

Photo: 4045 / Shutterstock.com



Qingdao is possibly the most beautiful coastal city of China, famous for comfortable weather, a large number of beaches and delicious seafood. Being a former German concession has also provided it with attractive European-style buildings and one of the best brews in Asia, the famous Qingdao Beer. It has long been a favourite escape for Chinese holidaymakers and after having its profile raised when hosting the 29th Sailing Regatta during the 2008 Beijing Olympics, it has been steadily coming under the radar of foreign visitors as well.

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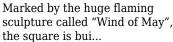
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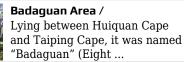
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THE CITY



4045 / Shutterstock.com

Located at the south-central section of Shandong Peninsula by the Yellow Sea, Qingdao is an important economic centre and port city. Its hilly landscape between mountains and the sea has given it a perfect setting. The best way to explore this city is to take some comfortable shoes with you and explore each area by foot, whether it is strolling through the huge Zhongshan Park or enjoying the easy sea-side ambience by the Zhanqiao Pier.

DO & SEE



4045 / Shutterstock.com

Qingdao's charms lie in both the famous sights and the small details: a century-old florist shop, a corner drugstore or a delicately carved stone doorway, characterised by the statuesque sketching on the time-honoured buildings. The seaside metropolis dazzles equally for its ocean vistas and natural wonders and for the bustling yet easygoing vibe of the city with its many attractions and attractive urban style.

Zhanqiao Pier /



As the symbol of Qingdao, Zhaoqiao Pier was built as a wharf in 1891. After being expanded and repaired twice in 1931 and 1985, it is now open

for tourists. The pier is 440 metres long and 10 metres wide with giant granite supports and a two-storey distinctive Chinese style Pagoda, called "Huilan", the return of waves. Along the shore is the beautiful Pier Park, which is a pleasant and quiet place for tourists to rest.

Photo: Giusparta / Shutterstock.com

Address: 14 Taiping Road, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: Zhan Bridge: 24/7. Huilan Pavilion: 7h - 19h. Phone: +86 532 8288 4548

May 4th Square /



Marked by the huge flaming sculpture called "Wind of May", the square is built to commemorate the May 4th Movement in 1919,

when Chinese nationalism was revived by a popular student-led uprising. Connecting the Qingdao municipal government building and the east coast, it consists of a coastal area and two squares, which are called City Hall Square and Central Square. In the evening, the colourful lights and water fountain make the whole square even more attractive.

Photo: SKY2015 / Shutterstock.com Address: Donghai Xi Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 24/7 Phone: +86 532 8571 1594

Badaguan Area /



Lying between Huiquan Cape and Taiping Cape, it was named "Badaguan" (Eight Great Passes) after the eight great passes of the Great Wall. The area

was occupied by western countries and thus presents various architecture styles of twenty countries, including England, Russia, German, France, Danmark and so on.

In spring, the peach flowers bloom on Shaoguan Road, during summertime, crepe-myrtles on Zhengyangguan Road. Maple leaves turn red in autumn, and cedars stay green even in winter. In every season, Badaguan has its unique sides.

Photo: Jun Mu / Shutterstock.com Address: Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h - 18h Phone: +86 532 8386 9357 Tickets: Free, ticket needed for certain buildings

Qingdao Underwater World /



Adjacent to Lu Xun Park is the Qingdao Underwater World, known as the Marine Products Museum. It covers an area of 7,300

sqm and accommodates an astonishing water body of 4,000 tonnes. It is a complex with a myriad of animal species on display.

Photo: lingling7788 / Shutterstock.com Address: 2 Laiyang Rd, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h - 17h Phone: +86 532 8289 2187 Tickets: 130 RMB Internet: www.qdhdworld.com

Qingdao International Beer Festival /



First held in 1991, Qingdao International Beer Festival has now become the biggest beer festival in Asia. The festival generally starts

on the second Sunday of August and lasts for 16 days. A 35-hectare Beer City located in the Shilaoren National Tourism Resort was specifically built for the festival. Although you can have Tsingtao Beer anytime in the city, the carnival vibe of the festival is something that you don't want to miss.

(P.S.: in Qingdao, fresh beer can be sold and contained in the plastic bag, so don't be surprised when you see people walking on the street with a bag of beer.)

Photo: xmee / Shutterstock.com

Address: Xianggangdong Lu, Laoshan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 24/7

More Info: The exact openning time and place changes every year, so do verify the information when planning the trip.

