



Country Profile: China

The People's Republic of China was established on October 1, 1949, with Beijing as its capital city. With well over 1.3 billion citizens, China is the world's most populous country and the third largest country in the world in terms of territory. China is undergoing rapid, profound economic and social change and development. Political power remains centralized in the Chinese Communist Party. Modern tourist facilities are available in major cities, but many facilities in smaller provincial cities and rural areas are frequently below international standards. Read the Department of State Background Notes on China for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	China
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Beijing
Boundary Countries:	Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, India, Kazakhstan, North Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Vietnam regional borders: Hong Kong, Macau
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Beijing: Beijing United Family Clinic- Jiang Guy Men & Shunyi, Beijing United Family Hospital, Bayley & Jackson Medical Center, AmCare Women's & Children's Hospital, Hong Kong International Medical Clinic- Beijing, International Medical Center- Beijing Shanghai: Shanghai United Family Clinic- Minhang SRC, Shanghai United Family Hospital, Shanghai Concord Medical Specialists, International Peace Maternity & Child Health Hospital, Global HealthCare, American-Sino OB/GYN Service- Shanghai, Wooridul Hospital- Shanghai, Shanghai East International Medical Center- SEIMC, Kowa Dental Wuhan: Zhong Nan Hospital of Wuhan University For referral providers in China, please contact our Assistance Department.
Main Cities:	Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an, Guangzhou, Taipei, Tianjin, Chengdu, Ningbo, Wuhan, Lanzhou, Nanjing, Zhengzhou, Qingdao, Shenyang, Lhasa
Country Size:	9,596,960 sq km
Population:	1,321,851,888

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Standard Chinese or Mandarin (Putonghua, based on the Beijing dialect), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghaiese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages
Currency:	yuan (CNY); note - also referred to as the Renminbi (RMB)
Predominant Religions:	Daoist (Taoist), Buddhist, Christian 3%-4%, Muslim 1%-2% <i>note: officially atheist</i>
National Holidays:	Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China, 1 October (1949)

Economic Status:	With well over 1.3 billion citizens, China is the world's most populous country and the third largest country in the world in terms of territory. China is undergoing rapid, profound economic and social change and development. Political power remains centralized in the Chinese Communist Party.
Security:	People's Liberation Army (PLA): Ground Forces, Navy (includes marines and naval aviation), Air Force (includes airborne forces), and Second Artillery Corps (strategic missile force); People's Armed Police (PAP); Reserve and Militia Forces
US Presence:	<p><u>U.S. Embassy in Beijing</u> 55 Anjialou Rd, Chaoyang District Beijing, China, 100600 Phone: 010-8531-3000 Fax: (86-10) 8531-4200</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate in Chengdu</u> 4 Lingshiguan Road Chengdu, Sichuan 610041 China Switchboard: (86-28) 8558 3992</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate General in Guangzhou</u> Huaxia Road, Zhujiang New Town (near Exit B1 of the Zhujiang New Town subway station, Line 3 and Line 5) Tianhe District Guangzhou, China Phone: 020-3814-5000</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate in Shanghai</u> 1469 Huai Hai Zhong Road (Near Wulumuqi Nan Lu) 200031 Shanghai China Tel: (86-21) 6433-6880</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate in Shenyang</u> 52, 14th Wei Road, Heping District 110003 China Tel [86] (24) 2322-1198</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate General in Wuhan</u> New World International Trade Tower I No. 568, Jianshe Avenue Hankou, Wuhan 430022 Tel?027-8555-7791</p>
Major Airports:	<p>Airports: 486, Airports w/paved runways: 403</p> <p>Beijing- Capital International Airport (PEK/ZBAA) Beijing Airport, China PRC, 155 Dongsi Xi Dajie, Beijing 100621, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA Tel: +86 (0)10 6456 3220, +86 (0)10 6454 5237 Fax: +86 (0)10 6456 2401, +86 (0)10 6454 5239 E-mail: webmaster@bcia.com.cn or yuanb@bcia.com.cn Website: www.bcia.com.cn or www.airportcity.cn</p>

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