

A map of where China makes things



ONE CITY · ONE INDUSTRY · 一城一业

China Industry Atlas

中国产业地图

A field map of China's manufacturing clusters — city by city, market by market.

- Pearl River Delta ● Yangtze River Delta ● Bohai Rim
- West Coast of the Taiwan Strait ● Central & Western China

53 cities · 18 towns · 5 regions

00 How to read this atlas

China does not manufacture everywhere. It manufactures **somewhere specific**. Over decades, each city and often each individual town has come to own a product category and the entire supply chain behind it: the components, the tooling, the finishing, the trading markets, and the people who know how to connect them.



This guide maps that pattern at two levels: the **city**, and the **markets and districts inside it** where the work actually happens. Start from what you are sourcing, find the city that owns it, then go to the specific market or town named in its entry.

ON THE FIGURES

This atlas maps China's industrial clustering — the 'one city, one industry' pattern — at city and town level. The durable value is the specialization map: which place owns which category, and which market or district inside it. Population and GDP figures are approximate reference points drawn from recent public data and should be treated as orders of magnitude, not precise current values; cluster facts and named anchor firms are the stable signal. Verify supplier-specific claims, certifications, and current export-control or import rules independently before committing.

01 The five mega-regions

Together responsible for the overwhelming majority of China's exports.

Pearl River Delta 珠江三角洲

Guangdong · ~25% of China's exports

China's original manufacturing powerhouse and still the most diverse. Centered on Shenzhen, Guangzhou, and Dongguan, it runs from electronics and toys to furniture, jewelry, and advanced tech. Town-level specialization is the defining feature.

OWNS Electronics · Toys · Furniture · Apparel & textiles · Jewelry · Lighting · Advanced manufacturing

Yangtze River Delta 长江三角洲

Shanghai · Zhejiang · Jiangsu · ~30% of China's exports

Advanced manufacturing married to the world's best logistics. Shanghai is the finance and shipping core; the surrounding cities each own a category, from semiconductors and home textiles to molds, fabric, and small commodities.

OWNS Semiconductors · Auto parts & molds · Textiles & fabric · Small commodities · Home textiles · New energy · Machinery

Bohai Rim 环渤海

Beijing · Tianjin · Shandong · Liaoning · ~15% of China's exports

Heavy industry, home appliances, and a string of surprising single-product clusters — false eyelashes, fishing tackle, kites, hair products, costumes — alongside aerospace and petrochemicals.

OWNS Home appliances · Heavy machinery · Aerospace · Specialty consumer goods · Commodity wholesale

West Coast of the Taiwan Strait 海峡西岸

Fujian · ~5% of China's exports

Sports goods, new energy, and cross-strait industrial cooperation. Quanzhou and Jinjiang own athletic footwear; Ningde owns batteries; Xiamen leads third-generation semiconductors.

OWNS Sports footwear & apparel · EV batteries · Third-gen semiconductors · Ceramics · Hygiene products

Central & Western China 中西部

Anhui · Hubei · Hunan · Henan · Shaanxi · Sichuan · Chongqing · Inner Mongolia · ~8% and growing fast

The fastest-growing growth poles, leveraging lower costs, strong state support, and China-Europe rail. Hefei, Wuhan, and Xi'an lead in chips, displays, NEV, optics, and solar; the region also holds rare earths, rail, and construction machinery.

OWNS Semiconductors & memory · New-energy vehicles · Optoelectronics · Solar & photovoltaics · Construction machinery · Rare earths · Laptops

INDUSTRY	PRIMARY CITIES	TYPICAL PRODUCTS
Consumer electronics	Shenzhen · Dongguan · Suzhou · Chengdu · Chongqing	Phones, wearables, smart-home, IoT, accessories
Components / PCB / ICs	Shenzhen · Wuxi · Suzhou · Hefei · Wuhan	PCB/PCBA, passives, connectors, memory, packaging
Lighting & LED	Zhongshan · Shenzhen · Xiamen	Decorative, commercial, and LED lighting; LED chips & displays
Apparel & fashion	Guangzhou · Dongguan · Hangzhou · Quanzhou · Huzhou	Womenswear, casual wear, knitwear, kids' clothing
Fabric & textiles	Shaoxing · Guangzhou · Haining (Jiaxing) · Nantong	Woven & knit fabric, leather, home textiles, dyeing
Footwear	Jinjiang · Quanzhou · Wenzhou · Putian · Dongguan	Athletic, casual, and leather shoes
Furniture & home	Foshan · Dongguan · Zhongshan	All furniture, mahogany, home decor
Home appliances	Foshan · Qingdao · Ningbo · Zhuhai	Large & small appliances, AC, kitchen
Toys & gifts	Shantou · Yiwu · Dongguan · Yangzhou	Plastic toys, plush, RC, holiday & party goods
Small commodities	Yiwu · Linyi · Guangzhou	Accessories, gifts, decorations, daily goods
Auto & motorcycle parts	Ningbo · Taizhou (Zhejiang) · Wuhu · Chongqing	Components, NEV parts, motorcycle parts
Molds & plastics	Taizhou (Zhejiang) · Ningbo · Dongguan	Injection molds, plastic parts, tooling
Hardware & tools	Yongkang (Jinhua) · Wenzhou · Jiangmen · Dongguan	Power tools, hand tools, locks, kitchenware
Lithium batteries	Ningde · Xiamen · Huizhou · Hefei	Cells, packs, energy storage, materials
Semiconductors	Shanghai · Suzhou · Wuxi · Hefei · Wuhan · Xiamen · Xi'an	Foundry, memory, power & 3rd-gen devices, packaging
New-energy vehicles	Shanghai · Hefei · Wuhan · Chongqing · Wuhu	EVs, components, battery systems
Solar & green energy	Wuxi · Xi'an · Changzhou	Solar cells & panels, wind & storage equipment

INDUSTRY	PRIMARY CITIES	TYPICAL PRODUCTS
Construction & heavy machinery	Changsha · Xuzhou · Weifang	Excavators, cranes, concrete machinery, engines
Beauty & personal care	Guangzhou · Qingdao · Xuchang	Cosmetics, skincare, eyelashes, wigs & hair
Ceramics & sanitaryware	Foshan · Chaozhou · Dehua (Quanzhou)	Tile, tableware, sanitaryware, decorative porcelain

Pearl River Delta 珠江三角洲

Guangdong · 11 clusters

● **Shenzhen** 深圳 GUANGDONG

MAJOR HUB

The electronics capital

~17.8M pop ~\$550B GDP approx Largest single-city electronics ecosystem on earth

If it has a circuit board, it was probably designed, prototyped, or sourced through Shenzhen. Forty years from fishing village to the densest electronics supply chain in the world. The advantage is not any single factory but proximity: components, board houses, mold shops, assembly, and the people who know how to connect them all sit within a one-hour radius.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Huaqiangbei (HQB) 华强北

WORLD'S LARGEST ELECTRONICS MARKET

Not one mall but a district. SEG Electronics Market and Huaqiang Electronics World are the anchors; Mingtong Digital City is the IC/component floors (chips, passives, connectors); the old SEG Communications side trades phones, parts, and repair gear. Component floors are where you see parts 6-12 months before they reach Western catalogs.

