

ATTRACTIONS

Chimelong Paradise

长隆欢乐世界

With almost 60 different attractions, Chimelong Paradise really deserves its name and is proud to be the amusement park whose rides are the best in China. Many rides, such as the ten-looped roller coaster, ranked as the best in Asia and second in the world, the motor-bike launch coaster and the half pipe, are thrilling. The park also provides visitors with all sorts of performances such as magic tricks, songs and dances, acrobatics and fancy car parades. The international super theater and the most advanced IWERK 4-D Theater provide a new experience in watching films.

Hours: 9:30 am-6 pm, Monday to Friday; 9:30 am-7 pm, Saturday and Sunday
Address: Yingbin Lu, Panyu district
Transportation: Take Metro Line 3 and stop at Hanzi Chimelong station
Tel: (020)84796600

South China Botanical Garden

华南植物园

The South China Botanical Garden is located about eight kilometers to the north of Guangzhou and covers about 741 acres. Initially built in 1929, it is the oldest and largest South Asian tropical botanical garden in China. It is also the botanical garden containing the most species in China. Long Dong Magic Forest is one of the most popular sites at the garden and was chosen as one of the eight top scenic spots in Guangzhou in 1986 by local people. It consists of two peninsulas (the Palm Garden and the Relic Garden) and one man-made lake. The Palm Garden is green all year round while the Relic Garden has four distinctive seasons.

Hours: 7:30 am-5:30 pm
Address: 1190 Tianyuan Lu
Tel: (020)85232037



Xiguan Huge Houses

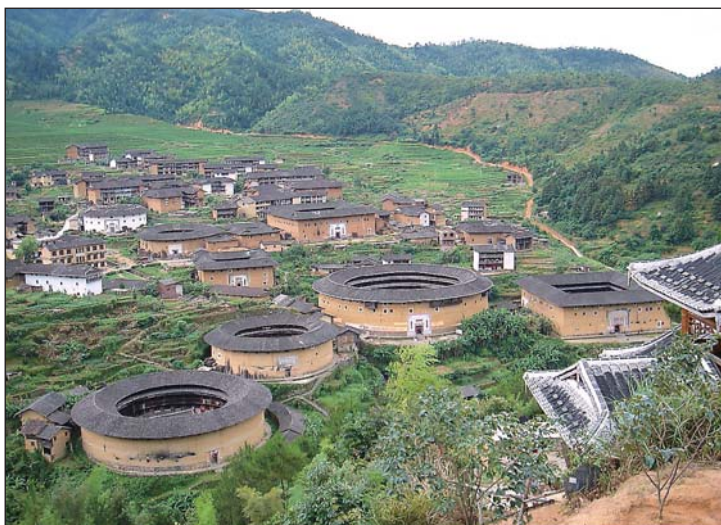
西关大屋

Liwan, called Xiguan in the past, is known for its Huge Houses. Those buildings were the homes of businessmen and rich merchants. They are made of woods and green bricks, and their front gates are decorated with granite. The typical layout of a house is three rooms with two corridors. They are symmetrical with the hall in the middle. Here visitors can also find numerous Cantonese restaurants, tea houses and shops selling local snacks.

Transportation: Take Metro Line 1 and stop at Changshou Lu station, or take bus 2/3/6/82 and stop at Baohua Lu station.

White Cloud Mountain

白云山
People like to use the words "pearl sea and white cloud" to describe Guangzhou's landscape. About 7.5 kilometers north of Guangzhou's city proper, White Cloud Mountain range consists of more than 30 peaks and covers an area of 28 sq km. The main peak, Mox-



EDITOR'S PICK >> OUTDOOR TREKS IN GUANGDONG

As you plan your trips outside Guangzhou, here are three exciting getaways:

• Cycling around the Hakka enclosed houses (pictured)

Lying in northeast Guangdong, Meizhou city is considered the most important dwelling place of the Hakka people. It is famous for the Hakka enclosed houses, which accommodate dozens, even hundreds of families. Each house has its own style, including the enclosed dragon-style house — one of the five major Chinese dwelling styles.

