	miàn	面
Vegetables	shūcài	蔬菜
Tofu	dòufǔ	豆腐

## Do: Get Lost

Whenever you have some free time, put on your walking shoes and try to explore your local area. You may find yourself coming across hidden gems such as a quiet park or your new favourite restaurant!

## Do: Get used to stares

Chinese people have no shame in staring at foreigners or taking pictures of them! Please do not be offended. This is quite normal and you will likely find yourself quickly getting used to it.





## Chapter 3: Get the Most Out of Your Week!

### Food

No matter where in Hangzhou you are staying, great food is just around the corner. Whether you want to sample one of China's many regional cuisines or are looking to dine on some home-comforts, Hangzhou has got you covered.



#### Chinese

**Green Tea:** Serving a huge range of Hangzhou food, this chain has several branches in Hangzhou, all with stylish yet comfortable interiors. Great for sharing dishes with a few friends. Expect to queue at peak hours.

**Address (West Lake Intime Mall branch):** West Lake Intime Mall L3, 98 Yanan nan Road

**Tarhar Silk Road:** Those looking to sample Xinjiang's unique cuisine need look no further than this chain. Be prepared for juicy lamb skewers, hearty naan bread and filling chicken and potato stew.

**Address (Lishui branch):** Yuangyangle Digang L4, 58 Lishui Road

**Beijing Lao Pu Roast Duck:** While you might not be in Beijing, there is no reason why you can't sample some Peking Duck. Make sure that you also try out the lotus leaf cake, Beijing-style sauced pork and fried chicken peppers.

**Address:** 63 Xintang Road



# Get the Most Out of Your Week



**Coucou Hot Pot** Combining flavours from across China rather than sticking to just one region, Coucou is perfect for feasting on tasty meat, fish and vegetables cooked in your favourite soup base.

**Address:** Longfor Paradise walk L7, 1515 Jiangnan Road



**Pancho's Mexican Restaurant** Those on the hunt for tasty Mexican food need to look no further than this popular joint. Satisfying burritos, cool guacamole, crunchy corn chips, spicy salsa; Panchos has it all.

**Address:** 376 Gudun Road

## Foreign

**Gatto Matto Pizza & Bar** Situated just a couple dozen metres from popular student hang-out Ellen's, Gatto Matto is the perfect place to enjoy an authentic pizza, shawarma or hummus before a night out.

**Address:** Booth 104, Huaxing Chuanye Mansion, Huanggushanheng Road

**Mango Thai:** This small chain serves a multitude of Thai and fusion dishes from lemongrass pork, breaded squid and pineapple rice, to caramelised banana and curry puffs.

**Address (Zhongda branch):** Zhongda Intime Mall L5, 822 Dongxin Road

**Wade's Bar and Grill** With two branches serving everything from salads, steaks, pizzas and tacos on top of a wide selection of imported beers, Wade's is a solid choice for anyone looking for a taste of home.

**Address (Wensan branch):** Room 105, 1/F, Building H, Dragon Vanke Center, 77 Xueyuan Road





## Useful Chinese Words and Phrases to Order Food

Here are some useful phrases to help you order food in a Chinese restaurant:

How many people?	Jǐgèrén?	几个人?
Are you ready to order?	Kěyǐ diǎn cài le ma?	可以点菜了吗?
Yes, we are ready to order.	Wǒmen yào diǎn cài.	我们要点菜。
I would like...	Wǒ yào...	我要...
I will have this.	Wǒ yào zhègè.	我要这个。
This is for me	Shì wǒde.	是我的。
Could I have the bill?	Qǐng gěi wǒ mǎidān.	请给我买单?
How much is it?	Duōshǎo qián?	多少钱?

If you are vegetarian or have other dietary restrictions, and you want to make it clear that you don't eat a specific ingredient, have a look at the following words and phrases:

I am vegetarian.	Wǒ chī sù	我吃素。
I don't eat meat.	Wǒ bù chī rèn hé ròu lèi	我不吃任何肉类。
I am Buddhist.	Wǒ shì fó jiào tú	我是佛教徒。
I cannot eat...	Wǒ bù néng chī...	我不能吃...

I do not eat fish, milk, cheese, butter, eggs, honey, chicken stock, meat broth, fish stock, fish sauce, or lard.

Wǒ bù chī yú, niú nǎi, nǎi lào, huáng yóu, jī dàn, fēng mì, jī tāng, ròu tāng, yú tāng, yú jiàng, zhū yóu.

