

中国青岛

QINGDAO · CHINA

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FOREWORD

Located on the southern tip of the Shandong Peninsula and by the shores of the Yellow Sea, Qingdao is a coastal open city with excellent natural resources and brilliant cultural heritage in northern China.

Qingdao is a key coastal center, a seaside tourist destination, an international port, and a historical and cultural city of China. With jurisdiction over 7 districts and 3 county-level cities, Qingdao boasts a resident population of over ten million.

General Secretary Xi Jinping gives great support to and has high expectations for Qingdao. Since 2018, General Secretary Xi Jinping has visited Qingdao twice and asked Qingdao to capitalize on the opportunity of hosting flagship international events to bolster the city's development, and to build a modern

international metropolis, which has charted the course for Qingdao's future endeavour.

It is a marine gateway to the world. Qingdao has undertaken the national strategic tasks of building the China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area, China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area, etc. It is home to a number of national function zones such as the West Coast New Area, Oceantec Valley, National Hi-tech Zone, and Jiaodong Airport Economic Demonstration Area. The city has nurtured a batch of world-renowned companies such as Haier, Hisense, Tsingtao Beer, and CRRC Qingdao Sifang, a number of leading companies in emerging industries including BOE and Goertek, and certain unicorn enterprises such as TELD and COSMOPlat.

As a lovely town embraced by beautiful sea bays, breathtaking mountains, and the vast ocean, Qingdao is an ideal escape from the winter chill and summer heat. The city is enchanting with perpetual scenery of red roofs nestling among green trees and the blue sea meeting the azure sky, and a winding coastline dotted with elegant and magnificent buildings of diverse architectural styles. This beautiful home endowed with blue sky, green land, and clear sea and water has won the China Human Settlements and Environment Award and has been rated one of the most ecologically competitive cities in China.

This fashionable, dynamic, warm, and romantic city is also renowned for football, film and television, sailing, beer, and art. It has won a series of titles such as National Model City for Public Civility and Social Progress, National Clean City, and National Model City for Military-civilian Mutual Support, and has

been rated among the happiest Chinese cities and most livable Chinese cities.

The grass and trees are exuberant, and the mountains are more beautiful in spring. Aimed at becoming a pioneer city, an innovative city, a hub city, and an inclusive city, Qingdao is stepping up the effort to make itself a pilot in modern industry, a pioneer modern ocean city, an international innovative city, a global gateway and hub, a livable and pro-business tourism city by the bay, and a model city for modern governance. With the vision to take the lead in Shandong, improve its ranking in China, and enhance its reputation in the world, Qingdao strives to write a grand chapter of building a socialist modern international metropolis in the new era.

Work hard to build a brand new Qingdao, and chase our dreams in the new era.



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1. History





Qingdao has a long history and a splendid culture and it's also one of the cradles of Chinese Taoism.

Qingdao is one of the major settlements where the Dongyi people lived in the Neolithic Age over 5,000 to 6,000 years ago, leaving behind rich and colorful Beixin Culture, Dawenkou Culture, Longshan Culture, and Yueshi Culture.

During the Spring and Autumn and Warring States Periods, Jimo, then the second biggest city in Shandong Province, was established. Goujian, King of the State of Yue, established the capital in Langya (in today's Huangdao District) and later became the overlord of the State.

After unifying China, the First Emperor of Qin made five inspection tours around the country and paid three visits to Langya.

Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty was once the King of Jiaodong (today's Jimo Ancient City site) when he was young. He was the most frequent visitor to Qingdao among Chinese emperors according to historical records.

In the Tang and Song Dynasties, Qingdao became the most important transport hub and trading port in northern coastal China, serving as a stopover for ships from the south and the north. An office responsible for maritime trade was set up in Banqiao Town (today's Jiaozhou) in the Song Dynasty.

In the Yuan Dynasty, the Jiaolai Canal was built across the

Shandong Peninsula to facilitate sea transportation.

During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, Qingdao was an important fortress for coastal defense in northern China.

On June 14, 1891, the Qing government established a garrison here, making Qingdao an administrative division.

On November 14, 1897, German troops occupied Qingdao under the pretext of the "Juye Religious Incident" and turned Qingdao into a colony.

In 1914, Japan took over the city from Germany after World War I broke out.

In 1919, the May 4th Movement broke out, triggered by the public outcry over the occupation of Qingdao.

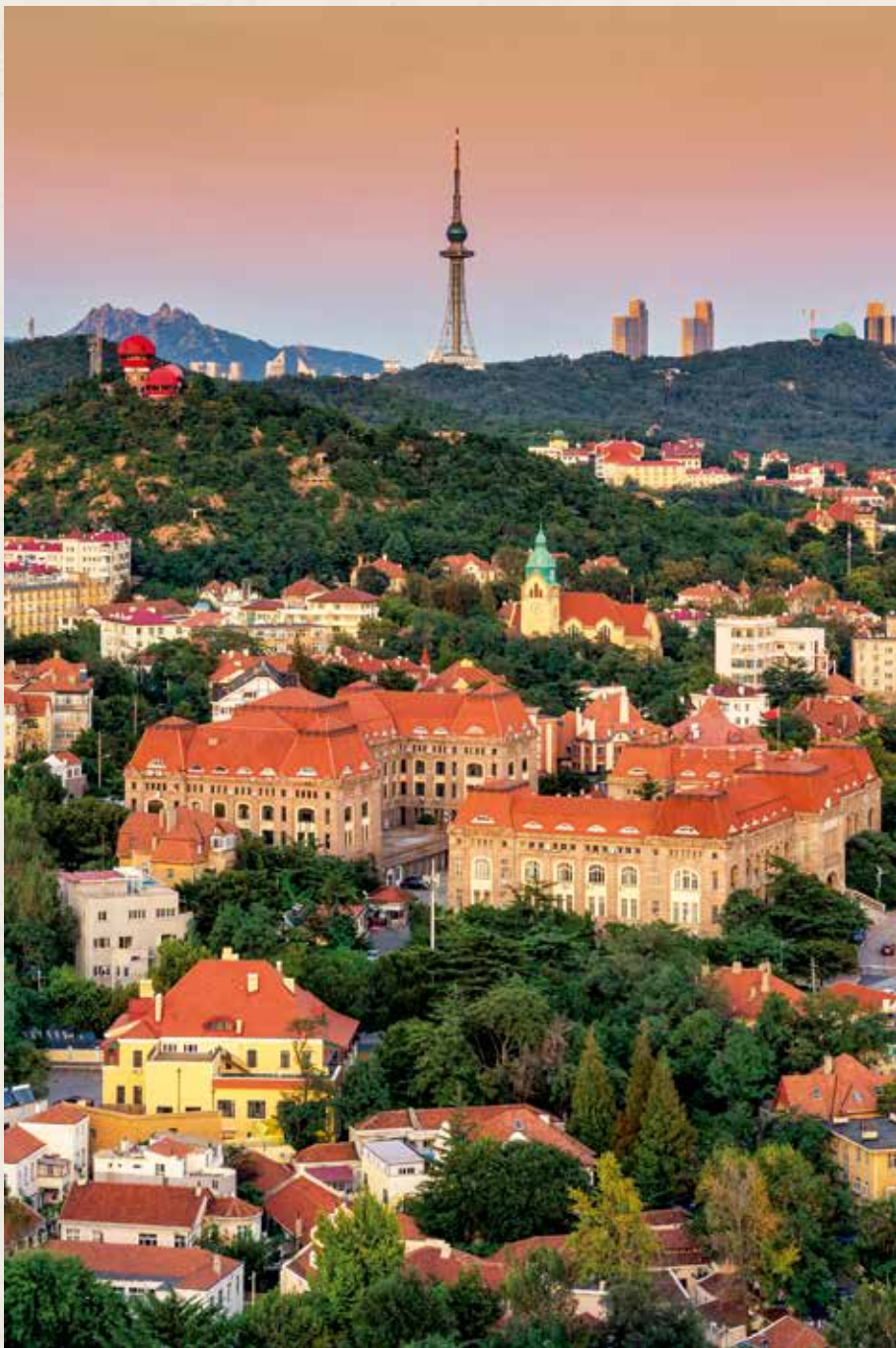
On December 10, 1922, the Chinese Beiyang government recovered the sovereignty of Qingdao and transformed it into a commercial port city.

In April 1929, the Kuomintang government designated Qingdao as a special city and renamed it as Qingdao City in 1930.

In January 1938, Japan seized Qingdao again.

In September 1945, the Kuomintang government took over Qingdao and designated it as a special city again.

On June 2, 1949, Qingdao was liberated and placed under the jurisdiction of Shandong Province.



In 1981, Qingdao was listed among China's economic centers.

In 1984, Qingdao was named one of China's first coastal cities opening up to the outside world.

In 1986, Qingdao became one of the cities with independent planning status.

In 1994, Qingdao became a sub-provincial city in China.

In 2014, Qingdao was identified as the pivotal city of the Belt and Road Initiative along the New Eurasian Land Bridge Economic Corridor and a strategic stronghold for maritime partnership.

In 2016, approved by the State Council, Qingdao was designated as a key coastal center, a seaside tourist destination, an international port, and a historical and cultural city of China.

In 2017, Qingdao was named a City of Film by the Creative Cities Network of UNESCO.

In 2018, the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization was held in Qingdao.

