



SANYA ²⁰¹⁶ Travel Guide



Introduction

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Situated on the southernmost tip of Hainan Province, China, Sanya has been billed as "China's Hawaii", thanks to its tropical monsoon climate. It is characterized by 20km long stretches of beach, covering an area of 1919.58 square kilometers.

In the last couple of years, the city has emerged into one of the most popular vacation spots among Chinese and international tourists, gaining the nickname of "Moscow on the South China Sea", given the steady influx of Russian vacationers. Aside from the enchanting tropical nature beauty, Sanya is being called the "South Gate of China", referring to the vital economical role it plays in the import and export trade with foreign countries.

With sunshine and mild temperatures (around 25 degrees) all year around, for most visitors, Sanya is a noted tourist resort destination, attracting large numbers of followers from many countries. The peak season starts from October to the end of winter (usually the end of February) with the largest groups of people (and highest prices) around Chinese New Year.

This tropical paradise has many natural advantages with diversified features to satisfy different vacation needs. It attracts a lot of different tourists from middle-class families increasingly drawn to enjoy and relax by the golden shores as well as backpackers who wish to spend their holiday testing their inner power with the nature challenges. Moreover, if you are a water sport fan, do not wait any longer for a wide range of outdoor water activities from power-boating to paragliding or ship diving!

Sanya is made up of three distinct zones. Sanya Bay is the widely known public beach, accommodating the bustling city center and lined with seafood restaurants and both local and international hotels. If you are looking for a more unique spot, with stand alone restaurants and cafes, Sanya's visitors favorite place is Dadonghai. Ideal for water sports, relaxing on the beach-side or simply a stroll at the large shopping square on the beach, when it comes to satisfying its visitors this area has it all! Moreover, both in Sanya Bay and Dadonghai you will be able to find small, clean and affordable inns and hotels. A further 15km east you can find Asian Dragon Bay (Yalong Bay),



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boasting unparalleled beauty being one of the most scenic spots in Hainan Province. Due to its supreme environment, you may find here top-end international resorts and deluxe facilities. The beach is in constant well maintenance and you won't be surprised to spot high profile guests vacationing here.

If you have been to China before or are a regular visitor of this country, you may have been repeatedly advised to try as many Chinese dishes as possible. And Sanya is no exception to this: the city never fails to entertain its visitors with a variety of seafood and delicious tropical fruits available all year around. Alternatively, if you are more of a meat lover, you cannot miss to try the famous Wenchang chicken or Hainanese chicken rice. A bit after the sunset and well into midnight, the city streets are filled with food stands, with snacks and many more specialties.

Along with the developing economy and the constant expansion of the infrastructures system of the region, Sanya has recently become easier to reach both nationally and internationally. Sanya Phoenix International Airport serves over 93 domestic, 6 international and 24-chartered air routes. If you would like to experience the natural landscapes and the beautiful surroundings on your way to Sanya, you can try a journey by train or cruise. Cruises operate all year round, or if you prefer, Sanya can also be easily reached directly by high-speed train from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Once in Sanya, do not miss the chance to immerse yourself in the local life. Public transportation offers a cheap and efficient way to move around the city in a local way. Tourists do not hesitate to rent electric motorbikes to facilitate short trips, which can be definitely a fun experience!

Featuring a very favorable climate and a diverse landscape, enabling many recreational activities, Sanya represents the perfect destination for a weekend gateway or for a longer vacation. Here you will have the perfect chance to take a break from your busy daily life while being surrounded by a relaxing atmosphere taking you to a peaceful state of mind.

Sanya's Travel Tips

If you only have 10 minutes...

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- Looking for wild and unspoiled scenic areas? Head to [Wuzhizhou Island](#) or even further north to enjoy really peaceful and untouched sceneries
- Chinese New Year(Spring Festival) is the most crowded period in Sanya.
- Save money by getting into Sanya city from the airport by bus. Fares vary from 5 to 8 Yuan per person and you can pay directly to the conductor on the bus.
- Getting a regular taxi in downtown can be a bit of a hassle during peak vacation periods; however, if you can speak some Chinese, you can dial [96789](#) to call a yellow taxi. Fares are same as regular taxis, starting from [8 Yuan](#) for the first two kilometres.
- If you are going to rent a car or motorcycle beware that you need a valid Chinese driving license, as unfortunately international ones are not valid. Rules are pretty strict here, with up to 15 days in jail if caught driving without a proper license.
- Passionate about golf? Sanya has numerous golf schools, with courses for complete beginners to experienced golf players. Most hotels offer golfing packages.
- If you are a surfing lover, good news is that Sanya is a destination with [consistent, year round surf](#).
- Sanya is famous for pearls. And prices are **NEGOTIABLE!**
- Check out No. 1 Farmer's Market in Sanya, a live seafood supermarket where you can buy seafood and take it to nearby restaurants that will cook it for you, charging a small fee per dish.
- Ask specifically what's included before joining any tour or sport activity to avoid extra-charge.
- Do not drink tap water.

