Welcome to Beijing

A guide for students at SDC Master's programmes
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This guide is updated 23 August 2017. Please check sdc.university/education/going-to-china/ for the latest version.
Welcome to SDC
To make an easier start for you at SDC, we have gathered some practical information for you.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to stop by the SDC Office on campus.

Transportation
Transportation from/to Beijing International Airport
The easiest way to get from the Beijing International Airport to the Yanqihu campus is to take a taxi.

Always go to the official taxi queues. Do not go with the drivers in the airport greeting you with “taxi” signs. They will overcharge you for the ride. Therefore, just pass them and go to the official taxi queues outside the airport.

Some taxi drivers will be reluctant to take the trip, because they are not sure that they can get a ride back. However, if you pay them an extra 50 Yuan to take you there, then it should not be a problem.

The trip is approximately 40 - 60 kilometres depending on the route chosen by the driver and will take around 60 minutes. The fee should be around 200 RMB + the extra 50.

Chinese taxi drivers rarely speak English, so it is a good idea to bring written notes in Chinese with relevant addresses when you move around.

Print this:

```
Hello driver,
I have to go to the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences Yanqihu campus.

(University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 380 Huaibeizhuang, Huairou district, Beijing)

I will pay you an extra 50 Yuan beyond what the meter shows to take me there.
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你好师傅，
我要去：
北京市怀柔区怀北镇怀北庄380号
中国科学院大学雁栖湖校区

我愿意在打表价格基础上再多付给你50元小费去这个地方

After arriving at the main gate, you have to enter the campus, then go left until you reach the tunnel that takes you to the Eastern side of campus. Once you are through the tunnel, you will spot the SDC building on your right-hand side.

Concerning students arriving August 2017 – You will have to announce your arrival at the building called ACADEMY 3. See map on the last page of this guide.

Transport between campus and Huairou City
When going to Huairou City you can either take a bus or a taxi.
**Bus** – There are several busses that go between the Yanqihu campus and Huairou City. The bus stop for busses headed for Huairou City is just North of the main entrance on campus. The fee is 1 Yuan and the trip will take approximately 20 minutes.

**Taxi** – If you go by taxi then the trip will cost 25-35 Yuan depending on your destination.

**Travel card for public transportation**
The Beijing travel card, which can be used on all public transport in Beijing, including the Huairou area, can be purchased at the bus station in Huairou City.

**Transportation to/from Beijing**
When going to Beijing from the Yanqihu campus, you can go either by shuttle bus, public bus or taxi.

**Shuttle bus** – Several times every day there will be busses driving between the UCAS campuses in Beijing. Yanqihu – Zhongguancun – Olympic – Yuquanlu. It is free for students with a student card. The busses run from approximately 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The bus stop at the Yanqihu campus is located just behind the main library on the East side of the campus.

**Public bus** – Right outside of the Yanqihu campus you can catch a bus #936 to Huairou Bus station (see address below). This will take approximately 20 minutes and cost 1 Yuan. Alternatively, you can take a cab to the bus station from the university main entrance. From the Huairou Bus Station you can catch express bus 916 that takes you straight to Dongzhimen Station in downtown Beijing. The bus leaves every 10-15 minutes. Last bus to Beijing leaves at 20:00. The last bus bound for Huairou from Dongzhimen, Beijing leaves at 21:00. The drive takes 1 hour 20 minutes and costs 6 Yuan.

Huairou Bus Station - 怀柔长途汽车站
№ 2 Fuqian East Street, Huairou
怀柔区府前东路 2 号
Find the bus station on google maps: https://goo.gl/maps/GcBKuIZLEJ82

**Taxi** – Usually there will be Beijing taxis at the campus gate ready to take you to Beijing. The fee will be approximately 250 including 10 RMB road toll, depending on your destination in Beijing. The drive will take approximately one hour – rush hour, however, can prolong the drive.

Getting a taxi to the Yanqihu campus from Beijing City can be tricky, as some drivers may not want to take the trip. However, if you pay them an extra 50 Yuan they will usually take the ride. To get this in written Chinese, see the section above.

**A network of drivers**:
Currently a network of taxi drivers who drive Beijing taxis, but live in the Huairou