In 2019, Qingdao hosted a multinational naval activity marking the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Liberation Army Navy.

Qingdao was rated among the happiest Chinese cities in 2020-2023.



2. Qingdao at a Glance

Geographical Location and Size

Qingdao is situated at the southern tip of the Shandong Peninsula ($35^{\circ}35'-37^{\circ}09'N$, $119^{\circ}30'-121^{\circ}00'E$) by the Yellow Sea and on the west shore of the Pacific Ocean, and across the sea on its east are the Republic of Korea and Japan. The land area of the city covers 11,282 square kilometers, and the maritime area extends over 12,240 square kilometers.

Administrative Divisions

Qingdao is a sub-provincial city with independent planning status. It has jurisdiction over 7 districts, namely, Shinan, Shibei, Licang, Laoshan, Huangdao, Chengyang, and Jimo, and 3 county-level cities, namely, Jiaozhou, Pingdu, and Laixi. The resident population of Qingdao exceeds 10 million.





Economy

In 2023, Qingdao's GDP reached 1,576.034 billion yuan, an increase of 5.9% year on year. The value-added for the primary, secondary, and tertiary industries stood at 49.275 billion yuan, 526.839 billion yuan, and 999.92 billion yuan, representing an annual increase of 4.1%, 5.6%, and 6.1% respectively. The general public budget revenue increased by 5.1%. The per capita disposable income grew by 6%.

Natural Environment

Qingdao is a hilly city by the sea, featuring a tortuous coastline interspersed with capes and bays. It has Mount Lao in the east, Dazhu Mountain, Xiaozhu Mountain, and Tiejue Mountain in the west, Daze Mountain in the north, and Jiaolai Plain in the middle. There are three river systems, namely, Dagou River, North Jiaolai River, and rivers in coastal areas, as well as three bay clusters including Jiaozhou Bay, Aoshan Bay, and Lingshan Bay. Qingdao has a coastline of 782 kilometers, 49 bays, and 120 islands.

Climate

Qingdao has a semi-humid temperate monsoon climate. The weather is mild and agreeable with abundant rainfall. Winter is free of freezing cold and summer scorching heat. Sea fog occurs often in late spring and early summer. The climate in the coastal areas features a late spring, a cool summer, a crisp autumn, and a long winter.

City Tree and City Flowers

The city tree of Qingdao is the Cedar, and the city flowers are the Camellia and Rose.





3. Innovation

Since the 13th five-year plan period, Qingdao deeply implemented the strategy of innovation-driven development, made efforts to raise scientific and technological innovation ability, cultivated high and new technology industry, optimized the ecology of innovation and entrepreneurship, and continuously improved the supporting and leading ability of scientific and technological innovation. Qingdao has been among the Top 10 Innovative Cities in China (municipalities not directly under the central government) for four consecutive years.

The dynamic of innovation-driven development has even gained further momentum. The R&D investment of the whole society increased by 12.8% in Qingdao, and the city ranked 23rd among the world's Top 100 Science and Technology Clusters released by the World Intellectual Property Organization, up 11 places.

The construction of major innovation platforms has been accelerated. The Qingdao National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology has achieved standardized operation. The main body of the General Control Data Center of the "Zhonghua" Thermophysical Test Facility, a major national scientific and technological infrastructure, has been sealed for its rooftop. The UN Ocean Decade Collaborative Center on the Ocean-Climate Nexus has been officially put into service. Shandong Energy Institute has been put into operation.

Achievements of technological innovation keep emerging. Twenty-four projects have won the China Patent Award, and eighty projects have won the Provincial Science and Technology Award, accounting for 50% and 40% of the province's total, respectively. The number of invention patents



held per ten thousand people has reached 69. The National Innovation Center of High Speed Train, the National High-end Intelligent Home Appliance Innovation Center, and the National Virtual Reality Innovation Center (Qingdao) have achieved breakthroughs in a total of 12 common key technologies in the industries. China's first super-large metal ceramic material heat treatment equipment has been created here.

The innovation capability of enterprises continues to improve. Nineteen province-level corporate technology centers and 22 engineering research centers have been newly established, bringing the total number to 239 and 129, respectively. The coverage rate of R&D institutions in industrial enterprises above the designated size has

reached 85%. The local enterprises have undertaken 38 major national or provincial science and technology projects. There are over 7,900 high and new-tech enterprises and 9,300 technology-based small- and medium-sized enterprises.

The ecology of innovation and entrepreneurship continues to improve. Over 70% of the key technological breakthroughs have implemented the "Open Bidding for Selecting the Best Candidates" scheme. The "Qingdao Craftsman Day" has been established, with 128 model workers selected at the provincial level or above. Qingdao has been selected among the Most Attractive Chinese Cities for Foreigners for the 12th time.



City of Brands

A city's brands represent its modernization progress. With a well-deserved reputation as a city of brands in China, Qingdao is home to Haier, Hisense, Tsingtao Brewery, CRRC Sifang as well as leading companies in emerging industries such as BOE and Goertek, and unicorn enterprises like TELD, COSMOPlat, etc. Its manufacturing strengths are highlighted by popular products hailed at home and abroad including home appliances, high-speed trains, tires, shipbuilding, textiles and clothes, and food.

A number of Qingdao companies created many "firsts" with their pioneering spirit:

Qingdao Haier has been the No. 1 large household appliances retail brand in the world for 15 consecutive years, and the first Deutschland Share listed company in China;

Fuxing bullet train, the fastest in the world, is manufactured here in CRRC Sifang;



Tsingtao Brewery is the first overseas-listed company on the Chinese mainland;

Hiron Cold Chain is China's first company that has solved the issue of "three types of shareholders" and successfully gone public;

TGOOD is the first company listed on the Growth Enterprise Market;

In 2023, Hisense achieved global shipments of 26.11 million units of television, ranking first in China and second in the world. Since 2016, it has sponsored top global sports events such as the UEFA European Football Championship and the World Cup for five consecutive times. Hisense has also been ranked among the top ten most familiar Chinese brands among overseas consumers for seven consecutive years.

The 2023 Global Top 500 Unicorn Enterprises Development Report shows that Qingdao has a total of 14 companies on the list, including NewLink Group, Goermicro, Ririshun, COSMOPlat, TELD, CCS Electric, Cloudsky, YISA, Juhaokan, Weidong Cloud, and Shaohaihui. The number of these local companies ranks fifth in the country and second in north China.



A Fertile Land for Talents

Talents provide a city with a source of vitality and inexhaustible development impetus. In 2023, Qingdao had 2.78 million talents. The development environment for talents is being continuously optimized, and the advantage of gathering high-end, elite, and top talents becomes obvious.

Qingdao is making further progress in the nationwide pilot program for the individual pension system, and implementing a new work-related injury protection system that combines supplementary work-related injury insurance with rehabilitation services. In the city,



1.416 million individuals have opened personal pension accounts, 102,000 individuals from 1,094 companies have participated in supplementary work-related injury insurance, and 340 employees have received rehabilitation services.

Qingdao has released China's first local standard *Specification for Intelligent Service of Labor Capacity Appraisal*, which fills the gap in domestic standards and provides the "Qingdao experience" for the intelligent and standardized construction of labor capacity appraisal in the country.

Qingdao has taken the lead in establishing a working mechanism for labor disputes in China described as "Big data monitoring and early warning + Interdepartmental coordination and disposal". In 2023, a total of 475 pieces of warning information were identified, and 120 major latent risks were effectively addressed through coordinated efforts. This has significantly reduced the number of major collective labor dispute arbitration cases.

As a pilot city for the innovative application of the national social security card "e-card", Qingdao has leveraged the unique resources of the Dabaodao Cultural Leisure Block to create the first "social security card theme park" in the country. It has innovatively launched the integrated application of the social security card in traditional culture, tourism, commerce, and fairs, promoting and facilitating the popularization and benefits of the social security card for the public.



Qingdao Technicians College has been successfully selected as one of the first batch of training bases for the National Basic Skills Engineering Project. It aims to cultivate high-quality technical and skilled talents urgently needed in the equipment manufacturing industry for the economic development of Qingdao, and provide sufficient support of skilled talents for the construction of an advanced manufacturing city.

Qingdao has taken the lead in establishing a long-term supervision system for personnel management in public institutions for interim and post-event conditions, pioneered the use of social security cards for elderly care services in the civil affairs sector, and established a purely public welfare-oriented entrepreneurship empowerment center in China. These initiatives have provided the "Qingdao experience" for promoting innovation in the national human resources and social security system.

Since the one and only state-level comprehensive financial reform pilot zone with wealth management as its theme was approved in 2014, Qingdao's financial industry has focused on the construction of a wealth management center, reshaping the new momentum for the development of the city's financial industry, and continuously enhancing the value of "Wealth Qingdao".

In 2023, Qingdao's financial work was based on the overall economic and social development of the city, continuously optimizing financial services, deepening financial reforms, and preventing and controlling financial risks, in order to promote the financial industry to achieve new heights in key indicators. For the

first time, the value added of the financial industry exceeded 100 billion yuan, reaching 104.09 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 6.5%; the financial industry achieved a tax revenue of 23.12 billion yuan, accounting for more than one-tenth of the city's tax revenue, and significantly increasing its economic contribution.

