



# Xi'an

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canghai76/Shutterstock.com

Xi'an was once called Chang'an, the City of Long-lasting Peace. The city was the capital of the legendary Tang Dynasty, as well as 13 other dynasties, and the legendary ancient Silk Road started here.

The variety of folk handicrafts that greets the visitor is bewildering. With all this heritage behind it, Xi'an stands proud even in the face of its modernisation, a spectacular testament to the magnificent legacy the Chinese are so proud of.

## Featured



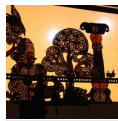
**Muslim Quarter /**  
China's Muslim population has been firmly established in Xi'an for centuries...



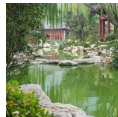
**Qing Long Temple /**  
Known as the Temple of the Green Dragon, Japanese monks came to study Buddhi...



**Gulou Tower /**  
This ancient drum tower holds a total of 24 drums, which corresponds to the ...



**Gao's Grand Courtyard /**  
This historic house belonged to an affluent family back in the day so you ca...

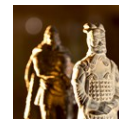


**Huaqing Hot Spring /**  
Located adjacent to Mausoleum of The First Qin Emperor and Lishan National F...

## Top 5



**Dayan Pagoda /**  
Built initially by the Tang Emperor to honour his mother, the Da Ci'en Templ...



**Emperor Qinshihuang's Maus... /**  
This is the one attraction that has captured the imagination of visitors bot...



**Xiaoyan Pagoda /**  
Xiaoyan Pagoda (Small Wild Goose) is lower than the Dayan (Giant Wild Goose)...



**Huashan Mountain /**  
As one of the most famous mountains in China, Hua Mountain is considered sac...



**Ancient City Wall /**  
The well-preserved city wall, which is almost 12 km long, has stood for more...



## THE CITY



Obbchao/Shutterstock.com

History-lovers should definitely add Xi'an to their itineraries. From the Drum Tower in the center of town to the world-famous Terracotta Warriors which stands guard in the Mausoleum of The First Qin Emperor (the first ruler to successfully conquer the disparate feudal kingdoms to form a unified China) and the stones that make up the ancient city walls which greeted weary travelers of the far west, this city is branded with historic footprints.

## DO & SEE



VLADJ55/Shutterstock.com

Xi'an offers you a wide range of historical heritages to understand Chinese history and culture from different sides, from visiting the house of an affluent family back in the day to Terracotta Warriors, the precious legacy of China's first emperor, as well as the ancient city walls, where built six hundred years ago and are possibly the most completely preserved city walls

in the world.

### Dayan Pagoda /



Built initially by the Tang Emperor to honour his mother, the Da Ci'en Temple is the place where millions of historical rarities are housed. According to legend, all the Buddhist holy books were stored and translated after eminent monk Xuanzang returned from the journey to seek the scriptures. Inside the temple stands the Dayan Pagoda (also known as Giant Wild Goose Pagoda), constructed in the 7th century by China's first woman leader, Empress Wu Zetian.

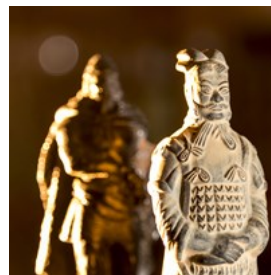
Photo: jejim/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Ci'en Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 9h - 17h

Phone: +86 29 8552 7958

### Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum /



This is the one attraction that has captured the imagination of visitors both from inside and outside the country. China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, whose greater-than-life ambition also gave birth to the creation of the Great Wall, amassed battalions of life-sized warriors fashioned out of clay, complete with chariots and horses. Each soldier has a different and unique facial expression. Even after more than 2,200 years (it was finished in 210 BC), the warriors remain in perfect condition, watching over their long deceased ruler.

Photo: benjasanz/Shutterstock.com

Address: Qinling Bei Lu, Lintong District, Xi'an



Opening hours: 8h30 - 18h  
Phone: +86 29 8139 9001  
Internet: [www.bmy.com.cn/2015new/bmyweb](http://www.bmy.com.cn/2015new/bmyweb)

### Xiaoyan Pagoda /



Xiaoyan Pagoda (Small Wild Goose) is lower than the Dayan (Giant Wild Goose) Pagoda. However, it contains more floors. Like its larger

counterpart, it was built around 700 AD, and its primary purpose was to hold the holy Buddhist scriptures carried to China. In the neighbourhood of the pagoda, the Shaanxi Museum is home to many treasures in the province.

