

Hangzhou Shopping

The best place for purchasing silk, pearl and tea in Hangzhou



One of China's most dynamic cities, Hangzhou is a pearl in the Yangtze River Delta. Shopping in Hangzhou is no longer limited to local specialties such as silk, tea, and lotus root starch. Today modern offerings abound in various shops, stores, supermarkets, and plazas that crowd the commercial center.

Hangzhou is well known for producing excellent **silks**, including **satins**. Throughout its long history, a variety of Hangzhou silks and satins have been sold throughout the world. The best place for purchasing silk in Hangzhou is at **Hangzhou Silk City**, the biggest silk wholesale and retail market in China with more than 600 silk enterprises dealing in a wide variety of pure silk fabrics, garments, handicraft articles, scarves, and ties. The shoppers there not only do business on the mainland, but also export their silk products to Europe, America, Australia, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan. The market is distinguished as offering standardized management, reliable quality, and reasonable prices. It is located at No.253 Xinhua Road (at the intersection of Fengqi Road, Tiyuchang Road, and Xinhua Road) You can get to the site by bus No.11 and 28.

Hangzhou **Longjing Tea** (Dragon Well Tea) is considered China's best. It is not only famous for its unique green color, fragrant aroma, sweet taste, and flat appearance, but is also regarded as a health elixir. The tea falls into different grades; the best is the first pick of a year, normally in late March or early April. Besides its good quality, Longjing Tea also enjoys a famous long history. If you are interested in tea culture and history, **Meijiawu Village** in West Lake District is the ideal spot where you can have a cup of tea, watch a tea ceremony, and select tea under professional guidance.

Qinghefang Street, one of the most famous historic streets in Hangzhou, reflects features of the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279). Most preserved buildings are from the Ming and Qing dynasties. Strolling on this street, you will be attracted by the antique buildings and local crafts, such as silk parasols, brocades, noted Zhang Xiaoquan scissors and Hangzhou fans.

Yanan Road is considered the Number One Street in Hangzhou. Three-thousand-meter-long Yanan Road running between the north and south sections of Hangzhou has become the city's commercial center. Along the road are included the grand buildings of the Zhejiang Provincial Great Hall of the People, Hangzhou Culture Center, Victory Theatre, International Mansion, Hangzhou Department Store, Hangzhou Grand Hotel, and Haifeng Western Restaurant. Bordering the north end of Yanan Road is **Wulin Square**, the new center of culture and

commerce where towers and skyscrapers are springing up, including Hangzhou Telecom Building, Zhejiang Provincial Exhibition Hall, Hangzhou Shopping Center, Hangzhou Theatre, and Zhejiang Provincial Science and Technology Museum.

Hangzhou's local government has invested heavily in women's fashion. **Wulin Road**, a shopping paradise in the downtown area, is one of the fashionable centers featuring hundreds of shops and departments selling ladies' wear in various brands and styles.

Sijiqing Clothing Market is located on Hanghai Road of Hangzhou. Established in October of 1989, the market is one of the most influential clothing wholesale and circulation markets in China. With a large variety of reasonably priced brand name clothes the market has been popular among customers for many years. More than 80% of the clothes here are sold wholesale. Possessing good outlets, the Sijiqing Clothing Market is the source for clothes sold in the markets of Southeast Asia, Europe and even America.

Night Life

After daytime excursions to lakes and mountains in Hangzhou, visitors should go to the lakeside to enjoy the music fountain. The grand jets combined with neon lights make the water scenery totally different from that in the daytime.

The city's nightlife at the moment tends to center around the Paradise Rock Bar, which is right next to the Overseas Chinese Hotel on Hubin Road. The drinks in this bar are inexpensive, the decor is simple, the food is tasty and the live music is usually excellent. Hangzhou is currently producing some of China's best live musicians so a night out on the town will probably encounter either an organized or impromptu "jam session". It makes for a great atmosphere in the bars and clubs and there is a welcoming friendship in town among the sizeable foreign student population and the local students. There are numerous bars around town worth checking out including the Lake of Dreams on the southeast corner of the lake and the New L.A. Disco on Qing Chun Road with a flexible bouncy dance floor

Tea Houses

Next to the beautiful Wu Mountain scenic spot lies the **Chenghuang Teahouse**, a classical building with five layers. The interior decoration is simple and refined. You can enjoy a good view of Wu Mountain while sipping a cup of tea and tasting pastries. It is the best place for relaxation, and can be found at No.3 Wushan Road, Shangcheng District, Hangzhou.

The teahouse closest to the West Lake is **Hu Pan Ju** (Lakeside Teahouse). This is a place for friends to hang out and drink tea and for visitors to taste the authentic Longjing tea and take in the breathtaking scenery of the West Lake. It has been one of the most famous teahouses in Hangzhou for many years, and lies at No.23 Hubin Road, Hangzhou.

Clubs & Pubs

The most classical coffee house of Hangzhou is the **Blue Mountain Coffee House**. Famous people in Hangzhou often assemble at this spot. Various kinds of coffee with unique fragrances captivate the guests from all over the city. The shop has been entitled the demonstration base of

professional service by the international authority. Address: 56-58 Dingan Road, Shangcheng District.

The **Roman Holiday Coffee House** is located at No.152 Nanshan Road, where the trees cast a pleasant shade along the lakeside. Offering authentic Italian coffee and specialized service, the coffee house has become an ideal place for commercial affairs, get-togethers and recreation.

Near the 6 park, there is a bar called **Paradise Rock**, which caters to Western tastes in beer, drinks and music. This expatriate community is very famous and popular, and can be found at No.15 Hubin Road, Hangzhou. Opening hours: 11:00am--3:00am.

The bar **Meng Zhi Hu** (Lake of the Dream) lies at No.103 Nanshan Road. The wooden furniture here is unique and impressive. Once you enter the bar, your body will wave passionately with the hot music. Opening hours: 06:30pm--3:00am.

Golden Time (Jinbi Huihuang) is a large entertainment centre, with Discos, KTV, a jazz bar and coffee bar. Located at No. 169, Qingchun Road of Hangzhou, the Golden Time is easy to reach by bus Nos. 18, 31, 8 and 59.

