

Ningbo-Zhoushan, Zhejiang, China

Where the world's busiest port meets thousand-year-old Buddhist pilgrimage sites — Ningbo-Zhoushan spans a vibrant mainland city and a sacred island archipelago, offering cruise passengers everything from imperial libraries to incense-filled mountain temples.

 Pier (cruise terminal)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 Currency: Chinese Yuan (CNY)

 Language: Mandarin Chinese

 144-hr visa-free for cruise passengers

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier at Zhujiajian Island, Zhoushan (no tender) **Walk to center:** Zhoushan town 20–30 min by taxi; Ningbo city 1.5–2 hrs
Best For: Buddhist pilgrimage, ancient history, seafood, island scenery **Don't Miss:** Mount Putuo sacred island & Tianyi Pavilion in Ningbo

 Getting around:  Taxi  ¥110–130 (~\$15–18 USD) ·  Rideshare  Didi

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Mount Putuo Sacred Island** — One of China's four holiest Buddhist mountains, Putuoshan island is a short 15–20 minute ferry from Zhujiajian's wharf (ferries run roughly every 15...
- Tianyi Pavilion & Ningbo Old Bund** — China's oldest surviving private library (1561) sits beside Moon Lake amid Ming-dynasty gardens.
- Zhujiajian Island Beaches** — Stay close to the ship and explore the island itself: Dongsha Beach and Nansha Beach offer clean sand and clear water, while the coastal cliffs...
- Shenjiamen Seafood Night Market** — Zhoushan is China's largest fishing city and its seafood is legendary.
- Dinghai Ancient Town** — The historic heart of Zhoushan, Dinghai preserves Ming and Qing dynasty streets, the Shumo Ancestral Hall, and a working harbor.

BEST WALKS

- Guanyin Fajie & Coastal Path** 2–3 km | Easy | 45–60 min — From the cruise terminal, walk or take a short taxi to the Guanyin Fajie Buddhist complex, then follow the coastal promenade with sea views and cliff scenery back toward...
- Dongsha Beach Stroll** 1–2 km | Easy | 30–45 min — A relaxed beach walk along Dongsha Beach on Zhujiajian Island — sandy shoreline, local fishing boats, and casual seafood shacks.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		64°	55°	11d
Jun		77°	71°	16d
Aug		86°	79°	14d
Sep		81°	74°	13d
Oct		73°	66°	9d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:24AM–6:18PM · Jun 4:49AM–6:53PM · Aug 5:18AM–6:32PM · Sep 5:35AM–5:56PM · Oct 5:53AM–5:20PM

 Currency: Chinese Yuan (CNY)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Set up Alipay or WeChat Pay before you arrive. China is a cashless society — foreign credit cards and cash are refused almost everywhere including taxis, restaurants, and shops. Link your international card in the app at home.
- Download a VPN before you sail. Google Maps, Instagram, WhatsApp, and Gmail are all blocked in China. A pre-installed VPN or international eSIM (Airalo, Ubigi) bypasses the Great Firewall automatically.
- Visa-free for group tours only. China's 144-hour cruise visa exemption applies if you're on an approved cruise-line group tour — confirm eligibility with your line months ahead. Independent passengers need a full visa.
- Budget travel time carefully. Ningbo city is 1.5–2 hours each way from the pier. Book a ship excursion if you want to visit the mainland — traffic on the Zhoushan bridges can cause delays that could make you miss the ship.
- Use Apple Maps for navigation. Google Maps is inaccurate and slow in China. Apple Maps uses local data and works well. Baidu Maps is the local standard but is in Chinese only.
- Zhoushan seafood is world-class — the archipelago is China's largest fishing base. Try yellow croaker, mantis shrimp, and hairy crab at local stalls near Shenjiamen harbor. Prices are low but confirm costs before ordering.

Ningbo-Zhoushan, Zhejiang, China — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



P Cruise port / terminal