Photo: Alex Kwok/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)  
Address: 72 Youyi Xi Lu, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 9h - 18h  
Phone: +86 29 8780 3591

### Huashan Mountain /



As one of the most famous mountains in China, Hua Mountain is considered sacred to the Taoist religion. It is a strenuous climb, but

there is a ropeway that gives visitors headed to the mountain as an easier option. The breathtaking views at the top with clouds floating on the mountains worth your effort. Although 120 kilometres away from the city of Xi'an, it is absolutely worth visiting.

Photo: aphotostory/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Huayin County, Weinan  
Opening hours: 24/7  
Phone: +86 400 0913 777

### Ancient City Wall /



The well-preserved city wall, which is almost 12 km long, has stood for more than 600 years and are still a great way to navigate around the city.

You can cycle or take a walk around the city wall built in traditional style. Locals like to say that they can still hear the sounds of wars and soldiers' cries lingering around, reminding them of those past glories.

Photo: chungking/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Da Nan Men, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 8h - 22h  
Phone: +86 29 8727 2792  
Internet: [www.chinaxiancitywall.com/?m=pc&2](http://www.chinaxiancitywall.com/?m=pc&2)

### Zhonglou Tower /



This 14th-century bell tower is possibly the best-preserved one in China. In ancient times, guards stood and observed the surrounding

countryside to prevent invasions. Today it remains no less important, marking the geographical centre of the city.

Photo: 康伦 刘/flickr(image cropped)  
Address: Zhonglou, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 8h - 22h  
Phone: +86 29 8727 6420

### Gulou Tower /



This ancient drum tower holds a total of 24 drums, which corresponds to the 24 solar terms that the Chinese used back then to mark time. Not a single

iron nail had been used in the erection of this

grand structure while first built in the 14th century and reconstructed 300 years later. At the top of the tower, you can enjoy both a panorama of the entire city and drum shows every other hour.

Photo: Ben Jeayes/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 74 Beiyuanmen, Lianhu District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 8h - 20h30  
Phone: +86 29 8727 4580

### Huaqing Hot Spring /



Located adjacent to Mausoleum of The First Qin Emperor and Lishan National Forest Park, the water of this hot spring contains many minerals

that are said to be good for the skin. It is said that the most famous imperial concubine of the Tang Dynasty, Yang Yu Huan, one of the four famous beauties of ancient China, chose this as her bathing ground.

Photo: YANGCHAO/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 38 Huaqing Lu, Lintong District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 7h - 19h  
Phone: +86 29 8381 2003

### Qing Long Temple /



Known as the Temple of the Green Dragon, Japanese monks came to study Buddhism in the 9th century and left a legacy here. The annual

cherry blossom festival is held here in March and April, basking the surroundings in a mesmerising sea of soft pink flowers.

Photo: asharkyu/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Xiying Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 9h - 17h

Phone: +86 29 8552 1498  
More Info: North of Tielu Miao Village, the southeast of Xi'an

### Great Mosque /



The Great Mosque is one of the largest, oldest and best-preserved Islamic mosques in China. A trip is worth for its centuries-old history, and

also for its particular design of mixed architecture with traditional Muslim and Chinese styles.

Photo: RPBaiao/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 30 Huajue Xiang, Lianhu District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 8h - 21h  
Phone: +86 29 8727 2541

### Shaanxi History Museum /



If you enjoy exploring museums, this is the right place to fulfil knowledge about the ancient Chinese empire which had situated in this region.

Take a trip through the region's and city's ancient history at this huge museum, which demonstrates four original terracotta soldiers.

Photo: Ana Paula Hirma / flickr.com(image cropped)  
Address: 91 Xiaozhai Dong Lu, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 8h30 - 18h  
Phone: +86 29 8525 3806

### Temple of the Eight Immortals /



Xi'an's largest Taoist temple dates back to the Song dynasty and is still an active place of worship. Supposedly built on the site of an ancient

wine shop, it was constructed to protect against

subterranean divine thunder. Scenes from Taoist mythology are painted around the courtyard. Empress Cixi, the mother of the last emperor, stayed here in 1901 after fleeing Beijing during the Boxer Rebellion.