Laoshan Scenic Area /



Named in the Tang Dynasty with the growth of Taoism, Laoshan is a household name for its vistas as well as the Taoist shrine. Laoshan

Jufeng Peak, Liuqing River, Taiping Palace, Yangkou Beach and Nine Waters and Eighteen Pools are the main tourist spots. Local travel agencies offer tours which vary between the southern route that covers both the Jufeng Peak and Taiping Palace, the eastern route to Yangkou Beach that covers both Taiping Palace and Qipan Stone Area and the central route to Nine Waters and Eighteen Pools.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Address: Laoshan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 7h - 17h Phone: +86 532 8889 8866 Tickets: 160 RMB Internet: www.qdlaoshan.cn/en/

Seaside Promenade /



A newly-built plank promenade that meanders along the southern beach for about 40km, from Tuandao Cape in southwestern

Qingdao to Shilaoren Holiday Resort in the eastern part of the city. This makes it possible to walk from the western part of the city, covering Qingdao Bay, Huiquan Bay, Taiping Bay and come to the end at the Sculpture Road in eastern Qingdao.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Opening hours: 24/7

St. Michael's Cathedral /



Among the European-inspired architecture of the area, the German-style Catholic church stands out for its attractive facade. It is the

largest Romanesque Revival architecture in the province and the only consecrates church in China. The church has a newly installed organ and is played only for the mess.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock,com Address: 15 Zhejiang Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h - 17h, free during the mess (8h - 9h every Sunday) Phone: +86 532 8286 5960 Tickets: 10 RMB

Zhongshan Park /

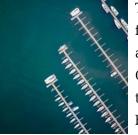


Zhongshan Park is the largest park in Qingdao, covering an area of 800,000 m² and located between Huiquan Square and Taiping Hill. Best

known for its cherry blossoms in the spring, lantern show in the summer and chrysanthemum show in the autumn, it is named "Flower Sea in Eastern Garden". In the west part of the park, the zoo is a children's paradise, with a mini-train, bumper cars and merry-go-round.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Address: Wendeng Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 9h - 21h

Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center /



The centre was first built for hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Competitions. Now it is transformed into a sailing boat dock. You can rent a

boat and have a tour on the bay, or have a beer on the bars nearby, and enjoy the breeze from the sea.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Address: 12 Xinhui Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 24/7 Phone: +86 532 6656 8666 Internet: www.qdsailing.org/node/node 29612.htm

Yinshatan Beach /



Compared to Jinshatan (the Gold Beach), Yinshatan (the Silver Beach) is farther from the city and the sand is slightly harder, but it is

less crowded than the first one and more

beautiful. The beach is 3000-meter long and in the shape of a new moon. It is an ideal spot to chill, swim and enjoy the sunshine.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Address: Fenghuangdao Scenic Area, Huangdao District, Qingdao Opening hours: 24/7 Tickets: Free

Tsingtao Brewery Museum /



This used to be the old factory of the Tsingtao Beer Brewery and now with the factory having moved out, the place has been transformed into a

beer museum. All the old equipment is left on display, making it possible to see the whole process of beer production. The entrance fee is 60 RMB per person, which includes one cup of draught beer and a cask ale.

Photo: Kishivan / Shutterstock.com Address: 56 Dengzhou Lu, Shibei District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h30 - 17h30 Phone: +86 532 8383 3437 Tickets: 60 RMB (2019) Internet: www.tsingtaomuseum.com/index.htm

Little Fish Hill Park /



Built on a top of a hill, the Little Fish Hill Park offers one of the most scenic views over Qingdao. It does not only feature a good amount of

characteristic nautical-themed buildings, but also a unique view over some landmarks of China's most picturesque coastal city.

Photo: User: (WT-shared) Shoestring at wts wikivoyage / Wikimedia Commons(image cropped) Address: Yushan Rd 1, Shinan, Qingdao Opening hours: 7h30-18h30 Phone: +86 532 8286 5645

DINING



ilolab / Shutterstock.com

One cannot claim to have tried Qingdao food without sampling the seafood here. The local cuisine features sea food such as sea cucumber, scallop, abalone, whelk, prawn and fish, as well as the farm produce of dried vegetables and mushrooms growing on Laoshan Mountain. The best way to have the fresh marine produce is simply with garlic, vinegar and ginger. Most restaurants in Qingdao stay open until 22:00.

Laochuanfu Restaurant /



Decorated as a huge ship with wooden decks, helms and anchors, Laochuanfu (Old Boatman) Restaurant is a popular restaurant

tailored to international customers. The special dishes are Roast Squid and trumpet shell.

