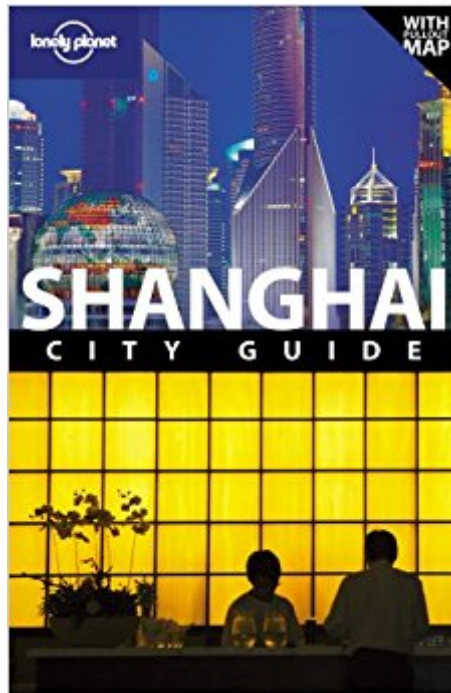




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Lonely Planet Shanghai (City Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Lonely Planet Shanghai Stroll along the stately Bund and gawk at the futuristic neon of Pudong Escape the skyscrapers into the tree-lined French Concession's hip eateries and vogue boutiques Haggle with hawkers over a must-have cheongsam (Chinese dress) or handmade yak scarves Meet some of the 19 million inhabitants through interviews with a boutique owner, and art professor and others In This Guide: Chinese characters throughout the book and on many maps makes navigating Shanghai easy Bonus color chapter on Shanghai's glittering architecture Expanded coverage of outlying destinations, including rural Lizhang and lush Putuoshan

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Customer Reviews

Who We Are At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travellers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do * We offer travellers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages. * We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are. * When we update our guidebooks, we check every listing, in person, every time. * We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent. * We challenge our growing community of travellers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world. * We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travellers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I took this book with me on my recent trip to Shanghai, and I found it very helpful. It includes a large section on the history of the city and how it has evolved over time, which is something I really enjoy. It then goes on with a good variety of recommendations for every budget, separated by area. It was very helpful that each area section had its own mini map with the landmarks and recommendations highlighted. The foldout full color city map in the back was also helpful, and I was able to take that along on day trips when I didn't feel like lugging the book around. I didn't find the writing style derogatory or unappreciative of the culture as it is, it is simply a fact that the city does very little to preserve its historical aspects. The writing was objective and informative and gave me a good idea of what to expect while there. It also had a helpful section on the World's Fair, which was going on while I was there. All in all, a good reference book. I'll look to Lonely Planet again for future trips.

Lonely Planet is always first-rate for everything but food, so I did not pay attention to the food recommendations. Everything else is clear and accurate and useful and well-organized. One serious omission was the Anglican cathedral down near the Bund. It was the "setting" for the cathedral in "Empire of the Sun". The Chinese government has spent a small fortune restoring it to its original state preWWII. I was not able to get in, but the exterior restoration was excellent. I believe the buildings are the home of one of the official Protestant churches of China. This would be of interest to anyone who led the book or movie or was interested in the hasty of the Brits in Shanghai.

This guide is so close to being excellent but for some unknown reason Lonely Planet has decided that it is not necessary to list the names of sites, restaurants and the streets on maps in Chinese characters. This has been a complaint with all the previous editions, so I was hoping when pre-ordering this for a mid-May trip that they would remedy situation....but no, that would make too much sense. As reviewers of previous editions have pointed out 99% of cab drivers cannot read the "English" spellings of Chinese places. As a result, we found ourselves stuck having to have Chinese friends or hotel concierges go through and translates all the names in the book.....makes you wonder why you bought the guide in the first place. The maps have some Chinese names, but probably only for about 10% of the streets, and often not enough for cab drivers to figure out where to go. It boggles my mind that this guide could have so much good and insightful information yet leave out the basic of most basics. In the end we ended up having all the Chinese names written

into the guidebook by hand (so we manually had to do what LP should have offered in the first place). Heck, maybe I should just Ebay our much more useful version of the guide. Aside from this major (and I mean major) fault the guide is very good. My only other complaints is that the text is microscopic (I am guessing 6 or 8pt), which helps make the book light, but also difficult to read. Also, the map keying system is just bizarre in that listings direct you to a map page but not the specific location where that listing is on the map....for that you have to go to a separate index page which then gives you the location on the map. So in the end, I find it hard to recommend a guide that you will most likely have trouble getting around with unless you speak the language. It is just completely unacceptable for LP to leave this basic information out and why I can only give it 2 stars. Please learn from your mistakes Lonely Planet.

This book helped us know a little about Shanghai. Our daughter was transferred there and it helped us understand where we were going and some customs.

The Shanghai City Guide contained the right level of information I needed for a 6-day business trip to Shanghai. It includes practical tips, history, and recommended sites. I carried it with me everywhere.

The indexing is terrible and makes this book hard to use to navigate Shanghai. Also there were not many restaurant recommendations. I wish I had another guide for my trip.

This is the best up to date guide book on Shanghai. Couple this with the older Nat Geo Traveler Shanghai from and you are set to go to Shanghai!

I haven't actually gone yet but I'm somewhat annoyed after reading this guide. The perspective of the authors seem to be of the typical sort that thinks that the only good things about China are at least 100 years old and who deny that anything about modern Chinese culture can possibly be good or valuable. The prejudices really come through in this book; in fact they quite literally begin on page one. Since this book just recently came out I thought it would have some updated information in light of Expo '10, but instead there is nothing - perhaps because the authors don't actually live in Shanghai (they live in Paris and Beijing). I'd rather have a guide that actually likes the city and wants visitors to appreciate it as much as they do, thanks. There is absolutely nothing in this book that can't be gotten from another guide or (especially) from the forums on TripAdvisor, which has

contributions from actual locals.

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