Hometown of Confucius, Friendly Shandong

Known as the hometown of renowned philosopher and educationist Confucious, whose teachings extend over Chinese civilization and beyond borders, Shandong province in East China is rich in cultural and tourism resources, including a wealth of cultural heritage, scenic spots, idyllic villages, culinary delights, a widespread transport network and quality tourism services, and has established a reputation as a popular destination, attracting flocks of tourists from home and abroad to immerse themselves in its natural beauty and cultural charm

Wang Xizhi, born in Linyi, Shandong province, is a legendary calligrapher of the Eastern Jin Dynasty (317-420). One of his most famous works is *Lantingxu* or *Orchid Pavilion Preface*.

he Baotu Spring is one of the most famous tourism attrac-

ns in Jinan, Shandong province. It was declared by Emperor

ianlong of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) as the "No 1 spring

under heaven". Today, tourists to the scenic area can admire the

lucid spring water and various historical buildings, enjoying the

eauty of Chinese-style gardens.

Heze Peony

Dubbed the "peony capital of China", Heze in Shandong prov-

ince has more than 1.000 varieties of peony and a complete

peony industry chain. The Heze International Peony Cultural

Tourism Festival is held in April every year, allowing global tour

scapes to appetizing local cuisine, Shandong offers a From the Sui Dynasty (581-618) to Qing Dynasty Grand Canal, rich in intangible cultural heritage and considered the "father of the Great Wall." vate tourists from around the world.

Historical and cultural heritage

ina Plain, Shandong province has long BC) to the Warring States Period (475-221 BC), the (1644-1911). It is the only well-preserved commercial and educator Confucius (551-479 BC), also known as Natural beauty, scenic wonders been famed for its rich resources, extensive region was home to the two powerful states of Qi and guild hall in the canal region of Shandong. in Shandong province, has a history of over 2,600 Kong Qiu.

The Shandong section of the Grand Canal is 643 ism Organization.

Eggshell Black Pottery High-Stem Goblet

Rizhao, Shandong province, in 1973 and is now housed in the

Shandong Museum. It is a remarkable masterpiece of the

thinness at an average of 0.5 millimeters, and stunning black

neolithic period, particularly renowned for its unparalleled

he goblet was unearthed from the Donghaiyu Ruins in

intangible cultural heritage, and a variety of exquisite the theme of experiencing canal culture on board and a collection of more than 140,000 historical artifacts. Chinese architecture.

he Taishan Mountain, located in Taian, Shandong provice, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the 'five great mountains in China". With a peak altitude of 545 meters, the mountain is a paradise for hikers and limbers, offering impressive landscapes including steep

liffs, lush forests and ancient architecture

the Beixin, Dawenkou and Longshan cultures, which on the west bank of the ancient canal in Liaocheng, modern charm of the canal" and "intangible cultural 89), the son of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) founder a master calligrapher from the Eastern Jin Dynasty The most famous of them is the Baotu Spring in the the sunrise over the sea. highlight the region's significance as a cradle of ancient Shandong, was a place where Shanxi and Shaanxi heritage memories, the enduring charm of the Grand Zhu Yuanzhang. merchants gathered, conducted business, stored goods Canal", showcasing the unique charm of the Grand Among them, Qufu, a county-level city in southwest-renowned for her subtle and graceful works. River and on the eastern edge of the North From the Western Zhou Dynasty (c.11th century-771 and entertained during the mid to late Qing Dynasty Canal in Shandong from multiple perspectives.

located in the middle section of the Beijing-Hangzhou accurate remains, well-preserved conditions, and is national center of early Chinese philosophy, and have mighty rivers to lakes, wetlands and oceans. broad array of attractions and experiences that capti(1644-1911), the Beijing-Hangzhou Great Canal extended traditional handicraft resources. The town still retains So far, the province has established more than 800 centuries. into Shandong, further promoting the region's connecnumerous ancient streets, lanes, and buildings, earning museums to better preserve the cultural heritage, and The Temple of Confucius in Qufu, along with the Conmountains", is located in the city of Taian. it the title of "Living Ancient Canal" by the World Tour
10 of its cities — including the provincial capital Jinan, fucius Cemetery and the Kong Family Mansion, were

To reach the Jade Emperor Peak, the mountain's Beyond mountains and springs, with some 3,500-kilo
Based on the reserve, the city has set up the Yellow options for people looking to escape from the hustle Qingdao, Liaocheng, Qufu and Qingzhou — have been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994. highest point, visitors must take on the challenge of meter coastline, the province also provides visitors with River Estuary Ecotourism Area, allowing tourists to and bustle of cities. Shandong has been one of the most-developed kilometers long, creating a cultural corridor with a Currently, Shandong is developing 10 cultural and recognized as national historical cultural cities.