Photo: HelloRF Zcool / Shutterstock.com Address: 111 Yanji Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 11h - 22h Phone: +86 532 8501 9999 More Info: at the crossroad

Huanghai Hotel /



top chefs.

Photo: L.F / Shutterstock.com Address: 75 Yan'an Yi Lu, Qingdao Phone: +86 532 8287 0215 Internet: www.huanghaihotel.com

Haidilao Hot Pot /



Boasting a great view of the marina, Haidilao is easily the best place to get hot pot in the city. It's always clean, the ingredients are fresh and

In this hotel, you will find

authentic Shandong style

and local Qingdao style.

All food is prepared by

a Chinese buffet with excellent cuisine in

the service is good and friendly. Long waiting time is to be expected.

Photo: 54613 / Shutterstock.com Address: 178 Jufeng Lu, Qingdao Internet: www.haidilao.com More Info: 6th floor, Wanda Plaza

Chuan Xiao Xian /



Chuan Xiao Xian is an innovated restaurant. The signature dish is the steam pot: vegetables, meat and seafood are layered on the pot and

cooked with steam, with rice underneath. By the time you finish all the food above, the juice will already have turned the rice into a delicious porridge.

Photo: Midori9813 / Shutterstock.com Address: 135 Yan'an San Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 11h - 22h Phone: +86 176 8583 7792 More Info: Right entrance to the Ariva ([] []]) Hotel, 4th floor

Chuangeyu Dumpling /



This chain of restaurants is famous for the combination of seafood and dumplings. The black dumpling, made with cephalopod ink is a dish

that you should definitely try - as intimidating as it might sound.

Photo: adachonada / Shutterstock.com Address: 57 Minjiang Er Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 10h30 - 21h Phone: +86 532 8077 8001

Quanjude Peking Duck /



Quanjude is the most famous chain of restaurants when it comes to Peking Duck, one might even call it synonymous with this

well-known Chinese dish. Take the chance to have some authentic Peking Duck in Qingdao.

Photo: GrumJum / Shutterstock.com Address: 12 Xinaggang Zhong Lu, Fenghe Plaza, Qingdao Opening hours: 11h - 14h / 17h - 21h30 Phone: +86 532 6677 7308

CASANOVA



CASANOVA is an authentic Italian restaurant. Chefs are mainly Italian and so are the ingredients. Located on the 5th floor of Haixin

Plaza, the restaurant has a beautiful view of the bay. Reservation is necessary for window seats.

The crew can speak English. Vegetarian menu available.

Photo: Plateresca / Shutterstock.com Address: 117 Aomen Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 11h - 21h30 Phone: +86 132 5639 2790 More Info: 5th floor, Hisense Plaza ([] [] []])

Taidong Night Market /



Taidong Night Market is always crowded and is one of those places that primarily draw in locals in the know. You can find all kinds of street food

along the market, as well as souvenirs. Beware of pickpockets.

Photo: Glowonconcept / Shutterstock.com Address: Taidong Commercial Pedestrian Street, Qingdao Opening hours: 24/7 More Info: Most stands and shops close at 23h

Kiwi Café /



The owner and chef of the restaurant had lived in New Zeland for 18 years and received a culinary degree there. The place is popular among the expat

community in Qingdao. Brunch and fresh beer are highly recommended. The crew can speak English.

Photo: Diana Daley / Shutterstock.com Address: 10 Gutian Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 10h - 20h, From Tues. to Sun. Phone: +86 186 6983 8569

31 HAUSBRANDT / 31



Their coffee beans come from an Italian company called Hausbrant, and the milk they use to make dessert is imported directly form New

Zealand; they also serve high-quality dishes. As small as it might seem, this café has served as a food and coffee provider for some international sailing tournaments held in Qingdao.

Photo: GOER / Shutterstock.com Address: 31 Minjiang Er Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 9h - 2h Phone: +86 532 6807 7788 More Info: On the crossroad od Minjiang Er Lu and Zhangzhou Yi lu.

CAFES



Dima Sikorsky / Shutterstock.com

Coffee is probably a more popular drink in Qingdao nowadays than traditional tea. The Qingdao Coffee and Tea Art Street are lined with coffee shops and teashops, with both indoor and outdoor seating.