Photo: Ana Paula Hirama/flickr(image cropped)

Address: 12 Beihua Xiang, Chang Le Fang, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 7h30 - 18h

Phone: +86 29 8248 8214

Internet: [www.baxiangong.cn](http://www.baxiangong.cn)

### Muslim Quarter /



China's Muslim population has been firmly established in Xi'an for centuries, and the Muslim Quarter of the city extends north from

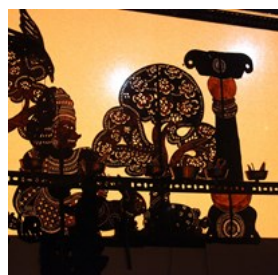
the Drum Tower over small alleys and backstreets, which feature halal butcher shops, small mosques, food markets and shops selling typical wares.

Photo: fotoinfot/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bei Yuan Men, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 24/7

### Gao's Grand Courtyard /



This historic house belonged to an affluent family back in the day so you can see how they lived and how they used each section of the house.

You can also enjoy the varied artistic experience here including shadow play, paper cutting and painting. During shadow play talks, you can learn more about traditional Chinese tale.

Photo: Suyash Dwivedi/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)

Address: 144 Bei Yuan Men, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 8h30 - 22h30

## DINING



Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com

The cuisine in Xian is greatly influenced by the flavors of Northwestern China. Home to more than 600,000 Muslims, the food here is markedly different from the food that is served in traditional Chinese restaurants.

One defining characteristic is the use of lamb in its dishes since Muslims are not allowed to eat pork which is most commonly used in Chinese cooking. Another one is the substitute of rice by flat bread and the Pita Bread soaked in Lamb Soup. Both represent the food culture of this ancient city. Of course, being an international city means other cuisines like Western, Japanese, Korean and South Asian are also represented here.

### First Noodle Under The Sun /



Xi'an is known to be the kingdom of noodles. As a historical wheat production area, the city has a thousand-year-long history of making

noodles. Today you can find hundreds of variations throughout the province, with or without soup, boiled or sautéed, thick or thin, round or flat, sweet or spicy, noodles have



become the very fundamental part of locals' life, and you can always find one that you adore.

Photo: cobraphotography/Shutterstock.com

Address: 195 Hanguang Nan Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8935 2658

### Five Zen5es /



Five Zen5es offers you extensive options of Chinese and Japanese dishes so you can enjoy a wide variety of food including Liangpi,

steamed flounder fish and dim sum. You may also try the traditional hot soup with BBQ eel and chicken: the flavour and portion size will never let you down.

Photo: Slawomir Fajer/Shutterstock.com

Address: 66 Ci'en Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 11h30 - 14h, 17h30 - 21h30

Phone: +86 29 6568 6568

More Info: Inside The Westin Hotel

### Redfort Indian Restaurant /



Redfort Indien Restaurant serves you a wide range of authentic dishes of the Indian cuisine in a magnificent ambience of live Indian dance

performances in a historic fort decor. It is a great place to spend some time with family and friends, as the range of beverages and popular Asian dishes can always satisfy different cravings.

Photo: norikko/Shutterstock.com

Address: 118 Datang Xi Shi, Laodong Nan Lu, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8411 3559

More Info: Next to the China Cinema

### Ganges Indian Restaurant /



After serving Beijing city for over 9 years, Ganges Indian Restaurant comes to Xi'an and is now based very close to the city's iconic landmark: the Wild

Goose Pagoda. You will be served a range of traditional dishes of Indian cuisine, including vegetable karahi and aloo matar. Voted the best Indian Restaurant in Beijing for over 6 years, it entices with affordable prices and delicious food.

Photo: Maris Kiselov/Shutterstock.com

Address: A5-3 Happy Mall Food Court, Ci'en Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8931 8440

Internet: [www.ganges-restaurant.com/en](http://www.ganges-restaurant.com/en)

### Cyclist Restaurant /



Would you love to have some Italian and European food after staying in Xi'an for a while? Cyclist Restaurant offers a range of Italian

and European dining choices from salad to steak, as well as great beer and wine selections, including fruit beer. You will be served by English speaking staff with a warm and welcoming attitude.

Photo: nadianb/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 Huangcheng Dong Lu, Xincheng District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 11h30 - 14h30, 17h30 - 21h30

Phone: +86 29 8744 6504

### Fan Ji Rou Jia Mo /



Rou Jia Mo can be likened to a Chinese take on a burger. The meat is stewed for hours in a secret broth seasoned with more than 20 spices, then finely chopped and served in freshly baked bread. Don't forget that you have other options including ramen, cold rice, fermented glutinous rice and other traditional snacks.

