

NANJING OFFERS A TRIP THROUGH CHINESE HISTORY

New York, NY (November 16, 2020) – As one of China's most historically significant cities, Nanjing offers visitors the chance to follow in the footsteps of some of the country's most revered leaders, travel through time to past dynasties, and become immersed in ancient Buddhist traditions. Wnderlusters dreaming of their next international trip should consider Nanjing for a deep and fascinating dive into the history of China. Here are the top five experiences that are essential for the ultimate jaunt through history in Nanjing.

1. Purple Mountain

One of China's most famous mountains, Purple Mountain is not only a beautiful location to spend the day outside in nature, it offers significant cultural sites at every turn. Purple Mountain covers 12 square miles which includes 15 historical and cultural relics and one UNESCO World Heritage Site – the **Xiaoling Mausoleum of the Ming Dynasty**. The first emperor and empress of the Ming Dynasty were buried in this elegant mausoleum in 1398, and its high-level of architecture and stone carvings influenced the design of imperial mausoleums for hundreds of years.

Visitors seeking the most impressive vantage point on Purple Mountain, along with a serious cardio workout, should head to the mausoleum of **Dr. Sun Yat-sen**. Commonly known as the father of the Republic of China, Dr. Sun Yat-sen is interned in an imposing structure that can only be reached by scaling 392 stairs. Don't worry, the views are worth every step.

2. Nanjing City Wall

Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang, the founder of the Ming Dynasty, ordered the building of this historic landmark to protect Nanjing from invaders during its time as the capital from 1368 to 1421. The original **Nanjing City Wall** was nearly 22 miles long and was considered to be one of the longest city walls in the world. Today, approximately 15.5 miles are still intact, and visitors can take a stroll through time around the base of the wall, on the wall itself, or even in a "hidden" café built right into the wall itself.

3. Confucius Temple

Nanjing's **Confucius Temple** was first built on the banks of the Qinhuai River in 1034 during the Song Dynasty. The temple was eventually renovated, only to be destroyed in 1937 during World War II. In 1984, the Chinese government re-constructed and

expanded the temple complex in the architectural style of the Ming and Qing dynasties. Notable attractions on its grounds include the Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall; Dacheng Hall, which features the largest figure of Confucius in China and a collection of 38 panels made with jade, gold and silver that detail his life; and the former residences of Wang Xie and Li Xiangjun which provide a look into the lives of several of Nanjing's significant historical figures. The temple grounds are the ideal spot for experiencing Nanjing after dark in its many shops and restaurants.

4. Porcelain Tower Heritage Park

Originally considered one of the Seven Medieval Wonders of the World, Nanjing's **Porcelain Tower** was destroyed by rebels in the 19th century. Luckily for travelers, the structure was reintroduced as part of a futuristic Buddhist-themed museum that opened in 2015. It is a great location to take part in a tea ceremony or learn how to craft incense.

5. Nanjing Museum

Nanjing Museum is one of the first museums to be established in China, and it is also one of the largest. Visitors can discover everything from ancient civilizations to the early days of the Republic of China in exhibitions, displays, and performances. The museum boasts one of the world's most extensive collections of imperial porcelain from the Ming and Qing Dynasties, and it is also known for its full size suit of armor made from small jade tiles that dates back to the second century Eastern Han Dynasty.

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About Nanjing

Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu Province, is situated in the Yangtze River Delta area 190 miles northwest of Shanghai. Recognized as one of the four great ancient capitals of China, Nanjing has served as the capital city of 10 Chinese dynasties and regimes for a total of more than 1,800 years. A sophisticated metropolis and a modern center of history, education, and culture, Nanjing is home to some of the country's most significant historical attractions such as the Xiaoling Tomb of the Ming Dynasty, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Mausoleum; The Presidential Palace; and a City Wall that dates back more than 600 years. Popular attractions also include China's oldest public library and one of the country's first museums, the Nanjing Museum.

Nanjing is accessible by Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG). Three train stations — Nanjing Railway Station, Nanjing South Railway Station, and Nanjing West Railway Station — connect Nanjing to all of China's major cities, including Shanghai, which is a 90-minute ride via bullet train or three hours by car. For more information on Nanjing, visit www.GoToNanjing.com, or follow the destination on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube @GoToNanjing.

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