

How to Pay in China – Wendy Wu Tours – Alipay – Transcript –

Hello, I'm Ellen and I'm an Operations Executive here at Wendy Wu Tours.

This video is all about payments in China.

China is really technologically advanced when it comes to taking payment. It's not a very cash-heavy culture. The currency is RMB or CNY, but you will find that ATMs outside of the major cities only work with Chinese banks. So, we recommend having a diverse range of payment options available before you go. You can refer to your travel guide for the exact amounts of recommended currency to bring, but this video will focus on setting up payment apps before you travel.

What payment apps are available in China?

WeChat (or WePay) and Alipay are both very common. You may notice that WeChat and WePay are more prevalent, but since these are more aimed at local Chinese users, some people face restrictions when trying to set them up outside of China. That's why, in this tutorial, we'll be using **Alipay**, as it's more user-friendly for international travelers.

You will need access to the App Store on your phone—the Google Play Store or Apple App Store, depending on your device. In this tutorial, we'll be using an iPhone 14 to set up Alipay, but the process is very similar on other devices.

Setting Up Alipay

To start setting up your eSIM, head to the App Store and search for **Alipay**. Download it onto your phone—we recommend having a strong Wi-Fi connection to avoid interruptions.

Next, you'll need to set up an account using your phone number.

- First, click the country code and search for **United Kingdom**.
- Once selected, input your phone number and wait for the authentication code to come through.
- Click to log in via SMS.
- Once you receive the verification code, input it.

After completing the security check, you'll have access to Alipay.

Adding Your Bank Details

Navigate to your account and go to **Bank Cards**. This is where you'll add your bank details. Please note, sometimes a gamified activity may appear (like shaking your phone or moving a ball to a hoop). Just follow the image instructions provided. In the **Bank Card** section:

- Follow the instructions to set up **Face ID**.
- Then click the "X" to close out the setup screen.

Your account is now all set up!

Making Payments in Shops

When you reach shops, you'll typically scan a **QR code** to make payments. Occasionally, the shopkeeper may ask to scan the QR code on your phone. Both your guide and the shopkeepers will be able to help you with this.

You may also need to approve the payment in your banking app, so we recommend having a **data connection** by using an eSIM (explained in one of our other videos).

That's how to set up and install Alipay on your phone.

Both **Alipay** and **WePay** can be used concurrently, so it doesn't matter which one you set up before you travel. We recommend watching our other videos on eSIMs, as Alipay often requires a data connection to function properly.

If you have any issues at all, we recommend getting help from your friends or family during the setup process.