

departments and the export certificate. The cultural relics that have not been appraised shall not be taken out of the Chinese territory. Passengers who carry cultural relics out of the country without declaring them to the customs will be punished according to related laws and regulations.

★ Raw and Prepared Traditional Chinese Medicines

For a tourist bound for foreign countries, the limit to raw and prepared traditional Chinese medicines is 300 yuan; and for a tourist to Hong Kong and Macao, 150 yuan. To mail to foreign countries, the limit is 200 yuan; to Hong Kong and Macao, 100 yuan. Outbound tourists carrying a reasonable amount of raw and prepared Chinese medicines for personal use, that were bought with foreign currency, can pass through customs by showing the relevant invoices and foreign exchange receipts. Musk, as well as raw and prepared traditional Chinese medicines exceeding the customs limit, shall not be allowed to leave China.

★ Tourist Commodities

There are no restrictions on tourist souvenirs and handicraft articles purchased in China with foreign currency, except for any possible duty or export permits that be required. Customs will also check the invoice and foreign exchange receipts.

Quarantine Service

Inbound and outbound passengers must accept health quarantine inspections by frontier

quarantine services if so requested.

Those carrying such objects as microorganisms, tissues from the human body, biological products, blood, or blood products must declare to the health quarantine organ, and clearance shall be given upon quarantine inspections. If the luggage and goods that are carried about or consigned for shipment may spread infectious diseases, they should be subject to the health examination. Various foods, beverages and aquatic products from the epidemic areas, or those that probably have been polluted by infectious diseases shall go through sanitary treatment or be destroyed.

Persons from the area infested with yellow fever must present the valid certificates of inoculation against yellow fever to the quarantine departments when entering China. Any person not having such certificates shall be detained for observation until the sixth day after leaving the infested area, or such person may be inoculated and detained until the time when the inoculation is deemed effective.

Health quarantine services are obliged by law to prevent any foreigner suffering from AIDS, sexual diseases, leprosy, mental diseases and active tuberculosis from entering China.

Animal and Plant Quarantine

The following articles are forbidden to be brought into China:

★ animal and plant pathogens (including bacterial and venomous vaccines), pests and other injurious organisms;

★ animals and plants, their



China's railway

China's Customs

products, and other quarantinable objects from the countries and regions infested by infectious diseases;

- ★ animal carcasses; and
- ★ soil.

Persons intending to bring animals, plants, and related products or other quarantinable objects into China must submit application forms to the customs, and they should be examined by the frontier quarantine department. Those who bring

animals into China must present quarantine and other certificates issued by the country (or region) of origin.

As for the passengers to China accompanied by their pets, each passenger is allowed to take a dog or a cat. Those who come to China with their dogs or cats must show the quarantine certificates and the hydrophobia immunity certificates issued by the official quarantine organs of the export countries (or regions).

## Practical Information

### Chinese Currency

The Chinese currency is called Renminbi, issued by the Central Bank - the People's Bank of China. The unit of Renminbi is yuan; and the subsidiary unit is jiao and fen. One yuan can be divided into 10 jiao. There are paper banknotes and coins for yuan and jiao. There are denominations of coins: one yuan, five jiao and one jiao. The denominations of paper banknotes of yuan include: one yuan, two yuan, five yuan, 10 yuan, 20 yuan,

50 yuan and 100 yuan, in addition to the paper banknotes of jiao: one jiao, two jiao and five jiao. The abbreviation for the Renminbi is RMB¥.

### Currency Conversion

To provide convenience to tourists from



foreign countries, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan to consume in the Chinese mainland, the Bank of China and other designated banks can convert foreign travelers' checks, foreign credit cards, and 22 types of foreign currencies and New Taiwan dollars into RMB.

In addition, tourists to China can also convert foreign currencies into RMB at some hotels, restaurants and shops. Before leaving China, they can change any leftover Chinese money back into their own currencies on the strength of the exchange receipts within the six months.

The following currencies can be converted into RMB: US dollar, British pound, European euro, Japanese yen, Australian dollar, Canadian dollar, Hong Kong dollar, Swedish krona, Norwegian krone, Singapore dollar, Malaysian ringgit, Macao pataca, etc.