The loan balance in Chinese yuan and foreign currencies reached 3,014.7 billion yuan, crossing four thresholds of 100 billion yuan within one year for the first time, with a year-on-year growth of 11.7%, which is 1.6 percentage points higher than the national average and 0.05 percentage points higher than the provincial average; the newly added loans reached 315.7 billion yuan, reaching a new high in history.





There have been 10 new companies listed and approved for listing, bringing the total number of domestic and overseas listed companies to 85. The city's enterprises achieved a total of 474.75 billion yuan in direct financing through stock and bond issuance, etc. within the year, a year-on-year increase of 39.5%. Among them, the financing of listed companies reached 24.22 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 28.6%; the financing through corporate bond issuance reached 450.53 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 40.1%, indicating a significant expansion in direct financing scale and further optimization of corporate financing structure.

The version 3.0 of the leading "Ten Measures for Venture Capital and Investment" policy in China has been created, which continues to help to build a high-quality capital hub for venture capital and investment. Qingdao has a total of 2,483 private equity funds registered with the Asset Management Association of China, with a total management scale of 188.5 billion yuan. The growth rate of fund quantity and other indicators remains among the top in the country.

The city adheres to project attraction as the core driving force. Four exemplary financial institutions, including UMF, Guolian Asset Management, Gainsense Capital, and Qingdao International Energy Exchange, have settled in here, filling multiple industry gaps. Innovation-driven leadership has been highlighted. Ten national pilot projects, including financial advisory services for non-listed companies, have been approved. The city steadily promotes pilot programs such as pension finance and digital RMB. The scale of pension financial products, such as pension wealth management and specific pension savings, has exceeded 14 billion yuan.

By hosting branding events such as the Qingdao • China Wealth Forum and the Qingdao • Global Venture Capital Conference, Qingdao has risen to the 32nd place in the global financial center index.

Qingdao keeps improving its level of opening up. The construction of the China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA) is progressing solidly, the China-SCO Institute of Economy and Trade is operating in a physical form, the Qingdao International Energy Exchange is in operation, and the Airport Comprehensive Free Trade Zone is up and running.

China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area has secured a total of 302 institutional innovation achievements, with 12 of them, including the "Movables Pledge Financing Business Model", being promoted nationwide by the State Council and national ministries and commissions. The reform and innovation have unleashed the vitality of open development. The global investment attraction plan for key industrial chains has been implemented, bringing in 72 investment projects from the Fortune Global 500 companies from China and abroad. The role of the

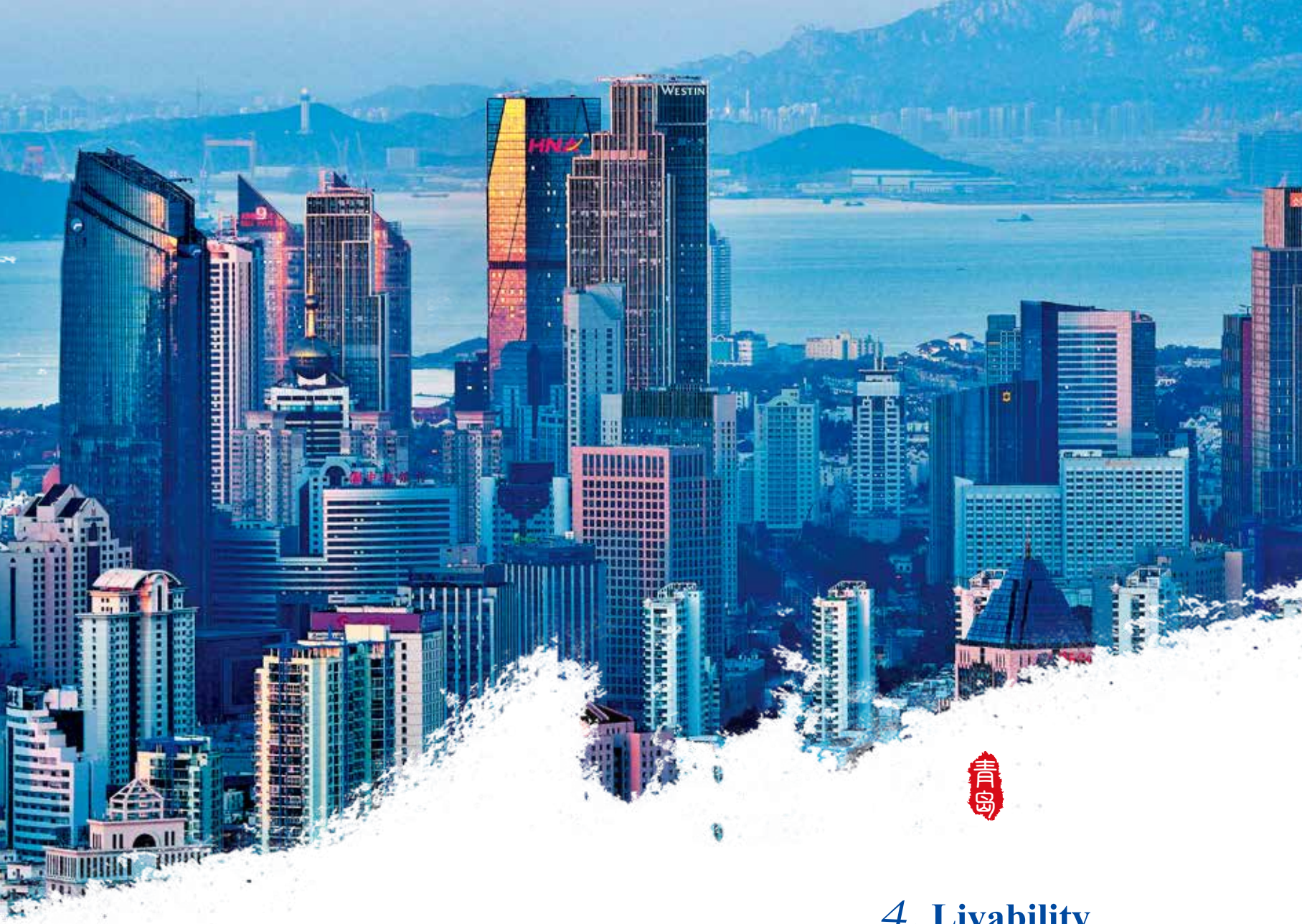
comprehensive reform and opening-up pilot platform continues to improve.

863 China-Europe freight trains were operated, an increase of 11.4%. The throughput of port cargo and containers has exceeded 700 million tons and 30 million TEUs, respectively.

The development plan for the Qingdao metropolitan area has been approved and implemented. The east-west cooperation with Longnan and Dingxi in Gansu Province continues to deepen.

The number of international sister cities has increased to 87. Qingdao has successfully hosted major events such as the 4th Qingdao Multinationals Summit, the China + Central Asia (C+C5) Industry and Investment Cooperation Forum, the SCO Forum on People-to-People Friendship and the Forum on Friendship Cities, the SCO Industrial and Supply Chains Forum, the 2023 SCO International Investment and Trade Expo, and the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation.





4. Livability



Significant progress has been made in the construction of major infrastructure projects. The Mingcun-Dongjiakou Expressway and the Qingdao-Lanzhou Expressway (from Shuangbu to Hetao section) expansion project has been completed and opened to traffic. The connecting line of the Weifang-Suqian High-speed Railway has started construction smoothly. The Laixi-Rongcheng High-speed Railway has been put into operation. Key municipal road projects such as Chongqing Elevated Road, Liaoyang Expressway, Jiaozhou Bay Bridge Elevated Road Phase II, Fuzhou South Road Reconstruction, and Jinjialing Flyover have been completed and put into use, forming the basic framework for the downtown area's "four vertical and five horizontal" expressway network. The metro construction is speeding up, and the whole West Coast Rail Transit Express Line has been joined up. The project of Guanlu Reservoir has been fully underway.

New progress has been made in the renovation and

transformation of key urban areas. 110,000 square meters of historic buildings in historic urban areas have been protected and renovated, and 10 blocks have been opened and operated. Taidong Pedestrian Street has been awarded as a national model pedestrian street. Efforts are being made to accelerate the progress of key supporting projects in low-efficiency areas, such as the construction of CETC Science and Technology Industrial Park and Baheal Pharma Intelligent Manufacturing Industrial Park, which have been under construction. Qingdao has been selected as a pilot city for the redevelopment of low-efficiency land use in the country.

The living environment has been improved. 14 villages in the city have been renovated, and the relocation of contiguous areas such as Zhangcun River and Yantan of such villages has been completed. The construction of 66 resettlement housing projects is progressing smoothly. The renovation of 473 old residential areas has been completed to a high standard, and the surrounding neighborhood environment has been improved in sync. Taipingshan

Central Park and Fushan Forest Park are fully open, with 83 new pocket parks and 100 kilometers of urban greenways built up. 100 urban "micro updates" have been accomplished around urban citizens.

The level of urban management has been improved. The campaign to demolish illegal constructions has been deepened. 8.5 million square meters of illegal constructions have been demolished in accordance with the law, effectively curbing the increase of new illegal buildings. 819 back lanes have been renovated and upgraded, the spaces of 40 urban flyovers have been comprehensively improved, all farmers' markets in the downtown have been standardized, and a new round of upgrades for bathing beaches has been achieved.

A special action has been carried out to regulate traffic order. 24 previously unfinished roads have been completed, 25,000 new public parking lots have been added, and 238 traffic congestion points have been addressed, effectively alleviating traffic congestion. The long-term mechanism and accountability system for meticulous urban management are constantly improving.





