





- the capital of Hubei Province
- the largest city in Central China
- * "a thoroughfare leading to nine provinces"
- a population of over 9 million
- an area of 8,467 square kilometers
- lies at the confluence of the Yangtze and Han rivers
- * is comprised of three towns--Wuchang, Hankou, and Hanyang.



Wuhan



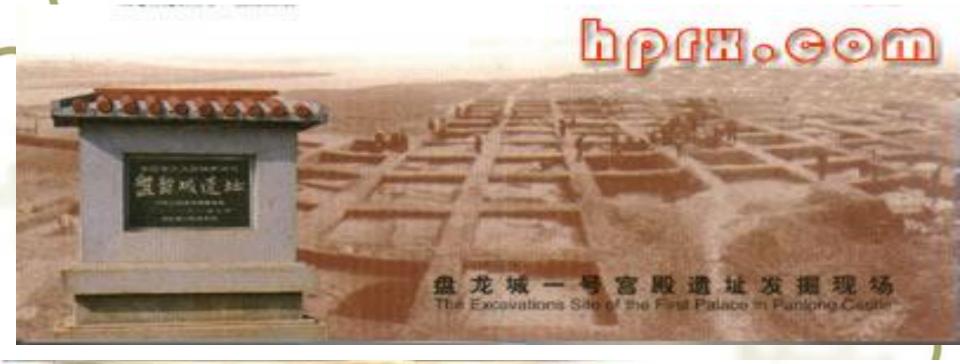




Wuhan, also known as the River City (Jiang Cheng), is situated at the junction of the Hanjiang and Yangtze River. According to archeological discoveries and records, people moved into the area 5,000 years ago. Development of the city can be traced back to the City of Panlong 3,500 years ago.

The site of the ancient town is located in Huangpi County, and it was the first city of the Shang Dynasty (16th - 11th Century BC) discovered in the Yangtze River basin. Since the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770BC-221BC), Wuhan had been ruled by the Chu State for a long time. Chu Culture thus became the foundation of the present culture of Wuhan.

Divided by the rivers, Wuhan is comprised of Wuchang, Hanyang and Hankou towns whose history, scale and rate of development are all different.





Wuchang

Wuchang was established in the early years of the Three Kingdom Period. The Wu kingdom prepared to struggle against the Shu Kingdom for Jingzhou and transferred its capital from Jianye (present Nanjing) to Exian County, renaming it Wuchang. Old Wuchang had advanced handcraft industries, such as shipbuilding, metallurgy, coin minting as well as celadon and white porcelain manufacture.

Hanyang

- The name of Hanyang is linked closely to the Hanjiang River. In ancient Chinese culture, Yang (the opposite of Yin) denotes a place south of a mountain and north of a river. Hanyang gained its name for it is location at the south of the Tortoise Mountain (Gui Shan) and north of the Hanjiang River.
- * The name was changed from Hanjin in 606 of the Sui Dynasty (581-618) and the town rapidly developed during the Tang Dynasty (618-917). Hanyang has been the distribution center for traders on the middle reaches of the Yangtze River since that time, and has prosperous commerce and handcraft industries. Hanyang has a history of some 1,800 years.

Hankou

* Historically, Hankou developed together with Hanyang for a long while until 1474 of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The Hanjiang River changed its course to join the Yangtze River at the north foot of Tortoise Mountain, dividing the towns. From then, Hankou started 500 years of independent progress. Later on Hankou became a new trade port, greatly surpassing Wuchang and Hanyang in fame and rate of development.

Contemporary Wuhan

- Around the 17th Century, Hankou was like an 'Eastern Chicago', and listed among the four most famous towns (Foshan, Jingde, Zhuxian and Hankou) in China. After it was founded as a treaty port in 1861, Hankou became the largest inland trade port in China. A dozen countries, including Britain, France, Russia, Germany and Japan set up concessions and most of them established consulates. From then, Wuhan became a cosmopolitan metropolis in China.
- * Later, in 1911 the Wuchang Uprising began the Xinhai Revolution which symbolized the end of more than 2,000 years of feudal monarchy in China. In 1926, Wuchang, Hankou and Hanyang merged creating modern Wuhan.
- * After the founding of the PRC (in 1949), Wuhan was approved as a vital engineering and metallurgical industrial city. In 1957, the first double-deck bridge carrying both road and rail across the Yangtze River was opened to traffic.



