



# 10 REASONS YOU SHOULD DROP EVERYTHING AND MOVE TO CHINA

*Living in China (/ESL-Jobs/category/living-in-china/)*

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Here are 10 convincing tidbits about China and why you should already be on the plane.

## 1. Enticing Food

Do you like great food? We thought so. Ask anyone living in China and they'll tell you the same thing: Chinese food the best in the world. From the spicy essence of Sichuan cuisine to the subtle freshness of Zhejiang dishes, with over a dozen styles of food, there is nothing you can't find in China to delight your taste buds.

## 2. Diverse People

In addition to the billions of Han Chinese that populate this massive country, China is home to 55 ethnic minorities and hundreds of thousands of people from across the globe. Friendly, funny and awesome are just a few superlatives I used to describe my closest friends and the strangers I've met during my travels around China. You'll make lifelong pals and create memories with people you'll only spend 15 minutes with. No matter who you meet, your life will be enriched by the stories and experiences they tell and share.

## 3. Rapid Speed

The country is growing in every way possible at a breakneck pace and shows no signs of stopping. Skyscrapers shoot 100 stories into the sky within a year, the bullet train network connects more and more cities on a monthly basis and shopping malls open almost daily. Seriously – China built 350 malls last year alone, according to the National Retail Federation (<https://nrf.com/news/bringing-the-world-together-international-growth-malls>).

#### 4. Magnificent Views

Whether you're looking out onto the modern skyline of Shanghai (<http://www.englishfirst.com/ESL-Jobs/teaching-english-in-shanghai/>) from the Bund or the rural landscapes of a nearby province from the bullet train, the sights of China are a visual feast (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8PReAbJKtg>) for the eyes.

#### 5. Incredibly Cheap

At 6.15RMB to the dollar and climbing, the cost of living in China (<http://www.englishfirst.com/ESL-Jobs/cost-of-living-in-china/>) is much cheaper than western countries.

#### 6. Famous Places

The Great Wall, Forbidden Palace, Terracotta Warriors, Shanghai and Hong Kong are all at your fingertips when you live in China. And those are just a few of the hundreds, neigh thousands of places you can visit. With 47 UNESCO world heritage sites (the second-highest of any country), you will always have something to see.

#### 7. Very Easy

It's so easy to live here as a foreigner. The cost of living is low, western conveniences are everywhere; Starbucks reportedly opens a new store every 18 hours. People are more than willing to assist no matter what the issue. Whoever says you can't get around the bureaucratic red tape has never asked for help.

#### 8. Beautiful Language

Moving to China means you get to experience the sounds and sights of a new language thanks to the 40,000+ set of Chinese characters used in their writing. It doesn't matter how much or how little Chinese you know. If you decide to learn, take our advice and learn for free – ask locals to teach you or sign up for groups that have no cost. Truthfully, I have friends who don't speak Mandarin at all and others who shame me with their linguistic skills – and both groups are equally comfortable with their lives here.

#### 9. Break Your Routine

Living abroad actively encourages you to try new things on a daily basis and there's a sense of freedom that comes with it. With new clubs and groups springing up every day, you can do anything from learning dim sum cooking to entrepreneurs meeting for a drink. It's always your choice, your opinion and we wouldn't have it any other way.

#### 10. Hidden History

Did you know that during World War II nearly 20,00 refugees escaped from Germany to Shanghai? How about the fact that the Chinese invented the compass, gunpowder and paper among other things? There is literally 5,000 years of history spread throughout the country and it's utterly fascinating to learn.

Want to find a job in China? Learn more about EF English First's jobs in China (<http://www.englishfirst.com/ESL-Jobs/teaching-jobs-in-china/>) now.

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