



## TOP ATTRACTIONS IN NANJING

### Confucius Temple Qinhuai Scenic Area

The Qinhuai River, known as the “Mother River” of Nanjing, is the focal point of the city’s cultural center. The scenic area that surrounds it includes temples, historic buildings, gardens, tourist-friendly shops, restaurants and other sites of interest.

The Confucius Temple was first built on the banks of the Qinhuai River in 1034 during the Song Dynasty. The temple was eventually renovated, only to be destroyed in 1937 during World War II. In 1984, the Chinese government re-constructed and expanded the temple complex in the architectural style of the Ming and Qing dynasties. Notable attractions on its grounds include the Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall; Dacheng Hall, which features the largest figure of Confucius in China and a collection of 38 panels made with jade, gold and silver that detail his life; and the former residences of Wang Xie and Li Xiangjun which provide a look into the lives of several of Nanjing’s significant historical figures. Visitors can also take a leisurely cruise in a boat along the Qinhuai River, admiring the sights and experiencing tea and local snacks, along with traditional Chinese music performed on Gu Qin, a Chinese seven-stringed zither, and Lu Sheng, a reed-pipe wind instrument.

**Location:** Gongyuan Street, Qinhuai  
**Hours:** Dacheng Hall, 8AM–9:30PM daily; Imperial Examination Hall, 8:30AM–10PM daily  
**Admission:** Confucius Temple grounds CNY 40 (US \$6); 50-minute Qinhuai River boat ride, CNY 60 (US \$8.90) daytime / CNY 80 (US \$12) evening

### Dr. Sun Yat-sen’s Mausoleum

The mausoleum of Dr. Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925), the father of the Republic of China, is a site of deep historical significance, magnificent architecture and beautiful scenery located at the Zhongshan Scenic Area in Purple Mountain. Covering nearly 20 acres, the lush scenic area is a tribute to the noble spirit and heroic efforts of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's devotion to the Chinese people and their fight for independence. Visitors can view the memorial archway, mausoleum gate, tombstone pavilion and memorial hall. The coffin chamber is not accessible to visitors.

**Location:** Xuanwu  
**Hours:** Tuesday – Sunday, 8:30AM–5PM; Closed Monday  
**Admission:** Free

### Grand Bao'en Temple

This newly opened archeological site and museum on the south bank of the Qinhuai River exhibits the history of the Grand Bao'en Temple (also known as the Porcelain Tower), a Ming Dynasty era pagoda that was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Medieval Age. The temple’s re-construction was funded

by Chinese businessman Wang Jianlin with what is reported to be the largest single personal donation ever made in China.

**Location:** No.1, Yu Hua Road, Outside Zhong Hua Gate, Qin Huai District, Nanjing.  
**Hours:** 9AM–5PM Daily  
**Admission:** CNY 80 (US \$11.85 )

### **Nanjing Folk Museum**

Housed in the Nanjing’s largest and best preserved private mansion dating from the Ming Dynasty, exhibits at the Nanjing Folk Museum focus on traditional daily life and handicrafts of the city throughout history. The museum has more than 300 rooms, and in addition to the architecture itself, a large collection of precious ancient books and various traditional handicrafts such as Chinese puppet shoes, clay figurines and paper cuttings are also on display. Professional craftsmen give demonstrations on how the handicrafts are made, and visitors can also take part in workshops and classes to learn the techniques.

**Location:** No. 15, 17 & 19, South Zhongshan Road  
**Hours:** 9AM – 5PM daily  
**Admission:** CNY 20 (US \$3.20)

### **Nanjing Library**

Established in 1907, Nanjing Library is China’s oldest public library and served as the national library during the Republic of China. The library houses important scientific, cultural, and arts literature relating to Jiangsu province and other national historical records. The library contains more than 1.5 million ancient books and volumes of documents and manuscripts including Buddhist scriptures dating from the Tang Dynasty to the Ming Dynasty.

**Location:** 189 Zhongshan E. Road, Xuanwu  
**Hours:** Monday – Friday, 9AM – 9PM; Saturday – Sunday, 9AM–5:30PM  
**Admission:** Free  
**Website:** [www.jslib.org.cn/njlib\\_Englishversion/](http://www.jslib.org.cn/njlib_Englishversion/)

### **Memorial Hall of the Victims of the Nanjing Massacre**

Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall was built in 1985 to commemorate the victims of the 1937 Nanjing Massacre. The memorial is a solemn tribute to the approximately 350,000 lives that were lost in the attack by the Japanese and includes historical documents, cultural relics, art and sculptures.

**Location:** 418 Shuiximen Street, Jianye  
**Hours:** 8:30AM – 4:30PM daily, closed Monday  
**Admission:** Free  
**Website:** [www.nj1937.org/en/](http://www.nj1937.org/en/)

### **Nanjing Museum**

Nanjing Museum is one of the first museums to be established in China, and it is also one of the largest. Visitors can discover everything from ancient civilizations to the early days of the Republic in exhibitions, displays, and performances. The museum boasts one of the world's most extensive collections of imperial porcelain from the Ming and Qing Dynasties, and it is also known for its full size suit of armor made from small jade tiles that dates back to the second century Eastern Han Dynasty.

**Location:** 321 Zhongshan E. Road, Xuanwu  
**Hours:** 9AM – 5PM daily (Closed for maintenance on Monday afternoon)  
**Admission:** Free  
**Website:** [www.njmuseum.com/en](http://www.njmuseum.com/en)

### **Nanjing City Wall**

Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang, the founder of the Ming Dynasty, ordered the building of this historic landmark to protect Nanjing from invaders during its time as the capital from 1368 to 1421. The original wall was nearly 22 miles long and was considered to be one of the longest city walls in the world. Today, approximately 15.5 miles are still intact, and six sections are open to the public.