Wuhan Attractions

- ***** Historical Sites
- Natural Beauty
- Modern Charm

Historical Sites

- 1. Yellow Crane Tower
- 2. Guiyuan Temple
- 3. Baotong Zenist Temple
- 4. Changchun Taoist Temple
- 5. Museum of 1911 Revolution
- 6. Heptachord Terrace
- 7. Qingchuan Pavilion
- 8. Hubei Provincial Museum





Yellow Crane Tower

- Located on Snake Hill
- 'The First Scenery under Heaven'
- The Symbol of Wuhan City.
- **Legend ---teahouse, Taoist priest, crane**
- * History
 - **⋄** First built in 223 by Sun Quan (182 252, King of Wu) as a watchtower for his army.
 - **⋄ During the Tang Dynasty** (618 907), many popular poems were written in praise of the Yellow Crane Tower.
 - During the Ming (1368 1644) and Qing (1644 1911) Dynasties alone the tower was destroyed seven times and rebuilt seven times. In 1884, it was completely destroyed in a fire and was not rebuilt until 1981.
- * The tower which stands today is based on the one designed during the Qing Dynasty. It stands 51.4 meters (about 168 feet) high and has five floors. The appearance of the tower is the same regardless of the direction it is viewed from. The roof is covered by 100,000 yellow glazed tiles. With yellow upturned eaves, each floor seems to have been designed to resemble a yellow crane spreading its wings to fly.



2.Gui Yuan Temple



Gui Yuan Temple

- **♦ Total area: 200,000 m², Building area: 46,900 m²**
- West section of Hanyang district
- * The site of KuiYuan of a poet named Wang Zhangpu in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).
- * Originally established in 1658 in the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911)
- * The word 'Guiyuan' originates from a sutra, meaning to surpass the circumscription of existence and extinguishment, to return to purity and tranquility.

* Tips:

- **⋄ Do not buy any incense outside of the temple.**
- Luohan (Saints) Hall---Counting Luohans













3.Baotong Zenist Temple

Also named Dongshan Temple, or Amitabha Temple, the Baotong Zenist Temple is located at the southern foot of Hongshan Hill, built during the period of the Song State (420-479). It was popular for its loud bells. A pair of stone lions carved in the early years of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) are also visible. Behind the temple, on the hill there are many pine trees, where the Baotong Pagoda is built in memory of a monk master.

* Guiyuan, Baotong, <u>Gude</u> and <u>Lianxi</u> are the four largest Buddhist temples in Hubei.









