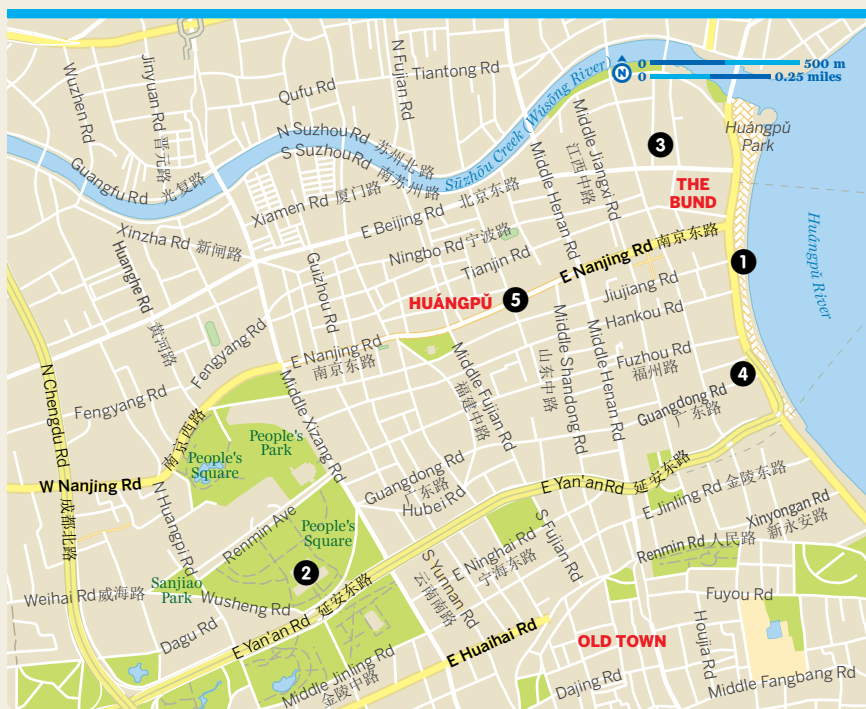


# The Bund & People's Square

THE BUND | PEOPLE'S SQUARE

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Stroll along the **Bund** promenade (p56), and capture Püdong lighting up through a martini glass.
- 2 Load up on Chinese culture's greatest hits at the **Shànghǎi Museum** (p61).
- 3 Catch up with the latest trends in contemporary Chinese art at the **Rockbund Art Museum** (p65).
- 4 Dine at some of Shànghǎi's signature Bund **restaurants** (p69), all with showstopping views.
- 5 Plunge into the neon-lit swell of **East Nanjing Road** (p65).



For more detail of this area see Map p296 →

## Explore: The Bund & People's Square

Shànghǎi's definitive spectacle, the grand sweep of the riverside Bund (外滩; Wàitān) is a designer retail and dining strip; it's *the* address in town for the city's most exclusive boutiques, restaurants and hotels. The best strategy is just to stroll, weighing up the bombastic neoclassical contours with the pristine geometry of Pǔdōng over the water.

The streets west from the waterfront morph instantly into a less salubrious commercial district housed in the uncleaned shells of concession-era buildings, mixed with newer skyscrapers and office towers. Yet even the most casual of wanderers yields sudden architectural gems.

Continuing west is People's Sq (人民广场), a swathe of open space boxed in by towers. The de facto city centre, it's the address of a host of museums, entertainment venues, malls, a park and the city hall. People's Sq is free of the rigid geometry and supervision of Běijīng's Tiān'ānmén Sq, with musicians serenading pockets of crowds.

Linking the Bund with People's Sq is East Nanjing Rd, once China's most famous shopping street. Mostly pedestrian, it's a bonanza of department stores, neon signs, determined English-speaking girls latching onto foreign men (getting kick-backs from cafes they drag their victims to), incessant offers of 'massagee', and hawkers flogging copy watches and gimmicky toys.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Dumplings** Sample *shēngjiān* at Yang's Fry Dumplings (p73) or *xiǎolóngbǎo* at Jiājīa Soup Dumplings (p73) or Nánxiáng Steamed Bun Restaurant (p73).
- ➔ **Museum-hopping** Spend a rainy day checking out the museums at People's Sq (p68).
- ➔ **Shopping** Join the throngs clogging up East Nanjing Rd, crowding into malls such as Raffles City or angling for discounts in the subterranean stalls around the People's Sq metro station (p76).

## 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.
- ➔ **Pedicab** 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.
- ➔ **Tourist train** Runs the length of East Nanjing Rd's pedestrianised section (tickets ¥5) from Middle Henan Rd to the Shànghǎi No 1 Department Store.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

**Avoid young people posing as out-of-town students** who ply the main tourist drags (East Nanjing Rd, the Bund), engaging visitors in conversation. 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 welcoming, but **don't** do it. You'll get the tea all right, but you'll also get a bill for US\$100 or more.

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Lost Heaven (p71)
- ➔ Yang's Fry Dumplings (p73)
- ➔ Mr & Mrs Bund (p72)
- ➔ Yúxìn Chuāncài (p69)
- ➔ M on the Bund (p72)

For reviews, see p69. ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Glamour Bar (p74)
- ➔ New Heights (p74)
- ➔ Long Bar (p74)
- ➔ Bar Rouge (p74)
- ➔ Barbarossa (p75)

For reviews, see p74. ➔

## Best Shopping

- ➔ Annabel Lee (p76)
- ➔ Sūzhōu Cobblers (p76)
- ➔ Shànghǎi Museum Art Store (p76)
- ➔ Shànghǎi No 1 Food Store (p76)
- ➔ Blue Shànghǎi White (p76)

For reviews, see p76. ➔