

JIUJIANG (九江)



Located on the northern border of Jiangxi Province, Jiujiang is a large city on the southern shores of the Yangtze River, with a history dating back over 2,000 years. With the Yangtze River to the north, China's largest fresh water lake to the east and Lushan Mountain to the south, Jiujiang boasts a unique natural landscape, attracting tourists from all over the country.



Its stunning scenery, low cost of living and location make Jiujiang an attractive city for foreign teachers and students.

ATTRACTIONS

Jiujiang has become a popular tourist destination within China and with over 400 attractions dotted around the city, it's not hard to see why. Below some of the city's top sights are introduced.

Poyang Lake: Poyang Lake, three times the size of London, is China's largest fresh-water lake and one of the city's major tourist attractions. There is lots to see and do both on and around the lake, including an island, several hills and the Lake-View Pavilion, from which visitors get a spectacular view of the lakes beauty.

During the winter, it's possible to see a spectacular view of flocks of birds in flight in the area. The sight is so incredible, that it has been coined as the 'second Great Wall of China' by some.

Lushan National Park: As one of China's first geological parks and a UNESCO world natural heritage, Lushan National Park is the city's most famous attraction. It covers an area of 500 square kilometres and boasts more than 90 mountain peaks and 37 attractions, including lakes, paths, valleys, waterfalls and temples. Lushan National Park offers stunning natural beauty and a rich cultural heritage, making it a must-see attraction in Jiujiang.



Gantang Lake: Gantang lake is a natural lake located in the centre of the city. It's beautiful views and peaceful atmosphere make it an enjoyable place to explore. The Yingyue Pavilion offers a great view of the area.



Suojiang Tower: Located on the bank of the Yangtze River, Suojiang Tower is one of the city's several historical buildings and is recognised as the symbol of Jiujiang. It is a collection of ancient buildings such as the Suojiang Tower and Pagoda and four iron oxen which surround it. The tower and pagoda were first built in 1586 to protect the city from flooding. After being destroyed by an earthquake, it was rebuilt in 2004 by the local government.



FOOD

Jiujiang cuisine belongs to Gan cuisine and is famous for its crisp and tender texture and unique flavour. Thanks to its proximity to the Poyang Lake and Lushan, Jiujiang cuisine consists of several delicious fish dishes and unique snacks.

Steamed Shrimps with Lushan Yunwu tea soup: This dish is a Lushan specialty and uses Lushan Mountain cloud and mist tea to cook shrimp, making for a unique tasting dish!

Poyang Lake fish: This dish is made by braising the bream from Poyang Lake in soy sauce and is eaten with Chinese beans.



Jiujiang Tea Cookie: Tea cookies have been made in Jiujiang since the Song Dynasty (970-1279) and they have since become one of the four most famous cookies in Jiangxi Province. Made of tea seed oil, wheat powder, black sesame and osmanthus flowers using traditional methods, the cookies are small, crisp and sweet and a delicious snack!



Pan-fried Buns Stuffed with Beef and Carrot: These famous pan-fried buns are stuffed with beef and carrot and are crisp on the outside, with a soft and tasty filling.

Jiujiang also has restaurants that offer many other types of Chinese cuisine and a handful of Western fast food places to help settle any cravings.

ACCOMMODATION

Futai 118 Hotel: Futai 118 Hotel is a good budget option for travellers wishing to stay in private rooms. Around 5km from the downtown area and 2km from the city's commercial area, Futai 118 Hotel is well located for sightseeing in the city. The hotel offers rooms of various sizes and comfort at affordable prices and has excellent staff.

Baijia Intercontinental Hotel: This hotel is located around 2km from the mountain area of Jiujiang and around 5km from the Railway Station and downtown Jiujiang. It's a very popular business hotel, but also a good option for anyone looking to explore the beauty of Jiujiang's mountainous areas. It offers cheap rooms of various sizes, which are very clean and comfortable. It also has spa facilities and a restaurant.

Aunt Cheng Hostel: For anyone looking to explore Lushan National Park, this is a great budget choice. Most hotels on the mountains are significantly more expensive than those in the city, but Aunt Cheng Hostel provides basic, but comfortable rooms for around £23 per night. The hostel is decorated in traditional Chinese style and has beautiful surroundings, making for a very peaceful destination.

ENTERTAINMENT

Jiujiang is home to several universities, meaning there are plenty of places to meet other foreigners or Chinese people of a similar age.

Though not as developed as the nightlife in Shanghai, Jiujiang does offer a number of bars and clubs and it has several cinemas and theatres, which regularly show various films and performances.

Nanchang, the provincial capital, has a very lively nightlife and can be reached by train from Jiujiang in only 1.5 hours.



GETTING AROUND JIUJIANG

Jiujiang does not have a metro system, however there are over 50 bus lines that run all over the city, making getting around very easy. Ordinary buses cost CNY1 per journey, while double-decker and air-conditioned lines cost CNY2 per journey.

Taxis are a popular mode of transport in Jiujiang, with prices beginning at CNY5 for the first 2km and rising by CNY 1.5 per each additional kilometre.

TRAVEL TO OTHER CITIES

Jiujiang is an important city in Jiangxi Province and therefore has many high-speed links to/from other big cities, such as Nanchang, Hangzhou, Fuzhou and Xiamen and ordinary trains to/from Shanghai, Beijing, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Xian, Zhengzhou, Guilin etc. From Jiujiang, it is possible to reach cities in almost any region of China and its location to travel to many exciting places possible.



Jiujiang also has its own domestic airport, called Jiujiang Lushan Airport. From here, it is possible to fly to many cities across China in a short amount of time. If you wish to fly internationally, you will need to travel to Nanchang, the capital of Jiangxi Province. From here you can fly to major cities in Asia such as Hong Kong, Singapore and Bangkok.