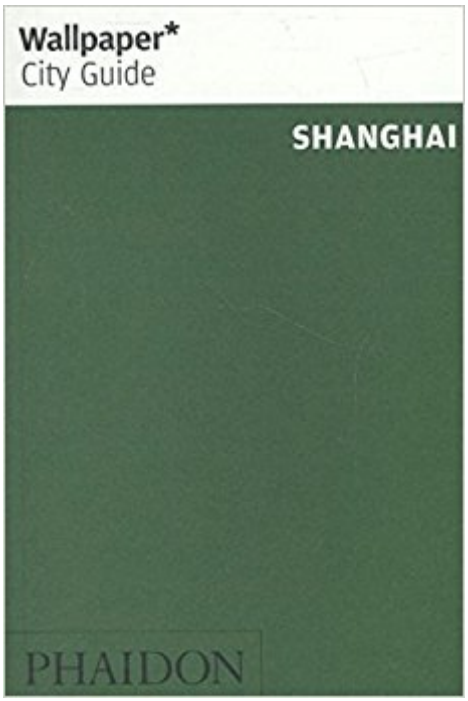
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Wallpaper* City Guide Shanghai



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Synopsis

The fast-track guide for the smart traveler. A tightly edited, discreetly packaged selection of city highlights for the design-conscious visitor. Each Wallpaper* City Guide unearths the most happening restaurants and nightlife, the buzziest hotels, the most influential art galleries and enticing retail, the very best in local design, and the historical styles and contemporary architecture that define a destination. Local writers have delved deep into the urban psyche to enable you to come away from your trip, however brief, with a real flavor of the creative scene and the satisfaction you ve seen all that you should."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

’the answer to every short-breaker’s dream ...The jewel-coloured guides look beautiful and are exquisitely designed.’ The Times ’...gorgeous photography, sharp graphics, and design-savvy, waffle-free text, written by city insiders rather than bearded backpackers.’ The Independent ’Glamorous, global and affordable.’ Telegraph magazine ’packed with insider knowledge and eye-catching photography’ Vogue ’Ultra-glam, uber-chic’ The Observer ’Attractive and well-researched.’ USA Today ’Ultra-stylish.’ Time Magazine ’Sophisticated but simple.’ The New York Times ’Small, stylish and beautifully illustrated, the Wallpaper* City Guides make everything else look old hat. ... The photographs and maps are superb.’ The Sydney Magazine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Wallpaper* City Guides are curated by an extensive network of travel experts, including in-house editors and on-the-ground correspondents.

I think it is a really great guide to exploring a new place. Use it as an idea book. Though,it covers very few realistic options for a new city.What neighbourhoods are these shops or lounges or restaurants or hotels in? They are in a interesting, new, and exciting part of this new place. You likely won't frequent any of the businesses in the book, unless you are fancy and rich, but it gives you a push in the right direction. I have found these books help me find parts of cities that I wouldn't have seen in the Lonely Planet.They are small and made of quality paper that standups to abuse. And, the photo/map in the cover is an interesting take on things. Wallpaper has some of the best photographers in the world in its magazine. These guide books also have extremely high grade photos throughout, as to be expected.

"Shanghai isn't Beijing," as if there is a limited amount of entertainment to be found in a commercial center like Shanghai.The Wallpaper guide is compact and will get you through a few days in Shanghai staying at expensive hotels, hitting a few contemporary art hot spots and partying in expensive clubs and restaurants.Instead of written description the guide has glossy photos. Nothing as practical as useful expressions, maps, bird flu precautions or written directions you can show a cab driver or how to exchange currency.Printed out articles from the NY Times are short and seem to have more depth.Because this guide seemed so minimal I picked up the Frommers guide to Beijing which has far more suggestions. Maybe Beijing is the more exciting city but at least I want to go there after reading the "few days in Beijing" section. Frommers has some suggestions of smaller, traditional hotels. With only a couple days in each city I want my experience to be Chinese, not global chic aesthetic. No resistance to a little bit of chic if it has a Chinese spin. That's why I picked up the guide.There are a few fun tidbits like which room in which hotel Mao used to stay in.Maybe this guide is enough. Some maps would be useful.Overall, the Wallpaper guide seems thin and unenthusiastic. Maybe they do better with other cities. Maybe, like so many guidebooks, they researched by Internet and from other guidebooks instead of going to Shanghai, then compiled a glossier packaging with the photos hotels sent them. Maybe they sent the whole staff and edited until there wasn't much left.

This guide is great for what it is-- a beautifully designed booklet pointing out the chic hotels and clubs, plus some interesting architectural oddities...the writing is sometimes clever, sometimes

snarky... it’s very much in line with the whole ’global-nomad/jetset’ aesthetic that Wallpaper magazine is known for. It’s certainly *not* meant to be a comprehensive travel/cultural guide...I personally enjoyed this book very much when I was in Shanghai; I discovered a number of interesting places but this was after I had gotten my money’s worth out of my battered, dog-eared ’Lonely Planet Shanghai’ book.I’d say, buy a Rough Guide or LP for the bulk of your traveling, but the Wallpaper guides are great supplements if you’re interested in contemporary art/architecture/design etc...

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