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# Around Shanghai: The Ultimate Guide To Water Towns And Villages Around Shanghai



AROUND  
**SHANGHAI**

上海  
水乡

THE ULTIMATE  
GUIDE TO WATER  
TOWNS AND VILLAGES  
AROUND SHANGHAI

EVA DOVC



## Synopsis

This book can be used by anyone with a desire to explore whether they are businessmen, students, retirees or families. We believe that even if you are completely foreign to Chinese language, this manual will help you turn confusing and baffling travelling experiences (and potential disasters) into enjoyable, exotic and pleasurable adventures that you'll want to brag about for years to come! In the following pages we will focus mainly on two aspects of China: introducing altogether seven different destinations located in the vicinity of Shanghai (all suitable for a daily trip or a weekend getaway excursion) and explaining some basic notions of Chinese language, as well as providing some practical phrases - how to buy a bus or train ticket, ask for directions and so on - you can use when travelling yourself.

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## Customer Reviews

Very brief guide for each site. I would not rely on it to try to find the gardens or to take public transportation. No table of contents, so it's hard to find any specific garden. Starts off with a little basic information about traveling in China, but seeing most of these gardens is more likely for the

specialist or someone with a lot of time in the Shanghai area. The best features are the color photos (in the Kindle version) and some brief accounts of historical interest, along with descriptions of the gardens. These are world-class gardens, so if you're going the book could be a quick guide.

A guide for first time visitors to the famous water towns in Shanghai and two other cities. Not much more for anyone else. Not the Ultimate guide, since Shanghai itself has almost a dozen Watertown/canal towns itself that are not mentioned. Hangzhou and Suzhou are different cities. The ultimate in the title is false advertising, since it does not include a majority of the water towns in Shanghai itself and doesn't include that detailed of information. The directions to get to the places are good and useful. The sentences and phrases are nice but if you haven't learned pinyin (the romanization of Chinese) they are useless. There is some overlap with English but a lot does not. You would need to take a course to learn how to read and say the phrases in the book. The information about sites is nice but nothing another guide or the Internet provides. It covers all the high points but does not get into any details one would expect from the ultimate guide. There is a single photo of each site, so again you want to go on the Internet to get an idea of what the place is like. The Humble Administrator Garden is huge place but you don't get scope of the place from the photo. The photo for the Hangzhou Temple doesn't include either of the temples. There are no maps. Some of the places like Qibao and Tongli are small enough that a map could be added. At least to give the reader an idea of what the places looks like and the size. The book leaves of Xitang, a charming small Watertown with a multi-block bar street, small quiet town during the day, loud, light-smoke filled other world at night. For the first time visitor this would be a nice book to read before you go but not a book you would need to take on the trip. Especially since the Chinese phrases do not have a phonetic pronunciation guide.

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