The site offers a glimpse into Confucius's life story climbing nearly 8,000 steps.

discovered several neolithic sites including those of For example, Shanxi-Shaanxi Guild Hall, located culture off board. These routes organically connect varitery high-stem goblet from the neolithic period, the Ya include the fourth-century thinker Mencius (372-289 through the sea of clouds. ous cultural themes, such as "water transport on the Chou bronze battle-axe from the Shang Dynasty (c.16th BC), who is considered the "second sage" of Confushore, the past and present charm of the Grand Canal," century-11th century BC), and the nine-tasseled crown cianism, after Confucius; Sun Tzu, a Chinese military Jinan, which is often dubbed as the "city of springs" for sands, is ideal for sunbathing and swimming, while the Rural tourism "looking back to the ancient times, the historical and which was unearthed from the tomb of Zhu Tan (1370-strategist from the Warring States Period; Wang Xizhi, its abundant water sources.

Taierzhuang Ancient Town

Taierzhuang Ancient Town, located in Zaozhuang

Shandong province, is known for its traditional

architecture, scenic canals, and the significant role

in the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (1931-1945). The Battle of Taierzhuang in 1938 marked the first major Chinese victory in the war.

(317-420) and Li Qingzhao (1084-1155), a female poet city's downtown area, which has been celebrated in The coastal city of Dongying is where the Yellow means springs, reflecting the wealth of traditional customs and intangible cultural jiuzhuan dachang, or braised intestines in brown sauce, Shandong boasts an extensive and well-connected tion options covering luxury hotels, homestays, country

Shandong's natural scenery is as magnificent as its nic attraction — the Daming Lake.

create a serene, beautiful view. regions in China since the prehistoric period, fostering series of historical sites, and thinking, and showcases the grandeur of ancient But the arduous hike proves to be rewarding, as at One of the most popular coastal cities is Qingdao, dividing line between the Yellow River and the Bohai Sea. explore rolling mountains, pick tea leaves and sip some major culinary schools of Chinese cuisine. the summit, they can see a stunning vista of ancient which is particularly renowned for its charming beach—Shandong currently has around 250,000 hectares of fresh tea amid a breathtaking landscape of vibrant.

It emphasizes a wide range of ingredients, fresh, and braised prawns. experiencing ancient town and village accommodation Highlights of the exhibits include the eggshell black pot-

The Great Wall of Qi

seven cities in Shandong province.

The Great Wall of Qi, a remarkable feat of ancient

Chinese engineering, was constructed by the State of

Qi during the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 BC)

and the Warring States Period (475-221 BC). With a total

length of more than 600 kilometers, it stretches through

poetry and art over the centuries for its crystal clear, River, China's mother river, joins the Bohai Sea. It's also two major landscapes of the village. The spring flows northward into the city's other sceing natural wonders.

Lu, which is why Shandong is known as "the Land of Taierzhuang Ancient Town in Zaozhuang city is years. It is the oldest ancient Great Wall in China with Confucius's teachings helped build Shandong as a cultural heritage, ranging from majestic mountains and Visitors can take a boat ride on the water to appreciate the oldest ancient Great Wall in China with Confucius's teachings helped build Shandong as a cultural heritage, ranging from majestic mountains and visitors can take a boat ride on the water to appreciate the oldest ancient Great Wall in China with Confucius's teachings helped build Shandong as a cultural heritage, ranging from majestic mountains and cinnamon. ate the natural splendor, while exploring the historical ying city is home to nearly 400 species of birds, some such as fruit picking in order to enjoy the slow-paced, Throughout the year, tourists can participate in difprofoundly shaped Chinese culture and society for Rising 1,545 meters above sea level, Taishan Mounsites on the shoreline. Particularly in spring and sum of which are under the national first-class protection leisurely village life. tain, esteemed as the "most revered of China's five great mer, the swaying willows and blooming lotus flowers such as the Oriental stork, the hooded crane and the Besides Zhuquan, Shandong boasts a multitude of around the province to experience its artistic creativity sour and slightly sweet. red-crowned crane.

parks at national and provincial levels.

Shilaoren Beach offers a perfect viewpoint for watching Zhuquan village in Linyi, Shandong province, has a and fish with local residents.

history of more than 400 years. In Chinese, zhu literally The rural areas of Shandong have also preserved a One of the iconic delicacies of Shandong cuisine is **Transportation and accommodation** heritage. So far, a total of 186 cultural items from the with history dating back to the Qing Dynasty. one of the top destinations among photographers seek- In 2019, the village was inducted into China's first province have been recognized as national intangible To prepare jiuzhuan dachang, the pork intestines are and ferries.

picturesque, tranquil villages, making it one of the top and cultural diversity.

Temple of Confucius

Located in his birthplace — Qufu, Shandong province — the

Temple of Confucius was first built in 478 BC and had been

Currently, the temple comprises 104 buildings dating from the Jin (1115-1234) to Qing (1644-1911) dynasties including

expanded many times over the past two millennia to com-

memorate the great philosopher, politician and educator

the famous Dacheng Hall and the Kuiwen Pavilion.

salty flavors and the use of different culinary methods.