Business Environment

The business environment is crucial for high-quality development. In 2023, Qingdao prioritized the optimization and improvement of the business environment. The city carried out a special campaign called "Deepening the Improvement of Work Style and Enhancing the Business Environment" throughout the city, aiming to continuously improve Qingdao's competitiveness in the business environment and strive for a leading position across the country. Qingdao is unleashing the city's attractiveness and

appeal with an increasingly high-quality business environment.

The city has been awarded the 2023 China's Top Happiest City for Entrepreneurs; ranked among the top ten in the "Tens of Thousands of Private Enterprises Evaluating the Business Environment" as organized by the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce; and ranked the first in the evaluation of the business environment of the nation's top ten sea container ports.



Nine "Qingdao Business Environment Hubs" in SCODA, China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area, Qingdao Enterprise Confederation, Qingdao Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises Association, Qingdao Citizen Center, etc., have been established. Entrepreneurs, business associations and the like have been regularly invited there to have face-to-face communication and exchanges with the government to achieve a government-corporate communication mechanism.

The three teams, namely the Business Environment Expert Committee, the Business Environment Media Observers, and the Business Environment Experience Officers, have been continuously strengthened. Currently, the three teams have achieved full coverage in districts (county-level cities), full coverage of 24 industrial chains, and full coverage of various types of organizational forms.

The comprehensive pilot reform of regional state-owned assets and state-owned enterprises is being further promoted, with the operating income and profits of municipal enterprises increasing by 6.5% and 13.2% respectively, and the ability to match urban development strategies continues to improve.

The "29 measures" for promoting the high-quality development of the private economy have been introduced, with a total of 285,000 newly registered business entities, exceeding a total of 2.13 million. There are 2,032 private market entities per ten thousand people here, ranking third among sub-provincial cities after Xi'an and Shenzhen.

Accessibility is the foundation for opening up and development. Qingdao is forward-looking in planning and building transportation infrastructure such as ports, airports, railways, metros, and roads. In 2021, Qingdao was included in the list of candidate cities for building an international comprehensive transportation hub.

Qingdao Port under Shandong Port Group expedited the building of "one bay and two wings": Dagang Port Area is transforming into an international cruise hub. With the first fully automatic container terminal in Asia completed and in operation, Qianwan Port Area has become one of China's largest container terminal clusters, opening a new era of operation with fully automated containers. And the Dongjiakou Port Area boasts a carrying capacity of over 100 million tons, with deep-water terminals including a 400,000-ton ore terminal, and a 300,000-ton/450,000-ton crude oil terminal. By 2023, Qingdao Port achieved a throughput of 700 million tons and a container volume of 30 million TEUs, ranking fourth and fifth, respectively, in the world. There were 20 new routes added throughout the year, maintaining the leading position in the total number of routes among the ports in northern China.

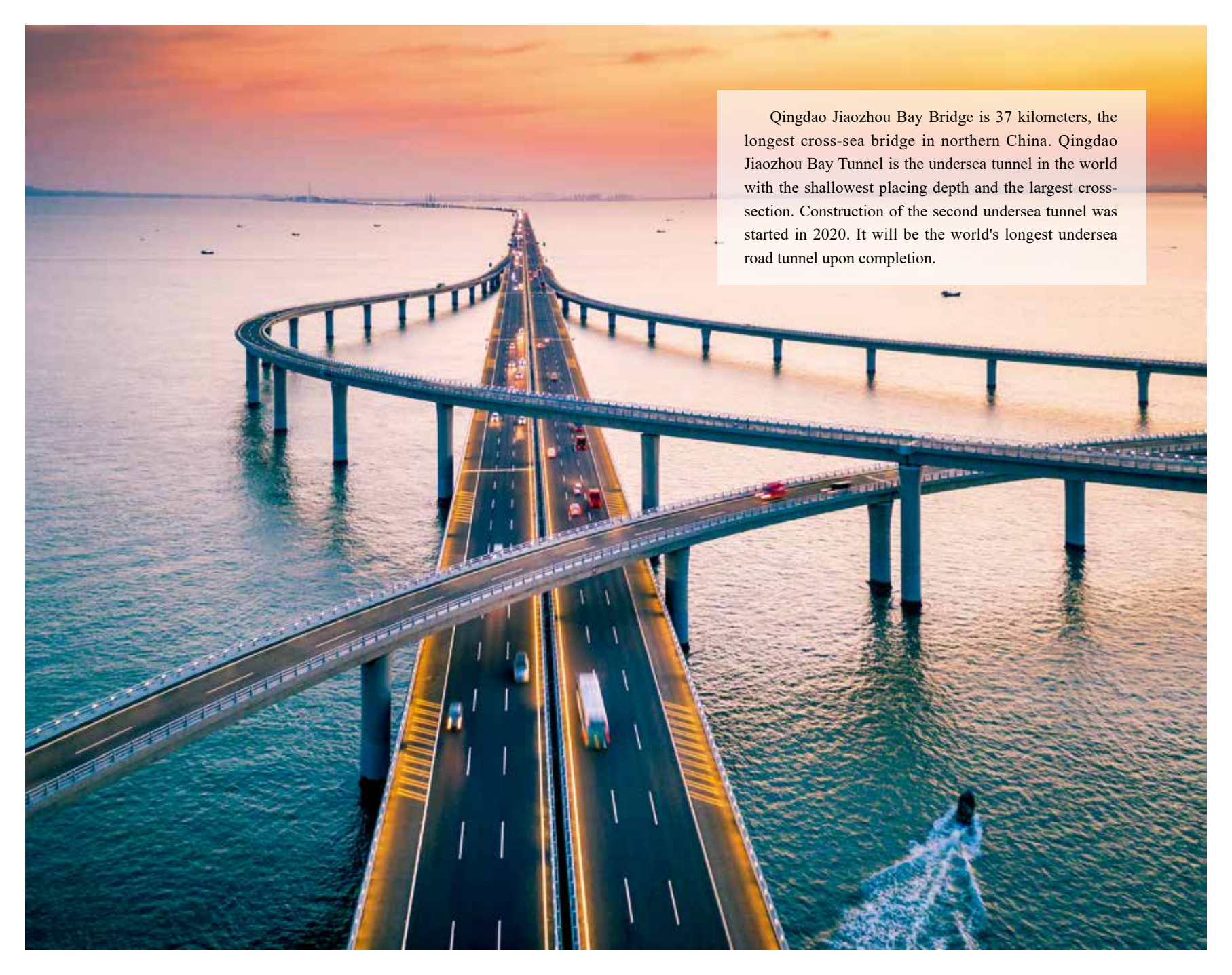




Qingdao Jiaodong Airport, a 4F airport (the highest grade), was operating 243 passenger air routes by the end of 2023, covering 132 cities around the world, and will be able to transport 35 million passengers in 2025 and 55 million in 2045. Its air route network has covered the whole world. With the airport, high-speed railways, metro, and expressways, the whole city is reachable in one hour and all other major cities in Shandong are reachable in two hours.

Qingdao is an important railway hub on the coast of China. In 2023, the Weifang-Yantai High-speed Railway completed the track laying construction of the entire line. The feasibility study of the Weifang-Suqian High-speed Railway Qingdao Connecting Line has been approved. The feasibility review of the connecting line between Dongjiakou and Wari (Yanshi) Railway has been completed.



An aerial photograph of the Qingdao Jiaozhou Bay Bridge and Tunnel. The bridge is a long, multi-lane highway that stretches across the water, supported by numerous blue pillars. It features a complex interchange with several overpasses. The water is a deep blue-green, and the sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue, indicating sunset or sunrise. Several cars and a large truck are visible on the bridge. A small boat is in the water in the lower right corner.

Qingdao Jiaozhou Bay Bridge is 37 kilometers, the longest cross-sea bridge in northern China. Qingdao Jiaozhou Bay Tunnel is the undersea tunnel in the world with the shallowest placing depth and the largest cross-section. Construction of the second undersea tunnel was started in 2020. It will be the world's longest undersea road tunnel upon completion.

Qingdao is a national road transport hub. In 2023, the expansion and reconstruction project of the Qingdao-Lanzhou Expressway (Shuangbu to Hetao section) with eight lanes in both directions was completed and opened to traffic. The mainline construction of the Mingcun-Dongjiakou Expressway and the G204 Dagu River Bridge project was also completed and opened to traffic within the year. 154 kilometers of rural roads have been newly constructed or reconstructed, and 681

kilometers have been maintained, with 13 dangerous bridges renovated.

Currently, the long-term plan for the metro network in Qingdao includes 19 lines and 872 kilometers. The state has approved the construction plan for three phases, which includes a total of 13 lines and 506 kilometers. The approved mileage ranks ninth in the country, and all of them have started construction.



Qingdao, a "City of Film", has a long-standing film tradition. It is home to the still-standing earliest commercial cinema in China and the first Chinese-run movie theater. The first sound film in China was screened here.

With excellent natural scenery and rich cultural heritage, Qingdao itself is a natural studio. A lot of films and TV shows are shot here. The China Movie Metropolis completed in 2018 can meet the needs for shooting domestic and

international blockbusters. Representative works in Chinese film industrialization history have been produced here one after another. Qingdao Film Trade Fair, Film Cities Summit of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), China Film Society of Performing Arts Award (Golden Phoenix Award) Ceremony, and the SCO Film Festival among other film and TV activities were held in Qingdao, with numerous movie stars participating.





