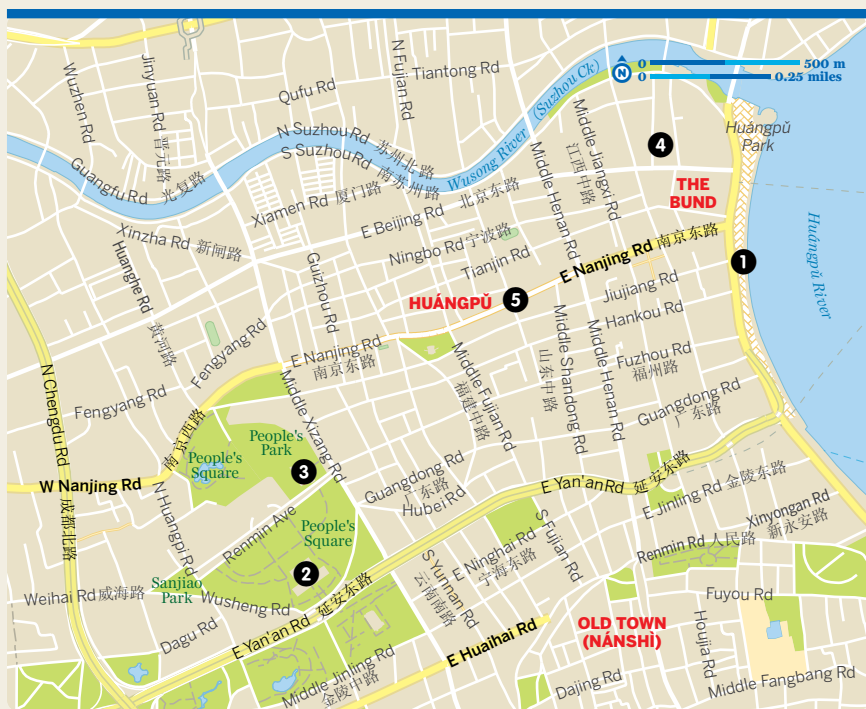


The Bund & People's Square

THE BUND | PEOPLE'S SQUARE

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Stroll along the **Bund** (p52) promenade, then watch Püdong light up through a martini glass.
- 2 Contemplate the masterpieces on display at the **Shànghǎi Museum** (p57).
- 3 Propel your consciousness into the year 2020 at the **Shànghǎi Urban Planning Exhibition Hall** (p65).
- 4 Catch up on the latest in contemporary Chinese art at the **Rockbund Art Museum** (p61).
- 5 Plunge into the neon-lit crowds on **East Nanjing Road** (p61).



For more detail of this area, see Map p280 →

Explore: The Bund & People's Square

Shànghǎi's standout spectacle, the Bund (外滩) has emerged as a designer retail and dining zone, and the city's most exclusive boutiques, restaurants and hotels see the strip as the only place to be. The optimum activity here is to simply stroll, contrasting the bones of the past with the futuristic geometry of Pǔdōng's skyline.

The streets west from the waterfront form a gritty commercial district housed in the shells of concession-era buildings, mixed with newer skyscrapers and office towers. Even the most casual of wanderers divulge sudden architectural gems; see our walking tour (p64) for an introduction to the area known as the Rockbund.

Beyond this is People's Square (人民广场), a rare swathe of open space ringed by skyscrapers. The de facto city centre, it's home to a clutch of museums, entertainment venues, malls, a park and the city hall. Much less austere than Běijīng's Tiān'ānmén Square, People's Square is free of the rigid geometry and paranoia of the capital's better-known rectangle, but crowds can be intense.

Linking the Bund with People's Square is East Nanjing Rd, once China's most famous shopping street. Mostly pedestrian, it's now home to a bonanza of department stores, gaudy neon signs and determined English-speaking girls latching onto foreign men, seeking kick-backs from cafes they drag their victims to. If you don't mind the crowds, it's a fun walk.

Local Life

- ➔ **Dumplings** Sample *shēngjiān* at Yang's Fry Dumplings (p68) or *xiǎolóngbāo* at Jiājīa Soup Dumplings (p69) or Nánxiáng Steamed Bun Restaurant (p69).
- ➔ **Museum Hopping** Spend a rainy day checking out the museums at People's Square (p65).
- ➔ **Shopping** Join the throngs strolling East Nanjing Rd (p72), crowding into malls like Raffles City (p73) or browsing for discounts in the subterranean stalls around the People's Sq metro station.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** The Bund is a 10-minute walk east from the East Nanjing Rd stop (lines 2 and 10). People's Sq, one of the city's busiest stations, is served by lines 1, 2 and 8.
- ➔ **Pedicabs** Drivers hang out in side streets along the Bund and charge ¥10 (total) to Yùyuán Gardens.
- ➔ **Bund Sightseeing Tunnel** Runs from the Bund to Pǔdōng under the Huángpǔ River; see p61 for details.
- ➔ **Tourist Train** Runs the length of East Nanjing Rd's pedestrianised section (tickets ¥2) from Middle Henan Rd to the Shànghǎi No 1 Department Store.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Watch out for young people posing as out-of-town students who work the main tourist drags, approaching visitors and engaging them in conversation. At first, they seem friendly enough. You help them take a picture, chat about China and then they invite you to a traditional tea ceremony. It sounds intriguing, but don't do it. You'll get the tea all right, but you'll also get a bill for about US\$100 and a private escort to the closest ATM machine.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Lost Heaven (p66)
- ➔ Yang's Fry Dumplings (p68)
- ➔ Mr & Mrs Bund (p67)
- ➔ Yúxín Chuāncài (p67)
- ➔ M on the Bund (p67)

For reviews, see p66 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Glamour Bar (p70)
- ➔ New Heights (p70)
- ➔ Long Bar (p70)
- ➔ Jiao Bar (p70)
- ➔ Barbarossa (p71)

For reviews, see p70 ➔

Best Shopping

- ➔ Annabel Lee (p72)
- ➔ SūzhōuCobblers (p72)
- ➔ Shànghǎi Museum Art Store (p73)
- ➔ Shànghǎi No 1 Food Store (p73)
- ➔ Yùnhóng Chopsticks Shop (p72)

For reviews, see p72 ➔