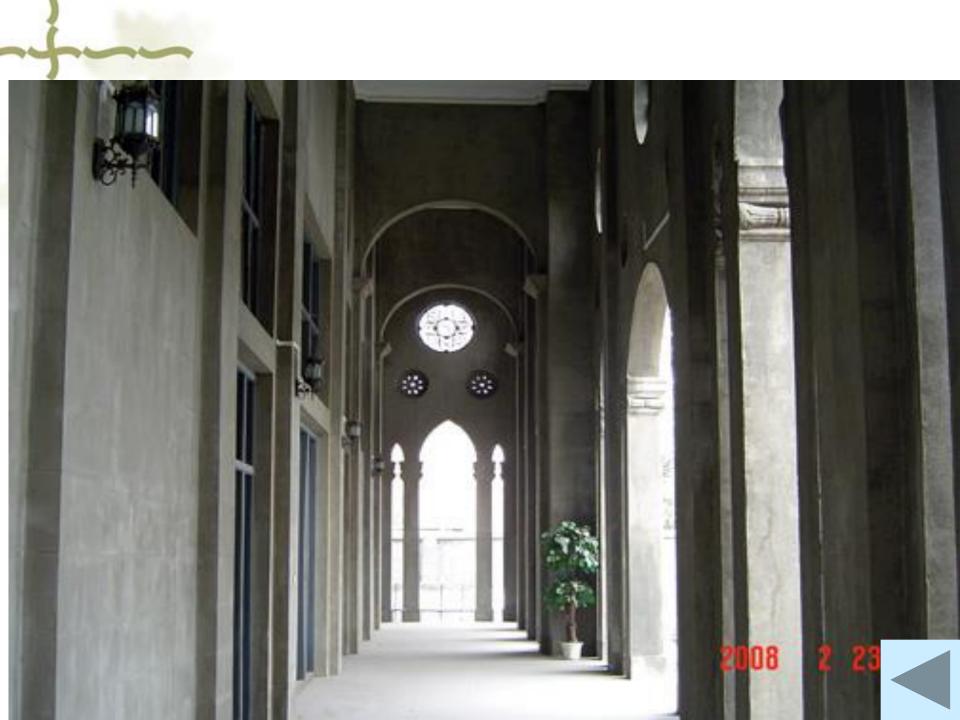
洪山宝塔。 Hongshan Pagoda.















4. Changchun Taoist Temple

Located at Dadongmen, Wuchang, this is one of the ten holy places of Taoism in China and is now listed as a key Taoist Temple by the State Council. Built in the early Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), the temple is dedicated to the memory of Changchun Zi(丘处机), the founder of the Quanzhen Longmen Sect. It is designed in the typical Taoist style, with a strong local flavor.







5. Museum of 1911 Revolution



Museum of 1911 Revolution

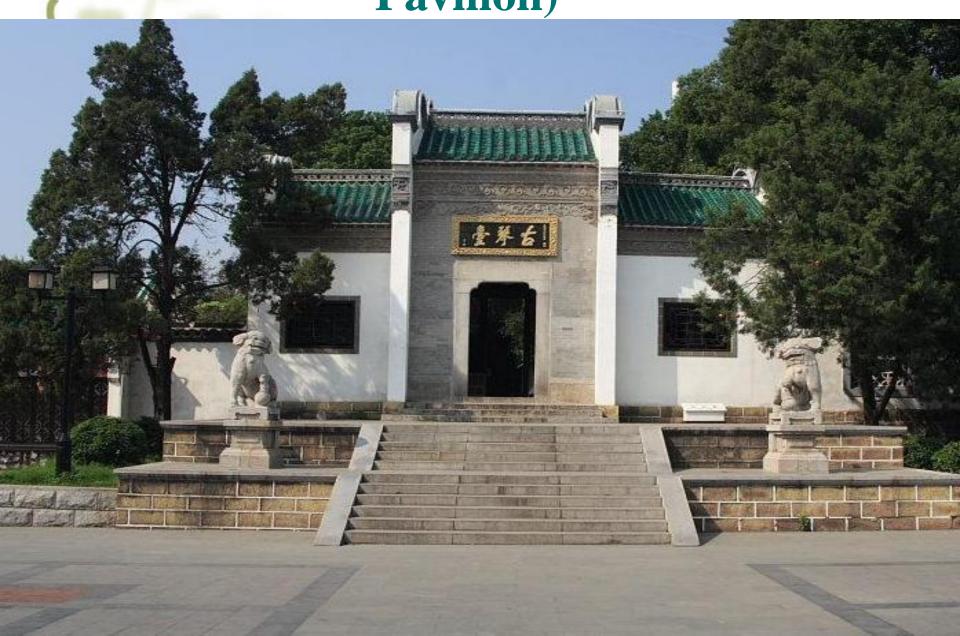
- Memorial Hall of Wuchang Uprising in 1911 Revolution
- * lies in the north of Yuemachang, Wuchang.
- * "Red Chamber"
- * Hubei military Government in Wuchang 1911 Revolution.