area and are willing to take you from Beijing to Huairou at a set price of 300 RMB is being established.

**Beijing Taxis vs Huairou Taxis**

When taking taxis, it is important to be able to distinguish between Beijing Taxis and Huairou Taxis.

**Beijing Taxis** – can take you from Huairou to Beijing and vice versa. The fee for riding the Beijing Taxis is slightly higher than the Huairou taxis.

![Beijing taxi](image1)

**Huairou Taxis** – may drive you between the campus and Huairou City and around in the area. However, they are not allowed to leave the district and will not take you to downtown Beijing. The fee for riding Huairou Taxis is slightly lower than the Beijing taxis.

![Huairou taxi](image2)
Campus
Intro to Yanqihu Campus
UCAS' Yanqihu Campus is located on the shore of the Yanqi Lake to the North of Beijing City in the Huairou District.

The Jingjia Road runs through campus dividing it into East and West sides. The two sides are connected by a pedestrian bridge and a tunnel.

The SDC Building is located on the Eastern side. On the East side, you'll also find the indoor sports facilities including ball courts and swimming pool. The International Conference Center, the Main Library and the post office are located on the west side.

Dormitories
The dormitory building for SDC students is called Home 2. It is located on the Eastern side of campus. See map.

SDC building
The SDC building is a 10,000 m² building with class rooms, lecture halls, administration, meeting rooms, group rooms and much more.

The SDC Office
Danish and Chinese study administrators run the daily management at the SDC Office. They can help you with enquiries on information about the programmes, transcripts of grades, dorms and residence permits, student counselling etc.

You are always more than welcome to stop by the office.
All employees speak English.
E-mail: beijingoffice@sdc.university

Internet
There is free eduroam wi-fi available on campus and in the SDC building.

UCAS student and staff card
With a student or staff card you can use the campus bicycles, pay for indoor sport facilities including swimming pool and gym. You also use the card to pay at the canteens.
Ask the SDC secretariat on the 3rd floor for more info on how to obtain a card. All students will automatically receive a card when they are registered.

Canteens
There are several canteens around campus. They all offer a wide variety of Chinese dishes. A canteen is situated right next to the SDC building. This canteen also offers halal.

To pay in the canteens you will need a UCAS student or staff card. See the section on student and staff card above for further information.

Prices are around 5 - 15 yuan for breakfast, 10 – 20 for lunch and 15 – 25 for dinner.

Restaurants around campus
On the East side of campus just north of the pedestrian bridge several restaurants are located.
The one most popular with teachers and students is The Good Communist Village Restaurant. The sign has no English, but is adorned with a red star. The restaurant serves a broad selection of country style dishes and BBQ. One of the specialities is Rainbow Trout (In Chinese: 虹鳟鱼). It has a large outdoor dining area, which is lively on warm nights. No English menu, but it has photos.
Campus Facilities

Outdoor sports
Outdoor sports facilities located at the Southern end of the East side and the Northern end of the West side. The facilities include football pitches, tennis-, badminton and volleyball- courts. The outdoor sport facilities are free for students and teachers. A jogging trail – marked in green – circles the whole campus.

Indoor sports
The large gymnasium has badminton courts, table tennis and more. The management at the gymnasium will advise you to book badminton courts beforehand. No need to book time for table tennis. Booking is done by phone so ask Chinese fellow student or colleagues. You pay using your student or staff card.

Opening hours
Weekdays: 18-22
Weekends: 10-22

Swimming pool
There is a full size indoor swimming pool next to the gymnasium. You pay by the hour when using it.

Shopping
There are supermarkets on both the East and West part of campus.

Packaging Service
Pickup points for items purchased online are right next to the small supermarket on the East side of campus.
Huairou

The district of Huairou has a population of approximately 300,000 people. The urban area has a population of approximately 100,000 people and is located 60 kilometers north of downtown Beijing and 13 kilometers from the UCAS Yanqihu campus.

Eating in Huairou City

In Huairou City you will find a range of different Chinese restaurants as well as American fast food chains like McDonald’s, KFC, Pizza Hut and Starbucks.

Entertainment