Shuibei 水贝

GOLD & JEWELRY TRADING HUB

One of China's largest gold and fine-jewelry trading clusters; manufacturing, casting, and wholesale in one district.

Bao'an & Longhua

VOLUME EMS / ASSEMBLY BELT

Where the actual contract manufacturing and box-build lives once you leave the trading floors. DJI, Foxconn campuses, countless mid-size assembly houses.

Guangming / Pingshan

NEW-ENERGY & ADVANCED MFG PARKS

Battery, BMS, and newer hard-tech tenants pushed out from the urban core for space.

Dafen 大芬

OIL-PAINTING VILLAGE

A genuine 'one product' enclave — a large share of the world's hand-painted reproductions.

INDUSTRIES

Consumer electronics · Telecom & networking · PCB / PCBA · LED & displays · Drones & robotics · Watches · Gold jewelry trading

KEY PRODUCTS

Phones, tablets, wearables · Chargers, cables, power banks · Smart-home & IoT devices · Drones, gimbals, FPV · LED modules & video walls · Lithium cells & packs

ANCHOR FIRMS

Huawei · Tencent · BYD · DJI · ZTE · Hytera · Transsion

SOURCING NOTE

Treat HQB as intelligence, not just procurement. The trading floors reveal what is becoming cheap and what is becoming possible; the real production sits out in Bao'an and Longhua. For small runs you can buy components in the morning and have boards back in days, which is the genuine Shenzhen edge. Verify that a 'factory' is not just a trading desk with a borrowed showroom.

South China's trade capital

~18.7M pop ~\$460B GDP approx Host of the Canton Fair

China's gateway to the world for over a thousand years and still the trading heart of the south. Guangzhou's strength is breadth and the wholesale-market model: enormous specialized markets where you can compare hundreds of suppliers in a single building, then drive to the factories that feed them in the surrounding towns.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Zhongda Fabric Market 中大布匹市场

LARGEST FABRIC & TRIM CLUSTER IN THE SOUTH

Hundreds of buildings of textiles, linings, and accessories around the old Sun Yat-sen University textile district. The default place to source fabric in China.

Shahe 沙河

FAST-FASHION APPAREL WHOLESAL

High-volume, low-price ready-made clothing; the engine behind a lot of cross-border apparel.

Shisanhang / Baima 十三行 / 白马

WOMEN'S FASHION WHOLESAL

Baima is mid-market; Shisanhang is ultra-fast cheap fashion near the railway station.

Huadu - Shiling 花都狮岭

LEATHER-GOODS CAPITAL

Shiling town makes a very large share of China's bags and leather accessories.

Panyu 番禺

FINE-JEWELRY MANUFACTURING

A historic manufacturing base for Hong Kong jewelry brands; gold, gem-setting, OEM.

Baiyun - cosmetics belt

BEAUTY & PERSONAL CARE OEM

Large cluster of cosmetics, skincare, and daily-chemical contract manufacturers.

INDUSTRIES

Textiles & apparel · Fabric & trim · Jewelry & watches · Beauty & personal care · Leather goods · Trade services

KEY PRODUCTS

Clothing of every category · Fabrics, accessories, trims · Cosmetics & skincare · Leather bags & shoes · Costume & fine jewelry

ANCHOR FIRMS

Canton Fair (Pazhou) · P&G China · Guangzhou Auto (GAC)

SOURCING NOTE

The wholesale markets are for comparison and small buys; for OEM you want the factories in Huadu, Panyu, and Baiyun that supply them. The Canton Fair (April & October, Pazhou) is overwhelming — walk and collect on day one, shortlist on day two, negotiate on day three. Never commit on the first pass.

The world's factory floor

~10.5M pop ~\$175B GDP approx Town-level specialization is the key

The classic 'world's factory' — but the real map is at town level. Dongguan is a constellation of specialized towns, each one a near-complete supply chain for a single category. Knowing which town makes your product is worth more than any single supplier name.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Houjie 厚街

FOOTWEAR CLUSTER + SHOE-MACHINERY

Mid-to-high-end shoe OEM and the machinery/last/material supply chain that supports it.

Dalang 大朗

WOOL-SWEATER / KNITWEAR CAPITAL

One of the world's largest knitwear towns; full chain from yarn to finished sweater, heavily automated.

Humen 虎门

WOMEN'S FASHION

Huge apparel cluster with its own wholesale markets; quick-turn fashion.

Chang'an 长安

HARDWARE, MOLDS, DIE-CASTING

5-metal hardware, precision molds, CNC — a backbone for the region's electronics and appliance makers.

Qingxi / Changping / Shijie

ELECTRONICS & EMS

Mid-size assembly and components feeding the broader PRD electronics chain.

INDUSTRIES

Electronics & EMS · Footwear · Knitwear & apparel · Furniture · Toys · Hardware & molds

KEY PRODUCTS

Electronic assemblies · Shoes (mid/high-end OEM) · Sweaters & knitwear · Furniture · Toys & figures · Precision molds

ANCHOR FIRMS

Major Nike & Adidas OEMs · Oppo/Vivo (BBK, Chang'an) · Numerous tier-1 EMS

SOURCING NOTE

Ask which town first, then which factory. MOQs run higher than in trading-market cities because these are real production houses used to brand programs. Many now carry ESG/social-audit certifications, which matters for European buyers.

Furniture & appliance kingdom

~9.6M pop ~\$195B GDP approx Home of Lecong and Shunde

Centuries of furniture and ceramics, now China's largest furniture base and a powerhouse in home appliances, ceramic tile, and aluminum. Two districts carry global weight: Lecong for furniture and Shunde for appliances.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Lecong Furniture Market 乐从家具城

LARGEST FURNITURE WHOLESALE MARKET IN ASIA

Kilometres of showrooms (Sunlink, Louvre, etc.). The showrooms are the shop window — the better prices and customization are at the factories in Longjiang and surrounding towns.

Shunde 顺德

HOME-APPLIANCE CAPITAL

Home of Midea and Galanz; a near-complete appliance supply chain (motors, compressors, plastics, controls). Longjiang within Shunde is also a major furniture town.

Nanzhuang 南庄

CERAMIC TILE

A core of China's tile industry; Foshan tile is a global category leader.

Dali / Lishui

ALUMINUM & STAINLESS STEEL

Aluminum extrusion and stainless processing clusters.

INDUSTRIES

Furniture · Home appliances · Ceramics & sanitaryware · Stainless steel & aluminum · Hardware

KEY PRODUCTS

All furniture types · Refrigerators, microwaves, fans · Ceramic & porcelain tile · Aluminum profiles & doors · Stainless products

ANCHOR FIRMS

Midea · Galanz · Dongpeng (ceramics) · Vanward / Macro

SOURCING NOTE

For furniture, get past the Lecong showrooms to the Longjiang factories. For appliances, Shunde gives you a complete component chain in one district, which de-risks both cost and lead time. White-glove export and installation services are now common for high-end furniture.

● Zhongshan 中山 GUANGDONG

MAJOR HUB

China's lighting capital

~4.5M pop ~\$50B GDP approx Guzhen lights the world

A cluster of single-product towns west of the Pearl River. Guzhen alone is the global center of decorative and LED lighting; other towns specialize in hardware, locks, casual wear, small appliances, and mahogany furniture.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Guzhen 古镇

LIGHTING CAPITAL OF CHINA

The dominant global cluster for decorative, commercial, and LED lighting; thousands of makers and the Lighting Expo. Sourcing lighting elsewhere rarely makes sense.

