

Congratulation on being selected to participate for the Xian Dai summer internship program. It is an exciting opportunity to go to Shanghai and learn about architectural practice in China. As I told you before, the internship program will be from 7/9/11 through 8/31/11. Xian Dai will provide room and board for you while you are in Shanghai for the period.

There are a few things you need to start planning for your trip:

Tourist visa

You will need to apply for a tourist visa prior you visit China. Here is the website for the visa application:

<http://www.visaexpress.net/china/chinatouristvisa.htm>

You should send your passport (must have at least 12 months validity remaining) soon as it will take 1-2 weeks for processing the visa application. Also, you only need to apply for tourist visa, not work visa.

Airline Ticket

You can purchase your ticket online through these websites:

<http://www.bt-store.com/>

<http://www.statravel.com/>

<http://http://www.studentuniverse.com/>

Or you can contact this travel agent in Portland:

Lynna Lee
New World Travel
4522 N.E 82nd Ave., Portland, OR 97220
Tel: 503-255-3118
Fax: 503-255-2383
E-mail: lynnatlee@hotmail.com

They are much cheaper than purchasing ticket through airlines directly.

Phone card

You should purchase a phone card for calling home in China. A \$20 phone card will give you 118 minute of calling time, so you need to figure out how many phone cards you need to purchase before your trip. Do not use your cellphone to call US since the rate is about \$2 a minute.

<http://www.ecallchina.com/phone-card.asp?cardID=53>

Lodging

You will be staying in a local hotel provided by Xian Dai. If you want to go to Shanghai before 7/9/11, you will need to provide your own lodging. I can give you some information on that if you need or you can check this website:

<http://english.ctrip.com/>

Gifts

It is a good idea to bring at least three small gifts with you. Chinese likes to exchange gift, and you will find it helpful at the end of your trip. I found books on Oregon to be a nice gift as you can share with people about Oregon.

I am sure you will have a lot more questions before you go. Please feel free to send me e-mail raymond.cheng@comcast.net for questions or you can talk to the four students that went there last year. Have fun with your summer internship in Shanghai!

Best wishes,
Raymond Cheng