In downtown Huairou there are cafés, internet cafés, shopping malls, book stores, supermarkets, KTV (Karaoke bars) and bars.

Outdoors activities

The nature in the Huairou area has great options for biking, nature walks, skiing, golfing and hikes. Further information on this will follow.

Bike sharing in Huairou city

Downtown Huairou has a bike sharing system called Huairou Public Bicycles (怀柔公共自行车)

The bikes are parked in designated spots.

To use the bikes, you will need a bike card. You can get the card from Huairou Public Bicycles Management & Service Center (怀柔公共自行车管理服务中心) The center is located on the corner of Qingchun Road and Huguang Road just across from a police station.

The full address is: Qingchun Road #37, Huairou.

北京市怀柔区青春路 37

Opening hours week days: 8.30-12.00 and 13.00 – 17.30.

What to bring:
You will need a Chinese phone number and your passport. The staff speak some English.
You will be asked to pay a deposit of 500 RMB. You can get the money back any time if you return the card and the receipt (no receipt, no return).

Using the bikes is free if you return the bike to the booth within one hour. You pay 1 RMB for every hour you use the bike beyond the first hour.

Huairou bicycle card
Health

Below are listed acknowledged doctors and hospitals in Beijing.

Currently SDC is exploring which clinics in the Huairou district are advisable. More information will follow.

**United Family Wudaokou Clinic**
1st Floor, Building D, Tsinghua Tongfang Hi-Tech Plaza, 1 Wangzhuang Lu, Haidian District, Beijing, China 100083
北京市海淀区王庄路1号清华同方科技广场D座1层 邮编：100083

**Beijing Hospital**
北京市东城区东单大华路1号 (Dongdan Dahua Road No. 1, Dongcheng District, Beijing)
Tel: 010-85132266

**China-Japan Friendship Hospital**
北京市朝阳区樱花园东街2号
(Yingguanyuan East Street No 2, Chao-yang District, Beijing)
Tel: 010-84205566
Registration and Residence Permit Registration

It is a legal requirement for all, regardless of visa type, to be registered by the Chinese Public Security Bureau (PSB) within 24 hours after arrival in China or when moving to a new address within China. If you are staying at a hotel, the hotel will photocopy your passport and automatically register your arrival. If you are staying in an apartment, you must register at the local PSB within 24 hours. Bring your passport and valid visa, a copy of your lease and a copy of your landlord’s ID. If you at one point change your address, you must be registered by the local PSB within 24 hours. If you fail to register, the PSB may issue warnings and fines. If you stay at the dorms you will have to register at the management office of the campus. SDC will help you with this when you arrive.

Residence Permit

Once you have arrived in China, it is important to convert your visa into a residence permit within 30 days. The SDC Office will arrange for all the students to go to PSB’s Entry and Exit Department. You need to bring your passport and visa. Residence permits are typically issued with one year validity and must then be renewed annually by contacting the PSB’s Entry and Exit Department.
Apartments

Renting an apartment is an option if you do not want to stay at the dorms. Expect to pay between 2000-3000 yuan per month for a room if you share an apartment with 2-3 others. The price varies based on quality, location and size.

When renting an apartment, the best course of action is to contact real estate agents in China. When arriving in China, book a hotel or hostel in Huairou for the first couple of days. Finding an apartment can usually be done in just a few days.

Don't be surprised if the pictures on the different real estate sites are different from reality when actually visiting the apartments. The real estate websites sometimes use one set of photos for a wide range of apartments.

Leases in China can be complicated, so it’s important that the agency helps you understand all terms and conditions before you sign. In some cases, both a Chinese and English version of the lease will be written. It is therefore a good idea to make sure that the English version is a complete translation, in case of possible disagreements between you and the landlord. You should be aware of how you pay deposits and whether you pay your rent for one month or several months in advance. In addition, there may be an added cost of maintenance.

Before you sign the lease, it is recommended to review the home and furnishing thoroughly, together with the landlord. If there are errors or omissions, you need to make a brief report, signed by both you and the landlord. You are also recommended to investigate the insurance of the house.

Usually, the consumption of electricity, gas and water is not included in the rent. The precise readings must be recorded in your rental contract. In most apartments, heat is regulated by the city’s central heating, so there is only heat from October to March. If you buy a radiator, you can expect a high electric bill.