Xiaolan 小榄

HARDWARE & LOCKS

Major lock and hardware base.

Shaxi 沙溪

CASUAL WEAR

Leisure and casual apparel town.

Dachong 大涌

MAHOGANY / REDWOOD FURNITURE

Specialist hardwood furniture cluster.

INDUSTRIES

Lighting & LED · Hardware & locks · Small appliances · Casual apparel · Furniture

KEY PRODUCTS

Decorative & LED lighting · Locks & door hardware · Fans, heaters, kitchen appliances · Casual wear · Redwood furniture

ANCHOR FIRMS

Opple / NVC ecosystem suppliers · Huayi (appliances)

SOURCING NOTE

For any lighting program, start in Guzhen — the density of competition and the complete chain (drivers, housings, optics, fixtures) is unmatched. Quality tiers are wide; check certifications (CE/UKCA, photometric files) carefully for the European market.

● Zhuhai 珠海 GUANGDONG

SPECIALIST

Printer-consumables capital

~2.5M pop ~\$60B GDP approx Global hub for ink & toner

A quieter PRD city with two outsized industries: it is the world center for printer consumables (compatible ink and toner cartridges) and home to appliance giant Gree.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Printer-consumables cluster

COMPATIBLE INK & TONER

A very large share of the world's aftermarket cartridges and refills ships from Zhuhai (Apex, Print-Rite ecosystem).

Gree industrial base

AIR CONDITIONING

One of the world's largest residential AC makers.

INDUSTRIES

Printer consumables · Home appliances ·
Electronics · Biotech

KEY PRODUCTS

Ink & toner cartridges · Air conditioners (Gree) ·
Electronics

ANCHOR FIRMS

Gree · Print-Rite · Apex

SOURCING NOTE

For any printing-consumables or imaging-supplies program, Zhuhai is effectively the only address worth a sourcing trip.

● Shantou 汕头 GUANGDONG

MAJOR HUB

Toys, lingerie & packaging

~5.5M pop ~\$45B GDP approx Chenghai is the toy town

The Chaoshan trading culture made Shantou a cluster of tightly held family supply chains. Chenghai district is one of the world's true toy capitals; Gurao is a global underwear town; the city is also a printing and packaging center.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Chenghai 澄海

TOY-MANUFACTURING CAPITAL

A genuine global toy hub — a very large share of plastic toys, RC, and educational toys. Home of Auldey/Alpha. Complete chain from molds to packaging.

Gurao 谷饶

UNDERWEAR / LINGERIE TOWN

One of the largest bra and underwear clusters anywhere; whole-town specialization.

Shantou printing belt

PRINTING & PACKAGING

Strong printing, packaging, and trading-card production base.

INDUSTRIES

Toys & games · Underwear & lingerie · Printing &
packaging · Plastics · Apparel

KEY PRODUCTS

Plastic toys, RC, figures · Bras, underwear, lingerie
· Printed packaging, cards · Plastic goods

ANCHOR FIRMS

Auldey / Alpha Group · Numerous toy &
lingerie SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

Chaoshan suppliers are relationship-first and family-run; trust and repeat business move prices more than hard negotiation. For toys, the Chenghai chain (mold, injection, deco, packaging) sits in one district, which is a real lead-time advantage.

● Chaozhou 潮州 GUANGDONG

SPECIALIST

Porcelain & sanitaryware

~2.6M pop ~\$15B GDP approx Ceramics capital of the south

Chaozhou is one of China's great ceramics centers — daily-use porcelain, sanitaryware (toilets, basins), and ceramic crafts — plus a notable wedding-dress and embroidery cluster.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Fengxi 枫溪

PORCELAIN & CERAMICS

The core ceramics district; tableware, decorative, and craft porcelain.

Sanitaryware cluster

BATHROOM CERAMICS

Major base for toilets, basins, and bathroom fixtures.

INDUSTRIES

Ceramics & porcelain · Sanitaryware · Wedding dresses · Food (dried goods)

KEY PRODUCTS

Tableware & porcelain · Toilets, basins, ceramics · Bridal & evening wear

ANCHOR FIRMS

Numerous ceramics & sanitaryware makers

SOURCING NOTE

For ceramic tableware and sanitaryware, Chaozhou and neighboring Chaoshan towns offer deep specialization at competitive cost; freight planning matters because the product is heavy and fragile.

● Jieyang 揭阳 GUANGDONG

SPECIALIST

Stainless kitchenware & lingerie

~5.6M pop ~\$25B GDP approx Puning is the textile/underwear town

Part of the Chaoshan cluster. Jieyang is a stainless-steel hardware and kitchenware base, while its county-city Puning is one of China's largest textile and underwear wholesale markets.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Puning 普宁

TEXTILE & UNDERWEAR WHOLESALE

Massive garment and underwear trading market plus surrounding production.

Stainless-steel cluster

KITCHENWARE & FIXTURES

Stainless cookware, sinks, and hardware base.

INDUSTRIES

Stainless steel & kitchenware · Textiles & underwear · Hardware · Jade & jewelry

KEY PRODUCTS

Stainless cookware & fixtures · Underwear, garments · Hardware

ANCHOR FIRMS

Stainless & textile SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

Useful pairing with Shantou and Chaozhou on a single Chaoshan trip; the region rewards visiting because so much trade still runs on personal relationships.

● Huizhou 惠州 GUANGDONG

SPECIALIST

Batteries & electronics

~6.0M pop ~\$80B GDP approx TCL & battery cluster

An electronics and new-energy extension of the eastern PRD: home of TCL and a strong lithium-battery and components base (Desay, EVE nearby).

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Zhongkai hi-tech zone

ELECTRONICS & EMS

Display, module, and component manufacturing.

Battery & BMS cluster

LITHIUM ENERGY

Cells, packs, and battery-management electronics (Desay-BYD/EVE ecosystem).

INDUSTRIES

Electronics & displays · Lithium batteries · Auto electronics · Petrochemicals

KEY PRODUCTS

TVs & displays · Battery cells & packs · Automotive electronics

ANCHOR FIRMS

TCL · Desay · EVE (regional)

SOURCING NOTE

A good option when you want PRD electronics capability with a bit more space and lower cost than central Shenzhen, especially for battery-adjacent products.

● Jiangmen 江门 GUANGDONG

SPECIALIST

Kitchen & metal hardware

~4.8M pop ~\$55B GDP approx Kitchenware & motorcycle parts

A western PRD hardware base — stainless kitchenware, faucets and sanitary hardware, and motorcycle components, with growing battery-material and equipment tenants.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Pengjiang hardware cluster

KITCHEN & METAL HARDWARE

Stainless kitchenware and metal-goods base.

INDUSTRIES

Metal & kitchen hardware · Sanitary fittings · Motorcycle parts · New materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Stainless kitchenware · Faucets & fittings · Motorcycle components

ANCHOR FIRMS

Hardware & kitchenware SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

A quieter, cost-effective alternative to Foshan/Zhongshan for metal hardware and kitchenware programs.

