



Guǎngdōng

POP 93 MILLION

Includes ➔

Guǎngzhōu	552
Fóshān	566
Kāipíng	567
Yángjiāng	569
Zhàoqíng	571
Around Zhàoqíng	572
Qīngyuǎn	573
Shēnzhèn	575
CháoZhōu	580
Méizhōu	584
Dàbù	585

Best for History

- ➔ New Guǎngdōng Museum (p552)
- ➔ Mausoleum of the Nányuè King (p556)
- ➔ Zǔmiào (p566)
- ➔ Whampoa Military Academy (p553)

Best Views

- ➔ Zìlì (p567)
- ➔ Yúyìn Mountain Villa (p566)
- ➔ Nánlíng National Forest Park (p550)
- ➔ Dīnghú Shān Reserve (p572)
- ➔ Lover's Road (p579)

Why Go?

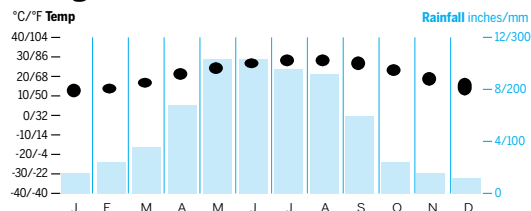
Guǎngdōng's unique culture and natural beauty fly under the radar and have yet to be discovered by many travellers, so you may have a plethora of sublime sights (not to mention great dim sum) all to yourself.

Northern Guǎngdōng (广东) is home to some wild and wondrous landscapes. In the blue pine forests of Nánlíng, the music of waterfalls and windswept trees boomerangs in your direction. If it's Unesco-crowned heritage you're after, Kāipíng's flamboyant watchtowers and the stylised poses of Cantonese opera will leave you riveted. What's all the fuss about Hakka and Chiuchow cultures? Well, find out in Méizhōu and CháoZhōu.

Historically Guǎngdōng was the starting point of the Maritime Silk Road and the birthplace of revolution. On the scenic byways of the Pearl River delta, you'll uncover the glory of China's revolutionary past. While on the surf-beaten beaches of Hǎilíng Island, an ancient shipwreck and its treasures await.

When to Go

Guǎngzhōu



Apr–Jun Verdant paddy fields against the built wonders of Kāipíng and Méizhōu.

Jul–Sep Blue pines and stained-glass windows offer respite from summer.

Oct–Dec The typhoons and heat are gone; this is the best time to visit.



Guǎngdōng Highlights

- 1 Climb dramatic Unesco-crowned watertowers at **Kaiping** (p567)
- 2 Be awed by the crouching dragons of the Hakka architecture at **Měizhōu** (p567)
- 3 Visit **Foshan** (p566), the hometown of two martial arts legends
- 4 Cross the majestic **Guǎngjǐ Bridge** (p582) with its 18 boats and 24 piers
- 5 Be mesmerised by the labyrinthine streets and storied mansions of old towns such as **Cháyáng** (p585)
- 6 After a day's hike, fall asleep to the whispered
- 7 Lunch in a garden-restaurant in **Guǎngzhōu**
- 8 Visit silken beaches and an 800-year-old shipwreck in **Yángjiāng** (p569)

symphony of an ancient forest in **Nánling National Forest Park** (p574)

(p552) while listening to an operatic aria