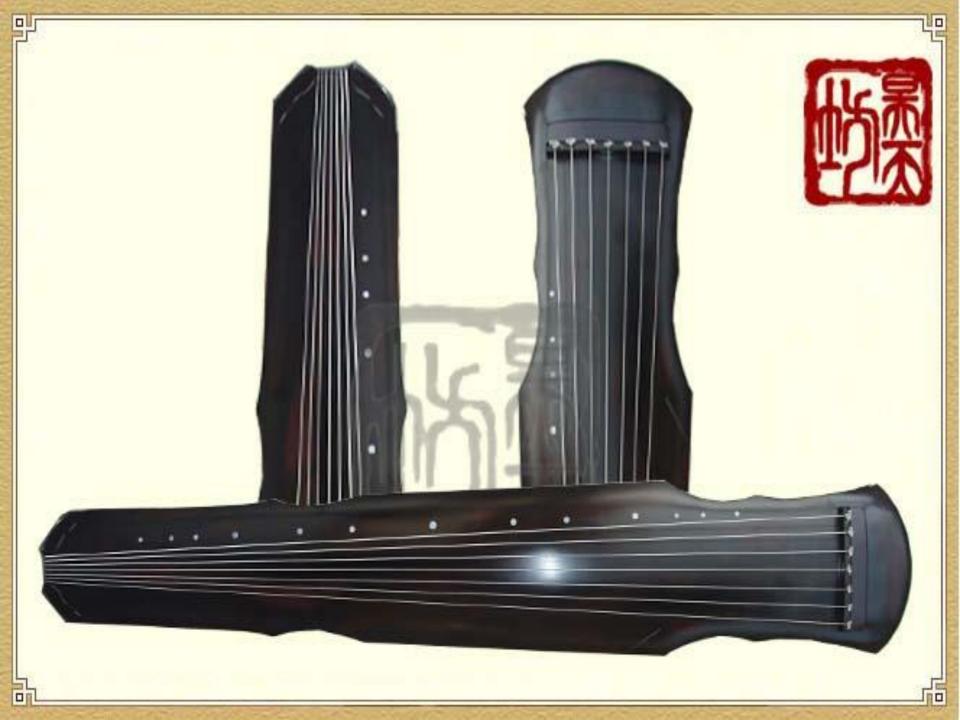
6.Heptachord Terrace (Ancient Lute Pavilion)



Heptachord Terrace

- **≪**Guqin Tai
- **Solution** located in the north of the Hanyang
- **Solution** built during the Song Dynasty (960 1279)
- sthe legend of Yu Boya&Zhong Ziqi
 - the Spring and Autumn Period
 - Lofty Mountain &Flowing Water







7.Qing Chuan Pavilion



Qinchuang Pavilion

- * It was first established during the Ming Dynasty between 1522 and 1567.
- * It was built for commemorating Great Yu.
- * Its name derived from the poem "the Yellow Crane Tower" of the famous poet Cuihao in the Tang Dynasty.



铁门类

8. Hubei Provincial Museum



Hubei Provincial Museum

- * The Hubei Provincial Museum established in 1953 contains the most important collections of artifacts in the province. More than 140,000 items, mainly from a big tomb excavated in 1978, are well preserved here, including 645 first class cultural relics and 16 national treasures.
- * In the summer of 1978, Hubei Provincial archaeologists working near Cheng Guan (present-day Suizhou) in Sui County excavated a huge tomb more than 2,400 years old. Dating from around 433 BC, the tomb was that of Marquis Yi of the state of Zeng. Zeng was one of the hosts of lesser states during the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.). More than 15,000 relics were excavated from the tomb.