● **Shanghai** 上海 SHANGHAI

MAJOR HUB

Finance, port & high-end manufacturing

~24.9M pop ~\$680B GDP approx China's financial & shipping hub

The financial and logistics command center of the YRD, and increasingly a high-end manufacturing city in its own right: automotive (including Tesla's Gigafactory), semiconductors (SMIC, Hua Hong in Zhangjiang), biotech, and precision equipment.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Zhangjiang Science City 张江

SEMICONDUCTORS & BIOTECH

China's leading IC design and foundry cluster (SMIC, Hua Hong) plus a dense biotech/pharma corridor.

Lingang / Gigafactory

NEV & ADVANCED MFG

Tesla's Shanghai plant anchors an EV and equipment cluster.

Hongqiao trade hub

TRADE & EXHIBITIONS

CIIE and major B2B trade infrastructure.

INDUSTRIES

Automotive & NEV · Semiconductors · Biotech & pharma · High-end equipment · Cosmetics · Finance & trade

KEY PRODUCTS

Vehicles & EV systems · Chips (foundry, design) · Pharmaceuticals · Precision machinery

ANCHOR FIRMS

SAIC · Tesla · SMIC · Hua Hong

SOURCING NOTE

Shanghai is where you set up entities, finance, QC headquarters, and high-value or regulated production. For commodity goods it is expensive; for chips, pharma, autos, and precision equipment it is a first-tier address.

● Hangzhou 杭州 ZHEJIANG

MAJOR HUB

E-commerce & silk

~12.5M pop ~\$330B GDP approx Home of Alibaba

Where China's e-commerce and live-stream economy was born. Home of Alibaba and Ant, a hub for cross-border trade and digital commerce, and a historic silk and women's-fashion center.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Sijiqing 四季青

WOMEN'S FASHION WHOLESALE

One of China's largest women's apparel wholesale markets.

China Silk City

SILK & TEXTILES

Historic silk trading and production base.

Cross-border e-commerce parks

CHANNEL & FULFILMENT

Where you set up Tmall/Douyin/cross-border selling and live-stream operations.

INDUSTRIES

E-commerce & digital trade · Silk & textiles · Women's fashion · Tea · Software & AI

KEY PRODUCTS

Silk products · Women's clothing · E-commerce / livestream services · Longjing tea

ANCHOR FIRMS

Alibaba · Ant Group · Hikvision (regional) · NetEase

SOURCING NOTE

Come to Hangzhou to build a China sales channel, not primarily to source hardware. If you want to sell into China or run live-stream campaigns, this is the place to understand the playbook.

● Ningbo 宁波 ZHEJIANG

MAJOR HUB

Port, molds & auto parts

~9.6M pop ~\$270B GDP approx World's busiest port by tonnage

A massive port married to a deep manufacturing base: auto parts, plastic molds, small appliances, and stationery. The port advantage (Ningbo-Zhoushan) means lower freight and faster transit, especially for heavy or bulky goods and vehicles.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Cixi 慈溪

SMALL-APPLIANCE CAPITAL

One of China's densest small-appliance clusters (heaters, fans, kitchen gadgets) plus plastics and connectors.

Yuyao 余姚

PLASTICS & MOLDS

Yuyao Plastic City is a national plastics-trading and mold hub.

Fenghua / stationery belt

STATIONERY

Strong writing-instrument and stationery base in the wider Ningbo area.

INDUSTRIES

Auto parts · Plastics & molds · Home appliances · Stationery · Textiles

KEY PRODUCTS

Auto components · Plastic parts & molds · Small appliances · Office & writing supplies

ANCHOR FIRMS

Ningbo-Zhoushan Port · Joyson / auto-parts makers

SOURCING NOTE

If the product is heavy, bulky, or vehicle-related, sourcing near Ningbo can save meaningfully on freight versus inland cities, and the city is the leading port for NEV exports via roll-on/roll-off.

The world's supermarket

~1.9M pop ~\$30B GDP approx 75,000+ booths

A small city with the world's largest small-commodities wholesale market. If you need variety in modest quantities — gifts, accessories, toys, holiday goods, daily necessities — Yiwu is the default. The cross-border e-commerce ecosystem here is mature and buyer-friendly.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Yiwu International Trade City 义乌国际商贸城

WORLD'S LARGEST SMALL-COMMODITIES MARKET

Five connected districts, 75,000+ booths, millions of SKUs. Districts are organized by category, so plan your route by product.

Cross-border e-commerce parks

ONE-STOP EXPORT

Inspection, consolidation, and shipping for small international buyers under one roof.

INDUSTRIES

Small commodities · Accessories & imitation jewelry · Toys & decorations · Stationery · Holiday products

KEY PRODUCTS

Christmas & party goods · Artificial flowers · Hair accessories, bags, socks · Umbrellas, toys

ANCHOR FIRMS

Yiwu Market Group · China-Europe rail terminus

SOURCING NOTE

Ideal for variety stores, gift, and FBA sellers; MOQs can be as low as a carton or two. Quality varies enormously booth to booth — always inspect samples and confirm the booth is a maker or a stable trader, not a one-season reseller.

Shoes, lighters & low-voltage electricals

~9.7M pop ~\$145B GDP approx Yueqing/Liushi = electrical capital

Famous for entrepreneurial drive and a stack of single-product clusters: footwear, the world's lighters, eyeglasses, and — critically for hardware buyers — China's low-voltage electrical apparatus capital in Liushi/Yueqing.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Liushi (Yueqing) 柳市 (乐清)

LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL CAPITAL

The national center for breakers, contactors, relays, terminal blocks, and industrial controls. Home turf of Chint and Delixi. The first place to source electrical components.

Lucheng footwear

SHOE MANUFACTURING

Broad shoe base spanning ultra-cheap to premium private label.

Qiaotou (Yongjia) 桥头

BUTTON & ZIPPER TOWN

The 'button capital' — an extraordinary concentration of buttons and trims.

Oubei valves

VALVES & PUMPS

Industrial valve and pump cluster.

INDUSTRIES

Footwear · Low-voltage electricals · Lighters · Eyeglasses · Valves & pumps · Locks & buttons

KEY PRODUCTS

Shoes & leather goods · Breakers, contactors, switches · Lighters · Eyeglass frames · Valves, pumps

ANCHOR FIRMS

Chint · Delixi · Numerous footwear & lighter makers

SOURCING NOTE

For any product with electrical innards, Liushi/Yueqing is a strategic stop — components and finished controls in one place. For shoes, identify the quality tier first (ask for their European client list).

● Shaoxing 绍兴 ZHEJIANG

MAJOR HUB

The world's fabric market

~5.3M pop ~\$120B GDP approx Keqiao = China Textile City

Home of China Textile City in Keqiao — the largest fabric distribution market in the world — plus a vast printing-and-dyeing base and the necktie capital of Shengzhou.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Keqiao - China Textile City 柯桥 中国轻纺城

WORLD'S LARGEST FABRIC MARKET

If you cannot find a fabric in Guangzhou's Zhongda, you will find it here. Enormous distribution plus a regional dyeing/finishing chain.

Shengzhou 嵊州

NECKTIE CAPITAL

Produces the large majority of China's neckties and a big share of the world's.

