

SHENYANG

1. Population

Shenyang has a population of 8 million people, it is the largest city in north eastern China and is among the top 10 largest cities.

2. Location

Shenyang is the capital of Liaoning Province, the largest city and transportation hub in Northeast China.

3. Economy

Shenyang has a metropolitan population of over 25 million (that is only slightly smaller than the Yangtze and Pearl River Delta regions) and this combined with its location at the hub of the region's transport network and growing industrial weight have accelerated the city's economic growth in recent years.

The city has the 5th biggest economy in northern China and is one of the most famous industrial areas known as "Equipment Department of PRC". Priority has been given to mechanical processing, automobile, petrochemical, aviation, pharmacy, building materials, metallurgy, light industry, textile, electronic and coal industries. Examples of innovation include:

- The largest T1500 vertical turbine molecular pump in China
- The first set of 5-metre laser screw dynamic measuring instruments
- The first set of automatic jack-up tower cranes for use in construction
- The first anti-HIV drug independently developed through approval to be sold domestically
- The first set of independently developed body CT scanning machines
- The first set of devices annually producing 10,000 tons of PVC pasty resin
- The first set of 5000W CO2 laser processor subsonic wind tunnel devices with the highest air speed in China
- The first set of 0.5 million volt high voltage disconnecting switches
- The largest water pump test base in China

Shenyang has always had a large number of state-owned enterprises (SOEs). Notorious for their low efficiency and heavy debt, they have gone through dramatic restructuring, with 90 per cent of local SOEs having now completed shareholding reform. In addition, the service sector in Shenyang has grown rapidly in recent years and now accounts for 45 per cent of GDP.

In general, agriculture, animal husbandry, and agricultural product processing dominate north-eastern Shenyang; eastern Shenyang is an auto parts hub; southern Shenyang is a high-tech industrial base; and western Shenyang is home to heavy machinery manufacturing. The city centre specialises in retail and financial services.

The city has become an attractive location for companies and investors across all business sectors to establish new business ventures. In recent years, the city has become more business friendly offering incentives to invest and construct new factories and real estate projects.

Shenyang has also one of the country's greatest concentrations of luxury real estate and office retail space making it the 3rd largest market for luxury goods in China. Its rising status is evidenced by the growing presence of major multinational companies. Foreign investors include Alcatel, BMW, GM, Bridgestone, Toshiba, Panasonic, HSBC, KPMG, Burberry and Tesco.

City Developments include:

- Development of aircraft and components, aero engines, utility aircraft, and aircraft maintenance and service. Companies are encouraged to locate in two new aviation-specific industrial parks
- Reconstruction of Taoxian International Airport
- Expansion of existing metro lines
- Further development of the Kangping and Faku wind power projects. In total, 13 projects with overall investment of RMB50 billion will be launched in the electricity generation, wind-power and heating sectors during the 12th Five-Year-Plan-Period
- Initiation of inter-provincial railway systems to surrounding cities, including Tieling, Xinmin, Liaozhong and Liaoyang
- Upgrades to Shenyang's four railway stations
- Passenger HSR to Dandong (border with North Korea), Beijing and Harbin/Daqing (Heilongjiang)
- To maintain the trend of foreign investment, the local government has also implemented measures to move the city's production credentials further up the value chain by facilitating the establishment of IT, electronic, finance and service sectors

4. Projections

Shenyang is modelling itself to become 'National City' on a par with Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou and Chongqing. Its geographical position connecting the ports and the rest of China to the northern provinces of Jilin and Heilongjiang makes this possible.

5. Culture and Tourism

Shenyang is a celebrated old city with more than 2,000 years of history which can be traced back to Warring States Period (476 BC - 221 BC). It is the birthplace of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), and has many cultural relics which symbolise the prosperity and subsequent decline of China's last feudal dynasty. The most famous of these is the Shenyang Imperial Palace which is of great historic and artistic significance and is one of the China's two best preserved imperial palace complexes. Fuling Tomb and Zhaoling Tomb are two other famous imperial structures of the Qing Dynasty.