我不吃鱼、牛奶、奶酪、黄油、鸡蛋、蜂蜜、鸡汤、肉汤、鱼汤、鱼酱、猪油

# Get the Most Out of Your Week

## Shopping

Expats in Hangzhou will be able to find whatever they are looking for, whether it be clothes, electronics, cosmetics, stationary or anything else. International brands such as H&M and ZARA can be found in high streets and malls across the city. Clothes markets are a great place to grab some bargains and perhaps even some fake designer brands.

Shoppers looking for something specific might want to try going to specialized shopping centres which only trade in one specific thing, such as glasses, shoes or computer parts. If your Chinese is good enough and you have a Chinese bank card, you can even try using one of China's popular e-commerce outlets, such as Taobao or Jingdong.

While Hangzhou doesn't have a single, large shopping area such as Nanjing Road in Shanghai, there are still a few large shopping areas that you might want to check out!

**Hefang Street** Located on the east side of the famous West Lake, this street is the perfect place to spend an evening. You can peruse a wide variety of souvenirs and trinkets while also sampling some of Hangzhou's best street food.

**Chengxi Intime Mall** One of several Intime Malls in Hangzhou. This huge shopping centre contains all your favourite luxury and international brands, in addition to great restaurants and cafes on the upper floors and in the basement.

**Address:** 380 Fengtan Road

**Hangzhou Sijiqing Clothes Market** This shopping area features several buildings selling cheap clothing. Try to get here early in the morning to find the best deals.

**Address:** 88 Hanghai Road

**Bainaohui Tech Centre** One of several 'computer cities' in Hangzhou. An absolute paradise for tech lovers, this is the ideal place to pick up laptops, accessories, headphones and electronic components.

**Address:** 23 Jiaogong Road





## Made in China

China is famous for its fake markets. There are several places around the city where you can bargain your way to a great deal on a pair of fake Nike trainers or a Chanel bag. Try the Sijiqing clothes market or one of many other great shopping areas and put your haggling skills to the test! If you are successful you should be able to get at least 30% of the original price, depending on what the item is.

### A few tips on bargaining

- Don't be rude. When you are not happy with the stated price smile and walk away. They will follow asking what you are willing to pay. From then on it should be easy to get your desired price. Remember to state the minimum price willing to pay and work your way up to reach a common ground.
  - Go with your friends and try to get a better deal when buying multiple items
- Chinese phrases that you can use:
- Zhège duōshǎoqián? (How much is this?)
  - Nǐ kěyǐ gěi wǒ piányì yìdiǎn ma? (Can you give me a discount?)
  - Tài guǐ le (This is too expensive)



# Get the Most Out of Your Week



## Culture



Famed for its beautiful natural scenery, Hangzhou its famous West Lake have been immortalized by countless poets and artists. At one point in history, Hangzhou was the largest city in the world and Marco Polo even claimed to have passed through, calling it beyond dispute the finest and the noblest (city) in the world. The West Lake has been listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since 2011 and the various sites and areas around it are worth several days of sight seeing on their own.



**Broken Bridge** One of the most popular sites on the West Lake. While packed during holidays, the bridge still offers an excellent place from which to view the lake.

**Lingyin Temple** This large temple complex is located a short bus ride west of the West Lake. There are countless courtyards, halls and gardens to explore and the surrounding area is worth the trip.

**Baopu Taoist Temple** The only Taoist Temple in Hangzhou. Located on Ge Hill, north of the West Lake, you can spend an entire day exploring the various temples, gardens and monuments scattered throughout this urban oasis.

**Leifeng Pagoda** Situated at the southeast corner of the lake, on clear days this pagoda offers excellent views of the West Lake and central Hangzhou.

**Longjing Tea Fields** These fields just South of the West Lake make a great day trip in Spring when everyone is out in the fields picking tea leaves. This is also the ideal place to pick up some tea as a souvenir. Some sellers will let you pick your own tea leaves and the packaged it for you in a sealed bag and tin.

**Xixi Wetlands Park** This wetlands park located in Western Hangzhou offers visitors quiet respite from the bustling city. Expect to see untouched marshlands and colourful birds.



## Entertainment

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In addition to the long list of great sights and attractions in Hangzhou, there are plenty of other ways to have fun with the friends you will make here.

### KTV

By far the most popular of entertainment in China. Karaoke bars can be found on almost any major road throughout Hangzhou. Unlike karaoke bars back in the West, in Chinese KTVs you will have your own private room in which to relax with your friends. Even the most inexperienced singers will find something that takes their fancy, as most KTVs offer a wide selection of Mandarin, Cantonese and Western songs.