INDUSTRIES

Textiles & fabric · Printing & dyeing · Neckties · Apparel

KEY PRODUCTS

Woven & knit fabrics · Dyed & printed textiles · Neckties & scarves

ANCHOR FIRMS

China Textile City · Numerous dyeing & weaving mills

SOURCING NOTE

For fabric sourcing at scale, Keqiao and Guangzhou's Zhongda are the two poles. Confirm dyeing and finishing capability and environmental compliance — printing-and-dyeing is the part of the chain that draws the most scrutiny.

● Zhuji 诸暨 ZHEJIANG

SPECIALIST

Socks & freshwater pearls

~1.2M pop ~\$25B GDP approx Datang socks, Shanxiahu pearls

Two world-leading single-product towns: Datang makes a staggering share of the world's socks, and Shanxiahu is the global center of freshwater-pearl farming and trading.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Datang 大唐

SOCK CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

A whole-town sock economy — billions of pairs a year, complete chain from yarn to packaging.

Shanxiahu 山下湖

FRESHWATER-PEARL CENTER

The dominant global hub for freshwater pearls: farming, processing, grading, and wholesale.

INDUSTRIES

Socks & hosiery · Freshwater pearls · Hardware

KEY PRODUCTS

Socks of all kinds · Freshwater pearls & jewelry

ANCHOR FIRMS

Sock & pearl SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For socks or freshwater pearls, this is effectively the source. For pearls, learn grading before you buy — the price range across grades is enormous.

● Taizhou (Zhejiang) 台州 ZHEJIANG

MAJOR HUB

Molds, autos & pumps

~6.7M pop ~\$90B GDP approx Huangyan = mold capital; Geely's origin

A manufacturing powerhouse: Huangyan is China's mold capital, Wenling and Yuhuan make pumps and motorcycle/auto parts, and the city is the birthplace of Geely. Strong in sewing machines and medical/pharma too.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Huangyan 黄岩

MOLD CAPITAL OF CHINA

The national center for plastic injection molds — the tooling that the rest of China's plastics industry depends on.

Wenling / Yuhuan

PUMPS, AUTO & MOTO PARTS

Dense clusters of pumps, motors, and vehicle components.

INDUSTRIES

Molds & plastics · Auto & motorcycle parts · Pumps & motors · Sewing machines · Pharma

KEY PRODUCTS

Injection molds · Auto/moto components · Pumps, motors · Industrial sewing machines

ANCHOR FIRMS

Geely (origin) · Mold & pump makers

SOURCING NOTE

If you need tooling, Huangyan is where the best mold shops are; pairing a Taizhou mold maker with a coastal molder can lower both tooling cost and risk.

● Yongkang (Jinhua) 永康 ZHEJIANG

SPECIALIST

Hardware city

~0.9M pop ~\$12B GDP approx China Hardware City

The 'hardware capital' — power tools, electric scooters, vacuum flasks and cups, doors, and a huge hardware trading market. Part of the Jinhua prefecture alongside Wuyi (fitness equipment) and Yiwu nearby.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

China Science & Technology Hardware City 中国科技五金城

HARDWARE TRADING & PRODUCTION

Vast hardware market plus surrounding factories; the default for tools and metal goods.

Wuyi 武义

FITNESS-EQUIPMENT CAPITAL

Nearby town that makes a large share of the world's gym and home fitness equipment.

INDUSTRIES

Hardware & tools · Electric scooters / e-mobility · Cups & vacuum flasks · Doors & security

KEY PRODUCTS

Power & hand tools · E-scooters · Insulated cups & flasks · Security doors

ANCHOR FIRMS

Hardware & tool makers

SOURCING NOTE

For tools, e-mobility, and metal household goods, Yongkang's combined market-plus-factory model lets you compare quickly and then visit the maker. Pair with Wuyi for fitness gear.

● Haining (Jiaxing) 海宁 ZHEJIANG

SPECIALIST

Leather & warp-knit

~1.1M pop ~\$18B GDP approx China Leather City

Home of China Leather City and a major warp-knitted-fabric and home-textile base. The default for leather garments, jackets, and leather goods at scale.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

China Leather City 中国皮革城

LEATHER GOODS & GARMENTS

The country's flagship leather market with a deep surrounding production chain.

Xucun 许村

HOME TEXTILES

Curtain and home-textile cluster.

INDUSTRIES

Leather & fur · Warp-knit fabric · Home textiles · Apparel

KEY PRODUCTS

Leather jackets & garments · Warp-knit fabrics · Home textiles

ANCHOR FIRMS

Leather & textile SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For leather apparel and goods, Haining offers both a comparison market and the factories behind it; verify hide sourcing and finishing for European chemical-compliance (REACH) requirements.

● Huzhou 湖州 ZHEJIANG

SPECIALIST

Children's clothing

~3.4M pop ~\$60B GDP approx Zhili = kids' garment town

Zhili town is China's children's-clothing capital — a whole-town garment economy for kids' wear — alongside textiles and growing battery/new-energy tenants.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Zhili 织里

CHILDREN'S-CLOTHING CAPITAL

One of the largest children's-wear clusters in the world; design, cut-make-trim, and wholesale in one town.

INDUSTRIES

Children's clothing · Textiles · New energy

KEY PRODUCTS

Kids' garments · Textiles

ANCHOR FIRMS

Children's-wear SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For kids' apparel programs, Zhili gives unmatched specialization and speed; mind child-product safety standards (EN 71, drawstring/small-parts rules) for export.

● Suzhou 苏州 JIANGSU

MAJOR HUB

Semiconductors & electronics

~12.9M pop ~\$370B GDP approx Kunshan = laptop/Apple base

One of China's strongest advanced-manufacturing cities: semiconductors, electronics, biotech, and nanotech, with the highest industrial output in Jiangsu. Kunshan, under Suzhou, is a global laptop and electronics base; Suzhou Industrial Park is a model high-tech zone.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Kunshan 昆山

LAPTOP & ELECTRONICS BASE

Major notebook and electronics manufacturing center with deep Taiwanese-invested supply chains (Foxconn and others).

Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP)

SEMICONDUCTORS & BIOTECH

Flagship hi-tech zone with strong IC, nano, and biomedical clusters and ready international-standard compliance.

INDUSTRIES

Semiconductors · Electronics & laptops · Biomedical · Nanotech · Precision equipment

KEY PRODUCTS

Chips & packaging · Laptops & electronics · Medical devices

ANCHOR FIRMS

Foxconn (Kunshan) · Numerous IC & biotech firms

SOURCING NOTE

For higher-tech and compliance-sensitive production, Suzhou factories are typically well above the national average on quality systems and certifications. A strong, lower-friction alternative to Shenzhen for some electronics.

● Wuxi 无锡 JIANGSU

MAJOR HUB

Chips, solar & IoT

~7.5M pop ~\$210B GDP approx Top per-capita GDP in China

A quiet advanced-manufacturing powerhouse with one of the highest per-capita GDPs in China. A leading hub for semiconductor packaging and testing, photovoltaics, IoT, and biomedical devices.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Wuxi Hi-Tech Zone

SEMICONDUCTORS & IOT

Strong OSAT (packaging/test) base and a leading IoT cluster; home to major semiconductor and PV firms.