- * The Chime Bells Exhibition Hall contains two parts: the Exhibition Hall and the Music Hall.
- * In the Exhibition Hall, you can see many cultural relics that have been unearthed from the tomb of Yi ,such as the exquisite bronze vessel known as 'Crane Standing on the Antler', ancient halberds(载) and the bamboo slips that were used for writing on in ancient times.
- ***** The most famous treasure is the Chime Bells,



Zeng Houyi Chime Bells





- As the heaviest musical instrument in the world
- a total weight of 2,500 kilogram
- consists of 65 pieces
- the biggest bell is 152cm high and 204kg
- the smallest 20cm long and 3kg
- suspended on three ordered fames and divided into eight groups.
 - ★The Niu(钮) Bell on the upper layer, 19 pieces, were used to producing clear tones
 - sthirty-three pieces of Yong (甬) Bell on the middle layer for melody
 - ** twelve pieces of Yong (育) Bell on the lower layer for accompanying.
 - Each bell can produce two different tones when struck.
- covered roughly five and half octaves and entire 12 semitones, which were most like current C major.

- Gold inscriptions of 3,755 words were carved on the body, the frame and hung hooks recording the order of bells, events, notes and records of note names, scale names, octaves and musical pitch connection between other states.
- The implements used in play the bells that were unearthed were six pieces of T-shaped wooden poles painted in colors and two colorful wooden sticks.
- According to related materials, there were probably five performers involved in the playing of the bells, with two standing in front of the set playing the larger bells with long poles and three behind playing the smaller bells with smaller sticks.

- * The discovery of the Zeng Houyi Bells does not only display the advanced bronze ware technology more than 2,000 years ago, but also shows the amazing achievements in the fields of music, study of musical pitch, and acoustics.
- * It is one of the major archaeological discoveries in the 20th century.

- * The Chu Culture Exhibition Hall features the regional culture of the Chu State.
- * Most of the cultural relics displayed here are bronze vessels, lacquer works, bamboo and wooden artifacts, and silk knitted products. You can also see various ancient weapons of the Chu State such as the sword of Gou Jian (the king of the Yue State in the Spring and Autumn Period).
- * In 2002, archaeologists discovered pieces of chariots and horses of the Chu State. After careful restoration, some of the chariots and horses are now displayed in this hall.
- * In addition to the unearthed cultural relics, some restored models of the houses in which Chu people lived are shown to the visitors to give them more direct impression of the ancient Chu people's lives.



- * East Lake & Mo Hill
- Gui Shan (Tortoise Hill)
- Mulan Hill Scenic Spot



East Lake

- The East Lake, one of Hubei's first officially-recognized scenic spots, lies to the east of Wuhan. The lake covers an area of some 33 square kilometers, making it the largest city lake in China. In 1999, it was designated a "National Scenic Spot Model Site" in recognition of the area's beautiful hills, abundant trees, unique Chucustoms and fascinating gardens.
- * Moshan Hill is surrounded by the lake to the east, west and north. The hill itself has six zones dedicated to Chu culture. In particular, Chu Bazaar, Chu Heaven Platform and Chu Talents Park are fine showcases of Chu heritage.















Tortoise Hill













Modern Charm

- The bund area in Hankou, the famous waterfront along the Han River is a bustling commercial section with colonial style architecture, bars and pubs. At night this is the hub of Wuhan nightlife.
- * <u>Jianghan Road</u>, the longest walking street in China(1210 m), is also very popular.
- * Yangtze River Bridge, known as Wuhan Changjiang Daqiao, is the first highway-railway bridge over the Yangtze River.
- * <u>Hanzheng Street</u> is the biggest wholesale market in central China.
- Optics Valley of China is an APEC science park and industrialization base

































