

## SHOPPING

## Yuemu Antique Wood Furniture Store 阅木居

As you walk in the store and head down the stairs, a vast space comes into sight catching visitors by surprise. The store is underground in downtown Guangzhou and the hidden location provides shoppers with a pleasant browsing experience.

The story behind each piece of furniture is unique and gives the shopper the illusion of traveling back in time. Each piece has its own story. Some came from old merchant ships that once traveled the Marine Silk Road. Others are from whale ships, which once sailed the high seas.

**Address:** 470 Huanshi Dong Lu  
**Tel:** (020) 87301268

## Tiancheng Bronze Ware Store 天程铜艺

Few people would guess when entering into the Tiancheng Bronze Ware Store that bronze-making had been one of Guangzhou's most important industries for centuries. The handicraft can be traced back to the Qing Dynasty (AD 1644-1911), when more than 2,000 bronze workers had stores in Xiguan. Today, Guangzhou has put Xiguan bronze ware on the city-level Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

**Address:** Shop 143, En'ning Lu, Liwan district  
**Tel:** (020) 81054741



## Qing Ping Herbal Medicine Market 清平药材市场

Located just north of Shamian Island (Huangsha Metro stop), this medicine market has a vast number of herbal specialists, who sell all kinds of different remedies. Here you will find rare mushrooms, roots and hundreds of kinds of tea you never knew existed. There are also many more esoteric remedies, for which you'll probably need a guide to work out what to do with them (think scorpion tail and snakeskin).

## Toys 'R' Us 玩具反斗城

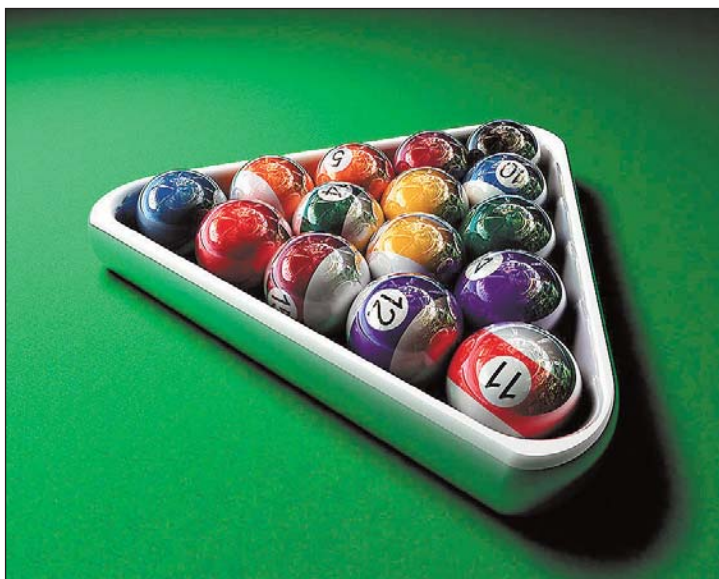
The US-based toy chain store Toys 'R' Us opened its first store in Guangzhou in May. Located in Grandview Mall, the store claims to be the biggest global toy store in the world. Their store offers a large range of products for children of all ages including reputable brands such as Hasbro, Mattel, Lego, Bandai, and many more. The fifth floor of Grandview Mall covers 15,000 square meters and is entirely dedicated to children. Numerous children's clothes are available, as well as educational toys and items, books, photo studios and a small playground with plenty of activities for the little ones.

**Address:** 5/F, Grandview Mall, Tianhe district

## RESTAURANTS

## Saint Germain 胜日门

Located near the Garden Hotel, this



## EDITOR'S PICK &gt;&gt; KEEP ON ROLLING

Out of all the games China has imported from the West, few are as popular as pool or snooker. You can find pool halls in almost every little town in China and naturally, Guangzhou, as a megalopolis, has a lot of them. Here are some of the best places in Guangzhou to go to for a round of pool or snooker — each of them offers at least five tables and a selection of food and drinks in a nice and cozy atmosphere.