Qingdao is also called the Island of Violin and has a long history of music. In the Han Dynasty, Taoism music was popular, and there was a school of Chinese lyre in Mount Lao. *Lü Lü Zheng Sheng*, authored by Wang Bangzhi, a Chinese musician in the Ming Dynasty, is renowned as the earliest classic of music.

In modern times, western music was introduced to Qingdao. The first violin in China was made in Qingdao. Since the 1980s, the piano has entered many common families in Qingdao, making it a long-leading piano-playing city in China. Qingdao is the hometown of many globally acclaimed musicians.

In recent years, Qingdao has hosted many international music events such as the China International Violin Competition, and local music festivals with distinct characteristics, adding bright colors to the fashion life of the city. Qingdao Phoenix Music Festival, started in 2019, is a homegrown music feast with improving quality of performances and a stronger lineup year by year. Qingdao is a city of music with growing prestige.

Qingdao also has a long history of fine art development and is a leading city in China in watercolor. With consistent efforts by generations of watercolor painters, Qingdao has long become a famous city of watercolor.



On September 6, 2023, the Oriental Fashion Season • 2023 Qingdao Fashion Week unfurled its canvas at the Oriental Fashion Center in the West Coast New Area. The theme of this fashion week was "Emerging Power, Invigorating Originality". Designer Liu Wei, winner of the China Fashion Designer Top Award and the ambassador for the promotion of Chinese textile intangible cultural heritage, presented the first fashion show for this fashion week, allowing the audience to experience the fusion and innovation of "textile intangible cultural heritage" and modern fashion up close.

In recent years, Qingdao has been stepping up the construction of art museums and hosting high-level art exhibitions to upgrade public art education. Qingdao TAG Art Museum, a step away from the sea, is beautifully designed. Since opening, it has welcomed numerous visitors and has become an Internet-famous destination.



Sports make the city vibrant and dynamic. Based on the principle of benefiting the people through sports, the city has made great achievements in competitive sports and professional leagues, and the sports industry has achieved high-quality development.

The Sailing City as a city brand is being constantly improved. The 15th Qingdao International Sailing Week • Qingdao International Marine Festival has been successfully sponsored, and 23 sailing (water) events have been hosted including the Fareast Cup International



Regatta; the sea sports tourism brand "Enjoy the Sea by Sailing" has been created; the construction of sailing piers and temporary launching points has been advanced; the Promoting Sailing in Schools activity has been launched to popularize the sailing sport among residents.

A comprehensive legal system for citizen fitness has been established and improved. The city's first local legislation on fitness, *Qingdao Regulations on Citizen Fitness*, has been successfully promulgated and came into effect since January 1, 2024, providing an important legal guarantee to meet the people's growing demand for fitness.

Qingdao is acclaimed for football. Qingdao has been selected as one of the first group of nine key cities to develop football in China; a 50,000-seat professional football stadium that meets the requirements of international A-grade matches has been completed; Qingdao West Coast Football Club has been successfully promoted to the Chinese Football

Association Super League, so Qingdao's professional football sector has created a new situation of "one city with two super league teams", among the first-class ranks in the country.

The city's global prestige has been growing. Qingdao has successfully hosted nearly 30 international and national sports events such as the "Americas Team China Tour" International Football Invitational Tournament, the National Figure Skating Championship, the National Lifesaving Championship, the National Kiteboarding Championship, etc., creating a city of sports events.

The conditions for citizen fitness are being continuously improved,

making it more convenient for local citizens to do sports. Public sports facilities are being constantly improved, 10 sports parks for fitness and 407 fitness trails and facilities have been newly built, retrofitted, or expanded; fitness events are hosted extensively for a multi-tiered, normalized national fitness system. More than 100 municipal-level fitness activities have been sponsored including the First Qingdao Countryside Sports Carnival, the 6th Qingdao Leisure Games, community sports events, Fushan Greenway Hiking, Qingdao Fashion Sports Festival, etc., with a total participation of over one million citizens.





5. Cultural Heritage



Intangible Cultural Heritage

Qingdao boasts rich intangible cultural heritage that reflects the brilliant cultural traditions of Shandong. The colorful array of the intangible cultural heritage of the city carries the cultural memories and essence of Qingdao.



Jiaozhou Yangko Dance

Jiaozhou Yangko Dance is one of the three major Yangkos in Shandong. It originated during the reign of Emperor Xianfeng of the Qing Dynasty and was a popular activity in Dongxiaotun Village in Jiaozhou. Jiaozhou Yangko was created and welcomed by local farmers. It represents a naturally evolving form of folk art and a way for local residents to express their feelings and entertain themselves. It is of high aesthetic value and a good subject for artistic study.

Maoqiang Opera

Maoqiang Opera is a local opera popular in Qingdao, Weifang, and Rizhao. It originated from simple, plain, and melodious local folk songs. Maoqiang Opera has strong artistic appeal and vitality and is well-liked by residents living on the Shandong Peninsula. Representative works include "the four capitals" and "the eight stories".

Laixi Puppet Show

Laixi Puppet Show is a traditional drama. Laixi puppets are manipulated by wooden rods and adopt theatrical masks of "Sheng, Dan, Jing, Mo, Chou" to depict different characters. The puppets' faces, eyes, ears, noses, and mouths can be moved, and they are manipulated in a firm, precise, upright, and steady manner. The performance borrows the movements of theatrical figures, such as jumping and turning. In recent years, the puppets have evolved into a variety of images such as cartoon images. The forms of expression aren't limited to people but have also incorporated other colorful forms such as animals.

The Fishermen's Pray and Gratitude Ceremonies

The ceremonies are unique folk activities held in some coastal regions of China. The Fishing Festival, also called the "sacrifice to the sea" ceremony, held at Zhougezhuang Village of Tianheng Township in Jimo District, is a grand event for local fishermen. The ritual to make sacrificial offerings to the sea became regular during the Reign of Emperor Yongle in the Ming

Dynasty and later became a folk activity that has been kept till today. The Fishing Festival of Zhougezhuang Village is usually held around the time of the Grain Rain (the 6th of the 24 solar terms) every year. Fishermen who are about to go fishing on the sea pray to the gods of the sea for safety and harvest.



Former Residences of Celebrities

In the 1920s and 1930s, a large number of cultural celebrities came to teach, stay and travel in Qingdao. They and their residences witnessed a brilliant chapter in the cultural history of Qingdao. There are more than 60 celebrity residences in Qingdao.



Former Residence of Kang Youwei

The Former Residence of Kang Youwei is located at No. 5 Fushan Access Road. The German Governor once stayed here when he just arrived in Qingdao. Kang Youwei bought it in 1923. Kang spent some time in this house every year till he died of illness in 1927. Now the residence has become the Kang Youwei Museum, where the life story of Kang Youwei, historical photos, documents, and relics about the Reform Movement of 1898 are exhibited.

Former Residence of Liang Shiqiu

The Former Residence of Liang Shiqiu is a two-story house located at No. 33 Yushan Road at the foot of Xiaoyushan Hill. In 1930, Liang Shiqiu came to Qingdao and took office as the director of the Foreign Language Department and the librarian of National Qingdao University. Liang started translating *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* here. After leaving Qingdao, Liang Shiqiu couldn't stop thinking about the city. He once wrote, "I am not much of a traveler, but I have been to a dozen provinces in China from east Liaoning to southern China region. Of all the places I have been to, the one place that I'd love to visit again and again is Qingdao."

Former Residence of Lao She

The house at No. 12 Huangxian Road is the last residence of Lao She in Qingdao and the only one still standing. Lao She had a very productive period here. He finished 40-plus pieces of work, including his magnum opus *Camel Xiangzi*. Today the house has become the Camel Xiangzi Museum where versions in different languages of this literary classic are displayed.

Former Residence of Wen Yiduo

The Former Residence of Wen Yiduo is located in the northeast corner of the Ocean University of China campus at No. 5 Yushan Road. Built in the early 20th century, it is an exquisite European-style building with red tiles and yellow walls. In 1930, Wen Yiduo was invited by the National Qingdao University to serve as the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and the director of the Chinese Department. The house he once stayed in is therefore called the Yiduo Building.

Former Residence of Hong Shen

The Former Residence of Hong Shen is located at No. 1 Fushan Road. In 1934, Hong Shen succeeded Liang Shiqiu as director of the Foreign Language Department of National Shandong University (former National Qingdao University). In this house, he created *Down-trodden Peach Blossom*, the first screenplay of China. The Butterfly House in Badaguan, the shooting location of the film, has become a small film-theme exhibition center.



Xu Fu's voyage to the east

In 219 BC, Xu Fu submitted a report to Emperor Qinshihuang, claiming that immortals lived in three mountains on the sea, namely, Penglai, Fangzhang, and Yingzhou. And there was an elixir of life there. Emperor Qinshihuang sent Xu Fu to lead thousands of boys and girls on a voyage to look for the elixir. But Xu Fu returned with nothing. Later, Emperor Qinshihuang ordered Xu Fu to go to find the elixir again with 3,000 boys and girls, craftsmen, and technicians. Xu Fu never returned. It was said that he finally arrived at and stayed in Japan. Xu Fu's voyage to the East is the earliest maritime navigation recorded in Chinese history. The starting point of his trips was Langya (in today's Huangdao District) in Qingdao.

