

CHINESE

36 phrases · pinyin with tone marks, then a plain respelling

THE ESSENTIALS

Hello	你好 nǐ hǎo – nee HOW
Goodbye	再 zài jiàn – dzai JYEN
Please	qǐng – ching
Thank you	xiè xiè – SYEH-syeh
Yes / No	是 / 不是 shì / bù shì – shirr / boo shirr
Excuse me / Sorry	不起 duì bu qǐ – dway-boo-CHEE

GETTING AROUND

Where is...?	...在哪里？ ... zài nǎlǐ – dzai NAH-lee
How do I get to...?	怎么去...？ zěnme qù... – DZUN-muh chū
Where is the toilet?	洗手 在哪里？ xǐshǒujiǎn zài nǎlǐ – shee-show-JYEN dzai NAH-lee
Left / Right	左 / 右 zuǒ / yòu – dzwor / yoh
Straight ahead	一直走 yízhí zǒu – ee-jirr DZOH
Is it far?	？ yuǎn ma – ywen mah

SHOPPING AND MONEY

How much is it?	多少 ？ duōshao qián – dwor-shaow CHYEN
That's too expensive	太 了 tài guì le – tie GWAY luh
Do you take cards?	可以刷卡 ？ kěyǐ shuākǎ ma – kuh-yee SHWAH-kah mah
I am just looking	我随便看看 wǒ suíbiàn kànkàn – wor sway-byen KAHN-kahn
Do you have...?	有... ？ yǒu ... ma – yoh ... mah
A receipt, please	我 票 qǐng gěi wǒ fāpiào – ching gay wor FAH-pyaow

GETTING BY

Do you speak English?	你会 英 ？ nǐ huì shuō yīngyǔ ma – nee hway shwor YING-yǔ mah
I don't understand	我不明白 wǒ bù míngbai – wor boo MING-bye
Could you repeat that?	再 一遍 qǐng zài shuō yī biàn – ching dzai shwor ee BYEN
Please speak slowly	慢一点 qǐng shuō màn yīdiǎn – ching shwor mahn ee-DYEN
My name is...	我叫... wǒ jiào... – wor JYAOW
Nice to meet you	很高兴 你 hěn gāoxìng rènshi nǐ – hun gaow-SHING run-shirr nee

FOOD AND DRINK

A table for two, please	两位 liǎng wèi – lyahng WAY
The menu, please	我菜 qǐng gěi wǒ càidān – ching gay wor TSAI-dahn
I would like...	我要... wǒ yào... – wor YAOW
Water, please	我水 qǐng gěi wǒ shuǐ – ching gay wor SHWAY
I am allergic to...	我 ... 敏 wǒ duì ... guòmǐn – wor dway ... GWOR-min
The bill, please	... mǎi dān – my DAHN

EMERGENCIES

Help!	救命！ jiùmìng – jyoh-MING
Call the police	叫警察 qǐng jiào jǐngchá – ching jyaow JING-chah
Call an ambulance	叫救 qǐng jiào jiùhùchē – ching jyaow jyoh-hoo-CHUH
I need a doctor	我需要医生 wǒ xūyào yīshēng – wor shū-yaow ee-SHUNG
I am lost	我迷路了 wǒ mílù le – wor MEE-loo luh
Where is the hospital?	医院在哪里？ yīyuàn zài nǎlǐ – ee-YWEN dzai NAH-lee