#### Credit Cards

At present, the following foreign credit cards are accepted in China: MasterCard, Visa Card, American Express Card, JCB Card and Diners Card.

Holders of these cards can draw cash from the Bank of China or use the cards for payment in shops, hotels and restaurants designated by the Bank of China.

#### Traveler's Check

For the convenience of tourists, the Bank of China can cash travelers' checks sold by international commercial banks



and travelers' check companies in the United States, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Britain, France, Switzerland, Germany and other countries and regions. Also the Bank of China sells travelers' checks of such banks as the American Express Company, the First National City Bank, and the Swiss Bank Corporation.

#### Medical Service

To protect the rights and interests of foreign tourists, the Chinese government has worked out some management procedures on the collection of medical fees from foreign tourists, and set up special medical centers with good conditions and environment for foreigners in all large cities.

#### Communication

In general, hotels in China have IDD telephones for guests to make phone calls to other countries as well as to Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. The four- and five-star hotels are equipped with the Broadband Internet Access, the phonetic message system and the video system, offering convenient and



China's aviation

China's water transport

quick telecommunication services.

#### Time Zones, Time Differences and Work Schedule

China uses "Beijing time" as the standard time for the entire nation, which is the time of the Eighth Eastern Time Zone designated according to the time zone division system adopted at

the 1884 International Longitude Meeting. Beijing time is eight hours earlier than Greenwich Mean Time.

The Chinese people work five days a week, from Monday to Friday. The work schedule for government organs is from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with one hour for lunch at noon.

## Tourism Information

#### Air Transportation

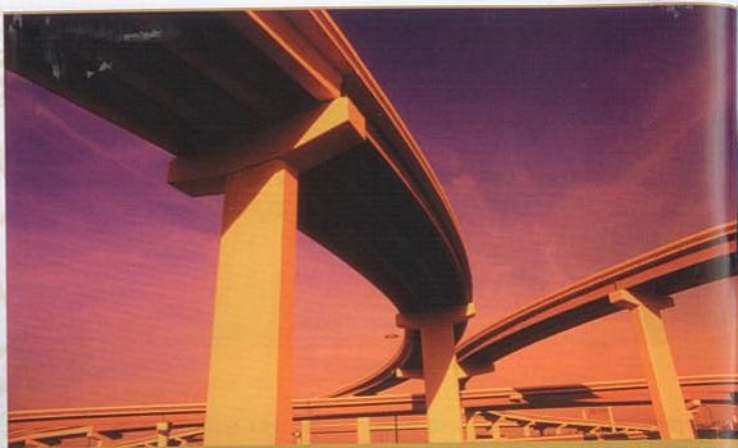
At present, China has opened over 1,177 air routes to other parts of the country not including 45 ones to Hong Kong and Macao, and more than 200 international air routes. Domestic air routes are mainly distributed in the areas east of the Harbin-Beijing-Xi'an-Chengdu-Kunming line, with Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou as the hubs, linking all large and medium-sized cities in China, totaling 140 cities. The international air routes take Beijing as the center, and radiate to the east, west and south through the airports in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Urumqi, Dalian, Kunming and

Xiamen. Scheduled planes fly from China to Japan, North America, Middle East, Europe, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia and other countries and regions regularly.

The information website of the CAAC: [www.airnews.cn](http://www.airnews.cn)

#### Railway Transportation

Railways in China have developed rapidly and many new domestic and international lines have been opened. International trains go from China to Ulan Bator, Moscow, Pyongyang, Hanoi and other cities regularly. There are several kinds of trains for domestic rails: CRH train (with a code of D), direct express train (Z), Extra



China's highway

express train (T), express train (K), air-conditioned train (N), tour train (Y) and temporary train (L). The trains in China have two soft upper berths and two soft lower berths in each private room.

For the convenience of tourists, all the major cities in China have express trains, which leave in the evening and arrive in the morning; and tourist trains go to all the main tourist cities regularly. In 2007, China has put into use more than 200 pairs of CRH trains with their speed reaching more than 200 kilometers.

