Chengdu
Chengdu is the capital of Sichuan province in Southwest China. It holds sub-provincial administrative status. The urban area houses 14,047,625 inhabitants: 7,123,697 within the municipality's nine districts and 6,730,749 in the surrounding region.

Chengdu is one of the most important economic, transportation, and communication centers in Western China. The fertile Chengdu Plain, on which Chengdu is located, is also known as the “Country of Heaven”, a phrase also often translated as “The Land of Abundance”.

In addition to its profound historical and cultural background featuring historic places of interest such as the Thatched Cottage of Du Fu, Wuhou Memorial Temple and Wenshu Monastery, natural beauty abounds in surrounding areas such as in the Jiuzhaigou Scenic Area and Huang Long Valley (Yellow Dragon Valley).

The natural habitat of giant pandas, Chengdu Panda Breeding and Research Center, supports the world's only giant panda breeding and research base.

Enjoying the food as well as the culture, shopping and having tea at a teahouse afford a deeper understanding of Chengdu. Improved land and airlines extending nationwide provide greater convenience. Chengdu is also the main inland access city to Tibet.
Geography

Chengdu is located at the western edge of the Sichuan Basin and sits on the Chengdu Plain; the dominating terrain is plains. Northwest Chengdu is bordered by the high and steep Longmen Mountain and in the west by the Qionglai Mountains. The western mountainous area is also home to a large primitive forest with abundant biological resources and a Giant Panda habitat. East of Chengdu stands the low Longquan Mountain and the west bordering area of the hilly land.
of middle reaches of Min River, an area noted by several converging rivers. Since ancient times, Chengdu has been known as "the Abundant Land" owing to its fertile soil, favorable climate, and novel Dujiangyan Irrigation System.

Click the link to enlarge the map:

http://www.travelchinaguide.com/images/map/sichuan/chengdu-tourist.jpg

**Chengdu METEN branches**

We have eight branches in operation in Chengdu (Qing Yang branch, Ke Hua Bei branch, Da Shi Xi branch, Tian Fu branch, Jian She branch, Da Yue Cheng branch and Yin Tai Branch). Chengdu attracts visitors from home and abroad for its cultural heritage and other tourist attractions.

F4, Beite.Kangpai, No.51 Qinglong St. Qingyang District, Chengdu City
成都市青羊区青龙街51号倍特.康派4层 (八宝街)

No.151 Kehua North Rd. Chengdu City
成都市科华北路151号附三号 (联通大厦对面)

Commercial Bldg 18, Kanghelijing Sector 1, No.237 Dashi West Rd. Chengdu City
成都大石西路237号康河郦景1期商业18幢

A3 shop, F5, New Shopping Center, Shihaio Plaza, Jiannan Ave. Chengdu City
成都市剑南大道成都世豪广场购物中心高新店5层A3号商铺

F5 Ito Yokado Shopping Center, No. 2 Jian She Rd. Cheng Hua District Chengdu City
Climate

Chengdu has a monsoon-influenced humid subtropical climate and is largely mild and humid. It has four distinct seasons, blessed with abundant rainfall, and relieved from both sweltering summers and freezing winters. The Qin Mountains (Qinling) to the far north help shield the city from cold Siberian winds in the winter; because of this, the short winter is milder than in the Lower Yangtze and snow is rare but there are a few periods of frost each winter. The summer is hot and humid, but not to the extent of the "Three Furnaces" cities of Chongqing, Wuhan, and Nanjing, all which lie in the Yangtze basin. Rainfall is common year-round but is the greatest in July and August, with very little of it in the cooler months.

Transportation

By Air

Chengdu has one airport, the Shuangliu International Airport (CTU), in the southwest of the city. Located about 16 kilometers (10 miles) from the city center, it is the largest aviation hub in central and western China, and aims to form the national aviation hub in mainland China. It has flights to more than 70 domestic cities and over 20 international cities. Frequent one-hour flights are available to Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province. Flights to Xining, capital of Qinghai Province, take about one and a half hours, with two-hour flights available to Lhasa, capital of Tibet. It is convenient to visit the Jiuzhaigou Scenic Spot by air from Chengdu, a 40-minute flight from CTU to Jiuhuang (Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong) Airport with one-way fare of about CNY 700. Visitors are advised to book flights early for this popular trip. Discounts may be available through hotels or travel agencies.
By Train

As the largest railway hub in southwest China, Chengdu has convenient railway transportation. At present, it has two railway stations for passenger transport: Chengdu Railway Station, namely North Railway station and East Railway Station. Another two passenger railway stations, south and west railway stations are now under construction. When completed, the “two principals (north and east railway stations), two assistants (south and west railway stations)” setup of Chengdu rail transport will be formed and better service passengers.