Photo: L.F/Shutterstock.com

Address: 53 Zhubishi Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 8h - 20h30

Phone: +86 29 8727 3917

### Chang'an Diner /



There are many kinds of delicious traditional street foods in Xi'an. However, they are scattered around the city and often hide in the alleyways, which can make them hard to find.

Chang'an Diner is the restaurant that brings all these traditional dishes together. They even took it one step further and came up with some creative dishes such as sweet fermented rice ice cream and Mahjong-shaped sesame dessert.

Photo: rodho / Shutterstock.com

Address: Xiaozhai Dong Lu, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8932 6688

More Info: 6F, Seg International Shopping Mall

### Lao Sun Jia /



This restaurant started in 1898 and is renowned domestically and abroad. It is one of the best places to try Xi'an's famous dish yang rou pao mo, which is bread soaked in traditional mutton soup. The restaurant also serves beef and mutton steamed bread, local snacks, as well as Western halal cuisine. The honorary chairman of the Chinese Kuomintang, Lien Chan once inscribed it as "hundred years delicious".

Photo: Paul\_Brighton/Shutterstock.com

Address: 78 Dongguan Zheng Jie, Yanta District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8249 4851

### CAFES



Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com

Most of the cafes in Xi'an provide both European and Chinese food and drinks in a casual and relaxing environment. You can find a range of coffee shops from local to global chain instalments, which serve high quality coffee and treats.

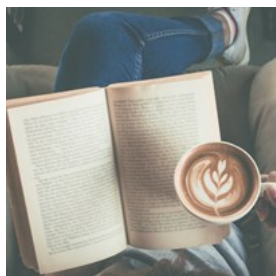
### Marley's Coffee



Would like to have a taste of western food in Xi'an? Marley's Coffee is your ideal destination serving hot drinks and snacks, as well as cocktails with good live music later in the evening.

Photo: MR.PATCHARAPHON/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 3 Nan Da Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 16h - 3h  
Phone: +86 29 8739 0095  
More Info: Next to Xiangxie Coffee

### Pingze Coffee /



This newly opened café is currently a hit on Chinese social media. It is a French-style café with beautiful decor which creates a relaxing

atmosphere. They serve dozens of delicate cakes and desserts. Order a cup of coffee, pick a book, and enjoy a quiet afternoon.

Photo: Ko Backpacko / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Jiefang Lu, Xincheng District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 12h - 20  
Phone: +86 29 8739 9757  
More Info: Next to Papa John's

### Qian Cao /



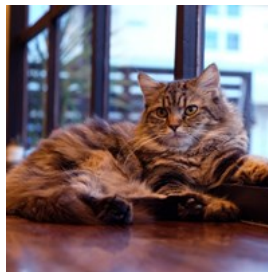
Qian Cao is a uji matcha themed café & dessert shop. They offer matcha flavour ice cream and milkshakes, as well as all kinds of delicate cakes.

Genmaicha and mille-feuille matcha are a must-try combination.

Photo: Elena Veselova / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Jiefang Lu, Xincheng District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 22h  
Phone: +86 29 8737 0091  
More Info: Inside Minyue Garden

### Miao Café /



Who would say no to cute kittens? Here at Miao Café, you can have some nice coffee while enjoying the company of these beautiful little creatures.

The café also takes care of all the details. All the drinks are served with lids; hand sanitizer and shoe covers are provided when entering the place.

Photo: Pattanan / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 20 Bingjiao Xiang, Lianhu District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 11h - 21h30  
Phone: +86 29 8756 4122

### Maan Coffee /



Would like to refresh yourself in a well-designed coffee shop? Maan Coffee brings you a cosy atmosphere with Turkish interior

decor elements, all while you're being served with a wide range of drinks and food ranging from brewed black coffee and cappuccino to fresh sandwiches.

Photo: portumen/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Huancheng Nan Lu, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 9h - 24h  
Phone: +86 29 8964 3668  
Internet: [www.mankafeijm.com](http://www.mankafeijm.com)



### Le Ban Coffee /



Searching for a cosy place for a break from the city? Le Ban Coffee is the perfect choice for you as they serve a variety of drinks and food including carrot cake and latte in a warm and relaxed ambience.

Photo: AngieYeoh/Shutterstock/com

Address: 88 Nanguan Zheng Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 8h - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8765 1617

More Info: 2F, Wangfujing Department Store

### BARS & NIGHTLIFE



*bbernard/Shutterstock.com*

Bars are the most bustling locales at night in Xi'an, and they scatters all around the city, from the centre to the university campuses. The best-known is Telford Lane, where different styles, music, beers, locations, and ambience all combine to attract regulars to different clubs. Most of these nightspots open at around eight in the evening and close at around two in the morning.

