



Travel Information for WA2025 China Qingdao

Below is a travel guide to help you plan your trip to WA2025 in Qingdao, China, with essential information on travel logistics, accommodation, and other important details.

Travel Information for Attending WA2025 China in Qingdao, China

1. Event Program

- **Event: WA2025 China (World Aquaculture China 2025)**
- **Event Date:** April 24 to 27, 2024
- **Venue: Qingdao International Convention and Exhibition Center, Qingdao, China**
Located in the political and commercial center of Laoshan District
- **Address:** No. 9 Miaoling Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao, China
- **Website:** <http://qingdao.qdicec.com.cn/>. (You can translate the website into your preferred language when you visit.)
- The venue is about a 40-minute drive from the Qingdao Airport.
- Exhibition Location: **Hall 2**
- Conference & Registration Location: **Hall 5**

2. Event Registration

- Please register online at <https://was.org/meeting/code/WA2025>
- For Chinese participants, a brochure and exhibit invitation are available in your language on the website. You can also register online directly on the same site. Additionally, if you use a translation app, you can select to translate the website during registration, and it will automatically switch to your preferred language.
- Please be reminded that the Early Bird discount registration closed on **April 1st, 2025**. However, late registrations are still being accepted but will not include the discounted price
- Abstract Submission deadline is **January 31, 2025**

On the event date:

- If you have already registered and paid online in advance, when your arrival, you can pick up your badges at the **ADVANCE REGISTRATION DESK**.
- For those who are unable to make payment online, ON-SITE payment will be accepted. However, we highly recommend registering in advance to avoid long queues.
- Exhibitors: please upload/add the names for your staff online – use the Exhibitor Link at www.was.org The badges will be available at the **EXHIBITORS REGISTRATION DESK**

3. Travel to Qingdao

Qingdao is a major coastal city located in Shandong Province on China's eastern coast.

1. By Air:

- Qingdao JiaoDong International Airport (TAO) is the primary airport serving the city, approximately 40 minutes from downtown Qingdao and Venue. See more at <https://www.qdairport.com/cms>
 - International Flights: Qingdao has direct international flights from several major cities around the world, including Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul, Tokyo, and other East Asian cities.
 - Domestic Flights: There are also direct flights from major cities in China, such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chengdu, and Xi'an.
 - Airlines operating to/from Qingdao: Air China, China Eastern, China Southern, and several international carriers.

2. By Train:

- High-speed trains (CRH trains) run frequently between Qingdao and cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Jinan, and Tianjin.
- Qingdao Railway Station and Qingdao North Railway Station are the two main train stations in the city.
 - Qingdao Railway Station is more central, while Qingdao North Railway Station is used for high-speed trains traveling to and from other major cities.

4. Visa and Travel Documents

- As a foreign visitor to China, it is your responsibility to secure a visa for travel to China if required, unless you are from a visa-exempt country. To determine whether you need a visa and whether your country qualifies for a visa exemption, please check the link at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_mainland_China.
- **Visa Application:** Visit the **Chinese Embassy or Consulate** in your country to apply for a visa. The process may take a few days or weeks, so make sure to apply in advance.
- To assist with your visa application, we will provide an invitation letter. Please make sure to request it well in advance, and ensure you have completed your registration. Additionally, kindly provide your passport details as follows when making the request.
 - **Full Name:** [Your Full Name]
 - **Passport Number:** [Your Passport Number]

- **Date of Birth:** [Your Date of Birth]
- **Nationality:** [Your Nationality]

5. WA2025 Conference Mobile App: (Please Refresh the app Upon Arrival to get the latest event updates)

- **Download the Official Event App:** Install the "WAS Meeting Assistant" application, available on both Google Play and the Apple App Store. **Once downloaded, the app will display the WAS Event program that have been scheduled those time when you downloaded.**
- Or scan the QR code provided below. This will direct you to the event page, where you can see the current event. **Please note** that the current event program will typically appear one or two weeks before the scheduled date, so be sure to refresh the app if you have it installed already.



WAS Meeting Assistant APP

- **Navigating the App:** Once installed, open the app to access the WA2025 homepage and explore the various menu options available.
- **Event Information:** With the app, you'll have all the necessary details about the WA2025 event at your fingertips, ensuring you stay informed and prepared.