INDUSTRIES

Semiconductors (OSAT) · Photovoltaics · Internet of Things · Biomedical devices

KEY PRODUCTS

IC packaging & test · Solar cells & panels · IoT sensors · Medical devices

ANCHOR FIRMS

SK Hynix (Wuxi) · Hua Hong (regional) · PV makers

SOURCING NOTE

For solar products, IoT hardware, or high-precision medical devices, Wuxi factories tend to be high-quality with strong international-standard compliance — a good fit for European buyers.

● Changzhou 常州 JIANGSU

SPECIALIST

Machinery, PV & graphene

~5.4M pop ~\$140B GDP approx Educational equipment & new materials

A solid machinery and new-materials city — photovoltaics, graphene research and application, general machinery, and a notable educational/teaching-equipment cluster.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Wujin / Jintan zones

MACHINERY & PV

Industrial parks with machinery, solar, and battery tenants.

INDUSTRIES

Machinery · Photovoltaics · Graphene & new materials · Educational equipment

KEY PRODUCTS

Machinery & equipment · Solar components · Teaching aids & equipment

ANCHOR FIRMS

Trina Solar (regional) · Machinery makers

SOURCING NOTE

A capable mid-tier option for machinery and PV components when you want YRD quality without first-tier-city pricing.

● Nantong 南通 JIANGSU

SPECIALIST

Home textiles capital

~7.7M pop ~\$170B GDP approx World's largest home-textiles base

The global capital of home textiles — bedding, towels, curtains, and household linens — centered on the Diezhuang/Tongzhou market complex, plus shipbuilding and marine equipment.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Diezhuang / Tongzhou Home Textile City 叠石桥 / 通州家纺城

HOME-TEXTILES CAPITAL

The largest home-textiles trading and production cluster in the world; full chain from fabric to finished bedding.

INDUSTRIES

Home textiles · Apparel · Shipbuilding & marine

KEY PRODUCTS

Bedding & quilts · Towels & linens · Curtains

ANCHOR FIRMS

Home-textile SMEs · Marine/shipyards

SOURCING NOTE

For any bedding or household-linen program, Nantong is the source. Fabric weight, thread count, and finishing claims should be verified by test report, not catalog.

● Yangzhou 扬州 JIANGSU

SPECIALIST

Plush toys & toothbrushes

~4.6M pop ~\$110B GDP approx Hangji = toothbrush capital

A specialist soft-toy and daily-brush city: a major plush-toy cluster, and Hangji town — the toothbrush and hotel-amenity capital that makes a huge share of the world's brushes.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Hangji 杭集

TOOTHBRUSH & AMENITY CAPITAL

Makes a dominant share of the world's toothbrushes and hotel amenities; complete chain from bristle to packaging.

Plush-toy cluster

SOFT TOYS

Large stuffed-toy and plush base.

INDUSTRIES

Plush toys · Toothbrushes & brushes · Hotel amenities · Photovoltaics

KEY PRODUCTS

Plush & stuffed toys · Toothbrushes, brushes · Hotel-amenity kits

ANCHOR FIRMS

Toothbrush & amenity makers

SOURCING NOTE

For plush toys, mind EN 71 / small-parts safety. For oral-care and amenities, Hangji is the obvious source with deep cost competitiveness.

● Nanjing 南京 JIANGSU

SPECIALIST

Electronics, autos & chemicals

~9.5M pop ~\$240B GDP approx Provincial capital, strong R&D

A research-heavy provincial capital with electronics, petrochemicals, automotive, and a large software sector — strong on engineering talent rather than commodity manufacturing.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Jiangbei New Area

CHIPS & R&D

Designated IC and life-science development zone.

INDUSTRIES

Electronics · Petrochemicals · Automotive · Software

KEY PRODUCTS

Electronics & displays · Chemicals · Vehicles · Software

ANCHOR FIRMS

LG (regional) · Software & chemical firms

SOURCING NOTE

Better as an engineering and R&D base than a bargain-manufacturing city; useful when design capability matters more than unit cost.

● Xuzhou 徐州 JIANGSU

SPECIALIST

Construction machinery

~9.0M pop ~\$130B GDP approx Home of XCMG

China's construction-machinery heartland — home of XCMG, one of the world's largest heavy-equipment makers — with a deep supply chain for hydraulics, structural steel, and components.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

XCMG industrial base

HEAVY MACHINERY

Anchors a full construction-equipment supply chain.

INDUSTRIES

Construction machinery · Heavy equipment · Components

KEY PRODUCTS

Excavators, cranes, loaders · Hydraulics & components

ANCHOR FIRMS

XCMG

SOURCING NOTE

For construction and earth-moving equipment or their components, Xuzhou offers the deepest cluster; freight and after-sales support planning are the main challenges.

Bohai Rim 环渤海

Beijing · Tianjin · Shandong · Liaoning · 6 clusters

● Qingdao 青岛 SHANDONG

MAJOR HUB

Appliances & false eyelashes

~10.3M pop ~\$220B GDP approx Haier, Hisense — and Pingdu lashes

Home of appliance giants Haier and Hisense, a strong home-textile and rubber/tire base, and — surprisingly — the false-eyelash capital of the world in its county-city Pingdu.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Pingdu 平度

FALSE-EYELASH CAPITAL

Makes the large majority of the world's false eyelashes — a cottage industry that became a global cluster.

Haier / Hisense bases

APPLIANCES

Anchor a deep northern appliance supply chain.

INDUSTRIES

Home appliances · False eyelashes · Home textiles · Rubber & tires · Beer & food

KEY PRODUCTS

Refrigerators, washers, TVs, AC · False eyelashes · Home textiles · Tires

ANCHOR FIRMS

Haier · Hisense · Double Star (tires)

SOURCING NOTE

For beauty/lash products, Pingdu offers unmatched variety; many makers now hold vegan and cruelty-free certifications for Western markets. For appliances, Qingdao is the northern counterpart to Foshan's Shunde.

● Tianjin 天津 TIANJIN

MAJOR HUB

Heavy industry & bicycles

~13.7M pop ~\$240B GDP approx Wuqing = bicycle/e-bike town

The northern port-industrial center: aerospace, heavy machinery, petrochemicals, and a famous bicycle and e-bike cluster in Wuqing district.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Wuqing 武清

BICYCLE & E-BIKE BASE

One of China's largest bicycle and electric-bike clusters — frames, parts, and assembly.

Binhai New Area

AEROSPACE & HEAVY INDUSTRY

Aviation, equipment, and petrochemical tenants.

INDUSTRIES

Heavy machinery · Aerospace · Bicycles & e-bikes · Petrochemicals

KEY PRODUCTS

Bicycles & e-bikes · Heavy equipment · Aerospace parts · Chemicals

ANCHOR FIRMS

Airbus (final assembly) · Bicycle makers

SOURCING NOTE

For bicycles and e-mobility, the Wuqing/Tianjin cluster is a primary base alongside the Zhejiang towns; the northern port is efficient for heavy and bulk cargo.

● Weihai 威海 SHANDONG

SPECIALIST

Fishing tackle capital

~2.9M pop ~\$50B GDP approx World's fishing-rod center

A coastal city that quietly became the world's fishing-tackle capital — carbon-fiber rods and reels — plus tires and outdoor gear.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Fishing-tackle cluster

RODS & REELS

Makes a dominant share of the world's fishing rods; deep carbon-fiber composite know-how.

Triangle Tire base

TIRES

Major tire manufacturing.

