



Zhèjiāng

POP 55 MILLION

Includes ➔

Hángzhōu	260
Around Hángzhōu ...	271
Wúzhèn	272
Xīn'ānjiāng	274
Around Xīn'ānjiāng ...	275
Pǔtuóshān	276

Best Escapes

- ➔ Mògānshān (p271)
- ➔ Pǔtuóshān (p276)
- ➔ Xīnyè (p275)
- ➔ Zhūgē (p275)

Best Places to Stay

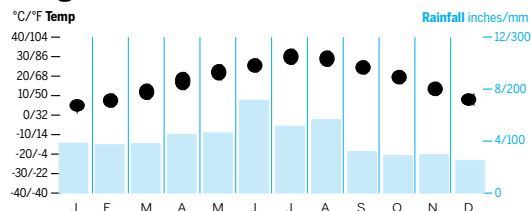
- ➔ Le Passage Mohkan Shan (p272)
- ➔ Four Seasons Hotel Hángzhōu (p267)
- ➔ Mingtown Youth Hostel (p266)
- ➔ Hofang International Youth Hostel (p266)

Why Go?

Zhèjiāng's trump card is its handsome and much-visited capital, Hángzhōu. But while Hángzhōu – a quick zip away on the train from Shànghǎi – is the front-running highlight, Zhèjiāng (浙江) is no one-trick pony. There are the arched bridges and charming canal scenes of Wúzhèn, a water town that typifies the lushly irrigated north of Zhèjiāng with its sparkling web of rivers and canals. The Buddhist island of Pǔtuóshān is the best known of the thousands of islands dotting a ragged and fragmented shoreline while the mist- and tree-cloaked slopes of Mògānshān provide refreshing natural air-conditioning when the thermostat in Shànghǎi is set to blow in the steamy summer months. But it's Zhèjiāng's ancient villages of Xīnyè (新叶) and Zhūgē which should demand your attention, for their unhurried portraits of traditional architecture and bucolic rhythms.

When to Go

Hángzhōu



Late Mar–early May Spring sees low humidity and vegetation turning a brilliant green.

Aug & Sep Flee the simmering lowland heat to the cooler heights of Mògānshān.

Late Sep–mid-Nov Steal a march on winter and evade the sapping summer in Hángzhōu.



Zhèjiāng Highlights

- 1 Hop on a bike for a leisurely circuit of Hángzhōu's inimitable **West Lake** (p260)
- 2 Turn your back on urban China and explore the forested inclines of lush **Mògānshān** (p271)
- 3 Escape to the authentic village charms, ancient architecture and peaceful ponds of **Xīnyè** (p274)
- 4 Discover Zhèjiāng's picturesque canal-town culture at **Wúzhèn** (p272)
- 5 Fathom the ancient fengshuǐ mysteries of **Zhūgē village** (p275)
- 6 Bounce over the waves to the sacred Buddhist island of **Pǔtuóshān** (p276)