Transportation: Take a bus to Meizhou and then a sightseeing bus to the attractions. The complete trip will take less than five hours. Then do a cycling tour from one village to another.

Accommodation: You can stay in hotels or hostels. Some Hakka enclosed houses offer accommodation.

• Hiking around Kaiping's "castles"

Kaiping City in south-central Guangdong is famous for its diaolou, or castle-like multiple-storey towers, which were built in the 1920s and 1930s by returning Chinese immigrants. The unique architectural style of the 3,000-plus diaolou has earned them a World Heritage Site designation. Diaolou somewhat resembles medieval castles and served as housing and protection against bandits in times of upheaval.

Transportation: Take a bus to Kaiping and then a sightseeing bus to the attractions. The trip takes about three hours.

Accommodation: There is food and accommodation in every county and town. Or you can stay with local families.

• Camping on Zhanjiang beaches

Zhanjiang city is located on the eastern coast of the Leizhou peninsula in southwest Guangdong. It's a place of sun, beaches, pristine coral reefs and pearls. More than two-thirds of China's cultivated sea pearls come from the waters around Zhanjiang. The harbor is home to more than 520 species of fish, 547 types of shellfish and 28 varieties of shrimp. On Donghai, Nansan and Techeng islands, you can walk along the soft sandy beaches under the shadow of coconut trees and enjoy the blue sky and sea.

Transportation: Take a bus to Zhanjiang and then another to the attractions. It takes about eight hours.

Accommodation: The food and accommodation in Zhanjiang is cheap because the beaches were developed years ago and the facilities are relatively old. You can bring your own camping equipment, or you can rent camp sites and equipment at the beaches for about 40 yuan per person each night.

ingling is located in the middle of the mountain range, with a height of 382m. White Cloud Mountain is an historically famous attraction of Guangzhou. At the top of the mountain you can look down on the whole city. Famous poets of different dynasties, such as Su Shi, Yang Wanli and Wang Shizhen, came to visit the place and wrote poems about the mountain. The mountain is of a rectangular shape, with a south-to-north length of 7 km and an east-to-west length of 4 km.

Address: Baiyun district
Tel: (020)87714736

RESTAURANTS

Paris Jie 巴黎街

Paris is a city surrounded by the periferique boulevard, the unofficial limit and ring of the city of love. Paris Jie crosses the periferique and brings a part of this spirit to its clients. In 2010, the first Paris Jie was established in Guangzhou by three French dreamers. Paris Jie is the place to find the finest French food and to have a leisurely stroll around.

Hours: 11 am-3 pm (lunch), 6 pm-11 pm (dinner), Monday to Saturday; 6 pm - 11 pm, dinner only on Sunday
Address: No 110 Bao Lin Yuan, Hua Jiu

Road, Zhujiang New Town
Tel: (020) 38049767

Gail's Place 水云轩

You'll swear you're back in Ohio: Chicken quesadillas, huge cheese burgers, taco salads, even homemade apple pie. This place has got the soundtrack from the commercial alternative radio station playing your favorite MTV hits. And best of all, it delivers anywhere in Guangzhou for free. A little-known secret: though Gail speaks very little English, she was born and raised in Cleveland.

Hours: 11 am-11 pm
Address: 96 Hengfu Lu, Liwan district, at end of Taojin Lu Restaurants
Tel: (020) 83592080

Dongjiang Seafood Restaurant 东江海鲜餐厅

A massive restaurant multiplex covering five floors with a seating capacity of 3,000 — and you'd better believe it actually draws that many customers. Dongjiang provides pure Guangzhou Cantonese cooking, with an entire seafood market on the first floor. But it's also a great place for dim sum. Great for a large group of friends bring them by the busload, if you like. The fish dishes are awesome.