INDUSTRIES

Fishing tackle · Carbon-fiber goods · Tires · Outdoor gear

KEY PRODUCTS

Fishing rods & reels · Carbon-fiber products · Tires

ANCHOR FIRMS

Fishing-tackle makers · Triangle Tire

SOURCING NOTE

For fishing tackle or carbon-fiber outdoor products, Weihai is the specialist source with material expertise you will not find elsewhere at the same depth.

● Weifang 潍坊 SHANDONG

SPECIALIST

Kites & agri-machinery

~9.4M pop ~\$110B GDP approx World kite capital

The world's kite capital and an agricultural-machinery and engine center (Weichai Power), with strong vehicle and components clusters.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Kite cluster

KITES

Hosts the international kite festival; makes a large share of the world's kites.

Weichai / machinery base

ENGINES & MACHINERY

Heavy-duty engines and agricultural equipment.

INDUSTRIES

Kites · Agricultural machinery · Engines & vehicles
· Chemicals

KEY PRODUCTS

Kites · Tractors & farm machinery · Diesel engines

ANCHOR FIRMS

Weichai Power · Kite makers

SOURCING NOTE

Niche but unbeatable for kites and seasonal outdoor goods; a serious option for engines and farm machinery.

● Linyi 临沂 SHANDONG

SPECIALIST

Commodity trade of the north

~11.0M pop ~\$90B GDP approx Northern Yiwu

The wholesale-trade hub of northern China — sometimes called the northern Yiwu — with enormous commodity markets and a logistics network that reaches across the country.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Linyi Commercial City

COMMODITY WHOLESALE

Vast trading-market complex; the northern counterpart to Yiwu, strong on building materials and hardware.

INDUSTRIES

Commodity wholesale · Logistics · Building materials · Hardware

KEY PRODUCTS

General merchandise · Building materials · Hardware & tools

ANCHOR FIRMS

Wholesale-market operators

SOURCING NOTE

For buyers serving northern China or Russia/Central Asia overland, Linyi's markets and logistics can beat Yiwu on freight; product mix skews to building materials and hardware.

● Heze (Caoxian) 菏泽 (曹县) SHANDONG

SPECIALIST

Hanfu, costumes & woodwork

~8.8M pop ~\$50B GDP approx Caoxian = hanfu & performance wear

Caoxian county turned e-commerce specialization into fame: it makes a huge share of China's hanfu and stage/performance costumes, plus woodcraft and (famously) export coffins.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Caoxian 曹县

HANFU & PERFORMANCE-WEAR CLUSTER

Built an e-commerce-native garment economy around hanfu and costumes; also a major woodcraft and coffin exporter.

INDUSTRIES

Hanfu & costumes · Performance wear · Woodcraft · E-commerce

KEY PRODUCTS

Hanfu & traditional dress · Stage & dance costumes · Wood products

ANCHOR FIRMS

Costume & woodcraft SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For traditional Chinese dress, dance, or cosplay-adjacent costume programs, Caoxian's e-commerce-native suppliers are fast and inexpensive.

West Coast of the Taiwan Strait 海峡西岸

Fujian · 6 clusters

● Quanzhou 泉州 FUJIAN

MAJOR HUB

Sports-brand capital

~8.9M pop ~\$180B GDP approx Anta, Xtep, 361°, Peak

The birthplace of China's domestic sports brands (Anta, Xtep, 361°, Peak) and the heart of its athletic footwear and apparel industry. Its towns also lead in hygiene products, casual wear, stone, and ceramics.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Jinjiang 晋江

SPORTS-GOODS & HYGIENE CAPITAL

The engine of the sports-shoe industry and home of Hengan (diapers, tissues). Performance materials, lasts, and full private-label development.

Shishi 石狮

CASUAL & FAST FASHION

Large casual-apparel cluster with its own markets.

Nan'an - Shuitou 南安水头

STONE & SANITARYWARE

A national stone-trading and building-materials base.

INDUSTRIES

Sports footwear & apparel · Hygiene products · Casual wear · Stone & building materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Athletic shoes & apparel · Diapers & sanitary products · Casual clothing · Stone & sanitary

ANCHOR FIRMS

Anta · Xtep · 361° · Peak · Hengan

SOURCING NOTE

For athletic footwear and sportswear private label, Jinjiang is the first stop — the factories understand performance materials and brand programs. For hygiene products, Hengan's ecosystem is deep.

● Jinjiang 晋江 FUJIAN

SPECIALIST

Sports shoes & hygiene

~2.1M pop ~\$50B GDP approx Sports-shoe heartland

A county-city of Quanzhou and the true heartland of the sports-shoe industry, plus China's hygiene-products giant Hengan. Listed separately because of its global weight.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Chendai / Anhai shoe belt

ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR

Dense shoe-factory and material chain; the place for performance-shoe OEM/ODM.

INDUSTRIES

Sports footwear · Sportswear · Hygiene products

KEY PRODUCTS

Athletic shoes · Sportswear · Diapers, tissues

ANCHOR FIRMS

Anta (HQ) · Hengan

SOURCING NOTE

For technical athletic footwear, Jinjiang offers the deepest material and tooling chain in China; expect higher MOQs than fashion-shoe towns.

● Putian 莆田 FUJIAN

SPECIALIST

Footwear OEM & jewelry

~3.2M pop ~\$40B GDP approx High-end shoe OEM

A footwear-OEM city with a reputation for high-quality shoe construction (and, historically, replicas), now pushing into its own brands. Also a gold-jewelry and wood-carving center.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Shoe-OEM cluster

FOOTWEAR CONSTRUCTION

Strong shoe-making skill base; legitimate factories now run own-brand and white-label programs.

Jewelry & woodcarving

GOLD / CRAFTS

Notable gold-processing and religious-woodcarving clusters.

INDUSTRIES

Footwear OEM · Gold & jewelry · Wood carving

KEY PRODUCTS

Athletic & casual shoes · Gold jewelry · Wood crafts

ANCHOR FIRMS

Footwear & jewelry SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

Putian's shoe-making craft is real; vet partners for IP integrity and insist on original designs and proper licensing to stay on the right side of brand and customs rules.

● Xiamen 厦门 FUJIAN

MAJOR HUB

Third-gen semiconductors

~5.3M pop ~\$110B GDP approx San'an, CATL base

A cross-strait gateway and a leader in third-generation (SiC/GaN) semiconductors and green tech. Home to San'an Optoelectronics, a major CATL battery base, and a dense cluster of Taiwanese-invested manufacturers.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Torch Hi-Tech Zone

SEMICONDUCTORS & LED

San'an Optoelectronics anchors a third-gen semiconductor and LED cluster.

CATL Xiamen base

BATTERIES

Advanced battery production.

INDUSTRIES

Third-gen semiconductors · New energy · Displays
· Software

KEY PRODUCTS

SiC/GaN devices · EV battery components · LED displays

ANCHOR FIRMS

San'an Optoelectronics · CATL (base)

SOURCING NOTE

For SiC/GaN devices used in EV fast-charging and 5G, Xiamen's third-gen cluster is the most advanced in China; the port is convenient for ASEAN shipping.