6. Alipay and WeChat in China for Foreigner

- While credit cards are widely accepted in many areas of China, particularly in larger cities and tourist spots, mobile payment apps such as WeChat Pay and Alipay have become the dominant method for financial transactions. These apps are used extensively for everyday purchases, making them essential tools for navigating the local economy. Although credit cards are still accepted in internationally recognized venues, travelers should consider setting up a mobile payment account or having a backup of local currency, especially when traveling outside major cities.

- Both Alipay and WeChat Pay have transformed the way people in China manage money, pay for goods and services, and even socialize. Their popularity highlights the shift towards a cashless society, with mobile payments playing a central role in the digital economy. Furthermore, their influence is no longer confined to China; both apps are expanding into global markets, demonstrating the growing importance of mobile payments worldwide.
- Alipay is a standalone app focused primarily on financial services and payments, whereas WeChat Pay is integrated within WeChat, a multifunctional app that also offers messaging, social networking, and entertainment features.
- As a foreigner in China, using these apps can significantly enhance your travel experience by making transactions quicker and more convenient. Setting up either WeChat Pay or Alipay is easy, and you can link them to an international bank card without needing a Chinese bank account. With mobile payments in hand, you'll find it much easier to explore and enjoy your time in China.



7. Airport Transfer and Transportation Within Qingdao

Qingdao has a reliable and efficient transportation system for getting around the city.

Travel from the airport:

- **Taxi:** A taxi ride from Qingdao Jiaodong Airport to downtown takes around 30-40 minutes.
- The Qingdao Jiaodong Airport Taxi Station is located outside Gate 3 on the L1 floor of the terminal building. To take a taxi, please follow the airport signs and queue up at the station.
- More information for transportation can be found at <https://www.qdairport.com/cms>
- **Taxis and Ride-hailing: Didi (China's equivalent of Uber) is widely used in Qingdao. You can easily book a taxi through the Didi app.** Search "Didi" in your Alipay or WeChat APP, then choose your location and your destination, choose your preferred type of car. The fee will be paid via your Alipay or WeChat account after you get off from the taxi.
- Taxis in Qingdao are relatively affordable, and some driver can speak English however, be sure to have your destination written in Chinese for the driver. This will help ensure smooth communication.
- **Airport Shuttle:** There are several shuttle bus routes available that connect the airport to different parts of the city.

- **Metro:** Qingdao has a **Metro Line 1** that connects the airport to downtown Qingdao. It's a fast and affordable option.

8. Hotel and Accommodation in Qingdao

Hotel Recommendations

- WA2025 has the list of recommended hotels. These hotels are within close proximity to the venue near the venue. Please see the hotel list on the website.

| No | Hotel Name | Address | Distance to Venue (km) | Price Range (USD) | Standard Room Size | Star Rating |
|----|---|---|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Conson Financial Center Hotel (Qingdao Haitian Financial Center Hotel) (Guo Xin Financial Center Hotel) 国信金融中心酒店 | No. 29 Xianxialing Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province, China 96619 青岛市崂山区仙霞岭路 29 号 | 1.90 km | 52- 74 | 35 sq m | 5 |
| 2 | Haitian Grand Theatre Hotel 青岛国信海天大剧院酒店 | No. 5 Yunling Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province, China 山东省青岛市崂山区云岭路 5 号 | 0.65 km | 45 - 55 | 25 sq m | 4 |

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|---|---|--|---------|----------|---------|---|
| 3 | Sophia International Hotel Qingdao 索菲亞國際大酒店（青島國際會展中心石長者海水浴場店） | No. 217 Xianggang East Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao, Shandong, 266061, China 香港東路 217 號, 嶗山區, 青島, 266061 | 1.10 km | 40-56 | 25 sq m | 4 |
| 4 | Qingdao Blue Horizon Hotel (Laoshan) / (Qingdao Shilaoren International Convention and Exhibition Center) 等 线等线仿宋仿宋等线等线等线等线蓝海大饭店（青岛石老人海水浴场国际会展中心店） | No.9-2 Miaoling Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province, China 山东省青岛市崂山区苗岭路 9-2 号 | 0.25 km | 60 - 70 | 30 sq m | 4 |
| 5 | Hyatt Regency Qingdao 青岛鲁商凯悦酒店 | No. 88 Donghai East Road, Laoshan District, Qingdao, Shandong Province, China, 266061 山东省青岛市崂山区东海东路 88 号 | 2.8 km. | 105 -126 | 42 sq m | 5 |
| 6 | Crowne Plaza Qingdao 青岛颐中皇冠假日酒店 | No.76 Xiang Gang Zhong Rd Qingdao Shandong 266071 山东省青岛市市南区香港中路 76 号 | 12.6 km | 78 - 90 | 40 sq m | 5 |

