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About the Host City—Chengdu

Chengdu, also known as Rong (Hibiscus City), is the capital of Sichuan province, China. As an emerging city in the world, it serves as a national central city, a centre of the economy, technology, finance, culture & innovation, and foreign exchange of China, and an international hub for transportation and telecommunication. Chengdu has a permanent population of 16 million and is hailed as “the land of abundance”.



A famous historical and cultural city in China, Chengdu was the cradle of China’s ancient Shu civilization and Taoism. As one of the

ancient Chinese capitals, Chengdu boasts 4,500 years of civilization and 2,300 years of history since it was established. The city has close to 300 examples of National Intangible Cultural Heritage such as Sichuan Opera, Sichuan Brocade and Sichuan Embroidery, and scenic spots and historic sites among which the Wuhou Shrine, Du Fu Thatched Cottage, and Jinsha Relics Site are well known. The sunbird gold foil unearthed in the Jinsha Site has been identified as Chinese Cultural Heritage by China's National Administration of Cultural Heritage. Almost all the great Chinese poets in the history visited or spent an episode of their lives in Chengdu. Great names such as Li Po, Du Fu, Lu You, among others, created a myriad of their best-known poems here.



Chengdu has been elected the Best Tourist City in China by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China and the World Tourism

Organization. It is one of the most popular travel destinations in the world and the hometown of giant pandas (China's national treasure). In addition to many examples of World Natural and Cultural Heritage such as Mount Qincheng-Dujiangyan Irrigation System and the giant panda inhabitants, famous tourist attractions are dotted throughout Sichuan province, among which the Jiuzhai Valley, Huanglong National Park, Leshan Giant Buddha, Mount E'mei, Sanxingdui Relics Site, Yading Nature Reserve (Daocheng County) are the most famous. Chengdu is a well-connected travel hub.

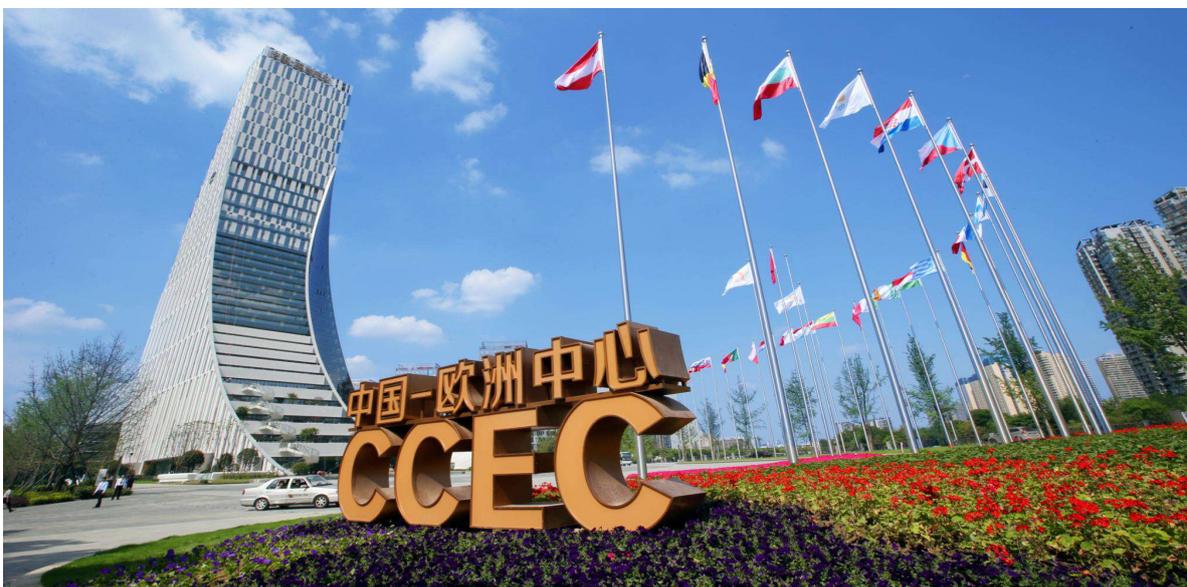


Chengdu is a beautiful Park City and a great place to live. Located in the subtropical monsoon climate zone, it enjoys a pleasant climate, with distinct seasons, abundant rainfall, warm summers, and mild winters. Chengdu has diverse topographies and landscapes, with mountains, hills, plains, rivers, lakes and reservoirs distributed around

the city. The Giant Panda National Park and its nature reserve, and other natural parks including forest parks, geological parks, scenic spots, and wetland parks are the city's pride. The construction of 16.9 thousand kilometres of Tianfu Greenway, the longest of its kind in the world, and Mount Longquan Forest Park (Chengdu's Green Heart) have been planned. Three thousand plus kilometres of urban greenway have already been completed. Transportation is convenient in the city. The urban rail network under operation has reached 518.5 kilometres this year, which puts Chengdu in fourth place in China in this regard. Chengdu is a famous commercial and retail centre in China, known for its slow-paced and relaxing lifestyle. The Wide and Narrow Alley and Jinli Street are well-known pedestrian streets in China featuring diverse courtyard-style retail stores. The world-famous Sichuan cuisine, the wide selection of snacks and the spicy hotpot have earned Chengdu the title of UNESCO Capital of Gastronomy, the first one in Asia. It has remained top of the list as China's happiest city for 11 consecutive years.



Chengdu is an important economic centre and one of the fastest growing cities in China. Its GDP exceeded 1.7 trillion RMB yuan in the year 2019, ranked 7th in the country. The focus of Chengdu's development is on modern manufacturing sectors such as, among others, IT, equipment manufacturing, medical health, new materials, green foods, and the modern services sectors including convention & exhibition, financial services, modern logistics, culture & tourism, and lifestyle services. Chengdu is accelerating its drive to create the most suitable environment for the new economy. It is ranked No.3 in China in terms of the New Economy Index and the new occupation population. Chengdu was awarded the Benchmark City for International Business Environment in China in 2019 and topped the list of China's most attractive cities for investment for seven consecutive years. It stands out as a Beta + city in GaWC's new report, ranked 71.



Chengdu is one of the most open cities in China's western region. It has established economic and trade relations with 228 countries or regions and attracted 301 Fortune 500 enterprises to invest or set up an office here. Close to 20 countries including Germany, France, and Australia have established a consulate here. It is the third city in mainland China to operate two international airports and one of the first batch of cities in central and western China to implement the 144-hour visa-free transit policy. Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport is currently running 106 international and regional passenger routes and 26 routes for cargo. It is the only airport in western China whose network covers all the five continents and whose first-year passenger transit exceeded 50 million. The Chengdu-Europe Express Rail that departures from Chengdu and arrives at Poland is an intercontinental passage for freight rail transportation, linking 16 Chinese domestic cities and 14 cities overseas.



Chengdu is one of the fastest developing cities in sports in China with the highest percentage per population engaging in sporting activities. Chengdu boasts over 60 institutions of higher education such as Sichuan University and the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, as well as a number of modern sports venues such as the Dong'an Lake Sports Park and Fenghuangshan Sports Park. The city has successfully hosted over 100 international sports events including the 18th World Police and Fire Games, the ITTF Men's World Cup and Women's World Cup. The Chengdu Marathon has been announced as China's first candidate to become an Abbott World Marathon Major. In addition, Chengdu won the bid to host the Chengdu 2021 FISU World University Games Summer, the 2022 World Team Table Tennis Championships, the 2025 World Games, as well as to co-host the 2023 Asian Cup.