Shenyang has become one of the top tourist cities of China. It is a historically and culturally famous city, the centre of politics, economy, culture and tourism in Northeast China. Rich tourist resources, excellent geographical advantages, improved tourist productivity level and huge potential for development facilitate the growth of Shenyang's tourist industry.



There are, in Shenyang, a total of 68 international and domestic travel agencies; 63 foreign-related hotels (guest-houses); 48 star-rated hotels and more than

30,000 full-time employees in tourist industry. Its overseas tourist markets extend to more than 130 countries, and its domestic market extends throughout the country. Shenyang has 5 international airlines, and a periodic charter flights to Southeast Asia, Russia and Europe, etc.

6. Environment

Shenyang is a model city for environmental protection. It is designated as a national 'forest city' and a national 'garden greening city'. It aims to create an optimal city environment in the north where residents enjoy "a quiet living environment, a comfortable residing environment, a safe dietary environment and clean city surroundings."

Shenyang also has a target to establish a "waterfront city" and has carried out large-scale comprehensive renovation and construction. Batches of man-made lakes have been reconstructed and great emphasis has been placed on water quality.



Shenyang's government has been attaching importance to environmental protection. It has achieved overall standard discharge in industrial enterprises, reaching an advanced level among cities in the treatment rate of domestic sewage.

7. Sister Cities

Shenyang has 10 sister cities worldwide. These are in Japan (Sapporo, 1980; Kawasaki, 1981), Germany (Dusseldorf, 1984), Italy (Torino, 1985), the US (Chicago), Russia (Irkutsk, 1992), the Philippines (Quezon, 1993), Mexico (Monterrey, 1993), the ROK (Songnam, 1998) and Cameroon (Yaounde, 1998). The most active of these links are in the areas of friendship and exchange, and international cooperation with Japan, such as cooperation with Sapporo relating to the water supply.

Shenyang and Belfast

Business and Education Connections

1. Bombardier

Bombardier has a long history of strategic business co-operation with China's aviation industry and has been working with Shenyang Aircraft Corporation (SAC) who have been manufacturing doors for Bombardier's Q-Series aircraft since the 1990's. Bombardier also hosted a delegation from Shenyang last year led by the Deputy Mayor and Shenyang Aircraft Company. A visit was arranged to Stormont to meet with the First and Deputy First Ministers. A return reception was arranged for Minister Foster and a delegation in Shenyang. Bombardier also welcomes a more defined relationship between Belfast city and Shenyang.

2. Queens University

Queen's University established strong links with the China Medical University in Shenyang in 2004. A very successful MPhil research degree programme was developed in 2005 to enable students from CMU and several other PRC Universities to come to QUB for higher degree studies in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology.

Each year 24 students are admitted to the MPhil programme in QUB. Many of these students remain in QUB to undertake a PhD degree and subsequently return to China to take up positions in academia or in industry. Many scientific research papers have been co-authored between QUB and CMU (Shenyang) academics resulting from their collaborative research programmes in Life and Health Sciences.

A Joint College, the China Queen's College (CQC), is expected to be formed by Queen's University and China Medical University which is one of the foremost medical universities in China. Final contract negotiations are currently taking place with legal and tax advisers engaged. CQC would recruit students from the top tier of applicants in China and the joint college will deliver Queen's degrees complying with UK Quality Assurance standards in high-quality purpose built facilities on CMU's new campus in Shenyang. From an initial cohort of 60 students in 2013 it is anticipated that the student population would exceed 1000 across three undergraduate degree programmes.

New collaborations have been embarked upon with the Chinese Scholarships Council, Peking University and Shanghai Jiaotong University. Queen's enjoys other longstanding partnerships and collaborations with a range of key universities and institutions in China.

3. Belfast Metropolitan College

Belfast Metropolitan College is also exploring opportunities to link with Shenyang and is benefiting from advice from QUB.

Deirdre Ferguson
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