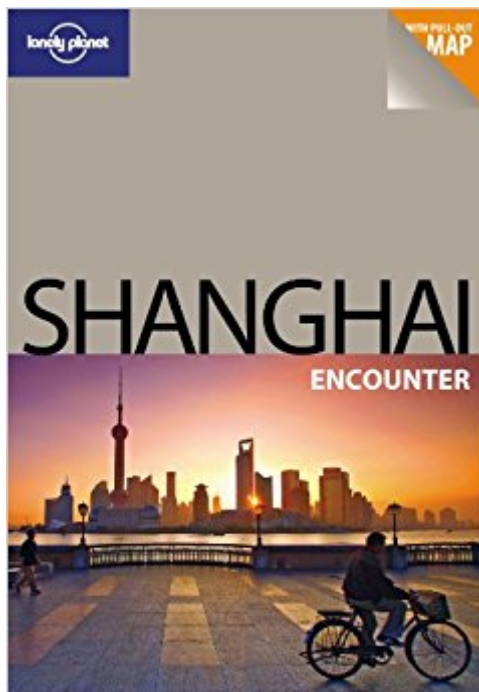


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Lonely Planet Shanghai Encounter



Synopsis

What Will Your Shanghai Encounter Be? Drinking in the riverside view from the historic Bund's bars Sizing up the sci-fi skyscrapers of futuristic Pudong Bargain-hunting, caf  -hopping and art-ogling amidst the traditional architecture of Tianzifang Indulging in the chic charm of the French Concession's tree-lined boulevards Escaping modernity to the quintessentially Chinese landscapes just outside of town Discovering the street-level character of lilong lanes and longtang architecture Discover Twice The City In Half The Time Easy navigation with full-color pull-out map, detailed neighborhood maps and Chinese characters throughout the book Our expert author explores atmospheric alleys and sleek skyscrapers for the best shopping, eating, drinking, entertainment and sights Highlights and customized itineraries help you make the most of your short trip Get behind the scenes with insider tips from tuned-in locals, from a traditional woodcarver to a modern-day fashionista

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I used this book for 5 days in Shanghai. It was the perfect size for carrying around, had a good map (even though I did pick up an excellent travel map from the hotel), was well-organized, had a great walking tour of the Bund, did a great job describing the neighborhoods, and had excellent eating suggestions. We also went to Suzhou, listed as one of the day trips in the book (though we had planned to go there anyway). There were maps in the book itself. The pull-out map, though good, was flimsy, and needed a complete taping job on return.

I'm in Shanghai now, and have found that some of the restaurants referenced are no longer there. Also, the map isn't very detailed, doesn't include all of the names of the side streets, so it's not so good finding your way around on foot, I ended up getting a local tourist map (free). Otherwise, it has some good tips on sights to visit and I've done a few of the walking tours which were nice to know about.

Small, compact and easy to use. Can easily be tucked into a purse. Intelligent organization to make it easy to find what you need.

I was in Shanghai for a couple of weeks on business and this guide really is tourists (young tourist) oriented.

I bought both Lonely Planet Shanghai books from .. They are different enough for me to want to keep both. They are the best of the current Shanghai travel books

I picked up this little book on a whim, as a supplement to the full-size China guidebook we'd already purchased when we were planning a two-week vacation to Shanghai and the surrounding region. We ended up spending 7 action-packed and interesting days in Shanghai, and I didn't even crack open the "big book." This little guide is proof that good things come in small packages. The author, Christopher Pitts, clearly knows Shanghai well and did his research thoroughly. "Shanghai Encounter" presents all the information that an independent-minded traveler or an expat would need to get them started on exploring and enjoying this dynamic city. I appreciated the snapshots of different neighborhoods at the beginning of the book, the suggested itineraries, as well as the historical, cultural and practical information at the end. In between are brief write-ups for each neighborhood, complete with recommended sights, restaurants, shopping, bars and nightlife. There are also handy neighborhood maps in the book, which means you don't have to pull out a giant arms'-width map as you wander the city. (Be forewarned, though, that taxi drivers don't do well with these small snapshot maps: although they have Chinese characters for the street names, it's harder for drivers to get their bearings than when looking at a big map, at least in our experience.) Using this book, we explored many different neighborhoods of Shanghai, including areas like the Ohel Moshe synagogue in Hongkou and the M50 art gallery district in Jing'an where most people we met assumed we must be expats living in the city: apparently most tourists don't get there. I found the author's tips and recommendations to be helpful and spot-on; we enjoyed all the sites, shops and

restaurants he recommended (though we didn't stick to them exclusively). For anyone planning to spend more than a day or two in Shanghai, I'd highly recommend this book as an indispensable pocket companion. The city's changing fast, and you'll want to supplement this guidebook with tripadvisor or hotels.com reviews for finding a hotel; shanghaiist and city weekend shanghai for up-to-the-minute information on restaurant and nightlife reviews; a full-size, updated map (including a metro map), which most hotels will provide for free; and of course, any and all advice from friends and contacts in Shanghai. That said, buying this book and skimming it cover-to-cover is probably the quickest and best way to ensure you get the most out of your time in Shanghai. Recommended without reservation. I'm so glad I happened upon it before our trip!

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