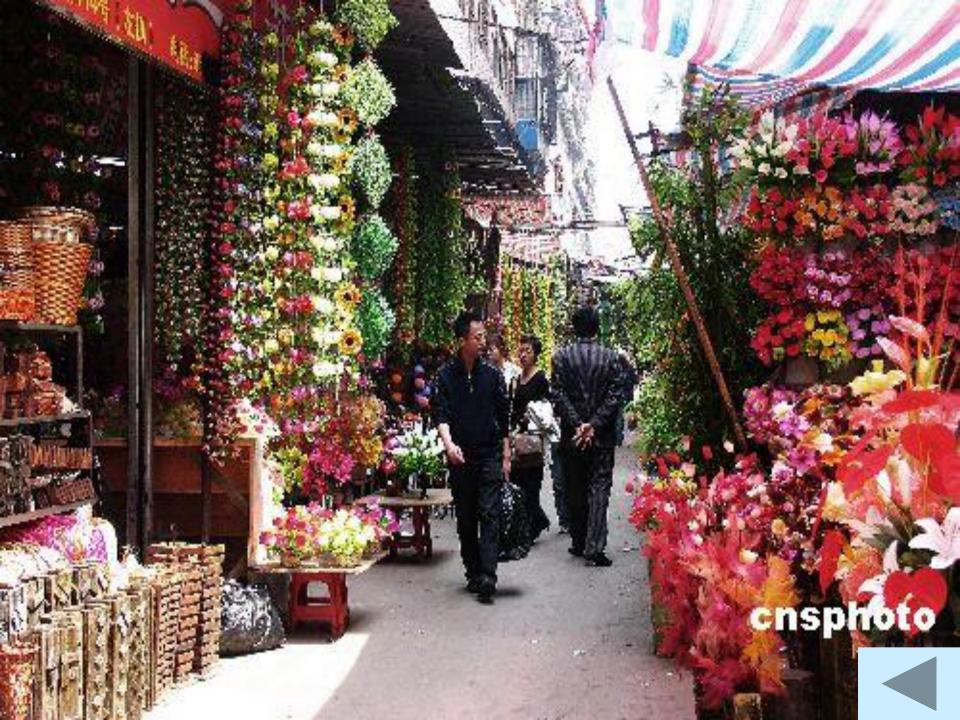


Hanzheng Street









Yangtze River Bridge

- built in 1957 with the assistance of advisers from the Soviet Union.
- * It is the first highway-railway bridge over the Yangtze River.
- * Including its approaches, it is 5,511 feet (1680 m) long, and it accommodates both a double-track railway on a lower deck and a four lane roadway above.







Optics Valley of China

- was established in the <u>East Lake New</u> <u>Technology Development Zone</u> in Wuhan, Hubei Province on July 6,2100.
- * an APEC science park and industrialization base for optoelectronics and National Torch Project information technology.









Wuhan

Food & Customs

1. Soup



* Lotus root soup stewed with pork chops is one of the most distinctive foods with Wuhan characteristics. People are so fond of having soup that they would feel thirsty for it if going without it for a week. Pork chops are rather cheap in some places for people do not often buy them, while in Wuhan pork chops are sometimes even more expensive than meat. It is hard for people in other places to understand Wuhan people's enthusiasm in getting up at midnight to queue up for a long time just in order to buy pork chops.

2. Morning snacks (Guo Zao)

- morning snack---breakfast
- **❖ The most famous place for morning snacks is** <u>**Hubu**</u> **<u>Xiang.</u>**
- * Shouyi Garden Snack Street is also a good choice.











Hot Dry Noodles (Re Gan Mian)







Chinese Donut (Mian Wo)