Reputed as “The Spire of China’s Holiday Pyramid” by the World Tourism Organization, Sanya’s terrain slopes gradually from north to south, forming a narrow-shaped polygon. With sea in the south, it has 19 high-quality harbors and 40 islands of different sizes, along the 209 km coastline. Sanya is crowned by nature with ten major tourism highlights: sunshine, sea, beach, forest, animals, hot-springs, caves, countryside, ethnic customs and monuments. It is one of the tourist areas with the richest, densest and most complete tropical tourism resources in China. Today, Sanya has built over 20 tourist attractions, including two national 5A attractions, six 4A attractions, two 3A attraction and one 2A attraction.

Nanshan Cultural Tourism Zone

Level: AAAAA

Location: Sanya Yazhou District

Tel.: 0898-88837888

Website: www.nanshan.com

Opening Hour: 8:00-18:40

Transit: Bus No. 16, 21,25, 29

Ticket Price: 126 Yuan/Person

Relying on Nanshan’s unique natural landscape and rich Buddhism culture, Sanya Nanshan Cultural Tourism Zone is developed as the rare large ecological and cultural attraction in China. It is Chinese largest tourist area with the theme of Buddhist culture and is one of the first national 5A tourist attractions. The tourists can pay homage at the 108m-high Sea-based Kwan-yin Statue, breath the fresh air, listen to the harmonious temple bell and enjoy the singing birds and fragrant flowers.



Must-see List

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Sanya Fairyland Tourism Zone

Level: AAAAA

Location: Sanya Yazhou District

Tel:0898-88830188

Website: www.sanyapark.com

Opening Hour: 7:00-18:00

Transit: Bus No. 21,25,29



Sanya Fairyland tourism Zone is the oldest attraction in Hainan, and the birthplace of Taoist culture in the southernmost of China. It is known as “No. 1 Scenic Spot in the 800 years of Hainan”, with its breathtaking views of sea, mountain, rock and cave since ancient time. Sanya Natural Museum, located in the Tourism Zone, is the only natural museum in the southernmost of china. Dragon King Temple of Taoist culture and the Moon Bay Leisure Area are two must-sees in the Zone. Beach bars, wooden villas and tented comps are set up between mountain and sea, which can meet various needs of vacation, wedding or camping training.

Sanya Tianya-Haijiao Tourism Area

Level: AAAA

Location: Sanya Tianya District

Tel: 0898-88910131

Website: www.aitianya.cn

(booking available via internet)

Opening Hour: 7:00-18:00

Transit: Bus No.16, 21,24,25,29



Sanya Tianya-Haijiao Tourism Zone, 23 km away from downtown southwest, is a symbolic attraction of Sanya. “Tianya-Haijiao” in Chinese means “the remotest corners of the world”. It is famous for charming natural tropical seaside scenery, long and unique history and culture as well as colorful ethnic customs. “Tianya” and “Haijiao” were carved on rocks in the South China Sea by ancient people, which are the cultural origins of Tianya-Haijiao Tourism Zone. Carrying rich cultural connotations after thousands of years of cultural sedimentation, and the feeling of “Tianya-Haijiao” in the heart of people finds its home in the Tourism Zone. Five

must-sees in this area are Tianya Rock, Haijiao Rock, Nantian Pillar, Love Rock and Peace Rock.

Sanya Luhuitou Peak Park

Level: AAA

Location: Sanya Jiyang District

Tel.: 0898-88213740

Website: www.luhuitouzhiye.com

Opening Hour: 7:30-23:30

Transit: Bus No. 22

Luhuitou Peak Park, covering a total area of 82.88 hectares and adjacent to the downtown, is surrounded by the sea. It is the best high ground for sea, sunrise and sunset, and also the best place for panoramic view of Sanya at night. “The Turned-round Deer” is the city sculpture of Sanya, and therefore, Sanya got the name of “Lucheng(The City of Deer)”. Today, Luhuitou Peak Park has been positioned as a theme park focusing on both love culture and ecological display, with main attractions including Downwind Station, Deer Park, Slide, Purple East, Love Culture Park, Li Cabaret, The Turned-round Deer Sculpture, Peak Gardens and North Pavilion Viewing Platform.



