



Information & Notices

Talk & Talk-Recruiting Native English-speaking Volunteers
 Calling all native speakers of English! It's time for the next Talk & Talk English conversational dinner, and we need native speakers of English to come volunteer for a couple of hours to speak English with local Japanese folks who are interested in learning more about foreign countries and improving their conversational English skills. The

event takes place at a local café, and the international association will pay for your meal. It's only a couple of hours, and past participants have had a great time chatting in the relaxed atmosphere about all the sorts of things. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Miyakonojo International Association.

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~Shanghai Trip~ ~Miyakonojo City Mongolian CIR-Hishige's Article~

During Golden Week this year, I went to Shanghai to visit a previous Chinese CIR (Sen-chan)! After warmly saying our goodbyes at Miyazaki airport, a year has passed since our last reunion. When I visited, everyone was off of work for a week to celebrate May Day, so both the inside and outside of the country was lively with tourists! I love crowded places, so the lively atmosphere entranced me. With this trip, I discovered that to Chinese people, "a lively time is a good time". After making my way through the arrival lobby, I stepped outside and was greeted by refreshing air. I eagerly awaited the arrival of my dear friend, Sen-chan. Finally! Five nights and 6 days in Shanghai! I couldn't wait! I asked Sen-chan back to back questions about both China and Shanghai. According to Sen-chan, Pudong International Airport's area is wider than the whole of Macao (People's Republic of China special administrative region). It certainly had an extraordinarily tall ceiling, was wide, and resembled a huge town.



Transportation

If you reserve a taxi through an app, it arrives extremely quickly. The car's interior was also very pretty and comfortable. I was surprised by the number of electric vehicles. In fact, most of the taxis that we took were electric.

General roads go without saying, but the highways were also filled with traffic. However, the way to avoid traffic jams is to use the subway and the bicycle and motorcycle rentals available throughout the city! With the subway, you won't encounter traffic jams but the line spanning from the wicket to the concert hall's entrance was as long as a python. The secret to lines this long is that the station staff check the content of each boarding person's bag, etc. in order to ensure the safety of the passengers.

Food

Everything in Shanghai was delicious!

In Mongolia or Japan, things you'd usually order at a restaurant—like Chinese soup dumplings or ayu (sweetfish)—Sen-chan's parents made a ton of them for us!

The Shanghai local breakfast is a red soup with oily fried bread and lots of chili peppers and other spicy spices! It was delicious but, for someone like me who can't handle spice that well, I think eating it every day made my stomach upset.

I was also able to enjoy the town's gourmet to the fullest. Compared to the Chinese food that I tried in Beijing and Hainan previously, Shanghai cuisine was sweet and matched my taste buds.

We tried a variety of dumplings but the most interesting one was the large dumpling! Compared to a regular dumpling, it was 3 times the size! Inside the somewhat thick texture, the dumpling is filled with sweet and plentiful pork juice. You drink it with a straw! I also managed to successfully challenge this time's goal of eating super spicy Chinese food!

Sen-chan ordered for me frog legs and stir-fried pork ears. The moment it entered my mouth I experienced a stinging pain! Neither tears nor snot would stop coming out. I wasn't able to experience the deliciousness of spicy food but I'm proud that I was able to achieve my goal.

In the Nanking area of Shanghai, maybe because from long ago raising them has been popular, the long standing shop's famous dishes are all duck. Therefore, I also tried duck and the most delicious parts were the entrails.

Tourist Destination

We traveled to most of the must-see spots in Shanghai. As expected, the place that left the biggest impression was Yuyuan Garden (Yu Garden). The garden was built in 1559 and is one of Jiangnan's famous parks. I quite like Chinese court dramas so I felt like I stepped into those court drama's world.

Movies In Theaters

C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571) 17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki

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| ● Beetlejuice | ● Despicable Me 4 |
| ● Natsume Arata no Kekkon (Arata Natsume's Marriage) | ● Kingdom: (Taishogun no Kikan) |
| ● Alien: Romulus | ● Baby Valkyrie Nice Days (Miyazaki-ken advance screening) |
| ● Let's Go! Anpanman (Baikinman to Ehon no Lulun) | |
| ● Inside Out 2 | |