Tian Heng and his 500 soldiers

According to *The Historical Records*, after Liu Bang, Emperor Gaozu of the Han Dynasty brought the whole country under his rule, Tian Heng, a prince of the former Qi State, and his 500 soldiers were stranded on an isolated island. Liu Bang wanted to make Tian Heng surrender. He announced that if Tian Heng came to surrender, he would be given a prominent position; otherwise, his group would be besieged and wiped out. To save his 500 men, Tian Heng decided to meet Liu Bang. He killed himself on his way to Luoyang and left a note ordering his two subordinates to chop off his head and take it to Liu Bang. Liu Bang held a grand funeral for Tian Heng and offered the position of Duwei (the title of a high-level military officer under the general) to his two subordinates. But both men chose to kill themselves. Liu Bang then tried to convince the 500 people on the island to surrender. Unwilling to yield, all the 500 men committed suicide. The island was later named Tian Heng Island (in today's Jimo District).

Tian Dan's fire bulls

In 284 BC, Yue Yi, a general of the Yan State, conquered 70 cities of the Qi State on a winning streak. Tian Dan, a general of the Qi State, was making an unremitting effort to defend Jimo City (located in today's southeast Pingdu). In 279 BC, Tian Dan pretended to surrender to the Yan State Troops, which made the latter let down their guard. At night, Tian Dan secretly assembled more than 1,000 bulls, put cloths with colorful dragon patterns on them, and tied sharp weapons to their horns. Then he bound reeds that had been soaked in oil with the tails of the bulls and lit them on fire. The bulls, startled by the fire, charged towards the campsite of the Yan State Troops. The 5,000 Qi State Soldiers followed the bulls to fight against their enemies. The Yan State Troops were totally defeated. Tian Dan recovered all the lost land of the Qi State. Tian Dan succeeded because he caught the enemy off guard by launching an unexpected ambush at night with fire bulls. This is a famous case of the weak defeating the strong in Chinese military history.





6. Tourism



Laoshan Mountain

"Mount Tai, high as the cloud, is eclipsed by Mount Lao on the sea." Laoshan Mountain, a cradle of Taoism, enchants visitors with the magnificent Lion Peak and Taiqing Temple where Zhang Sanfeng and Qiu Chuji once practiced cultivation. Taking a bird's eye view from Lingqi Peak of Laoshan Mountain, looking at the floating clouds in the azure sky and breathing in the refreshing sea breeze, one suddenly becomes free of worldly worries.

Bathing beaches

There are many bathing beaches in Qingdao, nine of which are officially recognized, with the No. 1 Bathing Beach having the longest history. Qingdao No. 1 Bathing Beach is located on the coast of Huiquan Bay, with a beach of 580 meters long and 40 meters wide. It was once the largest bathing beach in Asia. It is surrounded by mountains on three sides with verdant trees. The water in the bay is clear and calm, the beach is flat, and the sand is fine and soft, all of which provide excellent natural conditions for a bathing beach.

Dazhu Mountain

Dazhu Mountain Scenic Area faces the sea on three sides. It is known for its gorgeous valleys, grotesque peaks and stones, and booming flowers. In April every year, the azalea blossoms in the valley are in full bloom, like red clouds covering the mountain, turning the place into a wonderland.

Qingdao Plum Blossom Garden

The garden is in the Shimeian Scenic Area. Embraced by mountains in three directions and facing the water in the fourth, the garden has over 20,000 plum trees of more than 200 varieties as well as 8,000-plus potted plum trees. Exploring plum blossoms and enjoying azaleas in early spring, watching lotuses in midsummer, appreciating osmanthus in autumn, and trekking in snow to find wintersweet flowers in midwinter form the four major sceneries of Qingdao Plum Blossom Garden. In March each year, the plum blossoms are in full bloom. Visitors love to appreciate the flowers and enjoy nature during that time of year. China Qingdao Plum Blossom Festival has been successfully held for 23 sessions till this year.





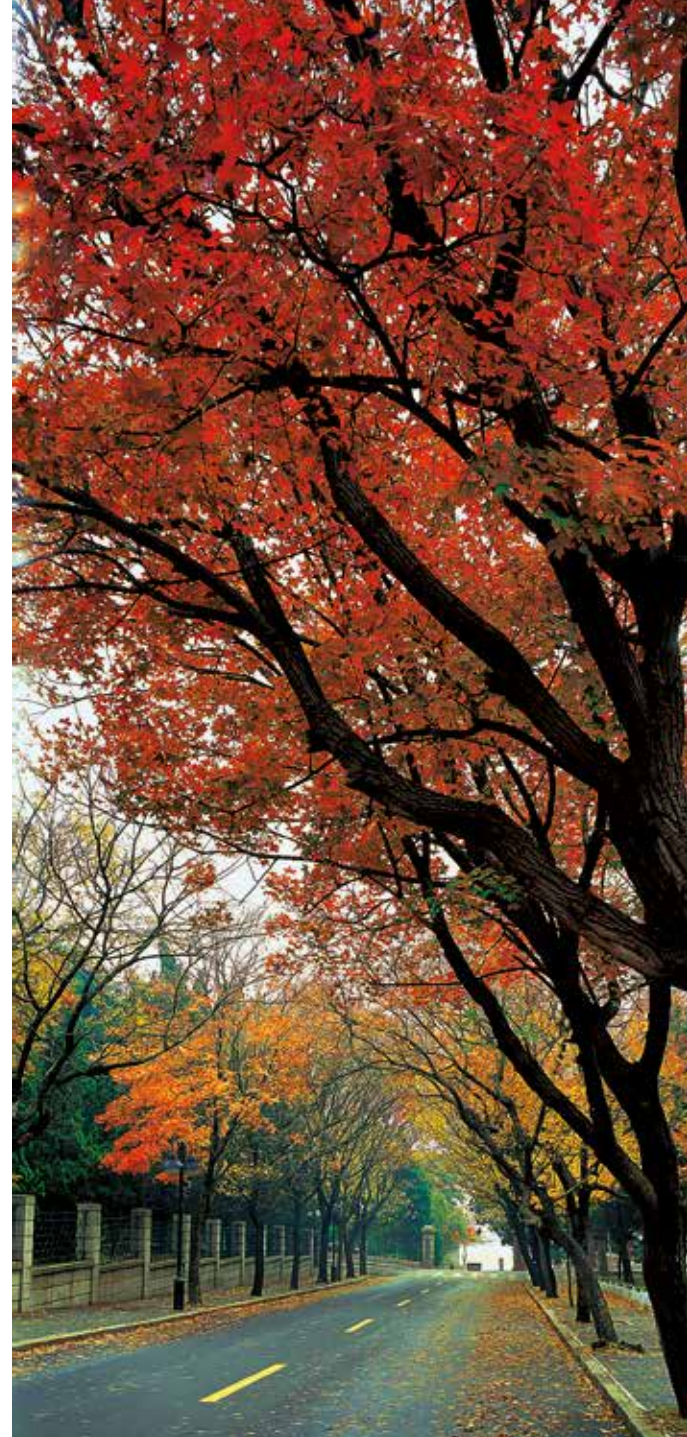
Cultural Attractions

Zhanqiao Pier

Zhanqiao Pier stands at the southern end of the busy Zhongshan Road in Qingdao. The pier reaches into crescent-shaped Qingdao Bay from the coast. The classical Chinese style two-story octagonal pavilion standing on the head of the pier is named Huilan Pavilion (Pavilion of Returning Waves). The coast on the north of the pier is Zhanqiao Park. Visitors can sit on the stone benches and take a rest in this heavily wooded park to enjoy the beautiful view of the sea and the sky.

Badaguan Scenic Area

Buildings of diverse architectural styles stand one next to another in Badaguan. The area hence gets the nickname "World Architectural Expo". Badaguan is a place to admire not only the beauty of nature but also the charm of history hidden in the mysterious old villas. Norwegian and Finnish Cultural Experience Center, Taiping Bay Art Museum, Cape No. 7 B&B, etc., the combination of historic buildings and new business forms of fashion culture has made this place a new city space for cultural exchanges, art appreciation, leisure, and recreation.



Jimo Ancient City

The hustle-bustle of the busy streets epitomizes the prosperity of the city. In Jimo Ancient City, one can listen to melodious folk songs, wander along the city walls and Confucian Temple, and experience the charm of intangible cultural heritage like Guanzhuang bamboo weaving, Jimo wooden mold, Da'ou bird cage, etc. With a fusion of tradition and fashion, the fine cultural heritage is carried forward in the daily life business.



Lu Xun Park

Lu Xun Park is a seaside park named after the famous Chinese writer Lu Xun. The park offers mesmerizing views of red rocks in emerald waters, and green pine trees along winding paths dotted by pavilions. It represents a perfect combination of gardening and natural scenery. The first Chinese-designed aquarium is in this park. It is deemed as the birthplace of the modern aquarium in China and a cradle of marine science research.



Beer

Qingdao is called a city of beer. The city produces beer and beer is part of the daily life of local residents. In this sense, beer is the most distinctive hallmark of Qingdao. Beer is a ubiquitous existence across this city. Local people have a strong emotional bond with beer, which is most obviously manifested during the annual Qingdao International Beer Festival.



