



Yúnnán

POP 46.3 MILLION

Includes ➔

Kūnmíng	654
Jiànshuǐ	665
Dàlǐ	670
Nuòdèng	676
Lǐjiāng	678
Báishā	684
Tiger Leaping Gorge	687
Déqín	696
Téngchōng	700
Ruǐlì	703
Jǐngshóng	707

Best Hikes

- ➔ Tiger Leaping Gorge (p687)
- ➔ Nù Jiāng Valley (p698)
- ➔ Xīshuāngbǎnnà Minority Villages (p706)
- ➔ Yǔběng Village (p697)
- ➔ Cāng Shān (p675)

Best Natural Sights

- ➔ Lúgū Hú (p690)
- ➔ Báishuǐtái (p689)
- ➔ Yùlóng Xuěshān (p686)
- ➔ Swallow's Cavern (p667)
- ➔ Kawa Karpo (697)

Why Go?

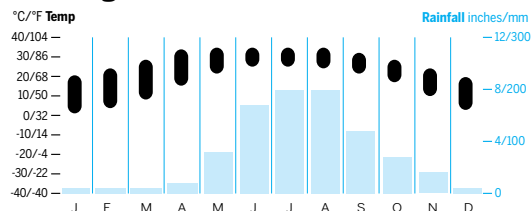
Yúnnán (云南) is perhaps the most diverse province in all China, both in its extraordinary mix of peoples and in the splendour of its landscapes. That combination of superlative sights and different ethnic groups has made Yúnnán *the* trendiest destination for China's exploding domestic tourist industry.

More than half of the country's minority groups reside here, providing a glimpse into China's hugely varied mix of humanity. Then there's the eye-catching contrasts of the land itself: dense jungle sliced by the Mekong River in the south, soul-recharging glimpses of the sun over rice terraces in the southeastern regions, and snow-capped mountains as you edge towards Tibet.

With everything from laid-back villages and spa resorts to mountain treks and excellent cycling routes, Yúnnán appeals to all tastes. Transportation links are good so getting around is a breeze but you'll need time to see it all: whatever time you've set aside for Yúnnán, double it.

When to Go

Kūnmíng



Apr Prepare to get soaked in Xīshuāngbǎnnà during the Dai water-splashing festival.

Jul & Aug Head for the mountains and glaciers around Déqín.

Dec & Jan Escape China's winter chill and head for Kūnmíng, the city of eternal spring.



Yúnnán Highlights

- 1 Gaze over the magical **Yuányáng Rice Terraces** (p667)
- 2 Test your legs and lungs trekking **Tiger Leaping Gorge** (p687)
- 3 Marvel at the peaks (and glacier) around **Déqín** (p696)
- 4 Step off the tourist trail in the ancient village of **Hěijíng** (p664)
- 5 Hike to minority villages in the jungle of **Xīshuāngbǎnnà** (p706)
- 6 Kick back in the cafes and bars of **Dàlǐ** (p670)
- 7 Laze around the shores of stunning **Lúgū Hú** (p690)
- 8 See how time has stood still in the former Tea-Horse Trail oasis of **Shāxī** (p677)
- 9 Get way off the map in **Nù Jiāng Valley** (p698)
- 10 Check out the classic architecture in **Jiànshuǐ** (p665)