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SHAOXING
VINTAGE CHINA



Vintage China: Shaoxing

Modern-day Shaoxing sits on the site of the capital of the Kingdom of Yue which dates from around the sixth century BC. Even now, the town seems to run with all the mystery and romance of ancient China.

It is a prefecture-level city in northern Zhejiang province, is located on the southeastern coast of China. Lying on the south bank of the Qiantang River mouth, it borders Ningbo to the east, Taizhou to the southeast, Jinhua to the southwest, Hangzhou to the west, and is only 30 kilometers to Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport, 120 kilometers to famous Beilun Port, and 232 kilometers to Shanghai. Shaoxing is situated on the train line between Shanghai and Ningbo and Hangzhou and Ningbo. Luxury busses also run to all three cities. Within the city itself, the transportation system network is reliable and busses are plentiful. So it is very easy for tourists to get here.

Visitors can get to Shaoxing by air, train, and road. Although Shaoxing has no airport, it is near Xiaoshan airport of Hangzhou. There are convenient shuttle busses run from the city centre bus station the airport. And Shaoxing has many trains to and from the main large cities in China. It takes about two hours and a half from Shanghai to Shaoxing, and one hour from Hangzhou to Shaoxing. The most efficient way to get here is by long-distance bus. Many highways and smaller roads lead in all directions, providing convenient transportation to and from Shaoxing.



Ancient Water Town

Shaoxing is an ancient water city which has been called the Oriental Venice for centuries. Your trip wouldn't be complete without a visit to the historic blocks in downtown Shaoxing, such as the Cangqiao Zhijie and Bazi Bridge Historic Blocks. Whether you're taking a walking tour through these historic blocks, staying in a traditional riverside house, or sitting on a Wupeng boat floating on the canals, Shaoxing will provide you with a fascinating tapestry of local lifestyles and colors.

Bazi Bridge Historic Block

Bazi Bridge historic block covers an area of 100,000 square meters. Now the block is open (no entrance fee is charged) to the public and tourists as well. A visit to Bazi Bridge, Guangning Bridge and Dongshuang Bridge is a must in Bazi Bridge historic block. In addition, Dusimeng tower over the city gate is also strongly recommended.

Cangqiao Zhijie Historic Block

Cangqiao Zhijie historic block is located in downtown Shaoxing, east of Fushan Mountain. This historic block featuring the view of the ancient Shaoxing city mainly consists of many traditional houses. The functions of the historic block include living, business, tourism and so on. Shops, restaurants as well as different types of museums along the street can be found here, which helps you understand Shaoxing better through your personal experiences.

Xi Xiao Lu Historic Block

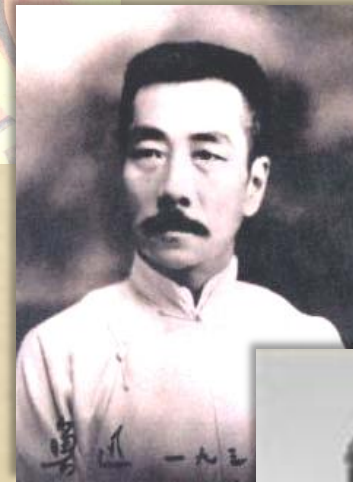
Xi Xiao Lu historic block is about 50,000 square meters large, located between North Huancheng Road and West Shengli Road. Nearly 350 families are presently living in this block. The major attractions in this historic block include Xiegong Bridge, Lv's Residence, ancient schools and libraries. While walking in the stone-paved streets, you can see the flowing river and the wooden houses built right beside the rivers. The exotic and picturesque view of the ancient water city will give you an unforgettable experience in Shaoxing!

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Celebrities

Shaoxing is very well known as the city of celebrities in China. It is the hometown of the ancient beauty Xi Shi; Lu Xun, the writer; Cai Yuanpei, the educator, and China's first Prime Minister, Zhou Enlai. Whether you're interested in Chinese culture or history; or you're a museum lover, Shaoxing has a great depth of sites and experiences to offer! Suggested attractions are: Lu Xun Native Place; Ancestral Residence of Zhou Enlai; Qingteng Study; Former Residence of Cai Yuanpei; Former Residence of Wang Xizhi, and others.

The good news is that you can visit all the attractions mentioned above without entrance fee. But you should make a reservation call five days in advance.



