

Hangzhou

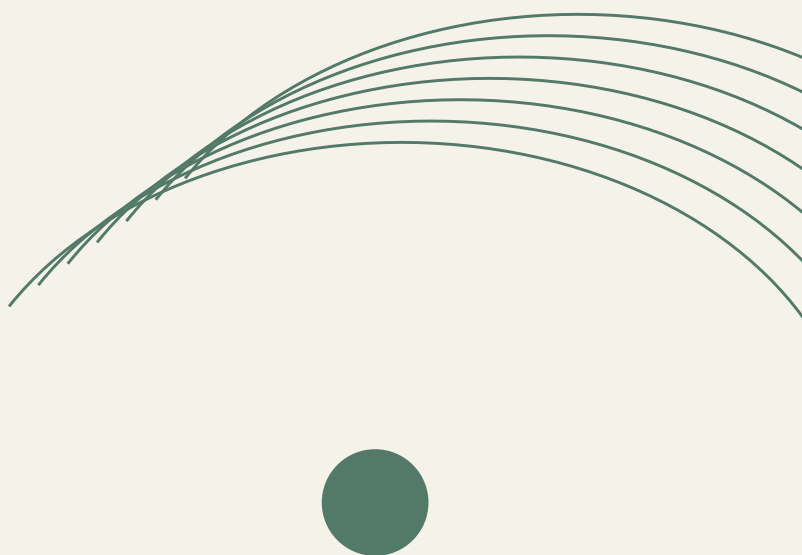
Hangzhou, lake and leaf

Three days of West Lake, tea landscapes and textile culture

Independent routes. Practical decisions. Space to explore.

Inside: a usable plan, transport decisions, budget worksheet, Chinese search names and official source links.

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CHINA SIDEWAYS / 01 / ORIENTATION

Choose your base, then your days

This guide fits

Visitors who want landscape and culture in a softer itinerary, without a compulsory full-lake circuit.

The route logic

West Lake is a cultural landscape, not just a scenic background. The route gives the lake one gentle day, tea country its own outing and textile culture an indoor anchor. Shorter walks make it easier to enjoy changing views and weather.

Eastern West Lake / central city edge

A useful first-visit base for lake access and restaurants. Compare the exact walking route to the shore and public transport.

Wulin / central city

A practical base if you want transport and indoor options. Lake access becomes a short journey rather than the view from your door.

Tea-area or western-lake accommodation

Choose for atmosphere and a quieter stay. Confirm luggage access, food options and return transport; remote scenery can add daily logistical effort.

Three full sightseeing days are assumed. If arrival/departure uses one of them, remove a day or extend your stay.

CHINA SIDEWAYS / 02 / DAY 1

Choose one stretch of lake

MORNING / West Lake eastern shore

Start on the city-facing side of the lake and choose a comfortable stretch rather than a full circuit. Pause at viewpoints and notice how the shore frames the hills. The value is repeated looking, not distance. Keep the walk short enough to return easily for lunch.

AFTERNOON / A causeway or garden section

Choose one extension according to weather and walking ability. Do not combine every island, causeway and pagoda. If considering a boat, confirm the operator, return landing point, full price and weather cancellation before boarding. Keep the last part of the afternoon flexible.

EVENING / Dinner near your base

End on a convenient side of the lake and have dinner without another major transfer. If the waterfront is crowded, choose a smaller public side street. This day works well without a timed show and can absorb arrival fatigue.

Decision before you go

In rain, shorten the shore walk and move an indoor museum here. Boat operations and access are weather-dependent; an attractive route description is not a booking.

Pacing rule: one main activity per half-day. Add lunch, rest and the actual transfer between areas. The order is a suggestion, not a timed booking.