

Our Top Travel Tips for China:

1 Visa & Entry Requirements: Ensure you have all necessary documents, including a valid visa. You can check the latest requirements. [Chinese Visa Application Service Center](#)

2 Currency & Payments: China is largely cashless, so setting up Alipay or WeChat Pay in advance is highly recommended. ATMs are available, ICBC is the best bank as per our experience, but you have to have a card that does not charge you any forex fee, most banks cards will charge you a fee, however, we've been using NIYO since we started travelling, and it has been very convenient.

You can use this link to download the NIYO bank app and apply for a credit card:
<https://openinapp.link/8xddc> | Use my code: **NIKHI986**

3 Language & Communication: Google Maps doesn't work well in China, so we suggest downloading **Baidu Maps/ Apple Maps** and **Google Translate (offline mode)** for easy navigation. Also, WeChat and Alipay also have many translation, maps etc services.

4 Best Way to Stay Connected: Get an **eSIM or local SIM card** to access the internet hassle-free.

You can grab an e-sim in one in advance here: <https://openinapp.link/12fsw>

5 Transport & Booking Essentials: High-speed trains and metros are the best way to travel between cities. We always book our tickets in advance via [Trip](#) to avoid last-minute stress.

Visit this link to explore: <https://openinapp.link/go5y9>

EXTRA: Please note that sightseeing places in Beijing tend to get pre-booked and you can only access these places with pre-booking.

So try finding all these places and making a reservation at least 10 days in advance via Wechat or Alipay

6 Hotels & Stays: We highly recommend booking accommodations with good English-speaking staff. We usually suggest AirBnb or Agoda for budget stays, but in China only Trip.com works, so you can use the following link to search for hotels.

<https://openinapp.link/vsxd4>

Here are the Links of the Hotels which we stayed in:

- 1) Chengdu Stay: <https://openinapp.link/1tc98>
- 2) Xi'an Stay: <https://openinapp.link/3du0w6s>
- 3) Beijing Stay: <https://openinapp.link/t6v3q>
- 4) Shanghai Stay: <https://openinapp.link/lcub4>

7 Tours, In case you wish to book any tour, please feel free to inform us, we'll find the best possible deal and share it with you.

Beijing Great Wall Of China: <https://openinapp.link/qguh5>

Shanghai Disneyland: <https://openinapp.link/blb16>

Xi'an Terracotta Army: <https://openinapp.link/205qs>

Chengdu Panda: <https://openinapp.link/uzbxw>

8 Dummy Tickets: While you can use any service you find on google, we had gone with <https://dummy-tickets.com>

Important tips to remember:

- Please note that sightseeing places in Beijing tend to get pre-booked and you can only access these places with pre-booking. So try finding all these places and making a reservation at least 10 days in advance via Wechat or Alipay
- Be careful while withdrawing cash. (when the machine asks if you wish to convert in INR, always say NO)
- China is usually much colder than India, so pack accordingly.
- While making the itinerary, make sure it lines up with your dummy ticket.
- Itinerary should be separate from your cover letter
- Book it just 8-10 hours before going to submit your documents
- contact the team and ask them to keep the ticket live for at least 7 working days which is the duration of visa processing.
- Buy return tickets

If you'd like more personalized suggestions or itinerary planning, feel free to reach out, and we'll be happy to help!