- L A CITY Pool Town (洛城桌球城) is probably one of the most popular pool halls in Guangzhou due to its convenient location near the Garden Hotel and its wide open space. Be sure to try one of their hamburgers and save a few bucks by ordering three beers for the price of two. The doors close at 2 am.

**Address:** 4/F, Tianlun Park, Jianshi Si Ma Lu, Yuexiu district • **Tel:** (020) 83560339

- Juxing Pool Club (聚星桌球俱乐部) is especially popular among foreigners and expats from the Middle East. It is located upstairs over a pizzeria next to an Internet bar and, despite not being too big, boasts a relaxing atmosphere with several tables and inexpensive drinks. Each time you visit you will get a free bowl of peanuts or a plate of watermelon.

**Address:** 41 Zhongshan Ba Lu, Liwan district • **Tel:** (020) 81950150

- Jijiehao Pool Club (集结号台球俱乐部) offers a comfortable atmosphere and new tables at good rates. As the place is equipped with wireless Internet, you can also use your laptop. The bar and seating area offer reasonably — priced drinks and snacks. The doors close at 4 am.

**Address:** 41 Zhongshan Ba Lu, Liwan district • **Tel:** (020) 84128038

- T-Games+Rbt (提雅竞技桌面游戏休闲吧) offers much more than pool. On the back wall, you will find a wide range of table games, often directly imported from Germany or the United States. If you are not a fan of these games you might reconsider playing them with a group of friends.

**Address:** 3/F, 19 Nonglin Xia Lu, Yuexiu district • **Tel:** (020) 87306266

cute bistro has a great atmosphere, and serves brunch, lunch and dinner. There are full-length floor to ceiling windows and outdoor seating, so it's the perfect spot to sit, eat and talk the day away when the weather is fine. The menu is extensive; you'll find classics like foie gras and brisket on the evening specials list. The food is of great quality, the staff and the owner are friendly, and the price is pretty decent. The only downside to this location is that it doesn't accept credit cards, so remember to take cash.

**Hours:** 10:30 am-2:30 pm, 5:30 pm-11 pm

**Address:** 475 Huanshi Dong Lu

**Tel:** (020) 87606465

**Transportation:** Metro Line 1, Martyr's Park Station

## Buongiorno 邦奴意大利餐厅

This new Italian restaurant opposite the Garden Hotel is owned and run by bonafide Italians, who you will see moving about the restaurant chatting with guests and making sure everything is to their liking. They claim they would never make Italian food an Italian wouldn't be pleased with. This is one of the most popular restaurants among foreigners in the city, so make sure you make a reservation before you come, especially during the exhibition season. Prices are quite high but, then again, so is the quality.

With great food, great service and a great location, there is not much more you could ask for.

**Hours:** 10 am-12 pm

**Address:** 3/F, Yi'an Plaza, 33 Jianshe Liu Ma Lu, Yuexiu district

**Tel:** (020) 83633587

## La Seine 塞纳河法国西餐厅

La Seine is on Ersa Island and is one of the best French restaurants in Guangzhou. The prime location, French music and soft lighting make for a romantic dining experience. Stepping out of the restaurant, you can also feel the cool breeze from the river. The restaurant is divided into smoking and non-smoking areas. There are plenty of fantastic dishes and varieties of wine at low prices. The buffet at the weekend is great value for money.

**Address:** First floor of Xing Hai Theater, 33 Qingbo Road, Ersa Island

**Tel:** (020) 87352531/80980221

## Japanese Cuisine 中森名菜

This huge outfit serves its own brand of Japanese-Cantonese fusion food, along with Japanese mainstays like sushi, sashimi and teppanyaki. Its lunches are of terrific value, but if you come back for seconds after dark, make sure your wallet is a bit heavier. Credit cards are accepted.

