

People's Republic of China



中国



Capital:	Beijing , 39°55'N, 116°23'E
Largest city:	Shanghai
Area:	9,596,961 km²
Principal language:	Chinese (also known as Putonghua or Mandarin)
Other languages:	Cantonese, Mongolian, Tibetan, Uyghur, Zhuang
First dynasty of China:	2070 BC
Republic established:	01/01/1912
People's Republic proclaimed:	01/10/1982
Population (2015):	1.4 billion

The capital city has had the previous names **Ji**, **Zhongdu** and **Dadu**. The name **Beijing** was adopted in 1421. Before 1949, **Beijing** was also known as **Peking** by the Western world. Many countries continue to use the name today.

Geography/Climate/Biodiversity

China's landscapes vary significantly across the country:

- Densely populated alluvial plains
- Broad grasslands in the north
- Southern China is dominated by hills and low mountains
- The central-east hosts the deltas of China's two major rivers, the Yellow River and the Yangtze River
- Arid areas in the north: the Taklamakan Desert and the Gobi Desert

- The world's highest point, Mount Everest (8,848m)
- The country's lowest point is the dried lake bed of Ayding Lake (-154m)
- China's climate is dominated by dry and wet seasons
- China has at least 551 species of mammals, 1,221 species of birds, 424 species of reptiles and 333 species of amphibians

Politics

The People's Republic of China is a communist/socialist state with a "democratic dictatorship". There are severe restrictions in many areas:

access to the Internet

the media

children

social organizations

religion

Economy

- In 2014, China had the world's second-largest economy.
- It is one of the largest economies in the world, with a 2014 GDP of US\$17 trillion.
- In 2014, GDP per capita was US\$7,589, 80th position globally.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China>