



Fújiàn

POP 36.8 MILLION

Includes »

Xiàmén.....	272
Gǔlàng Yǔ.....	277
Fújiàn Tǔlóu	280
Quánzhōu.....	284
Around Quánzhōu	286
Fúzhōu	287
Wǔyí Shān	288

Best Temples

- » Nánpǔtú Temple (p273)
- » Kǎiyuán Temple (p284)
- » Cǎo'ān Manichean Temple (p287)
- » Guāndì Temple (p284)

Best Tǔlóu Clusters

- » Tiánluókēng Tǔlóu Cluster (p282)
- » Gǎoběi Tǔlóu Cluster (p282)
- » Hóngkēng Tǔlóu Cluster (p281)
- » Yúnshuǐyáo Tǔlóu Cluster (p282)

Why Go?

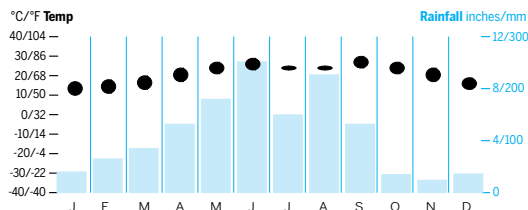
If you talk to Chinese descendents in Southeast Asia or in Taiwan, you're likely to find that many of them have roots that go back several centuries in Fújiàn (福建) on China's southern coast. With a seafaring mentality, Fújiàn used to be one of the windows that connected China to the outside world. Its multicultural heritage still stands beautifully in Xiàmén and Quánzhōu, where you can glimpse the region's glorious maritime past.

Moving inland, rolling hills are dotted with some of the quirkiest buildings in China. Rising like castles, the marvellous *tǔlóu* (roundhouses) in Fújiàn's southwest will add delight to your China experience. Heading northwest, the mountainous Wǔyí Shān offers hiking opportunities galore.

The slow-tempo harbour city of Xiàmén is a useful first port of call. From here, you can drift to the popular isle of Gǔlàng Yǔ, or the more enchanting Taiwanese island of Kinmen.

When to Go

Xiàmén



Mar & Apr Beat the summer heat with a springtime visit to the World Heritage-listed *tǔlóu*.

Jun & Sep Visit the breezy coast of Xiàmén and island-hop in summer or autumn.

Oct Low-season prices and clear mountain air coalesce in the rugged, lush Wǔyí Shān.



Fujian Highlights

- 1 Wander around the breezy **Xiàmen** (p272), one of China's most attractive cities
- 2 Lose yourself in the warren of back lanes in **Gǔlàng Yǔ** (p277), an island packed with colourful colonial villas
- 3 Explore the region's World Heritage Site, **Fújiàn tǔlǒu** (p280), massive, semi-enclosed earthen edifices that are the ancient equivalents of modern-day condos
- 4 Conjure up the vanished era of China's maritime glory in **Quánzhōu** (p284)
- 5 Amble down the alleys and ramparts of the walled city of **Chóngwǔ** (p286), one of the best preserved in China
- 6 Hike and marvel at some of Fujian's most magnificent terrain at **Wūyí Shān** (p288)
- 7 Float on a raft down the **Nine Twists River** (p288) and look for boat-shaped coffins in cavities along the rock faces
- 8 Detour to pretty **Kinmen** (p279), Taiwan's closest island outpost to China