Address: 2 Qiaoguang Lu, Yuexiu district, close to Huaxia Hotel
Tel: (020) 83184901



Taotaoju Restaurant 陶陶居

This is one of Guangzhou's best-known traditional Cantonese restaurants, located in a historic building in the heart of the city's Xiguan district. You can't get any more traditional Guangzhou cuisine than this. It's a great place for dim sum (pictured) and seafood. You haven't lived in Guangzhou until you've eaten dim sum in a true local place like Taotaoju. It is also a popular spot for banquets and parties.

Address: 20 Dishu Fu Lu, Liwan district
Tel: (020) 81396111

WHAT'S ON

Oils record the ancient city

百年广州—冯少协油画展
Passengers flying into Guangzhou are now greeted by 30 large paintings from Feng Shaoxie, deputy president of the Guangzhou Museum of Fine Arts. Feng's paintings are based on photos taken by Westerners traveling to Guangdong in the late 18th century and are now in the British National Library collections. The exhibition has been on display since last November in London, Hong Kong, Beijing and Washington.

When: Until Dec 21
Address: Zone A and B of Arrival Lounge, Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport

Lingnan style art on display at Guangzhou Tower

广州塔岭南艺术展

Souvenirs, dining and a fantastic bird's-eye view of the city are now available to visitors to the Guangzhou Tower — currently the highest building in Guangzhou — where, since Oct 28, an exhibition for premium Guangzhou traditional arts and crafts has been on display. The exhibition includes ivory, jade, bone and wood carvings, Cantonese-style embroidery, enamel, opera costumes and furniture, as well as padauk lanterns. Altogether the show includes 36 pieces made by national-level master craftsmen.

When: until March 22
Address: 31/F of Guangzhou Tower
Ticket: 50 yuan (tickets for Guangzhou Tower to the 31st floor)

Small Paintings, Big World: exhibition by Li Jinming

小作品，大世界
Small Paintings, Big World presents about 100 works by Chinese painter Li Jinming presenting a pictorial history of modern China. Many of the paintings are from Li's personal collection and are being presented to the public for the first time, including his first oil painting dating from 1961 and his only purely abstract painting entitled Garden.

When: 10:30 am-6 pm, until Nov 19
Address: L. C. Yilang Gallery, 11 Guigang San Ma Lu, Dongshan Kou
Tel: (020)37625069

NIGHTLIFE

Baby Face

Part of a family of nightclubs in Zhuhai, Beijing, Chengdu and Shanghai, Guangzhou's Baby Face has set a new level for local nightlife chic. Located on a booming strip of clubs along Changdi Da Ma Lu, all trying hard to out-do each other with ever-increasing levels of opulence and outlandishness, Baby Face seems to have them all beaten. The dance floor moves like none other in Guangzhou. The beautiful people can't get any more beautiful. And the DJs know how to set the groove and keep it there. Sure it's all a tad pretentious, but what good club isn't?

Address: 83 Changdi Da Ma Lu, Yuexiu district
Tel: (020) 83355771

Tang Club 唐会

The place in Guangzhou where "party" meets "artsy". Locals and foreigners flock here to be entertained by live bands and DJs. They accept local cards, which is lucky as beers come in at a relatively hefty 40 yuan.

Address: 1 Jianshe Liu Ma Lu
Tel: (020) 83841638

Elephant & Castle Bar 大象堡酒吧

Founded in the 1990s, Elephant & Castle (E&C) is one of the most popular pubs among foreigners in Guangzhou. Decorated in an old-fashioned British style and featuring a small open courtyard, it has the comfortable atmosphere of a London corner pub. E&C screens live soccer on match days and even has its own team, which has been crowned champion of the Guangzhou amateur soccer league for expats several times. The pub also offers billiards and other games for customers to enjoy.

Address: 363 Huanshi Dong Lu, near Baiyun Hotel
Tel: (020)83593309