**Location:** Lanqi Street, Qinhuai  
**Hours:** Summer, 8AM – 6PM; Spring, Autumn and Winter, 8:30AM-5PM  
**Admission:**

- Shence Gate to Taiping Gate, including the City Wall Museum, CNY 30 (US \$4.50)
- Taiping Gate to Guanghua East Street, CNY 20 (US \$3)
- East Water Pass to West Water Pass, including the barbican of Zhonghua Gate, CNY 50 (US \$7.60)
- Qingliang Gate – Guofang Garden, Free
- Dinghuai Gate – Yijiang Gate, Free
- Zhongfu Road – Central Gate, Free

### **Nanjing Yunjin Cloud Brocade Museum**

Dating back almost 1,600 years, Yunjin (or cloud brocade), arose from one of the most exquisite and sophisticated weaving methods in Chinese history and is recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Incorporating precious materials such as silk, gold, silver thread and even peacock feathers, the textile was once reserved exclusively for the emperor's dragon robes. In the Yunjin Cloud Brocade Museum, visitors can watch expert craftsmen weave the brocade at a workshop and see examples of how the art has changed throughout history.

**Location:** No.240, Chating Street (East), Jianye District  
**Hours:** 9:00AM-5:30PM daily  
**Admission:** Free

### **Nanjing Niushoushan Cultural Park**

[Nanjing Niushoushan Cultural Park](#), which opened in late 2015, was established to collectively exhibit and preserve the cultural treasures of Niushou Mountain – a centuries-old sacred Buddhist site in southern Nanjing. The park consists of an opulent and meticulously detailed Buddhist palace built into the side of the mountain which spans six floors underground; the Tang-style Usnisa Pagoda nestled in the trees; and Usnisa Temple, a hillside monastery complex made up of two sections - a southern district with monks' living and dining quarters and a northern district for prayer and worship. The temple has seven distinct halls, including a meditation hall for up to 300 people.

**Location:** Jiangning District  
**Hours:** April—November (8:30AM-4:30PM) December—March (9:00AM-4:30PM)  
**Admission:** 98 CNY (US \$14.50)  
**Website:** <http://eng.niushoushan.net/>

### **Sifang Art Museum**

Opened in 2013, the Sifang Art Museum allows visitors to experience the very best of contemporary architecture, design, and art in a lush forest setting. Designed by New York architect Steven Holl, the Sifang Art Museum was launched by real-estate developer Lu Jun in response to China's rapid urbanization. Compelling permanent architecture and rotating curated exhibits are designed to promote public appreciation for contemporary art and architecture in Nanjing. The park's futuristic centerpiece is a suspended gallery created by Holl, which displays a fine art collection.

**Location:** No.9 Zhenqi Road Pukou District  
**Hours:** Wednesday – Sunday, 10AM – 5PM; Guided tours – Wednesday and Saturday, 2PM-5PM. Reservations required, and groups must be 10 people or more. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance.  
**Admission:** General admission: 50 CNY (US \$7.80). Exterior tour: 30 CNY (US \$4.50). Sifang Art Museum exhibition including interior of Sifang Art Museum and a tour around Sifang Collective exterior 40 CNY. VIP tour: 100 CNY (US \$15.20)  
**Website:** [www.sifangartmuseum.org/en](http://www.sifangartmuseum.org/en)

### **The Presidential Palace**

This massive compound dates back more than 600 years, when it originally served as the residence of a Ming Dynasty official. The palace played a particularly important role in provincial history during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century such as being the grounds where Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat-sen was declared the first provisional president of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912 and serving as the headquarters for successor Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang government from 1946 to 1949. Visitors can see Chiang's office, kept in its original state, on the second floor of Zichao Building.

**Location:** 292 Changjiang Rd, Xuanwu  
**Hours:** December – February, 8:30AM–4PM daily; March–November, 8:30AM–5PM daily; Closed Monday  
**Admission:** CNY 40 (US \$6)

### **Xiaoling Tomb of the Ming Dynasty**

The mausoleum of the Ming Dynasty's founding emperor, Zhu Yuanzhang, and his wife Ma, is one of the largest imperial tomb complexes in China. The most iconic part of the 600-year-old UNESCO World Heritage Site is the half-mile long Sacred Path, along which four pairs of stone warriors and 12 pairs of mythical creatures play guard to the deceased emperor. The tomb is set amongst an incredibly scenic environment where seasonal plants form breathtaking backdrops -- plum blossom in spring and ginkgo and maple trees in autumn.

**Location:** Wengzhong Road, Xuanwu District  
**Hours:** 6:30AM–5PM daily  
**Admission:** CNY 70 (US \$10.60)

### **Xuanwu Lake Park**

Just a few steps away from commercial thoroughfares, this former imperial lake garden ushers city dwellers from the urban hustle and bustle into a peaceful haven of weeping willows, arch bridges, paddle boats, and visually stunning flowers. The park showcases a distinct color for every season: pink cherry blossoms in spring, emerald lotus leaves in summer, golden ginkgos and red maples in autumn, and snow-covered pines in winter. Much of Nanjing's downtown is built around this massive, smooth body of water. A casual stroll around the lake and through its five islands, which are all connected by bridges, can take up to five hours.

**Location:** Xuanwu District; Xuanwu Gate is the closest entrance to the park  
**Hours:** 6AM–8PM  
**Admission:** Free park admission; a sightseeing bus around the lake is CNY 30 (US\$4.80) per person per trip

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

### **Media Contact:**

Ashley Norman  
PHG Consulting  
[ANorman@phgconsulting.com](mailto:ANorman@phgconsulting.com)  
Tel: +1 646 465 9775

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