

## Chongqing Municipality



Chongqing is abbreviated as "Yu". As a linking zone between east China and west China, it is located on the northeast corner of southwest China, along the upper reaches of Chang Jiang (Yangtze River). It covers an area of over 82,300 square kilometers, and has a population of 31.3 million, including such ethnic groups as Han, Tujia, Miao, Hui, Mongol and Yi.

### ■ Geographical Features

**Topography** Mountains and hills take up most part of Chongqing. With mountains like Daba Shan, Wu Shan, and Dalou Shan circle round Chongqing on the east, south and west, Chongqing's terrain slopes from south and north to the Chang Jiang river valley, intersected only by basins like Liangping and Xiushan. The main stream of Chang Jiang runs across Chongqing from southwest to northeast. Other major rivers include Jialing Jiang, Wu Jiang, Qi Jiang, Qu Jiang and Daning He, which cut out many deep valleys in the mountains.

**Climate** Subtropical humid monsoon climate rules the area, which blurs the seasonal difference, and brings to Chongqing little snow but plenty of clouds and mists. Annual rainfall in this region is between 1,000~1,400mm. The average annual temperature is between 13~18°C, with an average temperature in January between 1~8°C, while in July between 21~29°C. Chongqing is one of China's three "ovens".

### ■ Natural Resources

Chongqing boasts rich reserves of natural resources. Over 70 kinds of minerals have been found here, among which the reserves of minerals like coal, natural gas, manganese, mercury, aluminium, strontium, barium, halite, barite, limestone, fluorite, and silicon are bounteous, especially that of first grade strontium, which is the largest in China. Mercury found in Xiushan and Youyang are of enormous quantity.

Forest cover rate in this region is around 21%, as most of the mountainous area in Chongqing is covered by forests. There are more than 4,000 species of plants, including over 2,000 species of Chinese medicinal herbs, mostly Chinese goldthread, dangsen, honeysuckle, and caladium. Over 600 species of animals live here, among which over 100 are rare animals under national protection.

### ■ Agriculture

Chongqing is one of China's major production bases of grain and pork. Main grain crops are: rice, wheat, corn and sweet potato; main economic crops are: rape, peanuts, tung tree, mulberry, hemp, and tobacco; fruits like orange, grapefruit, peach and plum are also grown here. Pig, cow, sheep, and rabbit are raised here, and this region produces first class strains of pig, and rabbit.

### ■ Industry

Chongqing has been one of China's traditional industrial centers, and is now the largest economic center in southwest China. Main industries here include: machinery, chemical, metallurgy, textile, building material, food processing, automobile, motorcycle, pharmacy, electronics, power engineering, war industry and hi-tech industries like information engineering, biotechnology, and environmental protection. Chongqing has the largest aluminium processing factory in Asia. Motorcycles produced here takes up 1/3 of China's total output, and 1/2 of its motorcycles are exported, making Chongqing one of China's top ten electromechanical products exporting bases.

### ■ Transportation

**Railway** Three main stems including Chengdu-Chongqing, Xiangfan-Chongqing, and Chongqing-Guiyang railways run through Chongqing, and are joined by branch lines of Baoji-Chengdu, Chengdu-Kunming, and Beijing-Guangzhou railways, connecting Chongqing conveniently with the

rest part of China.

