



Inspiring Language Learning	<u>94</u>
One night at the Caribbean Campsite	<u>96</u>
Tourist Attractions in Shanghai	<u>99</u>
Food in Shanghai	<u>102</u>
<u>Cheongsam in Shanghai</u>	<u>105</u>
Let's Kecek!	<u>107</u>
Steady, Auntie!	<u>111</u>
Budaya Minum Teh di Turki	<u>115</u>

Cheongsam in Shanghai

By Ong Sheau Fen

When discussing qipao (cheongsam), Shanghai inevitably comes to mind. This elegant garment has become a significant part of Chinese heritage, largely due to its rise in popularity in Shanghai during the 1920s and 1930s. The qipao is believed to have originated from the traditional dress of the Manchu people from the Qing Dynasty. Influenced by Western fashion trends, it evolved into a more form-fitting and stylish garment, reflecting the city's cosmopolitan culture. Over time, the qipao became the preferred attire for Shanghai's socialites and educated women.

As Shanghai's prosperity and cultural influence grew, the qipao gradually spread to other parts of China, eventually becoming a symbol of traditional Chinese female attire. Characteristically, the qipao features a high collar, a fitted cut, side slits, and intricate embroidery or decorations. Traditional versions typically reach the ankles, emphasizing grace and elegance. Modern cheongsams preserve these traditional elements while incorporating various fabrics and innovative designs to suit different occasions.



qipao for wedding banquets

In conclusion, qipao is timeless symbol of Chinese elegance and cultural heritage, deeply rooted in Shanghai's vibrant history. Whether worn during formal events, festivals, or cultural celebrations, the qipao continues to captivate with its intricate design and enduring charm, preserving a unique connection to China's rich past while adapting to contemporary tastes.

Cheongsams are worn on a variety of special occasions. Traditionally favoured for formal events like weddings and banquets, they make a significant impression with their design. They are also popular during festivals and cultural celebrations, showcasing the rich heritage of Chinese fashion.

regular qibao