Qingdao Coffee and Tea Art Street are located at Minjianger Lu, between Minjiang Lu and Zhangzhou Er Lu. There are eight coffee shops on the street and another five off the side streets of Zhangzhou Yi Lu and Zhangzhou Er Lu. Many of the stores, cafés, restaurants, shops and boutiques are Korean run, and it is perfect for a stroll, a sip of coffee and some window shopping. You will of course also find coffee shops all around the city and in the shopping malls.

Sunflower Café Bar /



Facing the beach and Zhanqiao Pier, Sunflower Café is nicely placed in a German-style villa which is surrounded by green trees and blooming

flowers, and as one of the city's oldest bars, it is loved by locals.

Photo: Jan Knop / Shutterstock.com Address: 16 Taiping Lu, Qingdao Phone: +86 532 8266 7976

Cafe Kona



The café has a Korean owner who specializes in making real Hawaiian Kona coffee. At Café Kona you get good coffee and wonderful service.

Photo: Hastings A Franks / Shutterstock.com Address: 21 Minjiang Er Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h - 22h30 Phone: +86 532 8573 5300

Snail Coffee Bar /



Snail Coffee Bar is a charming little coffee shop. The menu offers a variety of goodies and you will be served by a friendly staff. The

atmosphere is described as warm and relaxed, perfect for a rest after a hard day of shopping on Zhongshan Road.

Photo: Rawpixel.com / Shutterstock.com

Address: 22A Dagu Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 10h30 - 22h30 Phone: +86 137 9191 6196

Kiwi Café /



The owner and chef of the restaurant had lived in New Zeland for 18 years and received a culinary degree there. The place is popular among the expat

community in Qingdao. Brunch and fresh beer are highly recommended. The crew can speak English.

Photo: Diana Daley / Shutterstock.com Address: 10 Gutian Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 10h - 20h, From Tues. to Sun. Phone: +86 186 6983 8569

Nora Café /



The place hides in a quiet alley, in the historical centre of the city. It has a sunny terrace, 2 cats, and most importantly, pour-over coffee with

beans from all over the world.

Photo: Alpha_7D / Shutterstock.com Address: 20 Longshan Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 11h - 18h Phone: +86 156 1849 1580 More Info: 20 meters to the gate of signal mountain park

Coffee will



Coffee will is famous for its Japanese syphone-prepared coffee. The light roast coffee bean is imported from Japan as well. Wood

furniture, outdoor space and a swing at the

entrance all create a cosy ambience.

Photo: Prarinya / Shutterstock.com Address: 2 Xuzhou Lu, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 9h - 24h Phone: +86 532 8266 1010 More Info: Near Xinguidu Southwest Gate, Building No.8

EASECAFE /



You will be surprised to know that that there's a quiet café like this inside a shopping mall. It doesn't look much like a café, but more of a

friend's apartment. The place is decorated with the owner's personal collection of books and photographs. All coffee beans are kept up to 15 days and every bean can be traced to its exact area of production.

Photo: ariadna de raadt / Shutterstock.com Address: 328 Dunhua Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 9h30 - 19h Phone: +86 152 4420 4566 More Info: 5th Floor, Nuode Square

31 HAUSBRANDT / 31



Their coffee beans come from an Italian company called Hausbrant, and the milk they use to make dessert is imported directly form New

Zealand; they also serve high-quality dishes. As small as it might seem, this café has served as a food and coffee provider for some international sailing tournaments held in Qingdao.

Photo: GOER / Shutterstock.com Address: 31 Minjiang Er Lu Opening hours: 9h - 2h Phone: +86 532 6807 7788 More Info: On the crossroad od Minjiang Er Lu and Zhangzhou Yi lu.

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Brian Kinney / Shutterstock.com

The nightlife in Qingdao is lively and varied, as locals like to take advantage of the city's many bars, KTVs, pubs, tea houses, bowling alleys and malls. Most bars and clubs are open from 21.00 to 03.00.

Tsingtao Beer Street /



The area around the old Tsingtao brewery (now converted into a museum) has developed into a lively nightlife area, lined with dozens of

Sino-European style bars, restaurants and cafes. The best time to visit is during the Qingdao International Beer Festival when promotions abound and many events are organised.

KTV

Photo: QinJin / Shutterstock.com Address: Dengzhou Lu, Qingdao

Karaoke Bar /



Karaoke has become a very important part of Asian nightlife culture. There are plenty to choose from in the city, but Holiday KTV is one of

the best, with branches all over the country.

Photo: wavebreakmedia / Shutterstock.com Address: 28 Xinhui Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 12h - 5h Phone: +86 532 8573 2233

Charlie's Bar /



Right in the middle of Qingdao's party area, Charlie's bar is an American-style sports bar that screens all the important sporting

events. Young singles come here to meet people, mingle and start off the night.