Seafood also plays a crucial role in Shandong cuisine

Meanwhile, at Dongchudao village in the city of The common cooking techniques of Lu cuisine include own street food and specialties such as the braised These airports are equipped with modern facilities

ferent folk festivals and traditional cultural activities texture and a special flavor profile that is salty, spicy, Qingdao to Weihai takes as little as over one hour. reflecting the region's coastal geography, rich marine one and a half hours to reach Beijing and three hours to cliff of the city's Tanxi Mountain. resources and its dedication to culinary excellence. Shanghai via the Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway. fascinating coastal attractions and seaside activities. admire bird flocks, vast wetlands and the spectacular At Houshanwang village in Rizhao, travelers can Shandong cuisine, or Lu cuisine, is one of the eight The notable seafood delicacies include sea cucumber The province also has four international airports in

The Penglai Pavilion, nestled in a seaside cliff in Yantai,

Shandong province, has a history dating back to the

Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). It's hailed as one of

the "four great towers of China", alongside the Yuevang

province and the Yellow Crane Tower in Hubei province

Tower in Hunan province, the Tengwang Pavilion in Jiangx

A highlight is that many cities across the province batch of key villages for rural tourism. Visitors can take heritage including kite-making techniques from Weifang. first cleaned and boiled and then deep-fried, and stewed Major tourism cities like Jinan, Qingdao, Weihai and have their own unique hotels or homestavs close to Spanning about over 150,000 hectares, the Shandong a casual stroll along the bamboo-lined paths, stay in shadow puppet plays from Jinan, paper-cutting from with 10 more condiments such as garlic, black pepper Yantai are linked by high-speed railways, and highways, scenic sites, allowing tourists to immerse themselves in These include The Lalu Qingdao, a seaside Confu-

Rongcheng, they can wander the streets dotted with quick-frying, roasting, braising, coating sugar and chicken from Dezhou, shaobing (a type of crispy baked and high-quality services, ensuring a hassle-free travel ancient buildings, have a close encounter with seagulls stewing, making dishes both visually appealing and flatbread) from Zhoucun district in Zibo, and bazirou experience. (a pork belly slice stewed with soy sauce) from Jinan. A good night's sleep is essential to a perfect journ

Departing from Jinan, travelers need only spend only ing landscape due to its location on an 800-meter-high

Take home must-buy items are rich in Shandong, a local official.

Heze Peony Festival, Weifang Kite Festival and Qingdao such as renowned brands of Tsingtao Beer, Changyu

Streets and alleys provide a walk through local hiscory. tory as well as the new look. The fashionable districts Shandong's splendid civilization, picturesque scen of Jinan Old Commercial Port, Qingdao Guangxingli, ery, and unique charm extend far beyond the above. and Yantai Chaoyang Street blend retro architecture "We sincerely invite travelers from around the globe to step into 'Hometown of Confucius, Friendly tional quality, while the variety of fruits and vegetables warmth of Shandong people, and experience the charm

Weifang Kite

For over 2,000 years, the city of Weifang in Shandong province has had a tradition of making kites. Weifang kites are renowned for intricate designs, vibrant colors and exquisite craftsmanship. Since 1984, the city has held the Weifang International Kite Festival annually, attracting participants

ing tour, a leisure trip, and a culinary adventure," said

from around the world.

Wind in May

Wind in May is a prominent landmark sculpture in Qingdao, Shandong province. It features a spiral design with flaming red color, symbolizing the unyielding spirit

of the May Fourth Movement, a patriotic campaign launched by young students in 1919.

ying in Dongying, Shandon province, marks the final des ination of China's secondongest river, as it empties nto the Bohai Sea. The region is noted for its uniqu tural landscapes, rich piodiversity and economic

significance, supporting ndustries such as tourism

> The Oriental stork is a large, white bird with black-feathered wings. a long, thick beak, and red skin around its eyes. Its diet consists

mainly of fish, frogs, insects and reptiles. As a first-class nationally

inexpectedly become one of nina's most popular touris

years, due to its mouthwater ing barbecue. In barbecue on a stove. When the meat is

destinations over the past two restaurants, diners are offered

some partially cooked skewers fully cooked, they wrap it with

small pancakes, adding some crispy green onions and dipping sauces to savor different

craft that originates from Gaomi, Shandong province. It is primarily

made from mud, then shaped, carved and painted to resemble a

tiger. The tiger's front and rear parts are connected by soft sheep-

skin and there is a reed whistle fixed in the small hole of the fron

section. When pulled, it can produce a distinct whistling sound

ies and provinces such as Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Jilin and Shandong.

protected wild animal in China, the bird has been found in many cit-