

Communications

-Express services

The following companies provide door-to-door express mail and parcel services:

DHL: 95380

EMS: 11183

FedEx: 800-463-3339

SF: 95338

-Getting online

Internet access is widely available in residential estates. The monthly charge differs with the Internet speed you need and the choice of service providers. The two major providers are China Unicom and China Telecom.

Internet usage is free-of-charge in serviced apartments/houses.

-Phones

DDD and IDD calls

Domestic Direct Dial (DDD) has an area code for each city in China, which you need to dial before the telephone number when making a China long distance call.

For example:

Beijing	北京	(010)
Changchun	长春	(0431)
Changsha	长沙	(0731)
Chengdu	成都	(028)
Chongqing	重庆	(023)
Fuzhou	福州	(0591)
Guangzhou	广州	(020)
Guiyang	贵阳	(0851)
Haerbin	哈尔滨	(0451)
Haikou	海口	(0898)
Hangzhou	杭州	(0571)
Hefei	合肥	(0551)
Hohhot	呼和浩特	(0471)
Hongkong	香港	(00852)
Jinan	济南	(0531)
Kunming	昆明	(0871)
Lanzhou	兰州	(0931)
Lhasa	拉萨	(0891)
Macao	澳门	(00853)
Nanchang	南昌	(0791)

Nanjing	南京	(025)
Nanning	南宁	(0771)
Shanghai	上海	(021)
Shenyang	沈阳	(024)
Shijiazhuang	石家庄	(0311)
Taiyuan	太原	(0351)
Tianjin (including TEDA)	天津(含泰达)	(022)
Urumqi	乌鲁木齐	(0991)
Wuhan	武汉	(027)
Xi'an	西安	(029)
Xining	西宁	(0971)
Yinchuan	银川	(0951)
Zhengzhou	郑州	(0371)

International Direct Dial (IDD) in non-serviced accommodations needs a separate application by the landline owner in advance.

Mobile phone

In Tianjin, everybody owns a mobile phone. They are easily purchased on-line, at digital product shops, department stores and major supermarkets. To buy a SIM card, bring your passport to one of the following service providers:

China Mobile

zhōng guó yí dòng

中国移动

Service hotline: 10086

Website: www.10086.cn

Number segments: 134~139,144, 147, 150~152, 157-159, 165, 172, 178, 182-184,187, 188 and 198.

To apply a SIM card, bring the passport in person. Besides, a local person's ID card copy is requested as guarantee at China Mobile.

China Telecom

zhōng guó diàn xìn

中国电信

Service hotline: 10000

Website: www.189.cn

Number segments: 133, 153, 173, 177, 180, 181, 189and 199.

CDMA mobile and SIM card provider.

To apply a SIM card, bring the passport in person.

China Unicom

zhōng guó lián tōng

中国联通

Service hotline: 10010

Website: www.10010.com

Number segments: 130~132, 145, 155, 156, 160, 1750, 176, 185 and 186.

To apply a SIM card, bring the passport in person.

An additional subscription is needed if you require roaming services on your Chinese-SIM-card mobile phone. Ensure that your mobile phone account balance has more than RMB200. You can subscribe to roaming by dialing your mobile service provider's service hotline, as listed above. You may opt to subscribe for limited or open period roaming and the roaming services terminates when your phone account balance is used up.

Phone bills payment

You can maintain a high balance in your landline and mobile phone accounts, or remember to pay the phone bills monthly. To check the outstanding amount, please dial the service provider's service hotline. Overdue outstanding bill charges may render your services to be terminated, including your Internet access.

If you want a detailed breakdown record of numbers and calling times, please log in to your phone service provider's website with the password supplied by the landline owner.

Recommended APPs 按书上改



WeChat(微信 wēi xìn)

Download and install WeChat (微信 wēi xìn) on your smart phone. This is a "must" for living in China. You can use it for making free phone calls and video calls; for sending and receiving texts, voice messages, pictures and videos; for having group chats and meetings; for exchanging locations and doing GPS navigation. What's more important for WeChat nowadays is that you can use WeChat to make payments by binding it with your bank account. Cash, wallet and credit cards are all out of date!



Taobao

by Margarita Titilas

Taobao is an incredible shopping website similar to international sites, Amazon and Aliexpress. The really great aspect about Taobao is that it can be downloaded as an APP, this feature is only offered in Chinese however after also accessing the website on your computer it is extremely easy to buy goods.

There are so many things on offer and the best way to search for something is to screen shot a photo of it while searching and then look for it using the camera icon in the Taobao search bar. When you have done this, countless options appear of the item and when searching for this on your computer you are able to read comments and reviews with accompanied pictures

that show what other buyers thought.


A countless variety of food, clothes, accessories and appliances can be found on Taobao. All home comforts can be imported through the site and at times can be the same price if not cheaper to what you can find in Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Another great feature about Taobao is that if you have changed your mind about an item you have purchased or if it is taking too long to get to you, you can ask for a refund from the seller. I have found this process to be easy and really efficient as the money is transferred back to you very quickly.