Photo: Nomad_Soul / Shutterstock.com Address: 167 Jiangxi Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 18h - 3h Phone: +86 532 8589 7919

Downtown Bar



Downtown Bar proudly proclaims itself to be the home of live music in Qingdao, It is a non-lucrative platform for indie underground music

band to promote themselves.

Photo: PopTika / Shutterstock.com Address: 1-6 Sangzi Lu, Shibei District, Qingdao More Info: Next to Kehao Convenient Store

Taidong Night Market /



The Taidong Night Market is always crowded and is one of those places that primarily draw in locals in the know. You can find all kinds of street

food along the market, as well as souvenirs. Beware of pickpockets.

Photo: Glowonconcept / Shutterstock.com

Address: Taidong Commercial Pedestrian Street Opening hours: 24/7 More Info: Most stands and shops close at 23h

City Moves Club



Located on the Xianggang Zhong Lu, City Moves Club is the absolute hottest night club in the city. The DJs and equipment are both

equally professional. Reservation only, and sometimes these are required several days in advance. Minimum consumption is 1000 RMB.

Photo: Party people studio / Shutterstock.com Address: 26 Xianggang Zhong Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 21h - 4h Phone: +86 532 5573 8866 More Info: Inside Farglory International Plaza

ROOM Lounge /



This is a gin-focused bar that has a wall of different gins from all around the world. The bar is compact, with a cosy ambience.

Photo: Aleksandrs Muiznieks / Shutterstock.com Address: 1 Shandong Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 19h - 2h Phone: +86 185 5329 9666 More Info: Near Boyan Dental

Cherry Bar /



This newly opened bar has already won popularity among young college students and Qingdao's expatriate community. The prices

are relatively low and the place rings loud with pop music. It is also one of the few bars that are

open until morning.

Photo: sweetok / Shutterstock.com Address: 65 Xianggang Zhong Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 20h30 - 5h Phone: +86 138 0532 2202 More Info: 100 meters to the T Junction with Yanerdao Road

SHOPPING



leungchopan / Shutterstock.com

There are many famous commercial products and souvenirs in Qingdao, such as Tsingtao Beer, Laoshan Mineral Water, Laoshan Tea, Laoshan Cola, Jimo Millet Wine, diamond ornaments, seafood, shell crafts, and more.

Zhongshan Road /



Zhongshan commercial street is the most popular historical business hub in Qingdao, full of fashion stores, boutiques and big shopping malls, as well as

large department stores, such as Parkson. You are sure to find everything you're looking for somewhere along Zhongshan Road.

Photo: wrangler / Shutterstock.com Address: Zhongshan Lu, Qingdao

Hong Kong Middle Road /



Home to leading international brands such as Jusco and Carrefour. Opposite Carrefour is Sunshine Department Store, the top-level

shopping mall in Qingdao, which sells brands including Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Prada, Chanel and more.

Photo: allensima / Shutterstock.com Address: Xianggang Zhong Lu, Qingdao

Hisense Plaza Shopping Mall /



Opposite the Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center is Hisense Plaza, a huge modern international department store which has all the world's leading

fashion brands as well as Starbucks Coffee and Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream. There are also restaurants, a Cultural Gallery, Children's Kingdom and much more.

Photo: elwynn / Shutterstock.com Address: 50 Donghai Xi Lu, Qingdao Phone: +86 532 6678 8888 Internet: www.hisense-plaza.com

Taidong Night Market /



The Taidong Night Market is always crowded and is one of those places that primarily draw in locals in the know. You can find all kinds of street

food along the market, as well as souvenirs. Beware of pickpockets.

Photo: Glowonconcept / Shutterstock.com Address: Taidong Commercial Pedestrian Street Opening hours: 24/7 More Info: Most stands and shops close at 23h

Qianyu Qianxun /



This souvenir shop is only a few steps away from St. Micheal's Cathedral. The Japanese-style shop has a vast selection of original souvenirs at reasonable

prices. It is definitely worth checking out.

Photo: Sam's Studio / Shutterstock.com Address: 176 Zhongshan Lu, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h20 - 23h Phone: +86 532 8286 1696 More Info: Next to Sajiao Pub

TOURIST INFORMATION



photobyphotoboy / Shutterstock.com

Qingdao Liuting International Airport



Qingdao Liuting International Airport (TAO) is located 31 km from the centre of Qingdao city. The Airport Express leaves from the

airport to the city hall every 30 minutes between 06.00 and 21.00, the whole trip takes about 100 min. Taxis to the city centre should take around 45 minutes, depending on traffic, and costs

approximately 60 RMB.

