



Liáoníng

POP 43.9 MILLION

Includes ➔

Shěnyáng	304
Dàlián	308
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Dāndōng	314
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Best Walks

- ➔ Dàlián's southwest coastline (p310)
- ➔ North Korean border (p315)
- ➔ Xīngchéng's beach (p318)

Best Historical Sites

- ➔ Imperial Palace (p304)
- ➔ North Tomb (p305)
- ➔ Tiger Mountain Great Wall (p316)
- ➔ Xīngchéng Old City (p318)

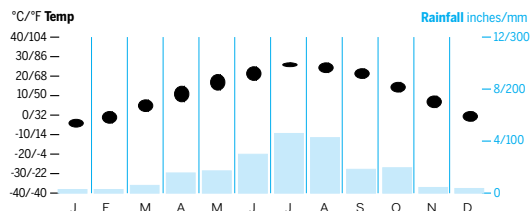
Why Go?

History and hedonism run side by side in Liáoníng (辽宁). Walled Ming-dynasty cities rub up against booming beach resorts, while imperial palaces sit in the centre of bustling modern cities. Nothing quite captures the fun and distinction, however, as much as seaside Dàlián with its golden coastline and summer beer festival (or is that bacchanalia?), and former battlegrounds where Russian and Japanese armies wrestled for control of the region in the early 20th century.

Outside of the major cities, Liáoníng is largely an expanse of farmland, forest and smokestack towns. The North Korean border runs alongside the province and is an intriguing area. It's as close as you can get to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) without actually going there...though you could go via tour from Dāndōng if you wanted to. Here, the large Korean population and easy mix of cultures provide a ready example that China is only a land of stereotypes if you never venture far into it.

When to Go

Dàlián



May & Jun Catch deals on a seaside hotel.

Jun & Jul Enjoy fresh cherries, mulberries and blueberries at roadside stands everywhere.

Jul & Aug Have fun at the Dàlián International Beer Festival.



Liaoning Highlights

- 1 Kick back in **Dàlián** (p308) and enjoy the beaches, coastal walkways and beer festival
- 2 Climb the easternmost stretch of the Great Wall at **Tiger Mountain Great Wall** (p316), near Dāndōng
- 3 Cruise the Yalu River close to North Korea and experience the mix of Korean and Chinese culture in **Dāndōng** (p314)
- 4 Explore the **tomb of Huang Taiji** (p305), founder of the Qing dynasty, in Shěnyáng
- 5 Wander the old battlefields and graves of **Lǔshùn** (p312), fought over by rival Japanese and Russian Empires
- 6 Laze on the beach and stroll the old walled city of historic, little-visited **Xīngchéng** (p318)