



Nanjing Fact Sheet

- Location:** Nanjing, the capital of China's Jiangsu province, is located in the Yangtze River Delta area, in the center of eastern China, encompassing approximately 2,548 square miles. On the eastern side of the city lies Purple Mountain Scenic Area where many of the city's historical sites can be found. Nanjing is 190 miles northwest of Shanghai, and 750 miles southeast of Beijing.
- Population:** Approximately 8.5 million (as of 2019)
- Climate:** Nanjing has a subtropical climate with four distinct seasons.
- Spring** (March – May) is characterized by moderate temperatures averaging around 15° Celsius / 59° Fahrenheit. There is minimal rainfall during these months and low humidity. Spring is one of the best times to visit Nanjing since the city's parks and greener areas will be bursting with colorful flora in bloom.
- Summer** (June - August,) brings average temperatures in the high 20s to low 30°s Celsius / 80°s Fahrenheit. Though these can be Nanjing's rainiest months, there is still plenty to do.
- Autumn** (September – November) is arguably one of the most beautiful times to visit Nanjing. As the temperatures begin to cool down, the city's abundant trees trade their green leaves for shades of amber, gold and auburn. The average temperature is between 18 and 20° Celsius / 64 – 68° Fahrenheit, though temperatures begin to fall significantly by late November.
- In **Winter** (December – February,) temperatures are usually 5 degrees Celsius / 41 degrees Fahrenheit or colder and can sometimes dip below freezing with occasional snowfall. Though the air can be chilly, a thin blanket of white snow adds charm to the city.
- Getting To Nanjing:** Nanjing is accessible by Nanjing Lukou International Airport, located approximately 40 miles from the city center. Three train stations - Nanjing Railway Station, Nanjing South Railway Station and Nanjing West Railway Station - connect Nanjing to all of China's major cities. Travelers can reach Nanjing from Shanghai in approximately 90 minutes by bullet train or three hours by car. Beijing is three and a half hours away via bullet train.

Traveling within Nanjing:	Two subway lines with clean, modern trains operate more than 50 stations throughout Nanjing, priced at less than US\$1 per ride. It is generally easy to find a taxi downtown, but it is advisable to avoid rush hour traffic (6:30AM–8AM; 5PM-7PM). Unlike taxis in U.S. cities, drivers available for hire light their taxi lamps red, while green means the taxi is not available.
Local Currency:	Chinese Yuan (CNY or RMB). Major U.S. credit cards are accepted at hotels, large stores, and hotels. It is recommended to carry cash for local shops.
Visas:	A valid passport and a Chinese visa is required for travelers visiting from the United States and Canada.
Time Zone:	China Standard Time (UTC+8:00)
Language:	Spoken: Nanjing dialect or Nanjing Mandarin Written: Mandarin Chinese
History:	Nanjing, one of China’s most significant cities, is recognized as one of China’s four great ancient capitals along with Beijing, Xi’an, and Luoyang. Nanjing’s history begins in ancient times, as long ago as 500,000 years, as evidenced by the excavation of a pre-historical skull in a cave on the outskirts of the city. Due to its strategic location along the Yangtze River and at the halfway mark on China’s coastline, Nanjing served as the capital of 10 Chinese dynasties and regimes over 1,800 years, notably the Ming Dynasty (1368 - 1421) and The Republic of China (1927 - 1937 and 1945 – 1949). <i>For a comprehensive timeline of Nanjing’s history, please see the history fact sheet.</i>
Culture:	Nanjing is the cultural and educational hub of China. It is home to 59 universities and top cultural and research institutions including the Nanjing Museum and the Nanjing Library. The contemporary arts scene is widely respected, as are its distinctive folk arts such as Nanjing Cloud Brocade. Overall, life in Nanjing is much slower and more relaxed than in larger cities such as Beijing or Shanghai. Parks can be found across the city where locals enjoy leisurely strolling and picnicking, including the popular and centrally-located Xuanwu Lake.
Cuisine:	Food in Nanjing is an offshoot of Huaiyang Cuisine, one of the four traditional Chinese cuisines. Dishes focus on seasonality and emphasize the balance of taste with color. Nanjing is known for its duck and is the original birthplace of what would become Peking Duck. Duck Blood Soup with fried tofu and vermicelli is a local staple, as is the popular Nanjing Salted Duck. Because of the city’s proximity to the water, many dishes also incorporate river fish, shrimp and other crustaceans. Tangbao (soup buns), Pidu Noodles and Hairy Crab are other specialties commonly served up in Nanjing.

- Accommodations:** More than 100 hotels are spread across Nanjing, offering visitors a wide variety options from budget to luxury with a combination of local and international brands such as Marriott, Fairmont, Shangri-La, Hilton, Sofitel, Renaissance, and Westin.
- Major Attractions:** History buffs can visit an array of sites that tell the story of Nanjing’s role throughout time – from the Ming Xiaoling Mausoleum at the foot of Purple Mountain to the Presidential Palace of the Republic of China. At Niushoushan Cultural Park, the cultural treasures of Niushou Mountain – a centuries-old sacred Buddhist site containing historic monasteries, pagodas, and relics of the Ming Dynasty – are on display. ***For comprehensive details on top attractions, please see the top attractions fact sheet.***
- Nightlife:** Nanjing has plenty of stylish dining and nightlife options centered around the Confucius Temple area and on the banks of the Qinhuai River. The 1912 Blocks near the Presidential Palace also offer a variety of bars, pubs, tea houses, and nightclubs.
- Special Events & Festivals:** Nanjing is home to a number of noteworthy festivals such as the International Plum Blossom Festival, which attracts thousands of visitors each spring; The Lantern Festival which lights up the Confucius Temple area on the fifteenth day of the first lunar month (February or March); The Dragon Boat Festival in June; and the Hairy Crab Festival held in Gaochun District each September.

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

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