
Teaching

Working at Maple International is a great way to make a difference. Throughout China many people, young and old, are eager to learn and improve their English. Learning English opens a world of opportunities for our students. Teachers who come to Maple feel their students value and respect them very much.

Lifestyle

Teachers enjoy a very comfortable lifestyle while teaching for Maple International. Modern apartments with all the necessary amenities are provided for all the teachers. The cost of living in Xi'an is cheap and teachers are able to go out to nice restaurants, pubs and KTVs or able to travel to nearby areas on their days off.

Culture

Xi'an is a traditional city, with a rich and culturally significant history. Over a period of more than 2,000 years, Xi'an was the capital for eleven dynasties. This included the period of 618 – 907 AD, China's "golden age" under the Tang Dynasty. Along with Rome and Constantinople, this city was a world leader in culture and trade and played a vital role in connecting the east to the west.

Sights

There are many famous places to visit. The most famous sight is the Terracotta Army, built to protect the Emperor Qin Shi Huang, whose Mausoleum lies close to the warriors. Xi'an is famous for its intact city wall, with its traditional Chinese architecture, that was originally built during the Tang Dynasty and later enlarged during the Ming Dynasty. Other sights in Xi'an include the Bell Tower, Drum Tower, The Great Mosque, Shaanxi History Museum and the Big Goose Pagodas. Just a short bus ride from Xi'an is one of the five sacred mountains of China, Hua Shan.

People

Every day you see sights, which provoke a second glance, from elderly men playing Ma jiang (Chinese domino poker) on the pavement to women practicing Tai Ji to the sound of traditional music, first thing in the morning. Groups of children with red neckerchiefs pass you on their way to school and, of course, you never walk along a deserted sidewalk in this city.

Food

Xi'an cuisine has a tasty, hearty style that should never let you leave the table hungry. Noodles rice and dumplings are the staples of the local food and these are almost always filling. Yangrou Paomo is a tasty Xi'an specialty that consists of a mutton soup served with wheat flour flat bread. The hard bread is broken up and added to the soup. Another Xi'an favourite is their delicious Hot Pot, which is a mixture of vegetables and meats in several different types of broth.

F & Q

What is the Maple International Language Institute?

Maple is a distinguished private language school located in the traditional city of Xi'an. We specialize in providing our students with a quality English education by teachers whose mother tongue is English. The age of the children we teach is between 4 and 16, but we do have a few business classes during the week.

What is it like to teach at Maple?

Maple provides the staff and students with an enjoyable atmosphere and good working conditions. Sometimes during the busy part of the term the working schedule can be very busy and other times it can be quite relaxing. You should have plenty of time outside of work to learn Chinese, see some local sights or do any other hobby you might have.

What is it like to live in China?

From the Terracotta Warriors to the Great Wall, China is a fascinating country full of surprises. Many of our teachers who have lived here for a long time say they still see something new everyday. Come and enjoy the culture, food and people. Teachers are given a lot of respect here in China. The local people often admire the foreigners and they want to ask many questions to learn what your home country is like. So bring some postcards to hand out to the many friends you will meet while you are on this adventure.

Can I survive on my teaching salary?

It is very cheap to live in China and the salary is more than enough to live quite comfortably. A traditional Chinese meal might cost between 5 RMB and 25 RMB, depending on the restaurant. Taxis start at 6 RMB and cost 1.5 RMB per KM. Beer is also very cheap in Xi'an.

How will I live?

The school will provide you with a furnished apartment with all of the amenities. The apartment will include such things as a bed, sofa, TV, closet, pots, pans, dishes, cups, utensils, fridge and more. The apartments provided by the school are located near the school. If a teacher chooses they want to live by themselves or would prefer a different apartment than the one provided, they can do so and the school will give them a 800 RMB allowance each month to go toward their rent.

What happens if I get sick?

If you get sick, our staff will make sure you get the medical attention you need. Each teacher is offered a specific number of sick days every year in case they are not feeling well and unable to teach.

How do I get a visa?

Maple will assist you with the visa process. We will send you the necessary paperwork to your home, then you can go to the nearest Chinese consulate or embassy and acquire your working visa. The whole process is quite simple and can be accomplished relatively quickly.

Do you train your new teachers?

At Maple we do have a training program for new teachers. When our new teachers arrive they are provided with help from the existing teaching staff and the senior teacher will provide useful workshops to help them get acquainted with our program and books. New teachers can feel rest assured that they will be given the time and support to become the best teacher possible.

Does it matter where I come from?

It doesn't matter where you come from, but we are interested in teachers whose mother tongue is English. Some exceptions are possible but the teachers must be fluent in English.

I am unable to speak Chinese; will I be able to teach and how will I get around Xi'an?

It is not a problem at all if you are unable to speak Chinese. Most teachers are unable to speak Chinese and get around just fine. This being said, there are not very many people who can speak English in Xi'an. It can be a challenge at first, but it gets easy real quick. The school is available to help the teachers if they need to see a doctor, exchange money or any other help they might need.

As for teaching, it is fine and sometimes preferred if you can't speak Chinese. The goal of each class is to expose the students to as much English as possible. For the lower levels, you will be given a Teaching Assistant to help you during the class.

If I have any more questions, who can I ask?

If you do have any questions, please feel free to email or call us at anytime. Please direct your emails to Locan Wang at locanwang@gmail.com.