### Cinemas

There are countless cinemas in Hangzhou, all of which show a mixture of both Chinese and foreign films. These are a great place to escape the rain or relax after a hard day in class or on the job. Most shopping centres have a large cinema on their top floor. The majority of films are shown with both Chinese and English subtitles. If you have access to a Chinese bank card, consider booking cinema tickets with an app such as Wechat or Baidu as you could save around 40%.



# Get the Most Out of Your Week

## Escape Rooms

These challenge rooms have become a phenomenon in China over the past few years. They vary in complexity and quality, but many offer impressive themed rooms and puzzles. Some puzzles may involve the use of Mandarin so consider bringing a friend who can at least speak a few words.

## Hiking

Hangzhou is easily one of the best cities in China for hiking. There are numerous hills around the West Lake and quieter suburbs of the city are only an hour away by public transport. You can easily find well-marked walking routes around any of the temples, pagodas or other attractions around Hangzhou.

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## Chapter 4: Weekend Guide

You've toiled away the whole week and now the weekend is here. It's time to let off some steam. Hangzhou is teeming with things to do at the weekend. From the countless temples, pagodas and gardens that surround the West Lake to the packed clubs and bars round Huanglong Stadium, Hangzhou has something to suit everyone's taste. If you need a break from Hangzhou, Shanghai, Suzhou, Nanjing and a host of other cities and sights make a great weekend trip.



## Nightlife

Hangzhou has a sizeable expat community and several university campuses with large numbers of international students so a great nightlife scene has developed to cater to both foreigners and locals. Whether you are looking for intimate bars, great live music venues or packed dance clubs, Hangzhou has got you covered. The most popular bars and clubs can be found North of the West Lake, near the Yuquan and Xixi Campuses.



## Drinking

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**Peer's Bar** This intimate bar rightfully refers to itself as “beer heaven”. They sell over 300 types of cold Chinese and foreign beer at affordable prices. The bar operates like a supermarket; pick up a basket, choose whatever you want from the refrigerators and pay at the bar. Address: 2 North Baochu Road

**College Bar** EPL, NFL, NBA, NBL, F1, no matter what your sport is, College Bar is the place to watch it. Comprising of three spacious floors in a beautiful building, expats will also be happy to find many of their favourite Western drafts on tap. Address: (Yugu Road) 3 Lanjia Wan

**Mojito** With two branches in Hangzhou, Mojito is one of the most popular student hangouts. Many a late night has started at either the Zijingang or Yuquan branches. Look out for great deals on meals and drinks on different nights! Address (Yuquan Campus branch): 5 Lanjiawan

## Tip

Party animals will want to get into Nightlife-related social media groups to keep up with all the latest events. Expect open mic nights, touring bands, themed nights and much more. Hangzhou's nightlife has also started to achieve more worldwide acclaim, so don't be surprised to see top foreign DJs and performers gracing some of Hangzhou's higher-end clubs.



# Dancing

**Libre** One of several bars and clubs near Huanglong Stadium, Libre is noted for its great music (Hiphop/R&B on Fridays, Latin on Saturdays), affordable bar and swimming pool! A great venue for relaxing on balmy summer days. Address: 168 Yugu Road

**Club Queen** Where Hangzhou's well-heeled crowd come to flash their cash. A huge, Chinese-style club complete with thundering bass, special acts throughout the evening and tables of affluent clients. Address: 2 Baochu Road

**Basement** This dimly-lit joint is now a staple of Hangzhou's nightlife scene. What starts off as a relaxed bar turns into a packed dance floor as the lights go down and one of Basement's excellent DJs take the reins. Address: 23 Jiaogong Road



**Carbon** Carbon offers the best get-togethers for Hangzhou's Latin lovers: 'Salsa Fridays' with free classes from 8-10pm, 'Barrio de Tango' on Sunday afternoons and more events. Nice extra: Carbon comes with a roof terrace, good drinks and food. Address: Nanshan road, Jiebai Xin Yuanhua 2F



## Weekend Getaways



Hangzhou is ideally located in one of the most economically and culturally important parts of China, so amazing weekend and day trips are rarely more than a couple hours away by coach or train. Here are just a few of the great places worth visiting while you are in Hangzhou.

### Shanghai

**What to see:** There are entire travel guides dedicated to Shanghai, so it is impossible to do the city justice in just one paragraph. Shanghai is a must-see city for anyone who has not been; the Bund, Nanjing Road and the Pearl Oriental Tower are all icons of this astonishing metropolis. Expect great international food, amazing nightlife and fascinating museums and galleries.

**How to get there:** Take a train from Hangzhou East Station. High-speed trains take approximately 55 mins.

### Suzhou

**What to see:** As a UNESCO-listed heritage site, Suzhou is often dubbed the Venice of the East due to its numerous canals. Many hours can be spent exploring its world-famous gardens and pagodas. **How to get there:** Take a train from Hangzhou East Railway station (1.5 hours).





