

China

China is located in East Asia along the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. It is the world’s 3rd largest country and is surrounded by 14 other countries at its borders.

Overview

Official Name
People’s Republic of China

Capital
Beijing

Independence Day
1 October 1949

The Flag

The flag of China has a red field with 5 golden stars. The red represents the Chinese Communist Revolution. The large star stands for the Chinese Communist Party while the 4 smaller stars that surround it symbolize the 4 social classes (working class, peasantry, urban petite bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie).



Population, Territory and Currency

Population & total area
1,413,142,846 (2023 est.)
9,596,960 square km

Source: CIA World Factbook

Currency
Chinese YuanRenminbi (CNY)
Average price per meal: SGD 6.40

Key Historical Events

221BC Emperor Qin is the first to unite China under a centralised state.	1912 The fall of the Qing Empire, China becomes a republic under Sun Yat-sen.	1949 The Communist Revolution under Mao Ze Dong. Founding of the People’s Republic of China.	1989 Tiananmen Square protests.	2011 China proclaimed as the second-largest world economy.
	1839-1842 First Opium War with the British.	1937-1945 Japanese invasion of China.	1966-1967 “Cultural Revolution”, a period of massive social, economic and political upheaval.	

Demographics



Male-Female:
51%-49%

Urban Population:
64.6% (2023)

Youth aged 15-24
years: 11.48%

*Source: CIA World
Factbook*

Economic Profile

Since the economy transitioned from a centrally planned system to a more market-oriented economy in 1978, China has seen rapid economic growth with its GDP growth averaging 6%-9% per year. Today, it is the second-largest economy in the world and is increasingly playing an influential role in the global economy. Following the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, China has rebounded with an 8.1% GDP growth year-on-year in 2021 and in 2023, there was a 5.2% GDP growth year-on-year during Q4 (Trading economics, 2023).

SG X CN

Bilateral economic ties between Singapore and China have strengthened over the years since 1990. In 2021, Singapore’s largest trading partner was China, and China was the top destination for Singapore’s direct investments. Joint economic ventures between both countries continue to develop on both the bilateral and multilateral fronts, with ongoing partnerships such as the China-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (CSFTA), ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA), and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Singapore's exports to Mainland China surpassed its imports from Mainland China in 2023, with total trade exports with China amounting to \$160.7 billion (Enterprisesg, 2024).

Key Industries

Manufacturing

One of China’s biggest industries, accounting for more than 25% of its GDP. Its output is equivalent to nearly 30% of global production in 2021. In 2023, the industrial sector accounted for approximately 31.7% of China's GDP (Statista, 2023).

Technology and Innovation

Home to more than 150 unicorns, China is viewed as one of the most promising markets in the world for technology innovation in the fields of AI, deep tech and robotics. In addition, the Chinese government has been launching initiatives to support entrepreneurship and innovation.

E-commerce

With a population of 1.4 billion and a growing middle-class demand for retail goods, revenue for e-commerce is expected to increase to USD 2.1 trillion over the next five years. Some of the companies that hold the greatest market share in China include household names such as Alibaba and JD.com.

Up-and-Coming

Green Economy: China has pledged to peak its emissions by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality before 2060. To facilitate its transition towards a low-carbon economy, great emphasis has been put on the development of renewable energy. China also looks to implement major demonstration projects for the industrialization of energy-saving and low-carbon technologies.



Peking Duck



Dumplings



Spring Roll



Great Wall of China

Local Food

Peking Duck

China's national dish, characterized by its thin and crispy skin. Served with pancakes, sweet bean sauce and cucumber.

Dumplings

The most famous traditional food comprises of pieces of dough wrapped around a filling. They can be fried, baked, boiled or steamed.

Spring Roll

Especially popular in south China, it is a wheaten crust wrapped with minced pork/beef/mutton filling and deep fried till golden.

Places of Interest

Great Wall of China

Chang Cheng = Long wall

A stone & earth fortification was created to protect the borders of the Chinese. It is a succession of multiple walls spanning 13,171 miles, making it the world's longest manmade structure.



Forbidden City

Forbidden City

Palace complex

Located in central Beijing, it houses the Palace Museum and consists of 980 buildings. It was the former Chinese imperial palace as well as the residence of the Chinese emperors.

Major Festivals



Chinese New Year Celebration

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival or Lunar New Year, is the grandest festival in China, marked by a 7-day public holiday. The celebrations typically last for 2 weeks, from Chinese New Year's Eve to the Lantern Festival (Yuan Xiao Jie) on the 15th day.



Winter Solstice (Dongzhi) festival in Fuzhou

Winter Solstice

Winter solstice marks the shortest day of the year before the gradual increase in daylight hours. Taking place in late December, this festival celebrates the return of the sun.