6. Top Attractions in Qingdao

Some of the most popular place in Qingdao around the Convention Center include:

Shilaoren Beach:

- Located at the southern end of Haier Road in Laoshan District, to the east of Datang Fishery Banquet, Shilaoren Beach is one of the largest bathing beaches in Qingdao. Stretching over a total length of 3 kilometers, it offers ample space for visitors to enjoy the scenic beauty and coastal activities. At the left end of the beach, a prominent rock formation in the sea is known as "Shilaoren," after which the beach is named. The area has evolved into a comprehensive tourist resort, offering a wide range of activities such as vacationing, sightseeing, marine sports, beach sports, and leisure entertainment.

May Fourth Square:

- It is located in the Eastern New District, with the Qingdao Municipal Government Office Building to the north and Fushan Bay to the south. It is named to commemorate Qingdao as the fuse of the "May Fourth Movement".

Polar Ocean World:

- Located on Qingdao Donghai East Road, south of Shilaoren Tourist Resort, it stretches from the Sculpture Park in the east to the Ocean Entertainment City in the west, with green mountains behind and the sea on three sides. It is a large-scale open tourism project with the theme of Ocean Park, integrating food, accommodation, transportation, travel, shopping and entertainment, invested and built on the basis of the original Qingdao Dolphin Performance Hall. It is currently the largest venue in China with the most complete and largest number of polar marine animals.

Qingdao Beer Museum (Tsingtao Brewery):

- Discover the history of China's famous Tsingtao beer. Qingdao Beer Museum, which lies on the old site of the Tsingtao Brewery Company, which is a world-famous manufacturing enterprise special in brewing.

Zhanqiao Pier:

- A scenic pier offering views of the city and the Yellow Sea and the symbol of Qingdao, was built in 1891, covering a distance of 440 meters. Bathed in the sunlight, Huilange Pavilion, a two-storied octagonal pavilion at the south end of the pier, is radiant with golden light like a shining pearl floating on the sea held by a jade arm.

Badaguan Scenic Area:

- is located in the southern district of Qingdao, Shandong Province, and is considered the most iconic scenic spot in the city. Known for its picturesque combination of red-

tiled roofs, lush greenery, deep blue sea, and clear skies, it captivates visitors with its natural beauty. The area gets its name, "Badaguan," meaning "Eight Passes," due to the original eight roads (now expanded to ten), each named after famous historical passes in China. Prior to the liberation, Badaguan was a prestigious villa district, primarily inhabited by government officials and capitalists.

9. Currency and Payment

The official currency of China is the **Chinese Yuan (CNY)**. It's advisable to exchange your home currency for Chinese Yuan before you arrive or at the airport, although international currency exchange services are available at the airport and in the city center.

- **Credit Cards:** Major international credit cards like **Visa, MasterCard, and American Express** are accepted in most hotels, international restaurants, and high-end shops.
- **Mobile Payments:** Mobile payment apps like **WeChat Pay** and **Alipay** are widely used in China.

10. Language

- **Mandarin** is the official language spoken in Qingdao. While many people in the tourist industries may speak some English.
- **Translation Apps:** Download a translation app like **Google Translate** or **Pleco** to help with communication, especially when ordering food, asking for directions, or travelling.

11. General Tips

- **Weather:** In April fully embraces the warming trends of spring.
- **Electronics:** China uses 220V, 50Hz electrical power, and the plug type is Type A, C, and I.
- **Travel Adapters:** Make sure to bring plug adapters for your devices.
- **SIM Cards:** You can buy a **local SIM card** at the airport or in the city for data and calling purposes. Providers like **China Mobile, China Unicom, and China Telecom** offer SIM cards for tourists.
- **Safety:** Qingdao is a relatively safe city. However, as with any large city, be cautious of pickpockets in crowded places.

By following these travel tips and being prepared, you'll ensure a successful and enjoyable experience at WA2025 in Qingdao, China. Safe travels!