Seafood

Qingdao is embraced by the ocean on three sides. Located on an ideal latitude, Qingdao's seas are teeming with seafood of all kinds. Clams, crabs, shrimps, squilla, jellyfish, mussels, oysters, as well as all kinds of fish are almost fixtures on the kitchen tables of Qingdao's households. They can be fried with chili, steamed, roasted, or boiled, to please different palates. Seafood is a must for local people to treat visiting friends and family.

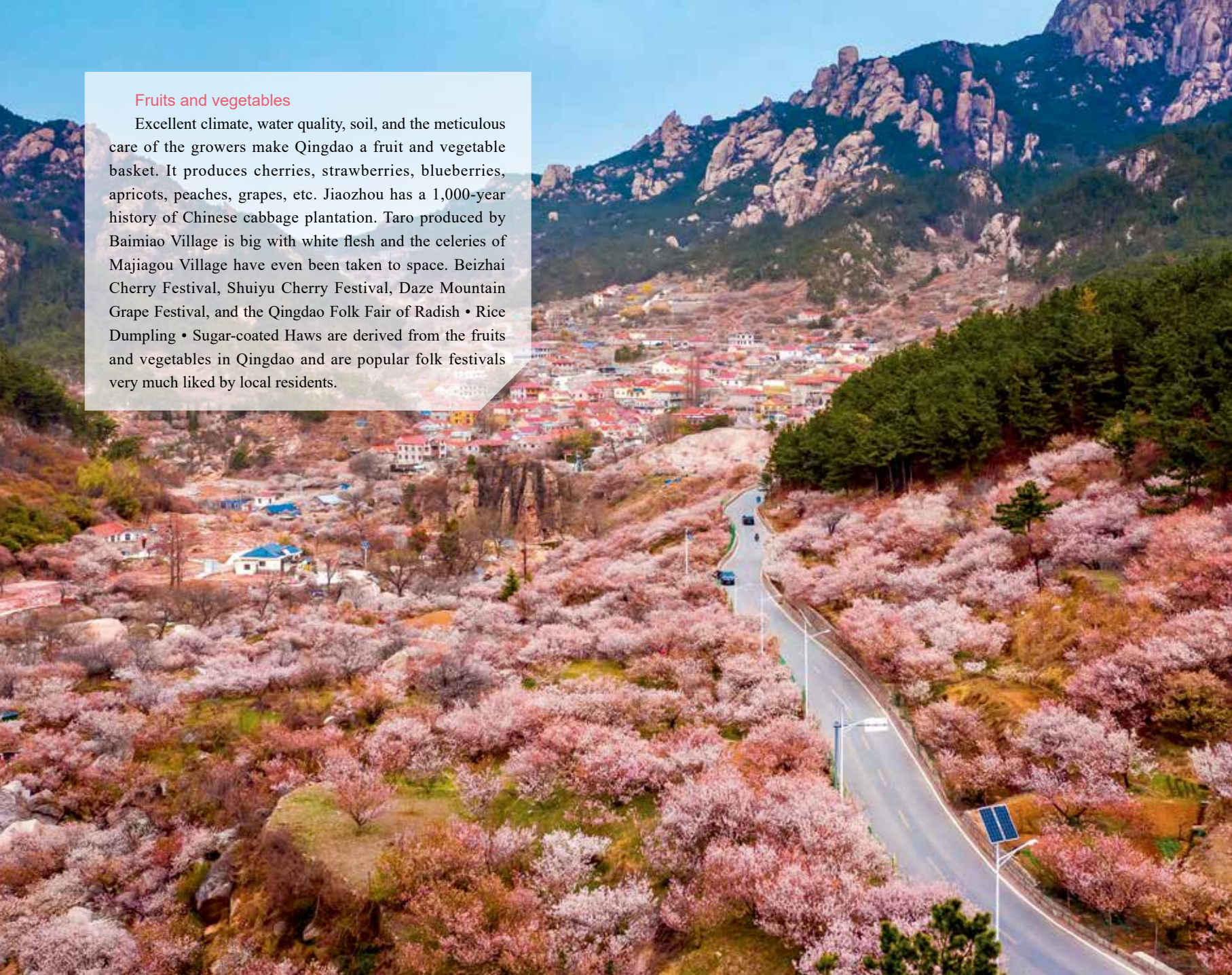
Specialties

Qingdao local cuisine belongs to Jiaodong Cuisine under Shandong Cuisine. It has distinctive local features. There are grand centerpieces such as fried conch, braised Chinese cabbage with prawn, braised sea cucumber with minced pork, crispy fried chicken, together with fried clams with chili, grilled squid, Qingdao greaves, and agar jelly. Dumplings filled with Spanish mackerel, Qingdao pot stickers, and Wanggezhuang steamed buns are special pasta dishes. For those who travel far, all those dishes are the long-cherished fond memories of their hometown.



Fruits and vegetables

Excellent climate, water quality, soil, and the meticulous care of the growers make Qingdao a fruit and vegetable basket. It produces cherries, strawberries, blueberries, apricots, peaches, grapes, etc. Jiaozhou has a 1,000-year history of Chinese cabbage plantation. Taro produced by Baimiao Village is big with white flesh and the celeries of Majiagou Village have even been taken to space. Beizhai Cherry Festival, Shuiyu Cherry Festival, Daze Mountain Grape Festival, and the Qingdao Folk Fair of Radish • Rice Dumpling • Sugar-coated Haws are derived from the fruits and vegetables in Qingdao and are popular folk festivals very much liked by local residents.



Zhongshan Road • Shangjieli

The century-old Zhongshan Road was once a famous commercial street in Qingdao and has a significant place in the childhood memories of many elderly local citizens. From prosperity to decline and then to a resurgence, the renovated Zhongshan Road • Shangjieli combines retro and trendy elements, blending tradition with fashion. Walking along Zhongshan Road, you will find many cultural landmarks connecting with this famous road, such as Zhanqiao Pier, 1907 Movie Club, St. Michael's Cathedral, No. 1 Zhongshan Road, Zhongshan Road City Memory Museum, etc.



Dabaodao Cultural Leisure Block

After the transformation of the old downtown, Dabaodao Cultural Leisure Block has put on a fashionable exterior, full of historical charm and the collision of modern trends. When stepping into Dabaodao, you can understand the unique Liyuan (courtyard) architecture of Qingdao, discover the charm and elegance of old Qingdao, and also encounter its fashionable and innovative spirit.



Fushan Bay

The colorful dazzling light show put on skyscrapers along the coast presents a fascinating night view at Fushan Bay. Fushan Bay's night view and light show has become an iconic scene of Qingdao that reflects the vitality and style of the city. May 4th Square, named after the May 4th Movement in 1919, is situated to the north of Fushan Bay. Wind of May, a red whirlwind-shaped sculpture set up in commemoration of the May 4th Movement, is the centerpiece standing on the square, showing the patriotic tone and national strength of passion and upwardness.

Daxue Road Cultural Neighborhood

The heavily shaded Daxue Road Cultural Neighborhood, with romantic nostalgia and the aroma of coffee in the air, is a dream place for many. Take a stroll here, appreciate the red walls, exuberant plane trees, university campus steeped in history, former residences of celebrities, and also chic cafés and graffiti walls, and let yourself immerse in the poetic romance of Qingdao.



Qingdao Olympic Sailing and Marine Culture Tourist Areas

In February 2024, it was officially designated as a national 5A-level tourist attraction. It is mainly composed of two major scenic areas, namely the Olympic Sailing Center and Qingdao Underwater World. Through the combination of sea and land routes, the tourist areas take the ocean, a core element of tourism in Qingdao, as its theme. It fully explores, extracts, and integrates the essence of the Olympics, the sea, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, connecting the rich humanistic and natural resources of the Olympic Sailing and Marine Culture Tourist Areas. It is a comprehensive landmark scenic area that combines sailing, seashore leisure, cultural experiences, marine research and education, and conference and exhibition tourism. The scenic area has deeply explored local maritime tourism resources and focused on building the "Viewing Qingdao on the Sea" tourism brand. It has carefully planned 12 maritime tourism routes, including the popular routes of touring Fushan Bay, the route from the Olympic Sailing Center to Taiqing scenic spot in Laoshan Mountain, and

the route from the Olympic Sailing Center to Qingdao Underwater World. These routes successfully connect coastal attractions in different districts and subordinate cities such as Shinan, Shibei, and Laoshan, showcasing the city's charm from a unique perspective on the sea.

Qingdao Municipal Museum

Qingdao Municipal Museum is one of the first national first-grade museums in China. Among its rich collection of 240,000 pieces of relics in over 30 categories, the three most precious ones are the stone Buddha statute of the Northern Wei Dynasty, the brush-washer with drum nail decoration by Jun Kiln in the Northern Song Dynasty, and Tao-tsang compiled during the Reign of Emperor Wanli in the Ming Dynasty. A tour of the museum on a sunny afternoon to escape from the hustle and bustle, visit an exhibition, savor a cup of fragrant tea, and explore the 1,000-year-old Dongyi Civilization and the modern history of Qingdao is highly recommendable.





