



Nanjing's Architecture Honors Its History While Embracing The Future

With a delightful mix of old and new, China's Ancient southern capital awaits design buffs

New York, NY (February 23, 2017) – As one of China's four great ancient capitals, Nanjing is home to a wealth of history, much of which is illustrated through a number of well-preserved architectural sites. As the city has modernized to become a hub for education and the arts, a new wave of creatives and visionaries have ushered in an era of innovative building and design. In Nanjing, the old and new stand consciously side-by-side, offering an intriguing experience for visitors. Travelers interested in exploring the city's architectural highlights should not miss the following sites:

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 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, with six sections open to the public. Zhonghua Gate is one of the best preserved and most intricate fortifications in the world. The ruins of three grand castles are located inside the gate, which serves as the main entrance to the wall. Visitors can learn about the wall's history at this location, then climb ancient bricks to the top of a platform for impressive views of the Qinhuai River to the south and Nanjing's bustling downtown to the north.

Location: Lanqi Street, Qinhuai
Hours: Summer, 8AM – 6PM; Spring, Autumn and Winter, 8:30AM-5PM
Admission: Zhonghua Gate, CNY 35 (USD \$5.50)

Porcelain Tower Heritage Park

The Porcelain Tower, also known as the Grand Bao'en Temple, was a magnificent pagoda built in 1412 during the Ming Dynasty. It was known as one of the Seven Medieval Wonders of the World before it was destroyed during the Taiping Rebellion in the 19th century. In 2007, archeologists began excavating the tower's ruins, unearthing a number of holy relics. The Porcelain Tower Heritage Park was conceived as a venue to protect these sacred artifacts. While the original tower was erected with white porcelain bricks, steel beams were used for its modern reconstruction which was completed in late 2015. Like the original, the reimagined tower has nine stories with viewing platforms that show the city's many layers of history from various vantage points. On the surrounding grounds, a futuristic, Buddhist-themed museum completes the Heritage Park.

Location: No.1, Yu Hua Road, Outside Zhong Hua Gate, Qin Huai District, Nanjing.
Hours: 9AM–5PM Daily
Admission: CNY 120 (USD \$18)

Nanjing Niushoushan Cultural Park

Nanjing Niushoushan Cultural Park, which opened in late 2015, was established to collectively exhibit and preserve the cultural treasures of Niushou Mountain – a centuries-old sacred Buddhist site in southern Nanjing. The park consists of an opulent and meticulously detailed Buddhist palace built into the side of the mountain which spans six floors underground; the Tang-style Usnisa Pagoda nestled in the trees; and Usnisa Temple, a hillside monastery complex made up of two sections - a southern district with monks' living and dining quarters and a northern district for prayer and worship. The temple has seven distinct halls, including a meditation hall for up to 300 people.

Location: Jiangning District
Hours: 9AM-5PM daily
Admission: 160 CNY (USD \$23.95)

Sifang Art Museum

Opened in 2013, the Sifang Art Museum allows visitors to experience the very best of contemporary architecture, design, and art in a lush forest setting. Designed by New York architect Steven Holl, the Sifang Art Museum was launched by real-estate developer Lu Jun in response to China's rapid urbanization. Compelling permanent architecture and rotating curated exhibits are designed to promote public appreciation for contemporary art and architecture in Nanjing. The park's futuristic centerpiece is a suspended gallery created by Holl, which displays a fine art collection.

Location: No.9 Zhenqi Road Pukou District
Hours: Wednesday – Sunday, 10AM – 5PM. Guided tours are available Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2PM-5PM for groups of 10 people or more. Reservations are required and must be made at least one week in advance.
Admission: General admission: 50 CNY (USD \$7.80). Exterior tour: 30 CNY (USD \$4.50). Sifang Art Museum exhibition including interior of Sifang Art Museum and a tour around Sifang Collective exterior 40 CNY. VIP tour: 100 CNY (USD \$15.20)

Nanjing Green Towers Vertical Forest

Slated to open in 2018 in Nanjing's Pukou District, Nanjing Green Towers will be the first vertical forest built in Asia. The two towers are the mastermind of Stefano Boeri Architects and are characterized by alternating levels of live greenery and balconies. Along the buildings' facades, 600 tall trees, 500 medium-sized trees, and 2,500 cascading plants and shrubs will cover an area of more than 64,000 square feet. The tallest tower will be home to 27 floors of offices, a museum, a private club, and a green architecture school. The second tower will feature a 247-room Hyatt hotel with a rooftop swimming pool, along with shopping, dining, and exhibition space on the lower levels.

For additional information on all there is to do in Nanjing, visit www.GoToNanjing.com.

High resolution images can be downloaded [here](#).

About Nanjing

Nanjing is the capital of Jiangsu province in eastern China, 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, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Mausoleum, The Presidential Palace,

and a City Wall, which 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) with daily flights from North America. 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 Beijing, which is a 3.5-hour ride via bullet train. Travelers coming from Shanghai can reach Nanjing in approximately 90 minutes by bullet train or three hours by car.

For more information on Nanjing, visit www.GoToNanjing.com.

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