# Weekend Guide



## Wuzhen

**What to see:** Located on the banks of the Grand Canal, Wuzhen is one of several famous water towns in Eastern China. What makes it special is its curious mix of narrow lanes, traditional shops and quaint bridges. It is well worth enjoying a boat ride along one of many canals. You can actually stay in Wuzhen if you want to and enjoy the town's traditional charm at night. **How to get there:** Take a coach from Hangzhou Jiubao Bus station (35 cny, 80 minutes)



## Mount Huangshan

**What to see:** This UNESCO World Heritage listed area is one of China's top scenic attractions. Its landscape consists of impressive peaks dotted with pine trees. The amazing scenery has been the source of inspiration for many Chinese painters through the ages. Those with more time on their hands might want to consider a trip to Hongcun. This picturesque village is just one hours' drive from the mountains and you will recognize it as the setting from the movie Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon. An afternoon walk through this small village (which is also listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site) will give you a taste of ancient China. Public transport is scarce in this area so you may want to consider taking a taxi. **How to get there:** Buses to Huangshan leave from Hangzhou West Bus Station and take approximately 3 hours. You will need to take a bus or cab from the bus station to the gates of the Mount Huangshan Scenic Area. Alternatively, there are also some buses that leave go from Hangzhou West Bus Station straight to the Scenic Area and take around 5 hours.

# Hangzhou on a Budget

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While Hangzhou may be a large, developed modern city, it is still possible to enjoy yourself on a budget and get by on less than 100 RMB per day. Here are some tips for keeping cost down during your stay here in Hangzhou.

## Tip 1: Use public transport

While taxis in Hangzhou are far cheaper than in the West, public transport will get you to almost any attraction in the city for next to nothing. As of the time of writing, most buses cost 3 RMB or less, no matter the distance and subway journeys cost a maximum of 10 RMB. Prefer to see more whilst commuting? Try the shared bicycles for only 1-2 CNY per ride! (Ofo/Mobike)



## Tip 2: Use your student card

Although many attractions only accept student cards from Chinese universities, it's always worth showing your card from back home to see if you can get a discount on your entrance ticket. Many sites offer up to half-price for students!

## Tip 3: Get to know promoters

You may have heard that foreigners in China can get in to clubs for free and even get drinks on the house. This is often true, so party animals will want to try to meet promoters either at clubs or through social media groups and enquire as to what is available. Don't expect to get many freebies on a Friday or Saturday but the rest of the week is fair game as clubs struggle to fill the house.

## Tip 4: Eat local food

Chinese food is fresh and comes in all flavors and ways: spicy, salty, sweet, boiled, fried - you can find it all! Besides the fact Chinese food bursts of flavor, another huge advantage is that it is relatively cheap - you can have a tasty meal for just 15 cny easily. So, if you have to control your spendings a bit, choose to fit in a local Chinese meal more often rather than indulging on expensive salads and burgers from that Western place around the corner.





# Secret Hangzhou

Hangzhou is one of the most popular tourist destinations in China and its most famous attractions are generally bustling. However, during holidays and on weekends with nice weather some sites can be far too crowded so here are some lesser-known places that you might want to check out.



### Xianghu Lake

West Lake's little sister Xianghu is located in the South of Hangzhou. Being less touristic but at least as beautiful as West Lake, it's the perfect place to enjoy the gorgeous lake scenery. Tip: bring a picnic plaid and enjoy a nice and quiet day outside with friends!

### Hangzhou Banshan National Forest Park

This vast woodland and mountain area is located North of Hangzhou's centre and is off the radar for most tourists coming to Hangzhou. Its peaks offer solid views of Hangzhou's outskirts to the South and industrial complexes to the North. Quiet streams and small gardens dot the periphery of the park.

### Tianducheng

Situated in the northeast suburb of Yuhang, Tianducheng is a unique amusement park that has to be seen to be believed. One of China's fake European cities, Tianducheng boasts Western-style streets, parks, shops and even its own mini Eiffel Tower.

### Yuquanci

The West Lake is without a doubt one of the most crowded areas in Hangzhou during holidays. Those looking for a quieter retreat in this part of town may want to consider exploring this temple and its surrounding woodlands and gardens.





# CONCLUSION

## GO EXPLORE CHINA!

### What is next?

If you haven't already, make sure to subscribe to our Hutong School Newsletter. You'll get insider tips on learning Chinese, and more free resources, insights and articles than you can shake a stick



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