7. Important Industrial Parks/Zones



China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (Jiaozhou Economic and Technological Development Zone)

Located on the north shore of Jiaozhou Bay, the 4F-level Qingdao Jiaodong International Airport, with its advantageous geographical location through links running eastward and westward, across land and over sea, connects more than 50 key international cities. The multimodal transport center at SCODA operates 32 domestic and international trains on a regular basis, reaching 23 countries and 54 cities of the SCO and along the Belt and Road. According to the working mechanism of "whole-region synergy led by one core" SCODA is building an international logistics center, a modern trade center, a two-way investment cooperation center, and a business, tourism, and culture development center, with a view to creating a gateway to the Asian Pacific market for SCO countries and a demonstration area of exchanges and cooperation with relevant cities in SCO countries. Its middle and long term goals are to strive to build SCODA into an experimental area for the systematic innovation of local two-way investment and trade with SCO countries, a cluster for companies to set up business and thrive, a pilot area for Belt and Road local economic and trade cooperation, and a new highland for opening up in the new era.





China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area

As a "testing ground" for deepening reform and expanding opening-up, the China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area was officially established on August 30, 2019, with a total area of 52 square kilometers, enjoying state-level functional advantages and policy preferences including the Comprehensive Bonded Zone, the International Economic Cooperation Zone (Sino-German Ecopark), the Economic and Technological Development Zone, etc. Focusing on such key industries as the modern marine industry, international trade, shipping and logistics, modern finance, and advanced manufacturing, this area adheres to institutional innovation as a core and is aligned with leading economic and trade rules in the international market. It is advancing high-level institutional opening-up, accelerating the integrated, innovative development of shipping, trade, and finance, and centering on emerging strategic industries such as intelligent manufacturing, integrated circuits, and genetic technology. The Qingdao Area will be built into an international shipping hub in Northeast Asia, an important innovation center on China's east coast, and a marine economic development demonstration area, eventually becoming a key coastal center in China. It has won such distinctions as the model park for creating an international high-quality development environment, and is rated by the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation to be among the first ranks of pilot free trade zones. It serves as a frontrunner in reform and opening-up.

Qingdao Hi-tech Zone

Qingdao National High-tech Industrial Development Zone was established in November 1992 as a national high and new technology and industrial development zone approved by the State Council. It has undergone several restructuring and now has one main zone and 16 parks. As an important part of the Shandong Peninsula National Independent Innovation Demonstration Area, the Hi-tech Zone focuses on "high" and

"new", and has cultivated an industrial system that features biomedicine and medical equipment. It has won such honorary titles as the National Demonstration Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the National Model Area for Ecological Conservation, and the National Model Park for Industrial Ecology, etc. It aims at creating a health industry cluster competitive in China and the world.



Qingdao Oceantec Valley

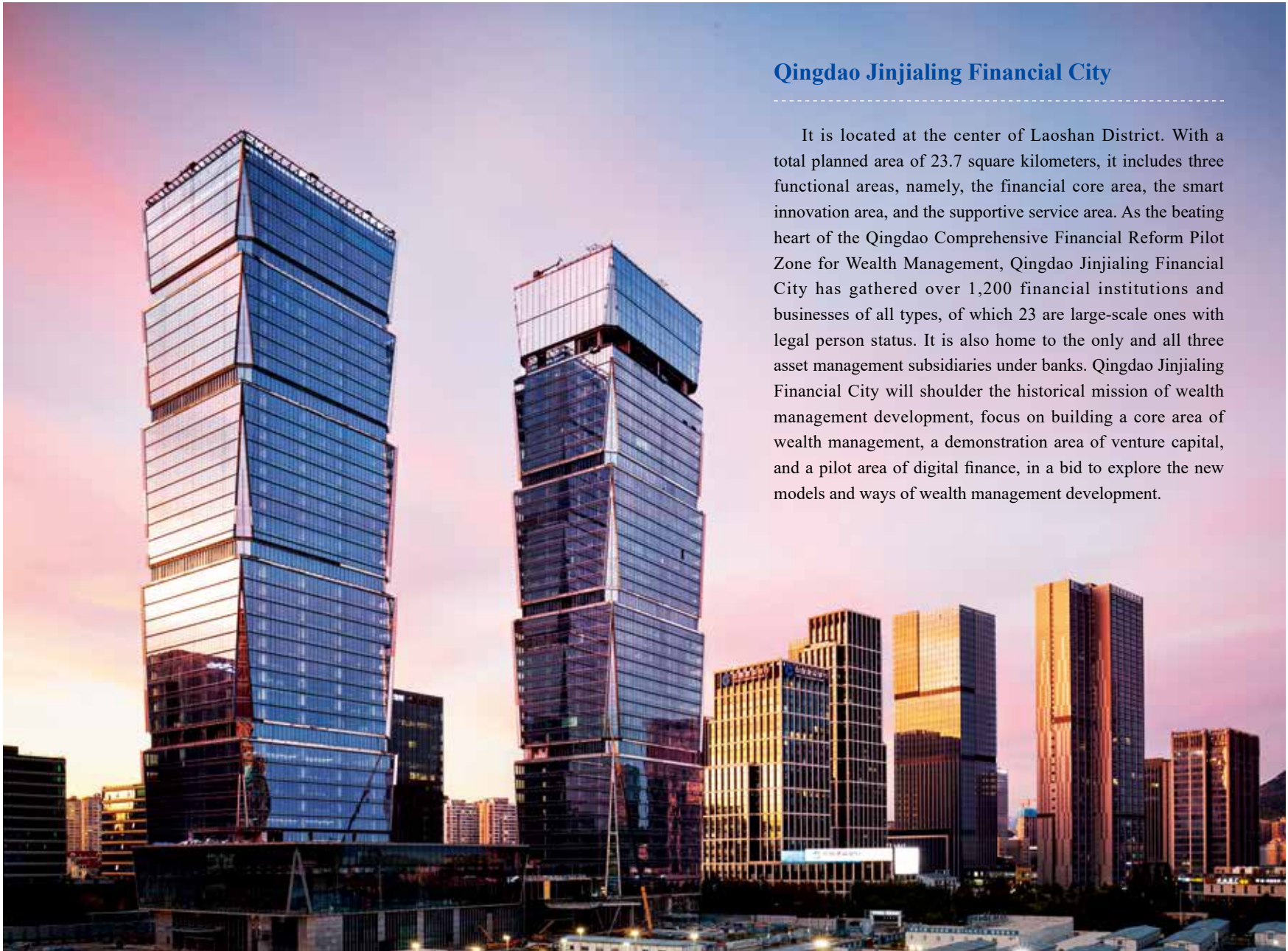
Nestled between the northern foot of Mount Lao and the Aoshan Bay along the shores of the Yellow Sea, the Valley has a total planned area of 443 square kilometers (218 on land and 225 on sea). It is a marine sci-tech R&D and high-tech hub supported by the CPC Qingdao Municipal Committee and the Qingdao Municipal Government with the mission to contribute to building a strong marine country. At present, it is home to 50-plus national scientific research platforms and higher education institutions including the Qingdao National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology, National Deep Sea Center, Shandong University (Qingdao), as well as 92 innovation platforms of all sorts. It is the first national demonstration zone for marine economy development, national industrial demonstration zone for sci-tech driven ocean development, national marine knowledge promotion center, and national demonstration center for innovation and entrepreneurship. The Oceantec Valley, envisioned as a marine-sci-tech center, is building the national marine scientific research and technological innovation center, the marine science and technology research achievement commercialization and industry cultivation center, the marine science and

technology service and talent center, and the international tourism and cultural exchange center. Efforts are made to develop marine high-tech services, marine biotech, marine high-end equipment, marine culture and tourism, marine-related headquarters economy, etc., so as to build a leading marine economy development demonstration zone in China, a globally influential and competitive marine science and technology innovation hub, and a livable and pro-business tourism city area.



Qingdao Jinjialing Financial City

It is located at the center of Laoshan District. With a total planned area of 23.7 square kilometers, it includes three functional areas, namely, the financial core area, the smart innovation area, and the supportive service area. As the beating heart of the Qingdao Comprehensive Financial Reform Pilot Zone for Wealth Management, Qingdao Jinjialing Financial City has gathered over 1,200 financial institutions and businesses of all types, of which 23 are large-scale ones with legal person status. It is also home to the only and all three asset management subsidiaries under banks. Qingdao Jinjialing Financial City will shoulder the historical mission of wealth management development, focus on building a core area of wealth management, a demonstration area of venture capital, and a pilot area of digital finance, in a bid to explore the new models and ways of wealth management development.





Qingdao Rail Transit Industry Demonstration Zone

Qingdao Rail Transit Industry Demonstration Zone is located on the north shore of Jiaozhou Bay, with a planned area of 83 square kilometers. The demonstration zone is home to three major manufacturers, namely CRRC Sifang Corporation, CRRC Qingdao Sifang, and Alstom Sifang (Qingdao) Transportation, as well as over 220 core supporting enterprises, gathering 90% of the city's rail transit equipment manufacturing resources. It has the first national center for technological innovation in the relevant industry - the National

Innovation Center of High Speed Train. The first "Hexie" train, the first "Fuxing" bullet train, and the first high-speed maglev train with a speed up to 600km/h have all rolled off the production line here in China. 60% of the high-speed railway trains and 25% of the metro trains in the country are produced here. CRRC Sifang Corporation exports its products to 29 countries. In August 2022, the Jakarta-Bandung High-speed Railway, which fully adopts Chinese standards, originated from here. The demonstration zone has been selected as a national advanced manufacturing cluster, one of the first strategic emerging industry clusters, and a national green industrial park.

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