If you rent an apartment, you need to register at the local police station within 24 hours. They will issue a Temporary Residence Registration. Here, you need to provide:
- Rental contact
- Copy of the landlord’s ID
- Copy of the landlord’s ownership documentation
- Passport and valid visa

In the Huairou area, SDC has established contact with real estate agent, Liu Cun (刘存). She can be reached through WeChat.

Her WeChat ID is: Lcun_001

SDC continuously search for more agents that students can get in touch with.
Payment and banking

You can use your Visa in some large supermarkets, restaurants, hotels etc., but generally speaking, it is advisable to carry around some cash. It is also possible to open a bank account and transfer money from your Danish account.

There are four major banks in China:
1. Bank of China (中国银行 BC)
2. Industry and Commercial Bank of China (中国工商银行 ICBC)
3. Construction Bank of China (中国建设银行 CBC)
4. Agricultural Bank of China (中国农业银行 ABC)

The majority of the non-Chinese SDC staff use the Bank of China (BC). BC is the biggest bank in China and it is good at handling international transfers.

Bring your passport to the bank if you want to open an account. Expect some waiting time.

Furthermore, you will need a Chinese phone number. See more on buying a Chinese SIM card in the next section.

You can set up an account at this Bank of China in Huairou.

Address:
Bank of China - Huairou subbranch
No 33 Kaifang Road, Huairou
中国银行怀柔支行
怀柔区开放路 33 号
https://goo.gl/maps/2sX2XZTJbhs

Payment platforms on your smart phone

The apps Wechat and Alipay have become extremely popular payment platforms. You can use them to pay in shops, in online shops, top up data for your phone, rent a bike and much more. More info on this will follow.

Chinese SIM card

China mobile and China Unicom are the two major cell phone network providers. You can find shops in Beijing and Huairou, but not all of them can setup your account. Not too far from the Yanqihu campus, you can purchase a China Mobile SIM card.

You must bring your passport when purchasing a SIM card and a subscription.

7 kilometres from campus you can find a China Mobile branch that sells SIM cards and subscriptions:

Address:
China Mobile Business Center, Yanqi branch
Yanqi Road, (at the Yanqi Road - Jingjia Road intersection) next to the Yangezhuang Post Office

Chinese address: 范崎公路雁栖镇范各庄邮政支局内

Google Maps link: https://goo.gl/maps/Hx22C6FyiQo
VPN for China

Some websites are blocked in China (such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snap-chat, Dropbox, YouTube, and all services from Google). This can be circumvented using a Virtual Private Network – VPN. An effective VPN often requires software that has to be downloaded. It is therefore advisable to have it installed and working before leaving Denmark.

Aalborg University, The Technical University of Denmark and to some extend Aarhus University provide VPN for students on the SDC programmes they are lead universities on.

There are many commercial connections. Some are free and some are paid.

ExpressVPN is popular among SDC students and staff and costs $100 for a one year subscription. It is available for Android and iOS devices.

Useful sites and apps

mdbg.net – Free online English to Chinese dictionary

baidu.com – Chinese search engine

jd.com and taobao.com – Chinese online shopping similar to eBay etc.

youku.com – Supplementary to YouTube

iqiyi.com – The largest online video site in China

Wechat

An app everybody (incl. foreigners) use in China. It is the dominant social media platform and messaging service, but you can also use it for ordering a taxi, paying at the supermarket, renting a bike and much, much more.

Pleco

A free dictionary for English/Chinese. Additionally, the function Translate Chinese characters by pointing your camera can be bought (95 yuan). It is available for Android and iOS devices.
Important addresses

SDC building/Yanqihu campus
SDC Building, Eastern Yanqihu campus, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 380 Huaibeizhuang, Huairou district, Beijing

Address in Chinese
北京市怀柔区怀北镇怀北庄380号中国科学院大学雁栖湖校区东区中丹中心大楼

The Danish Embassy in Beijing
Address: 中国北京三里屯东五街1, 10060/ Sanlitun, Dongwujie, 1, 10060 Beijing
Tel: +86 (10) 8532 9900
Fax: +86 (10) 8532 9999
Email: bjsamb@um.dk

Huairou Bus station
Huairou Bus Station - 怀柔长途汽车站
No. 2 Fuqian East Street, Huairou
怀柔区府前东路2号
Find the bus station on google maps: https://goo.gl/maps/GcBKu1ZLEJ82

SDC Dormitories
The exact address for the dormitories are not available yet, so if you need a Chinese address, then you will have to use the address for the SDC building temporarily.