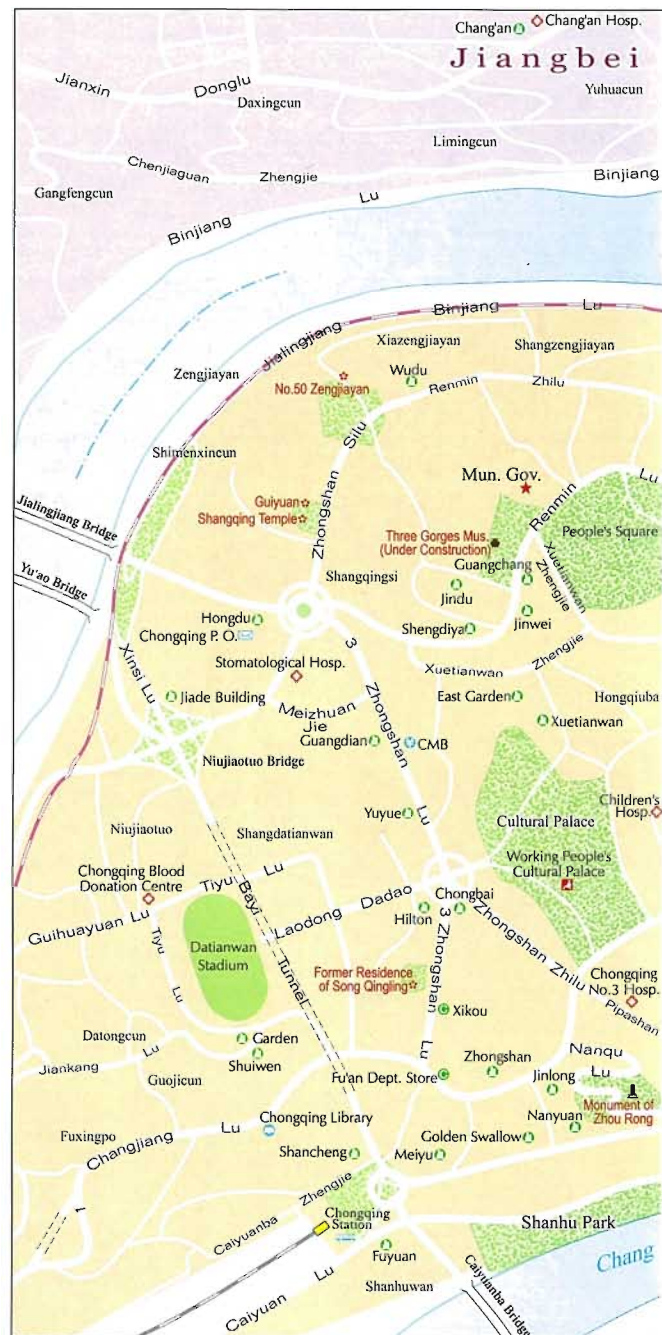
**Highway** A convenient network made up by national highways and provincial highways has been completed. Express highways like Chengdu-Chongqing, Chongqing-Fuling, Chongqing-Guiyang have been put into use.

**Airway** Over 50 domestic and international flight courses are available at Jiangbei Airport.

**Waterway** Dozens of ports and docks have been built along Chang Jiang. Freights weighting thousands of tons can go directly to seaports like Wuhan and Shanghai, and therefore to the rest of the world.

### ■ Places of Interest

Chongqing has beautiful natural scenery and rich cultural relics. Three Gorges of Chang Jiang is not just a natural wonder of spectacular







scenery, but an area surrounded by rich cultural relics and fantastic legends. Xiaosanxia (minor three gorges) lies in Wushan County, which are three beautiful valleys along Daning River. Mt. Jinyun is a Buddhist place with over 1,500 years of history. Mt. Simian in Jiangjin is not only covered with primitive forests, but also decorated by lakes and waterfalls. Mt. Jinfo, a national nature reserve and national forest park, is located in Nanchuan. Dazu Rock Carvings can be found in Dazu County. These treasures of China's early rock carving art were finished in late Tang Dynasty and are now included in the World Heritage List by UNESCO. Other cultural relics can be found in Fuling, Fengdu, Zhongxian, Wanzhou and Yunyang.

### Local Products

The famous Chongqing hotpot boasts a long history. Other local flavors like pickles, beef jerk, lobster sauce and rice candy are all well known in China. Grapefruits, peach and orange produced here are of high quality. Embroidery,

silk, and bamboo products are traditional local handicrafts.

Three Gorges of Yangtze River