By Long-distance Bus

Chengdu has several main coach stations including Chengdu Bus Station (Wugui Bridge Bus Station), New South Gate Bus Station, Ximen (West Gate) Bus Station, Dongmen (East Gate) Bus Station, Chadianzi Bus Station, Beimen (North Gate) Bus Station, and Gaosuntang Bus Station.

Wugui Bridge Bus Station is near Tazishan Park, east part of the city. It provides transport service mainly to cities along the Chengdu-Chongqing expressway and Neijiang-Yibin expressway such as Chongqing, Yibin City, Zigong County, Wanxian County, and Nanning City. For time-saving expressway service on high quality vehicles, the Wugui Bridge Bus Station is recommended.

New South Gate Bus Station, No. 57, Linjiang Road, provides service to renowned scenic spots, including Jiuzhaigou Scenic Area, Mt. Leshan, and Mt. Emeishan via buses 6, 28, 49, 55 and 301.

Chadianzi Bus Station is seated in the Second Ring Road. Buses here run mainly to the famous scenic spots and Tibetan areas in the west and north of Sichuan, including Wolong Panda Reserve, Danba County, Mt.Siguniangshan, Jiuzhaigou Scenic Area, and Mt. Qingcheng.

North Gate Bus Station is situated in the first Ring Road. The buses here serve primarily south Sichuan Province, such as Zigong County and Yibin City.

Located in the third section, north of the Second Ring Road, Gaosuntang Bus Station is easily missed. It is the station that provides buses for Lhasa, Tibet. It takes three days and two nights to run the whole distance at the price of about CNY 616. In addition, buses to Lanzhou, Xining, Shigatse and Urumqi are available here.

Introduction to Chengdu Subway
- Line 1: Shengxian Lake – Century City
- Line 2: Xipu – Long Quan Yi (Close to Long Quan Music Square)

Click the link to enlarge the map:
http://www.travelchinaguide.com/images/map/sichuan/chengdu-subway.jpg

Dining

Chengdu cuisine has three categories, Sichuan Cuisine, Hotpot, and Snack.

Sichuan Cuisine

Sichuan cuisine has developed over the centuries. Its distinctive flavors entice people throughout China and recently in foreign countries.

Sichuan cuisine is famous for piquancy, but its flavoring is complex as well as hot. Typical dishes include the following: Ma Po Tofu (Bean curd with mince and chili oil); Kung Pao Chicken (Spicy diced chicken with peanuts), etc.
Ma Po Tofu

Kung Pao Chicken

Hotpot

When people think of Chengdu, they immediately think of hotpot. Introduced from Chongqing, Chengdu hotpot has its own style ranging from simple spicy to moderate, three or four kinds of spices, as well as fish head hotpot, medical herbs hotpot, etc.
Snacks

Hidden in the streets and lanes of the city, snack bars still send out savory flavors.

The most renowned snacks include:
Fu Qi Fei Pian (Braised Cow Lungs): Actually beef, heart and tongue take the place of lungs. This tasty dish is made with particular condiments using a delicate process.
Specializing in this dish, Jingcheng Yuan Restaurant is located at No. 23, Zongfu Road.

Chuan Chuan Xiang: also called Ma La Tang, vegetables, sausages, shrimps and anything edible can be threaded onto a bamboo stick and cooked in the hot pot.

Lai Tang Yuan (Lai's Glutinous Rice Ball): the nutritious glutinous rice ball made by Lai (Surname of the maker) is soft and sweet.
With more branches than McDonald’s, Lai Tang Yuan is easy to find in Chengdu.

Etc.