**Hours:** 11 am-3 pm, 5 pm-9:45 pm

**Address:** 358-378 Tianhe Bei Lu, Tianhe district

**Tel:** (020) 38808118

## WHAT'S ON

## Father &amp; Son Piano Duet: Vladimir and Vovka Ashkenazy 阿什肯纳齐与儿子双钢琴音乐会

Vladimir Ashkenazy is one of the most renowned and revered pianists-turned-conductor of our times, and this November he teams up with his pianist son Vovka for an unforgettable concert at Guangzhou Opera House. According to a review in The Sunday Times, the duo "sprays the listener with kaleidoscopic textures and modulate dynamics with the punch of master dramatists".

**When:** 8 pm, tonight

**Address:** Guangzhou Opera House, 1 Zhujiang Xi Lu, Zhujiang New Town, Tianhe district

**Tel:** (020) 38392888

## The Punchline Comedy Club

Nick Wilty, Tom Rhodes and Brendan Riley come to Guangzhou for the Punchline Comedy Tour. Enjoy a buffet dinner at Vaastu during the show and prepare yourself for a night of side-splitting humor.

**When:** 9 pm, Nov 17

**Address:** Vaastu, A Date With India, D2 Canton Place, Haiyue Lu, Pearl River New City

**Tel:** (020) 38258181

## Small Paintings, Big World

小作品, 大世界



Small Paintings, Big World displays about 100 works by Chinese painter Li Jinming, presenting a pictorial

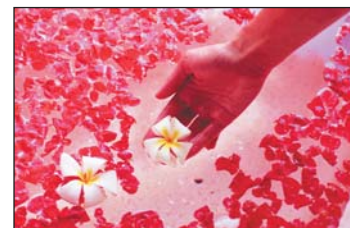
history of modern China. Many of the paintings are from Li's personal collection and are being presented to the public for the first time, including his first oil painting dating from 1961 and his only purely abstract painting entitled *Garden*.

**When:** 10:30 am-6 pm, until Nov 19

**Address:** L. C. Yilang Gallery, 11 Guigang San Ma Lu, Dongshan Kou

**Tel:** (020) 37625069

## NIGHTLIFE



## O Spa

If you want to pull out all the stops, visit O Spa. Located on the top floor of the Grand Hyatt Guangzhou, it looks out over the Pearl River. The spa uses only natural ingredients like black rice, red ginger, lotus and green tea along with pure aromatic extracts to practice a whole array of powerful therapies. O Spa is staffed by the best Chinese specialists in the area, and works not only to relax your mind and body, but also to reinvigorate the vital energy that the Chinese refer to as *qi*. This spa will give you probably the most comprehensive experience in town, so if it's within your budget, go for it — you won't be disappointed.

**Hours:** 9 am-7 pm

**Address:** The Grand Hyatt Guangzhou, 12 Zhujiang Xi Lu, Pearl River New City, Tianhe district

**Tel:** (020) 83961234

## Garden Café 花艺咖啡

This little coffee shop is a great place to sit back, relax and drink some decent brews while taking in the eponymous garden. The décor of the Garden Café is almost as big a reason to visit as the coffee itself. Catering to Guangzhou's American expat population, Garden offers good home-style cheeseburgers — probably the best in town. So if you like coffee, food, flowers and relaxing, give Garden Café a try.

**Hours:** 9 am-10 pm

**Address:** Zhongfu Mall, Panyu district

**Tel:** (020) 34637083

**Transportation:** Metro Line 1, Kenkou Station

## The Paddy Field Irish Pub

“爱尔兰的稻田”酒吧

Paddy can be understood as “paddy rice” or “Irish people” in slang, so “The Paddy Field” can be directly translated to “field of paddy rice”. With all wooden decoration, an extremely high roof and oversize stools and food, it is full of Irish feeling. If you don't have 40-inch-long legs like some expats, you will not be able to touch the ground while sitting on stools.

However, the most comfortable place is the private boxes where any size of beer belly can extend without difficulty. Here the glasses of beer are larger than ordinary glasses. The air here is always filled with Irish English, so it stands to reason that it has become the gathering place of Irish expats.

**Address:** First Floor, Guangyi Building, 38 Huale Lu

**Tel:** 020-83601379