Artistic Expression

Chinese Calligraphy

Shaoxing is recognized as the hometown of calligraphy in China. This is where handwriting is turned into art by the famous calligraphers with the help of the mysterious brush. Wang Xizhi, a well-known calligrapher, composed his masterpiece in the Orchid Pavilion, which is now known as the Lan Pavilion. A trip to Shaoxing is never complete without a visit to the Lan Pavilion, a perfect place for calligraphy appreciation!



The Yue Opera—ancient Chinese melodies

Yue Opera's lyric expression finds its origins in Shaoxing, where visitors are captured by sweet tunes and vivid colors of costumes. In Shaoxing, many romantic stories are performed to make the visitors dip into an ancient and fascinating culture. The Yue Opera is the second most popular opera in China, only after the Peking Opera. Yue Opera, Shaoju Opera, Xinchang Tiaoqiang and Shaoxing Lianhualao are prevailing local art performances in the city. If you're planning your visit to Shaoxing, to watch the famous plays of the Yue Opera is a must-do.

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Beauties in Shaoxing



Beside the peaceful water town and the profound history and culture, the beauties also make Shaoxing more attractive. Shaoxing is the hometown of many great beauties, such as Xi Shi, Qiu Jin, Tang Wan and so on. And there are many stories and sites for tourists to discover those beauties in Shaoxing. Among those sites, you can not miss Xi Shi Hometown in Zhuji and Shen Garden in downtown Shaoxing.

Xi Shi was one of the Four Beauties in ancient China. She was born in Shaoxing. Covering an area of 1.44 sq. kilometers, Xi Shi Hometown is situated in Zhuji, a county-level city in Shaoxing, which comprises six functional areas. On the central area is the Xi Shi Temple, surrounded by six areas, namely the Entrance Area, Ancient Fishing Village, Historic and Cultral Area of Yue State, Mei Yuan Recreational Area, Wetland Protection Area and Resort Area. In Xi Shi Hometown, you're able to visit the major attractions such as Xi Shi Temple, Museum of Ancient Beauties, Fanli Ancestral Shrine and Folklore Museum, etc.

Shen Garden is a classical garden with a tragic love story. According to history, the great poet Lu You in South Song Dynasty was forced to divorce his wife, whose name was Tang Wan. Later, the two happened to meet each other in Shen Garden and Lu You composed the famous poem "Chai Tou Feng" (Hairpin of Golden Phoenix) to express his sadness after the separation. When Tang Wan found the poem, she followed up with another melancholy poem and soon died in sorrow. Shen Garden is the place where secret love found its expression. luxuriant nature and nice pavilions in the day, become a striking combination of lights and sounds in the night, when the garden seems to be magic!

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Nature

Shaoxing's natural landscapes offer a wealth of options for an unforgettable holiday: enchanting waterfalls and mountains, magnificent rocks and caves as well as extensive array of rivers and lakes. Whether your choice is leisurely exploration, or an active sports activity on land or water, you'll be amazed at what Shaoxing has to offer to nature lovers.

You can take a Wupeng boat tour on the East Lake, which is not far from downtown Shaoxing. You can walk barefoot under the waterfall in Wuxie. You may also visit the magnificent Keyan Scenic Resort in Shaoxing County to see the strange caves, cliffs and remarkable rocks. If you're interested in flowers and birds, you may also take a visit to Jinghu National Urban Wetland Park in Shaoxing City.

The entrance fees of these wonderful scenic areas are not expensive. You can spend 100 RMB to explore Keyan Scenic Resort, 80 RMB to walk in Wuxie waterfall Scenic Area, and 40 RMB to visit East Lake. The fantastic thing is that you can pay a free visit to Jinghu National Urban Wetland Park. But if you want to take the Wupeng boat in these scenic areas, you should pay the boating fee that is not included in the entrance fee.



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Take a Wupeng Boat to cruise on Shaoxing



Water is regarded as the soul of Shaoxing so that Shaoxing people can not live without boat. One of the best ways to experience this exotic and authentic water city is to ride on a Wupeng boat. Wupeng boat (Black-Awning Boat) is the unique transportation tool of Shaoxing. The awning is painted into black, hence the name. The way to row the Wupeng boat is also unique. A boatman sits on the stern, padding the boat with his feet. He carries the oar under his arm to steer and turn the boat. So Wupeng boat is special scenery of the water town and you can not miss.

