# Chongqing Travel Guide

Chongqing is the largest municipality in southwest China. It is a modern port city on the upper reaches of the Yangtze River at the confluence of the Yangtze and Jialing Rivers. With an area of 31, 800 square miles (82,400 square kilometers), it shares borders with provinces of Hubei, Hunan, Guizhou, Sichuan, and Shaanxi. As China’s fourth municipality after Beijing, Shanghai, and Tianjin, Chongqing has maintained rapid economic development while preserving a wonderful natural environment.

Known as the 'Mountain City', it has a wavy terrain and encompasses a wealth of water reserves, mineral resources, dense forests, and abundant flora and fauna. The city attracts visitors from home and abroad for its natural wonders and cultural heritage. As a common starting port for the Yangtze River cruise, tourists can go for a downstream tour to the magnificent Three Gorges.

From Jan. 3, 2014, passport holders of 51 countries and regions including the USA, UK, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, etc. have been granted a visa-free stay of up to 72 hours when taking an international transfer via Jiangbei International Airport.

The city is famous for its hot Sichuan cuisine and world-famous hot pot. Various brands of hot pot restaurants can be found throughout the city. The food is delicious even in very small restaurants. Street vendors as well as restaurants feature exciting spicy delicacies for the gourmets. Bayi Food Street in the city center is the best place to taste the spicy local snacks.

Nightlife is colorful here. Having hot pot at a riverside restaurant or heading for night food markets are highly recommended. The wonderful cruise on the Yangtze and Jialing Rivers provides a fantastic chance to appreciate the city’s enchanting night view.

Scattered colorful lights make the city beautiful and make you fall in love with it. Plenty of pubs or nightclubs are also available.