The website of the Chinese railways:

[www.chinamor.cn.net](http://www.chinamor.cn.net)

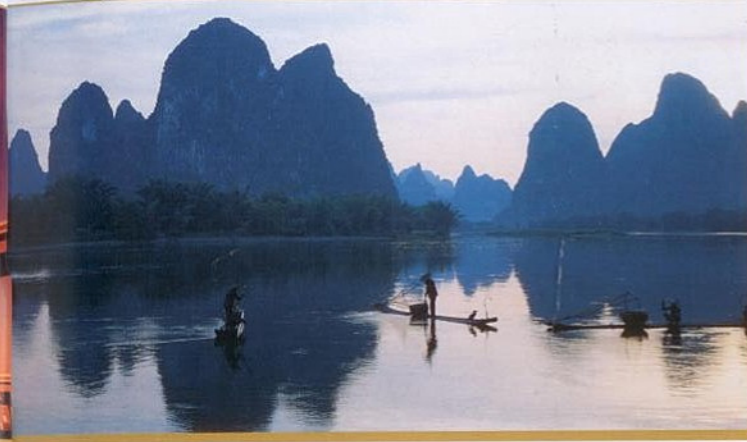
#### Highway Transportation

China has advanced highway networks, which radiate to all directions with Beijing, Shanghai and Guangdong as the centers. Now China is sparing no effort to develop expressways and the first- and second-class highways. The work has made great achievements in many tourist cities up to now,

providing great convenience for tourists. The main highways include Shenyang-Dalian, Beijing-Tanggu, Beijing-Shijiazhuang, Nanjing-Shanghai, Shanghai-Hangzhou, Hangzhou-Ningbo, Xi'an-Lintong, Xi'an-Baoji, Guiyang-Huangguoshu, Yichang-Huangshi, Jinan-Qingdao, Guangzhou-Shenzhen, Guangzhou-Foshan, Guangzhou-Shantou, Chengdu-Chongqing, Fujian-Xiamen, Round Hainan Island, Guilin-Liuzhou and Luoyang-Kaifeng highways.

#### Water Transportation

With a vast sea area, China borders the Bohai, Yellow and East China seas in the east, and the South China Sea in the south. Along the undulating coastlines there are Shanghai, Tianjin Xingang, Guangzhou Huangpu, Yantai, Qingdao, Qinhuangdao, Dalian, Beihai and Hong Kong ports. These ports are vast and deep, with beautiful surroundings, making them a popular sightseeing destination in China.



Scenic Lijiang River

#### ★ International Sea Routes

China has many international port cities, where ships can go to the port cities of other countries. Regular ships go from Shanghai, Tianjin and Dalian to Kobe, Osaka, Yokohama and Inchon. Many luxury ships go back and forth along these international sea routes.

#### ★ Domestic Sea Routes

Domestic sea navigation routes connect a variety of port cities in China. Main routes include: Shanghai-Dalian, Dalian-Tianjin, Dalian-Yantai, Shanghai-Qingdao, Shanghai-Guangzhou, Beihai-Guangzhou, Shenzhen-Zuhai and Zuhai-Hong Kong. These lines have convenient schedules and include a number of luxury cruises and passenger ships.

#### ★ Inland River Routes

China's mainland is crisscrossed by 226,800 kilometers of rivers, of which 136,000 kilometers are navigable.

★ Famous Inland River Routes for Sightseeing

1. Tourists may travel by pleasure boat along the section of Grand Canal between Suzhou and Hangzhou, 146.6 kilometers long, where tourists can feast their eyes on the beautiful scenery of south China.

2. Tourists may get on a dragon boat or a pleasure boat at Nanjing, Wuxi or Yangzhou to take the Grand Canal-Yangtze River-Taihu Lake Tour, full of poetic flavor. Tourists can taste delicious local cuisine on the boat while appreciating the beauty of the scenery.

3. Tourists may take a 83 kilometers long tour along the Lijiang River from Guilin to Yangshuo, enjoying picturesque scenery and many historical sites.

4. Wuhan has more than 50 luxury pleasure ships. Tourists can appreciate the fascinating scenery of the Three Gorges on the Yangtze River by these ships.

#### Travel

By the end of 2006, China had 18,475 travel services, which