### Tang Dynasty /



Tang Dynasty is a leading entertainment theatre and dinner restaurant in Xian. It offers a unique experience to indulge yourself in exotic Chinese performance of dance and music that was used in ancient ritual prayer for a good harvest and better life.

Photo: Kevin Poh/flickr(image cropped)

Address: 75 Chang'an Bei Lu, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 11h30 - 14h30, 17h30 - 22h

Phone: +86 29 8782 2222

### Jeno Belgium Pub /



You can choose from over 40 different Belgian beers imported from Belgium and a wide range of pizza and burgers including Mediterranean pizza in this popular Western-style bar. The patio is a nice place for enjoying a burger and fries with fantastic live music.

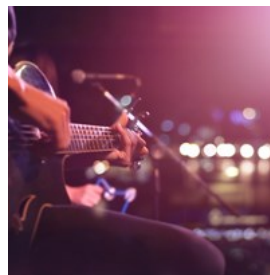
Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 69 Shuncheng Nan lu, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 12h - 1h

Phone: +86 29 8726 4019

### Park Qin



Park Qin is located near the centre of Xi'an. It is the only Terracotta Warriors themed bar in China. The venue has a unique décor, excellent live music and a wide selection of tasty drinks. You are guaranteed to have a good time here.

Photo: PopTika/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Shun Cheng Xi Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 19h30 - 3h  
Phone: +86 29 8728 0092

### Near Wall Bar and Xian Brewery /



Near Wall Bar, as the name indicates, is located nearby the historic City Wall of Xian. Here you can enjoy a beautiful view of the City Walls in the

outdoor patio. Near Wall Bar and Xian Brewery serves you a range of good quality beers and foods. They also produce their own beer that is too good to miss. This bar is popular amongst the expats and is, of course, English friendly.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: 40 West Section of Shuncheng Bei Lu, Xi'an

Opening hours: 16h - 2h

Phone: +86 29 8721 9663

Internet: [www.xianbrewery.com/near-wall-bar](http://www.xianbrewery.com/near-wall-bar)

### 3As4 Bar



This fantastic and trendy bar features all kinds of goodies for visitors ranging from

Chinese-style cocktails to a film projector and pool

table. Prices are more than reasonable. And it is also a great place to go for sports night.

Photo: Volodymyr Burdiak/Shutterstock.com

Address: Defu Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 16h - 2h

## SHOPPING



*chuyuss/Shutterstock.com*

When it comes to shopping in Xi'an, the starting point would be the vicinity of the Zhonglou Tower, where many famous shopping malls and international plazas gather and make it a prime shopping spot. This is also a great place to hunt for souvenirs. For those who like Xi'an cuisine, the locals have made many of their favourite snacks and dishes available in a vacuum-sealed easy-to-carry packaging for those who may want to bring quite literally, a piece of Xi'an home.

### Seg International Shopping Mall /



Seg International Shopping Mall is the biggest commercial centre in Xi'an. Here you'll find a cinema, karaoke, restaurants that

offer various cuisines as well as local and international brands. There's also the allegedly longest escalator in Asia with a length of 51 metres, that brings you straight to the 6th floor.

Photo: r.classen / Shutterstock.com

Address: 123 Chang'an Zhong Lu, Ynata District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 10h - 23h

Phone: +86 29 8553 1381

### Hua Jue Xiang /



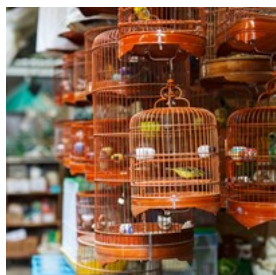
Hua Jue Xiang is a historical area that's been transformed into a commercial street. You can find interesting gadgets, souvenirs, antiques and books. It is not only a shopping spot: the traditional architecture and authentic atmosphere also make the place perfect to simply go for a walk.

Photo: Iryna Hromotska / Shutterstock.com

Address: Hua Jue Xiang, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 24/7

### Xi Cang /



Xi Cang is a flea market that's held every Thursday and Sunday. People flood into this area, display their stuff by the street and form a temporary market that covers five blocks. This is not only a market but an unfolding theatrical play of local living.

Photo: BlueOrange Studio / Shutterstock.com

Address: Sa Jin Qiao, Lianhu District, Xi'an

Opening hours: Every Thursday and Sunday Morning.