Western Food Restaurants:

There are dozens of KFC in the city, including:
Zongfu Branch: Floor 2, No 21-27, Zongfu Road
Renmin Road Branch: Renmin Shopping Mall
Chunxi Branch: Chunxi Mension, No.1-21, Da Kejia Lane

Tens of McDonald's Restaurants, including Chunxi Branch: Wangfujing Shopping Mall

Several Pizza Hut Restaurants:
Yanshikou Branch: No. 9, Lihua Street (floor 1, Hualian Shopping Mall)
Zufu Branch: No. 6, Zongfu Road (Ziwei Hotel)
Kehua Branch: No. 9, Kehua Middle Road

Shopping

Though not as famous as Hong Kong, Chengdu, too, is a shopping paradise characterized by the ancient culture of Shu which presents visitors a truly local flavor.
The city's shopping centers converge at Chunxi Road, Zongfu Road and Luomashi Area. Here you can shop for a huge range of wares, with everything from souvenirs and street stall items to supermarket and department stores goods on offer.

Chunxi Road

Special recommendations:

Handicrafts
Shu Brocade Factory
Address: No. 1, Caotang East Road

Sichuan Antiques Shop
Address: No. 6, Shaocheng Road, Shudu Avenue

Bamboo-weaving Arts and Crafts Factory
Address: No. 12, the 1st Section of Jiefang Road

Sichuan Arts and Crafts Store
Address: Sichuan Exhibition Hall, No. 16, Renmin Middle Road.

Lacquer wares Factory
Address: No. 81, Jinhe Street

Hehuachi (Lotus Pool) Distribution Center
Location: third section of Erhuan (the 2nd Ring) Road

Classics Bookstore
Address: the south end of the North section of Chunxi Road
Nightlife

Chengdu is famous for its thick characteristic of leisure and enjoyment. From traditional teahouses, theaters to modern pubs and clubs, people here know how to enjoy the night. Every corner in the city offers the warmest welcome.

Jinli, a recreational and cultural street
Location: Floor 1, No. 2, Xin Guanghua Jie, close to Yanshikou, the center of the city.

Old street

Sichuan Opera

As a local opera popular in Sichuan, Yunnan and Guizhou Provinces, Sichuan opera is an important part of Chengdu culture. It began in the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) as a combination of five operatic tunes introduced from other regions. Retaining the local dialect, the role of Chou (Clown) covers a comparatively large part of the performance; The opera often presents a charming witty atmosphere. Its varied performances, such as Bianlian (Changing faces), Gundeng (Rolling lamps) and Tuhuo (Spitting fire) are very popular; Bianlian (Changing faces) is famous even overseas for its mysterious techniques.

Tea Houses

Teahouses on old street
As the saying goes, Tea houses of Sichuan rank first in the world, while those of Chengdu rank first in Sichuan. Tea houses play an important role in the lives of natives. Distributed throughout the city, tea houses are far more than places for drinking tea. They are places for relaxation and social activities, and even more, as a reflection of local life. Here one may enjoy such genuine Chinese teas as jasmine, Maofeng and Zhuyeqing, and Sichuan opera performances as well.
Teahouses on old street

Pubs and Clubs

While featuring the culture of ancient Shu, as a blooming business center and primary metropolis of Southwest China, Chengdu is endowed with modern flavours. Pubs and clubs are primarily in busy streets such as Renmin South Road and west of Yangshi Street. Cafes, discos, karaoke bars, ballrooms, and bowling alleys are also here. Kakadu Club, Glasshouse Pub, Gaomeigao in Lihua Street, Hongse Niandai (Red Ages) in Renmin South Road, Lan Kwai Fong Club in JiuYan bridge, among others, are well known among younger people.

Lan Kwai Fong Club
Location: No. 1 Shui Jin street, Jin Jiang District

Kakadu Club & Disco
Location: No. 16, the third section, south of the first Ring Road
Dance music and theme parties.

Hongse Niandai (Red Age) Club
Location: Entrance of Nijia Bridge Road. Close to the American Consulate
It has ten or so KTV boxes of various styles, as well as restaurant and disco hall.
Highlights: passionate music, DJ competition, fashion shows.

Meigaomei International Recreational Club
Location: Floor 5, Yanshikou Square, Lihua Street
It is a KTV club with VIP box, disco hall, performance hall and sports bar

Allen Story Cafe
Location: No. 107, Shuangyuan Street, Shuangnan Residential District
Highlight: The cafe offers telephone service among guests. One can make friends with other guests through a phone call.
Renhe Spring Cafe
Location: Floor 5, Renhe Spring Department Store, No. 59, Renmin East Road

The Coffee Beanery
Location: Floor 2, Gaobang Department Store, Chunxi Road