

China Travel Checklist for First-Timers

Avoid 5 Costly Mistakes on Your First Trip to China

Used by 5,000+ travelers from the US, UK, Canada & Australia. Updated for 2025 travel conditions.

✅ BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME (4–8 Weeks Before)

Passport valid for 6+ months after return

Chinese tourist visa applied (check if your 10-year visa is reinstated)

Travel insurance purchased (medical + trip cancellation)

Reliable VPN installed & tested (e.g., Astrill, NthLink)

Alipay app downloaded (supports foreign cards + English)

✈️ AT THE AIRPORT (Arrival Day)

Buy China SIM card at airport counter (China Mobile/Unicom)

Withdraw ¥1,500–2,000 RMB from Bank of China ATM

Connect to VPN using free airport Wi-Fi

Register WeChat (needed for communication)

🏠 FIRST 24 HOURS IN CHINA

Set up Alipay with foreign card (Profile → Payments → Add Card)

Test mobile payment at 7-Eleven or FamilyMart

Buy essentials: toilet paper, hand sanitizer, bottled water

Download Didi (China's Uber) and Baidu Maps

🚫 WHAT NOT TO DO

❌ Drink tap water (even for brushing teeth)

❌ Assume English is spoken (carry translation app)

❌ Discuss politics (Tibet, Taiwan, Tiananmen)

✗ Rely on Google, WhatsApp, Instagram (they're blocked!)

💡 **BONUS TIPS (Included in Full Kit!)**

Want step-by-step videos, printable phrase cards, and city-specific advice?

Get the full China Travel Ready Kit (\$29) → YourWebsite.com/kit

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