You can ride on Wupeng boat, drink Yellow Wine, and watch Shexi Opera to experience the special life style here. Shaoxing offers different boat tours with a wide choice of routes and prices. Whether you're in a group, with two/three companions or just by yourself, you can always find the boat tours as you expected!

Here are the
North Route:

City Square—Shaoxing Hotel—Liyu Bridge- Xiegong Bridge—Former Residence of Lv's family—Yellow Rice Wine Museum

Price: RMB 80 per boat

South Route:

City Square—Baozhu Bridge—Shimen Bridge—Jiuwu Bridge—West Lu Xun Road—Baihuang Bridge

Price: RMB 80 per boat

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Taste the ancient yellow rice wine to enjoy the different life

If you want to taste something special in Shaoxing, Yellow Rice Wine is the must-try. Shaoxing Yellow Wine is one of China's eight traditional famous wines and has enjoyed a history of over 2,400 years. The wine is made from top quality polished glutinous rice, top quality wheat, and the pure water from Shaoxing's Jian Lake (Jian Hu). It is noted for yellow color, mellow fragrance and taste. And with time goes by, the stored wine will become more fragrant.

Shaoxing is a perfect place to learn and taste Yellow Wine. There is the China Yellow Rice Wine Museum in Shaoxing. The museum has been designed as a research center on the techniques and culture of Yellow Rice Wine, a place for both academic studies and tourism. It offers an exhibition hall, a performance hall, a lecture room and a cellar. You can take time enjoying rice wine ceremony performances there and purchase the authentic Yellow Rice Wine here as a gift for your friends and relatives.

In addition, you can go to the Xianheng restaurant that is known from Lu Xun's stories. It is not a restaurant offering the authentic local food and drink, but also a cultural attraction where you can learn the stories written by Lu Xun and experience the local life. How to get there, that is very convenient. Here we give you some useful tips.

Traffic

Take Bus 9/32 from passenger's center to Lu Xun road;

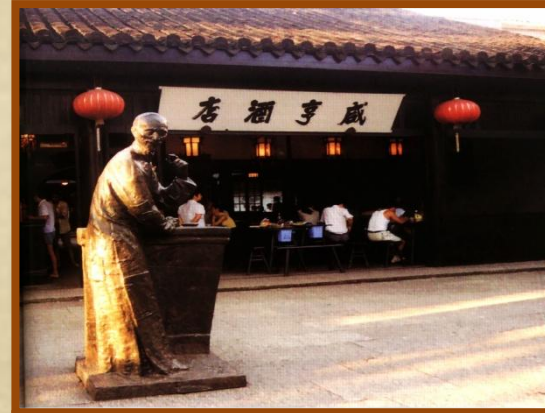
Take the Xianhengjiudian train-bus 2,4,7 to Lu Xun Road

If you drive a car, you can park in Zhongxinroad

Xianheng Restaurant Fee and opening hours

Admission free

Opening hours 8:00-17:00



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Practical Information

Now whether you can not wait to come to Shaoxing? Why not action now? Here we will provide contact numbers that will be useful to visitors. Further information on Shaoxing can also be obtained from our websites: www.vintageshaoxing.com.

Emergency Numbers:

Fire: 119

Police: 110

Ambulance: 120

Traffic Accident: 122

Useful Numbers:

Time Inquiry: 117

Telephone Number Inquiry: 114

Weather Forecast: 121

Tourist Complaint: 96118

Road Passenger Transport Inquiry and Complaint: 96520

Taxi Complaint: 96520

China Mobile Service Tel: 10086

China Union Service Tel: 10010; 10011

China Telecom Service Tel: 10000

Consumer Complaint: 12315

Book Store

Xinhua Book Store

Address: Lu Xun Cultural Square, Lu Xun Road, Shaoxing City

Shaoxing Railway Station:

Ticket Booking Office: 0086-575-8022001

Train Inquiries: 0086-575-8022584

Passenger traffic centre

Address: Zhongxing North Road, Shaoxing City

Inquire No. 0086-575-8018852

Post Office:

Lekeduo Branch:

Address: No.1868, Ring Road (East), Economic Development Zone, Shaoxing City

Hospital:

Shaoxing People's Hospital

Address: No.61, Dong Street, Shaoxing City

Bus Route: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 15, 21, 24, 23, 28, 31, 32, 303, 309, 312, 316

Shaoxing Municipal Women and Children's Hospital

Address: No.547, Dong Street, Shaoxing City

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