Photo: Juan Garces Address: Qingdao International Airport, Qingdao Phone: +86 532 965 67 Internet: www.qdairport.com

Passport / Visa



For citizens of the following countries, the visa is not requested for short term stays : - 90 days: Bosnia and Herzegovina, San

Marino

- 60 days: Mauritius

- 30 days: Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Ecuador, Fiji, Grenada, Qatar, Serbia, Seychelles, Tonga, United Arab Emirates.

- 15 days: Brunei, Japan, Singapore.

Holders of passports issued by the following 49 countries do not require a visa for a 144-hour stay if they are transiting through Qingdao Airport. However, passengers need to provide ticket showing their first destination, which should be outside China, nor could it be in the same country as the inbound flight. - All European Union citizens, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Iceland, Japan, Macedonia, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Qatar, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States. - Messengers who enter China by Qingdao Airport cannot leave Shandong province during the transiting period. .

Photo: TukTuk Design / Shutterstock.com

Internet Access and VPN in China



Due to the Internet policy of China, certain websites and applications are not accessible from the mainland, which includes those very commonly

used in the west (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Google, Skype and more). Some travellers have been able to gain access to those via a VPN service (installed prior to arrival in China).

Make sure you comply with local laws and regulations when deciding on whether or not to employ a VPN, and which one to choose (if you do, only use those explicitly allowed by the Chinese government, and only use them for authorised purposes to avoid any trouble). There have been reports of foreigners in China getting their cell service cut off in response to unauthorised use of VPN being detected; restoring cell service required a trip to the local police station where contents of the device were investigated and certain apps removed.

Giving that Google is banned in China, Google Maps might not be the most accurate and reliable source of information. Some local apps such as Baidu Maps and AutoNavi tend to work better than Google Maps.

Photo: TukTuk Design / Shutterstock.com

Best Time To Visit



Qingdao is a coastal city, which makes the best months to visit Qingdao July and August. A latitude of around 37° means means summers

never get too hot. In June, the temperature starts

to rise but the sea might still be a little cold for swimming.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



Qingdao Railway Station is located in the western part of Qingdao, near the Zhanqiao Pier. The rail ticket office is in service from 04:30 to 22:30.

Tickets can be booked five days in advance.

Qingdao is accessible with the bus network, maintained by 187 routes and 3,700 buses which run on the roads. Most of the buses are ticket-seller free and accept IC cards. The fare is generally 2RMB.

Qingdao subway system has 4 lines in running. Passengers are recommended to buy a one day ticket for 15 RMB or a three days pass for 35 RMB.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair Phone: +86 532 9510 5175

Taxi



Jetta and Santana are the major taxi companies in Qingdao, which are of the conventional type. This type charges a minimum of 10 RMB within 3 km

and 2 RMB/km. Luxury type taxis charge a minimum of 12 RMB within 3 km and 2.5 RMB/km. An extra 0.4 RMB/km is charged for the rides from 22.00 to 05.00. Receipts are available upon request and would be necessary if customers need to make inquiries or complaints. You can also use taxi cab hailing service with WeChat or Alipay (like the Chinese version of Uber).

Photo: ArrivalGuides Phone: +86 532 8380 7661 / +86 532 8380 7502 More Info: Prices updated July, 2016

Post Office

China Post



Photo: Andy Fuchs Address: 220 Yan'an San Rd, Shinan District, Qingdao Opening hours: 8h - 18h Phone: +86 532 8389 0131

Pharmacy



Photo: Gemma Garner Address: 9 Shantou Lu, Qingdao Phone: +86 532 8588 3701

Telephone



Country code: +86 Area code: 532

Hui Ren Pharmacy

Electricity



220 V/50 Hz Adapter needed

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population 8.335 million (2017)

Currency RMB 1 yuan =10 jiao

Opening hours Office hours are 09:00-17:30, from Mondays to Fridays. Banks are open from 09:00-16:00 on weekends. Most malls and supermarkets close at 22:00.

Internet http://qdta.qingdao.gov.cn/n28356069/n32563281/index.h tml (Chinese only)

Newspapers Bandao Daily Qingdao Daily Qingdao Pictorial Qingdao Financial Daily

Emergency numbers Police: 110 Ambulance: 120 Fire: 119