



WUHAN

- Population: 8,000,000
- Area: 8,467 square kilometers

Wuhan is set on the vast Jiangnan Plain, a region that is more water than land. It is the biggest city in central China and the capital of Hubei Province—a province where the land is so productive that there is a saying that a good harvest in Hunan and Hubei would feed the whole country. Located at the confluence of the Yangtze River and Han River—the longest tributary of the Yangtze, Wuhan is composed of three separate cities: Wuchang, Hankou and Hanyang. The city covers an area of 8,467 sq. kilometers with a total population of more than 8,000,000.

Wuhan has very convenient transportation and communication to almost anywhere in China. No matter by bus or train, it takes less than 24 hours to Beijing in the north, Shanghai in the east, Guangzhou in the south and Chongqing in the west.

Wuhan was first settled in the first century. In the Three-Kingdom's Era, it was part of the Wu Kingdom. Wuchang was the oldest of the three cities. By the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368), it was the capital of the region and was enclosed by a city wall until the end of the 19th century.

Wuhan has played an important role in modern Chinese history. In the late 19th century, a farsighted official of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), Zhang Zhidong, established factories and an arsenal in Hanyang and began the Industrializing Movement in China. The 1911 revolution was first started here and caused the downfall of the last imperial dynasty in China. The first major industrial strike in Chinese history, the "February 7" railroad strike in 1923 also took place here. After the fall of Nanjing in 1937 during the Anti-Japanese War, the Nationalist government made Wuhan its capital for a year before moving to Chongqing.

The main industries in Wuhan are steel, heavy machinery, textile, Chemical and shipbuilding.

Wuhan is the port of destination for Yangtze River cruises. The famous tourist attractions are the Yellow Crane Tower, Yangtze River Bridge and the East Lake.

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