



# Ānhuī

POP 64.1 MILLION

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## Best Mountains

- » Huángshān (p385)
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- » Qíyún Shān (p380)

## Best Villages

- » Xīdì (p380)
- » Hóngcūn (p381)
- » Chéngkān (p383)

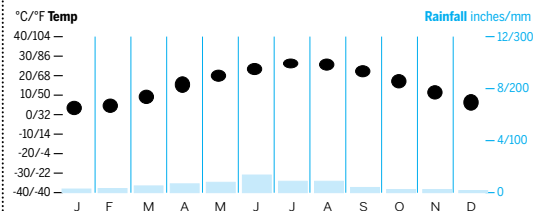
## Why Go?

Well-preserved villages and fantastical mountain scapes are the principal draw for visitors to Ānhuī (安徽). The main attraction of this southern Huīzhōu region is unquestionably Huángshān, a jumble of sheer granite cliffs wrapped in cottony clouds that inspired an entire school of ink painting during the 17th and 18th centuries. But the often-overlooked peaks of nearby Jiǔhuá Shān, where Buddhists bless the souls of the recently departed, are much quieter, with a hallowed aura that offers a strong contrast to Huángshān's stunning natural scenery.

At the foot of these ranges are strewn the ancient villages of Huīzhōu; their distinctive whitewashed walls and black-tiled roofs stand out against a verdant backdrop of green hills and terraced tea gardens. Ānhuī's lush mountains and slower pace of life are the perfect antidote to the brashness of China's larger cities.

## When to Go

### Túnxī



**Mar** Summer days are best for climbing ethereal Huángshān.

**Oct** The terrain is awash with autumn colours – Tǎchuān is particularly pretty.

**Dec** The snow-capped rooftops of Xīdì's Hui houses make the bitter winter worthwhile.



## Ānhuī Highlights

- 1 Climb and stay on the iconic Chinese mountain, **Huángshān** (p385)
- 2 Explore the grottoes and dilapidated temples at Taoist **Qiyún Shān** (p380)
- 3 Soak up the Ming-dynasty vibe along Túnxī's **Old Street** (p377)
- 4 Join the Buddhist pilgrims at fog-shrouded **Jiùhuá Shān** (p390)
- 5 Don't miss the World Heritage village of **Hóngcūn** (p381)
- 6 Eschew crowds and enjoy authentic village life at **Chéngkānā** (p383)
- 7 Soar across heavy plumes of feathery bamboo in Mükēng...on a **zipline** (p382)
- 8 Seek out the unmarked **Pig's Heaven Inn** (p382) in Xidi for a fantastic meal
- 9 Make a movie pilgrimage to where Ang Lee and Zhang Yimou shot films, in **Guānlǚ** (p382)