Taobao is connected to an Alipay account which holds your credit card details, when moving to China it is easier to open a Chinese bank account as you can also upload your credit card details to Alipay and use this account to pay on Taobao. Your money is secured and buying online is safe as everything is monitored and watched so transactions are always easy, quick and efficient! Enjoy using Taobao!

Other useful Apps (按书上 P32 改, 加支付宝、滴滴打车、摩拜, 加天猫、苏宁、国美、小米)

Tianjin Expat Guide 

Air Matters 

Google Translate 

Pleco Chinese Dictionary 

radio.net 

Trip.com by Ctrip 

-Postal service

Post offices

Most hotels and serviced apartments provide postal services to their tenants. Stamps, envelopes and post cards are usually available at the business centres.

To post a parcel abroad, customs inspection is compulsory. Do not seal it until you receive the "stamp of approval" from customs inspection, on the parcel. All post offices accept cash payment only. There is a value limit of RMB800-1000 for a parcel posted abroad.

To post a parcel abroad, bring your passport and cash in person.

Binjiang Dao Post Office

bīn jiāng dào yóu jú

滨江道邮局

Add: No. 125, Binjiang Dao, Heping Dist.

hé píng qū bīn jiāng dào 125 hào

和平区滨江道 125 号

Tel: 27116026

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

Jinnan Post Office

jīn nán yóu jú

津南邮局

Add: No. 176, Jingu Lu, Jinnan Dist.

jīn nán qū jīn gū lù 176 hào

津南区津沽路 176 号

Tel: 88914383

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

Liqizhuang Post Office

lǐ qī zhuāng yóu jú

李七庄邮局

Add: Commercial Section, Building 1, Aoxiang Yuan, No. 150, Weijin Nan Lu, Nankai Dist.

nán kāi qū wèi jīn nán lù 150 hào ào xiáng yuán 1 hào lóu dǐ shāng

南开区卫津南路 150 号奥翔园 1 号楼底商

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

Meijiang Post Office

méi jiāng yóu jú

梅江邮局

Add: No. 107, Meijiang Dao, Meijiang Residential Area, Hexi Dist.

hé xī qū méi jiāng jū zhù qū méi jiāng dào 107 hào

河西区梅江居住区梅江道 107 号

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:00

Minyuan Post Office

mín yuán yóu jú

民园邮局

Add: No. 101, Changsha Lu, Heping Dist.

hé píng qū cháng shā lù 101 hào

和平区长沙路 101 号

Tel: 23305181

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

The very first stamp in China was issued at this post office in 1878.

Tianjin Railway Station Post Office

dōng zhàn yóu jú

东站邮局

Add: No. 86, Haihe Dong Lu, Hedong Dist. (beside the Tianjin Railway Station)

hé dōng qū hǎi hé dōng lù 86 hào (tiān jīn zhàn páng)

河东区海河东路 86 号 (天津站旁)

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

This is the headquarters of the post offices in Tianjin. It can provide all the international postal service, which some branch offices may not be able to provide.

Tiyuanbei Post Office

tǐ yuàn běi yóu jú

体院北邮局

Add: No. 6, Huanhu Zhong Lu, Hexi Dist.

hé xī qū huán hú zhōng lù 6 hào

河西区环湖中路 6 号

Tel: 23554669

Hours: Mon-Sun: 09:00-17:30

Write a country's name in Chinese

To expedite mails and parcels sorting and delivery, ensure that you have written the destination country name in Chinese besides other languages. Here are some examples:

Argentina	阿根廷		Indonesia	印度尼西亚		Portugal	葡萄牙
Australia	澳大利亚		Iran	伊朗		Saudi Arabia	沙特阿拉伯
Austria	奥地利		Ireland	爱尔兰		Singapore	新加坡
Belgium	比利时		Israel	以色列		South Africa	南非
Brazil	巴西		Italy	意大利		Spain	西班牙
Canada	加拿大		Japan	日本		Sri Lanka	斯里兰卡
Chile	智利		Korea	韩国		Sweden	瑞典
Columbia	哥伦比亚		Malaysia	马来西亚		Switzerland	瑞士
Czech	捷克		Mexico	墨西哥		Thailand	泰国
Denmark	丹麦		Mongolia	蒙古		Turkey	土耳其
Egypt	埃及		Nepal	尼泊尔		UK	英国
Finland	芬兰		New Zealand	新西兰		Ukraine	乌克兰
France	法国		Nigeria	尼日利亚		United Arab Emirates	阿联酋
Germany	德国		Norway	挪威		USA	美国
Greece	希腊		Pakistan	巴基斯坦		Venezuela	委内瑞拉
Holland	荷兰		Philippine	菲律宾		Vietnam	越南
India	印度		Poland	波兰			