Sanya Wuzhizhou Island Tourist Area

Level: AAAA

Location: Sanya Haitang District

Tel.: 0898-88811777

Website: www.wuzhizhou.com

Opening Hour: 8:30-17:30

Transit: Bus No. 28, 29

Wuzhizhou Island is also known as Love Island. The sea water in the Island is crystal clear with the highest visibility up to 27 meters, which makes it the protection area of natural fisheries and coral reef. With 72.45% of coral coverage, it is one of the most popular diving spots in China. Wuzhizhou Island has a variety of luxury hotels with



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rooms in different styles, and lots of marine entertainments allow you to experience profound joy. Other highlights of the area include Matsu Temple, Lovers' Bridge, Sunrise Rock and Oblita Probing Sea.



Sanya Yalong Bay National Resort

Level: AAAA

Location: Sanya Jiyang District

Tel.: 0898-88568899

Website: www.ylb.com

Transit: Bus No. 15,24,25,29,27

Yalong Bay National Resort District is one of Sanya's best beach area with commercial center, marina park, luxury hotels, various sea sports, golf field and yacht club. The Yalong Bay Plaza is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in 2016. By then, it will bring impressive experiences to tourists with brand-new recreational areas and novel amusement facilities.



Yalong Bay Tropical Paradise Forest Park

Location: Sanya Jiyang District

Opening Hour: 7:00-17:30

Tel.: 0898-38278830

Website: www.ylwpark.com



Yalong Bay Tropical Paradise Forest Park, located in Yalong Bay National Resort and with a total area of 1506 hectares, is Hainan's first forest park with coastal mountain eco-tourism and eco-resort. The types of vegetation in the park are tropical evergreen rain-forest and tropical semi-

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deciduous seasonal forest. It has rich resources in biology, geography, astronomy, hydrology and humanity. With natural ecological landscape, many kinds of tourism activities can be carried out, such as mountaineering expeditions, science popularization, folk culture experience, SPA hydrotherapy and sun bath in rain-forest. Here is one of the spots in Sanya for the famous romantic hit movie "If You Are The One II".

Haitang Bay Resort (National Coast)

Transit: Bus No. 23, 28, 29, 33

Haitang Bay, Yalong Bay, Dadonghai Bay, Sanya Bay and Yazhou Bay are the five most famous bays in Sanya. Haitang Bay has a total length of about 13.8 km original ecology river system, together with a total area of 9 square kilometers lagoon, 2 square kilometers of Coconut Island, wetland resources of Big&Small Longjiang ponds, and rich resources of sea water, beach, customs, folklore and hot springs. National Coast Haitang Bay Resort Area will be built into an international leisure area with world-class beach resorts, upscale brand boutiques and mind-blowing outdoor activities.



Sanya Dadonghai Tourism Area

Transit: Bus No. 2, 4, 8, 15, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 28, 29

Sanya Dadonghai Tourism Area is located between the two mountains of "Rabbit Tail" and "Turned-round Deer", 3 km away from downtown. In the crescent-shaped bay, the vast sea glitters like a mirror, with white sands, sunshine, clear water, and trees forming a beautiful picture of tropical scenery.



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Sanya Bay Resort (Coconut Dream Corridor)

Transit: Bus No. 6, 8, 11,21,24,25,26,27

Sanya Bay is located in the core of Sanya, stretching for 22 km, with silver beach accompanying the blue sea and green belt of trees. It constitutes Coconut Dream Corridor-the beautiful landscape of this coastal tourist city, and perfectly melts with urban area of Sanya. As night falls,people gather in the Sea Moon Square, singing and dancing. The long bay is divided into three parts: the part abutting downtown is sightseeing and roaming area; a little far away is the public beach and sea activities area, and farther away is the leisure hub with a number of resorts.





Must-see List



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Recommended 4-night Tour Guide

Day 1: Arrive in Sanya at 18:00. Hotel check-in.

Reminders: Please do not eat too much tropical fruit and seafood in case of any stomach upset.

Day 2: Nanshan Cultural Tourism Zone & Tianya-Haijiao Tourism Area & Night-Sightseeing@Luhuitou Peak Park

8:30 Breakfast

9:00 Nanshan Cultural Tourist Zone(activity time: about 3 hours)

12:00 Lunch: high-level vegetarian buffet in Nanshan

14:00 Tianya-Haijiao Tourism Area (activity time: about 3 hours)

17:30 Dinner:

19:00 Night-sightseeing at Luhuitou Peak Park

Day 3: Wuzhizhou Island & Yalong Bay

8:30 Breakfast

9:00 Travel to Wuzhizhou Island

Daytime: Enjoy Wuzhizhou Island

16:30 Travel back to hotel

18:00 Dinner

19:00 Walking around Yalong Bay

Day 4: Tropical Paradise Forest Park.

9:00 Breakfast

9:30 Travel to Tropical Paradise Forest Park

Daytime: Enjoy the Park

16:00 Travel back to hotel

17:00 Dinner and Nightlife @Coconut Dream Corridor

Day 5: Time to Go Home

More Travel Routes Are Coming...