Dou Pi

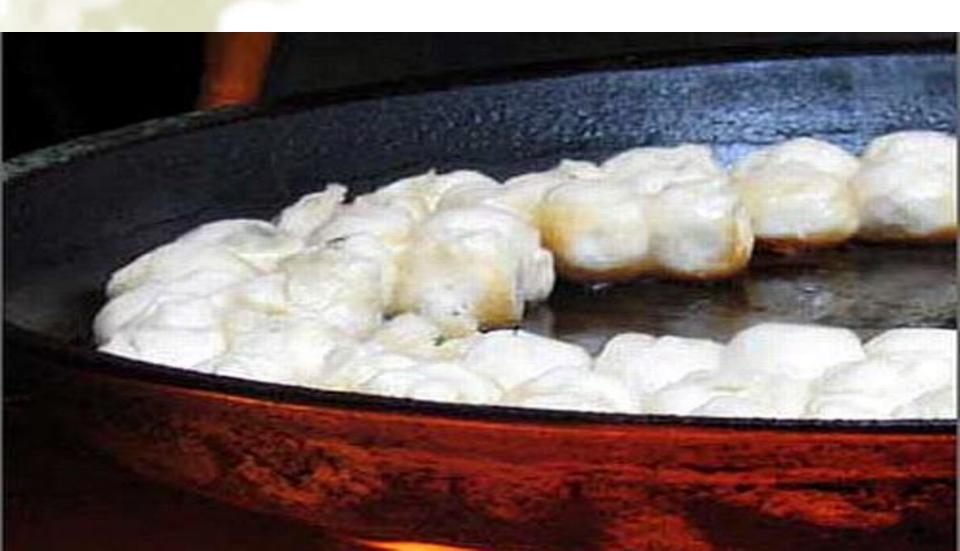




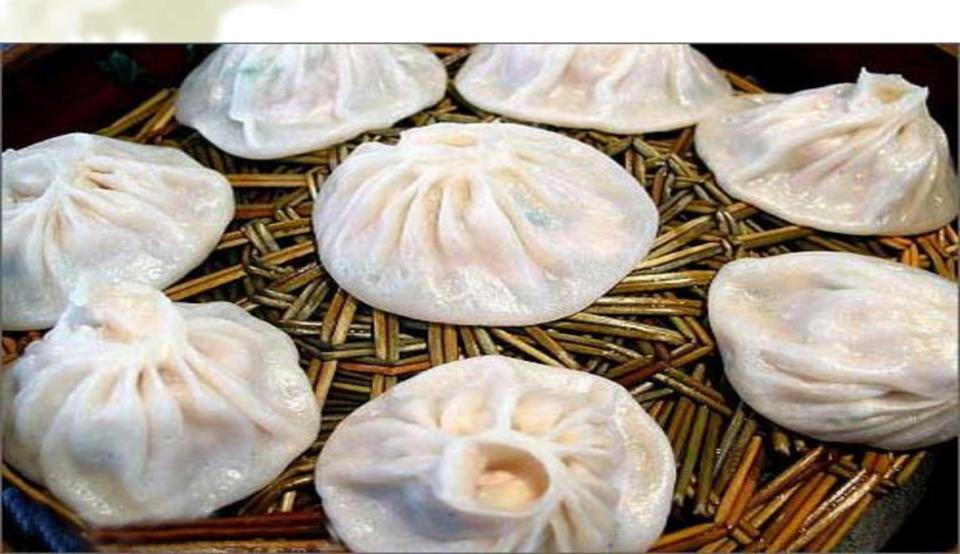




Pan-fried Meat Buns



Steamed Buns stuffed with Juicy Pork



Fried Dough Stick wrapped in Glutinous Rice



Rice Noodles cooked in Fish Soup



3. Evening snacks

- Good places for evening snacks:
 - Jieqing Street
 - **≪**Huquan













Salad Dishes





















Deep Fried Lotus Root Ball









4.Keeping cool &Summer Night Fun

- * Since Wuhan's summer is very long and hot, the Wuhanese would traditionally gather in small groups to keep cool. Firstly, they would pour some cool water on the ground to lower the temperature, then they would sit or lie on bamboo beds and rattan chairs, playing chess or just chatting until midnight. Today, widespread urban development and the popularity of airconditioners has almost eliminated this age-old practice. However, in the pedestrian areas of Jianghan Road, visitors can see a number of bronze statues depicting this very Wuhanese habit.
- * Even nowadays, at Summertime Wuhan people still like to gather to enjoy the cool breeze in the city's streets and squares in the evening, play the violin and erhu, participate in singing contests, discuss issues, recite poetry, tell stories, sing Karaoke and dance. A number of cultural groups also offer movies and theatrical performances or organize 'night market' libraries.







5.Counting the Saints

In the first month of the lunar New Year, the Wuhanese traditionally go to Hanyang's Guiyuan Temple to pray for good luck and happiness. They choose one of the temple's 500 saints and begin to count from one saint to the next, up until the number that corresponds with their age. By looking at the facial expression of that saint, they can see if the year ahead will be good or bad.



Thank you!

Enjoy your stay in
China!