



©Bridget Coila, CC BY-SA 2.0



©Dan Nevill, CC BY 2.0

## General Socio-economic Profile

Qingdao is an important central city on China's eastern seaboard, located on the west coast of the Pacific Ocean and the shore of the Yellow Sea. It is also a popular tourist destination, an international trading port, a national historical and cultural city, China's capital of sailing and a UNESCO City of Film. It has been rated one of the most economically vibrant, most beautiful and most pro-business cities in China. It boasts Qingdao Port, the world's 6th largest port and Jiaodong International Airport, a 4F international hub airport in Northeast Asia. It is home to several national innovation platforms such as the Pilot National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology (Qingdao) and the National Innovation

Center of High-Speed Train, as well as nearly half of China's marine science and technology talent and one-third of academicians in the marine field. Home-grown companies including Haier, Hisense, Tsingtao Beer and CRRC Sifang have won the city worldwide acclaim. In 2020, the GDP of Qingdao reached RMB 1.24 trillion, ranking 13th in China. Import and export value hit RMB 640.7 billion; utilized FDI was USD 5.85 billion. Over 7,000 foreign companies have invested in Qingdao. The city is trading with 216 countries and regions around the world and has friendly relations with 80 cities in 43 countries. Qingdao has been selected as the Most Attractive Chinese City for Foreign Professionals 10 times.

# Qingdao



10,070,000



11,200 km<sup>2</sup>

Technologies 4.0, Industry 5.0 & Digital Economy

Tourism, Culture and Creativity

Education, jobs & skills, Innovation centres, business clusters

## Preferred Areas of Cooperation

In the coming three years, Qingdao will uphold the cooperation theme of "communication, sharing, opening up and collaboration", and actively engage in industrial, economic and trade, people-to-people and cultural cooperation with EU countries.

The Sino-German Eco-park, EU Project Innovation Center and several other parks in the city help promote exchange and cooperation with EU businesses in such areas as machinery manufacturing, high-end chemical engineering, automobile, energy transition, and Industrial Internet.

Qingdao will continue to host events like Sino-European Entrepreneurs Summit and Qingdao Multinationals Summit, bolster the China-Europe Railway Express services and expand business interactions with Europe.

Qingdao will carry out people-to-people exchanges such as cooperative education programs, cultural and art exchanges, youth activities and sailing events on a regular basis, introducing the city to people in EU countries.