



南京旅遊  
NANJING CHINA

### **Experience China's City of Ancient Greatness Through Its Colorful Festivals**

*Nanjing offers visitors opportunities to become fully immersed in the city's history and culture*

**New York, NY (February 19, 2019)** – Visitors from around the world come to Nanjing to witness history in motion in one of China's four great ancient capitals, and there is no better time to plan a trip than during one of the city's major festivals and events. Here are some festivals travelers should consider when planning their travel itineraries:

#### **February**

##### **Qinhuai International Lantern Festival**

Nanjing is home to China's largest lantern festival, which takes place at the end of the Chinese New Year and is commemorated with a variety of folk customs. Now through February 22, the Confucius Temple area is lit by countless red lanterns adorning its streets, stores, and homes. The origin of Qinhuai International Lantern Festival can be traced to the early days of the Southern Dynasties, when lantern fairs were held in the city of Nanjing to pray for good weather for the crops, happy families, and a peaceful world. The festival takes place annually, so it's never too early to start planning travel for 2020.

#### **Mid/Late February through March**

##### **Nanjing International Plum Blossom Festival**

Nanjing's Plum Blossom Festival offers visitors the chance to stop and smell the flowers. China's answer to Japan's Cherry Blossom Festival, this month-long celebration showcases 35,000 plum blossom trees in 120 varieties -- including China's oldest -- scattered in a 250-acre park on Purple Mountain. Travelers who visit Nanjing during the latter part of the festival will also smell the fragrant scents of other trees in the gardens including peach blossom, pear blossom, cherry blossom and osmanthus. The 2019 festival launched on February 16.

#### **June**

##### **Nanjing Dragon Boat Festival**

Dragon boat races are one of China's oldest traditions, dating back more than 2,500 years, and Nanjing is home to one of the most dynamic dragon boat festivals. Dragon boat racing is said to originate from the legend of people paddling out on boats to seek the body of patriotic poet Qu Yuan who drowned himself in the Miluo River. Races are held in Mochou Lake Park, where scores of spectators gather to watch teams compete. During the festivities, revelers also enjoy traditional festival food such as zongzi, which are rice dumplings flavored with nuts and wrapped inside bamboo leaves. This year's festival takes place June 7 - 9.

**September/October  
Hairy Crab Festival**

Hairy crabs are a delicacy in many Asian countries, known for their vibrant orange roe and rich, buttery texture. Chinese people believe that female hairy crabs taste best around mid-September, with males peaking in mid-October. During Hairy Crab Festival, the furry-clawed crustaceans are sold in stalls and by vendors throughout Gaochun County in southern Nanjing. The crabs are sourced from nearby Gucheng Lake, one of the country's top breeding grounds.

**October to March****Tangshan Hot Spring Culture Tourism Season**

Dating back more than 1,000 years, Tangshan Hot Springs have been known a shengtang or "holy spring" since ancient times. The springs stay comfortably warm throughout the year and contain 30 rejuvenating minerals. During the annual Culture Tourism Season, visitors can combine the hot springs with a variety of other attractions including arts, culinary, and nature.

**About Nanjing**

Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu Province is situated in the Yangtze River Delta area 190 miles northwest of Shanghai. Recognized as one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China, Nanjing has served as the capital city of 10 Chinese dynasties and regimes for a total of more than 1,800 years. A sophisticated metropolis and a modern center of history, education, and culture, Nanjing is home to some of the country's most significant historical attractions such as the Xiaoling Tomb of the Ming Dynasty, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Mausoleum, The Presidential Palace, and a City Wall, which dates back more than 600 years. Popular attractions also include China's oldest public library and one of the country's first museums, the Nanjing Museum.

Nanjing is accessible by Nanjing Lukou International Airport (NKG) with daily flights from North America. Three train stations – Nanjing Railway Station, Nanjing South Railway Station, and Nanjing West Railway Station – connect Nanjing to all of China's major cities, including Shanghai, which is a 90-minute ride via bullet train or three hours by car.

For more information on Nanjing please visit [www.GoToNanjing.com](http://www.GoToNanjing.com).

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