### Luomashi Pedestrian Street /



Luomashi Pedestrian Street is a modern fashion neighbourhood commercialised with shops, malls and eateries. It is the right spot to hunt for rare knick knacks, handicrafts and groceries as well as delicious street foods.

Photo: leungchopan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Dong Da Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 24/7

### Ancient Culture Street /



Nearly a hundred shops gather here selling painters brushes, handicrafts and artistic goods like painting paper. Without the crush of tourist crowds, you can have a calming walk and find amazing artwork for home decoration around this picturesque neighbourhood.

Photo: Delpixel/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shuyuanmen, Beilin District, Xi'an

Opening hours: 24/7

Phone: +86 29 8841 8127

## TOURIST INFORMATION



chungking/Shutterstock.com

### Passport / Visa



Xian is one of the Chinese cities that supports the 72-hour transit visa on arrival program, which means that selected nationalities (all citizens of the European Union, as well as several other countries including Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Iceland, Japan, Macedonia, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New



Zealand, Qatar, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, Ukraine, and United States) are eligible for a transit visa on arrival via the Xi'an Xianyang International Airport. For longer stays, a visa must be pre-arranged in advance, so consult your local embassy for details.

You must bring your passport at all times with you for all hotels will insist on seeing it for check-in. It is now mandatory to present your passport when buying train tickets; you will also need it for using internet cafes that accept foreigners.

The Chinese government requires that your passport must be valid for at least six months after the expiry date of your visa when entering the country. You will need at least one blank page in your passport for the visa.

Take an ID card with your photo in case you lose your passport and make photocopies of your passport: your embassy may need these before issuing a new one in case of loss. You must report the loss to the local Public Security Bureau (PSB), who will issue you with a 'Statement of Loss of Passport'.

Long-stay visitors should register their passport with their nation's embassy.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Best Time to Visit



and September.

The best time to visit Xi'an will be when the average temperatures are at a comfortable level between 20°C and 30°C during June, July, August

Photo: VectorA/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

## Airport



Xianyang International Airport is located northwest of Xian, 45 km away from the centre. You can take a taxi from the airport to downtown.

It is economical to take one of the airport express buses heading into town.

Photo: Juan Garces  
Address: Xianyang, Shaanxi  
Phone: +86 29 8879 6997  
Internet: www.xxia.com  
Email: service@xxia.com

## Public Transport



The Xi'an Railway Station is located in the Northeast of the urban area, the starting place of the Silk Road. It takes 30 minutes from the station

to downtown by taxi. The most popular way to tour the city is by bus. A city map would be handy, though it may be a hassle for non-Mandarin speakers.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair  
Address: The eastern of North Huancheng Lu, Xi'an  
Phone: +86 29 8213 1300

## Taxi



It's convenient and simple to travel by taxi in Xi'an. And for non-Mandarin speakers, it is better to have the destination written in Chinese

characters to avoid miscommunication with the drivers.

You can also use taxi cab hailing service with WeChat or Alipay (like the Chinese version of

Uber).

Photo: ArrivalGuides

## Pharmacy



Xi'an Shuanghe Pharmacy  
Hospitals Xi'an Affiliated  
Hospital No.1 Xi'an  
Medical University:  
85227604 Xi'an Central  
Hospital: 87251973 Xi'an

Red Cross Hospital: 87880857  
Xi'an No. 1 Hospital: 87217170

Photo: Gemma Garner  
Address: 8 Dongliu Xiang, Xi'an  
Phone: +86 29 8728 8912

## Post Office

Bell Tower Post Office



Photo: Andy Fuchs  
Address: 1 Bei Da Jie, Beilin District, Xi'an  
Opening hours: 9h - 18h  
Phone: +86 29 8727 9215

## Telephone

Country code: +86 Area  
code: 29



Photo: Jardson Almeida

## Electricity



220V / 50HZ Adapter  
needed

Photo: Stirling Tschan

## Population

Urban: 11.9 million (2020 census)

Metro: 12.3 million

## Currency

1 RMB = 10 jiao

## Opening hours

Businesses are generally open from Monday to Friday, 9.00 until 18.00. Shops are also open on the weekend.

## Newspapers

Sanqin Daily (in Chinese)

Huashang Weekly (in Chinese)

## Emergency numbers

Police: 110

Ambulance: 120

Fire: 119

## Tourist information

Xi'an Tourism Bureau

159 Beiyuanmen, Lianhu District, Xi'an

+86 29 8729 5608