● Ningde 宁德 FUJIAN

MAJOR HUB

Global battery capital

~3.1M pop ~\$60B GDP approx Home of CATL

The global capital of EV-battery manufacturing — home of CATL, the world's largest battery maker — with a complete chain from raw materials to finished packs and energy-storage systems.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

CATL home base

BATTERIES & ESS

The entire battery supply chain is concentrated here, from cathode materials to finished packs.

INDUSTRIES

EV batteries · Energy storage · Battery materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Li-ion cells & packs · Energy-storage systems ·
Battery materials

ANCHOR FIRMS

CATL

SOURCING NOTE

For EV batteries, storage systems, or battery components, Ningde is effectively the only address you need — the chain density gives unmatched cost and quality, and suppliers are experienced with global EV brands.

● Dehua (Quanzhou) 德化 FUJIAN

SPECIALIST

White-porcelain capital

~0.3M pop ~\$8B GDP approx Ceramic arts & crafts

A historic porcelain town famous for fine white porcelain (blanc de Chine) and now a dominant producer of ceramic arts, crafts, and decorative tableware for export.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Ceramics cluster

CRAFT & DECORATIVE PORCELAIN

Deep tradition in fine white porcelain; strong on figurines, decor, and gift ceramics.

INDUSTRIES

Ceramics & porcelain · Crafts & decor

KEY PRODUCTS

White porcelain · Decorative ceramics · Tableware

ANCHOR FIRMS

Ceramics SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For decorative and craft ceramics, Dehua offers artistry plus export volume; plan carefully for the fragility and weight of the freight.

Central & Western China

中西部 Anhui · Hubei · Hunan · Henan · Shaanxi · Sichuan · Chongqing · Inner Mongolia · 12 clusters

● Xuchang 许昌 HENAN

SPECIALIST

Hair-products capital

~4.4M pop ~\$60B GDP approx World's wig & hair-extension center

The global capital of human-hair and synthetic hair products — wigs, extensions, and hairpieces — anchored by Rebecca and a dense surrounding chain. Nearby Juancheng (Heze) is a complementary hair town.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Hair-products cluster

WIGS & EXTENSIONS

Makes the dominant share of the world's wigs and extensions; complete chain from raw hair processing to finished units.

INDUSTRIES

Wigs & hair products · Hair extensions · Beauty

KEY PRODUCTS

Wigs · Hair extensions & weaves · Hairpieces

ANCHOR FIRMS

Rebecca Hair · Hair-product SMEs

SOURCING NOTE

For any hair-products line, Xuchang (with Juancheng) is the source. Confirm raw-material origin and labeling claims (human vs synthetic, sourcing) for Western retail compliance.

● Zhengzhou 郑州 HENAN

MAJOR HUB

iPhone City & logistics

~12.9M pop ~\$200B GDP approx Foxconn's largest iPhone campus

A central-China logistics and electronics-assembly giant — home to Foxconn's largest iPhone campus — and a major rail and air-freight hub (a key China-Europe rail node).

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Foxconn 'iPhone City'

PHONE ASSEMBLY

One of the largest electronics-assembly campuses in the world.

Air & rail freight hub

LOGISTICS

Major China-Europe rail node and cross-border e-commerce gateway.

INDUSTRIES

Electronics assembly · Logistics · Food processing
· Equipment

KEY PRODUCTS

Smartphones (assembly) · Electronics · Processed food

ANCHOR FIRMS

Foxconn · Yutong (buses)

SOURCING NOTE

Strong for large-scale assembly and for inland logistics into Europe by rail; less of a small-batch sourcing destination than the coastal hubs.

● Wuhan 武汉 HUBEI

MAJOR HUB

Optics Valley & memory chips

~13.7M pop ~\$290B GDP approx YMTC, Optics Valley

Central China's tech core, known as 'Optics Valley' for optoelectronics and optical fiber, and home to YMTC, China's leading 3D NAND flash maker. Strong in NEV (Dongfeng), biotech, and lasers, with deep university talent.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Optics Valley (East Lake) 光谷

OPTOELECTRONICS & CHIPS

The world's largest optical-fiber base and YMTC's NAND fab; lasers and displays too.

Dongfeng NEV base

VEHICLES

Major automotive and NEV cluster.

INDUSTRIES

Optoelectronics · Semiconductors (NAND) · New-energy vehicles · Lasers · Biomedicine

KEY PRODUCTS

Optical fiber & cable · Memory chips · EVs · Laser equipment

ANCHOR FIRMS

YMTC · Dongfeng · Accelelink (optics)

SOURCING NOTE

For storage chips, optical components, and lasers, Wuhan is the top domestic destination; the central location makes it a strong logistics base for distributing across China.

● Changsha 长沙 HUNAN

MAJOR HUB

Construction-machinery capital

~10.5M pop ~\$200B GDP approx Sany & Zoomlion

The engineering-machinery capital of China — home of Sany and Zoomlion, two of the world's largest construction-equipment makers — plus a strong media and culture economy.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Sany / Zoomlion bases

CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY

Anchor a complete heavy-equipment supply chain — hydraulics, structural fabrication, controls.

INDUSTRIES

Construction machinery · Heavy equipment · New materials · Media

KEY PRODUCTS

Excavators, cranes, pumps · Concrete machinery · Components

ANCHOR FIRMS

Sany · Zoomlion

SOURCING NOTE

The deepest cluster for concrete and construction machinery and their components; for OEM components, the tier-2 suppliers around Sany/Zoomlion are the place to look.

● Zhuzhou 株洲 HUNAN

SPECIALIST

Rail transit & hard alloys

~3.9M pop ~\$50B GDP approx CRRC rail + cemented carbide

China's rail-transit equipment center (CRRC) and a leading base for cemented carbide / hard-alloy cutting tools — the tungsten-carbide know-how behind a lot of precision machining.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

CRRC Zhuzhou base

RAIL EQUIPMENT

Locomotives, EMUs, traction systems.

Hard-alloy cluster

CARBIDE TOOLING

Cemented-carbide cutting tools and tungsten materials.

INDUSTRIES

Rail transit · Cemented carbide / hard alloys · Cutting tools · New materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Rail vehicles & systems · Carbide tools & inserts · Tungsten products

ANCHOR FIRMS

CRRC · Zhuzhou Cemented Carbide

SOURCING NOTE

For carbide cutting tools and tungsten products, Zhuzhou has rare material depth; for rail systems it is the national center.

● Liuyang (Changsha) 浏阳 HUNAN

SPECIALIST

Fireworks capital

~1.5M pop ~\$20B GDP approx World's fireworks center

The fireworks capital of the world — Liuyang and neighboring Liling/Wanzai make the dominant global share of fireworks and pyrotechnics.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Fireworks cluster

PYROTECHNICS

Centuries-old fireworks industry; the global center of production.

INDUSTRIES

Fireworks & pyrotechnics

KEY PRODUCTS

Consumer fireworks · Display pyrotechnics

ANCHOR FIRMS

Fireworks makers

SOURCING NOTE

Specialist and heavily regulated — fireworks are dangerous goods with strict shipping, import-licensing, and safety requirements; work only with export-licensed makers and dangerous-goods forwarders.

● Hefei 合肥 ANHUI

MAJOR HUB

China's tech-investment hub

~9.9M pop ~\$190B GDP approx CXMT, BOE, NIO

Called 'China's best venture-capital city' for its state-investment-led model. Now a top hub for memory chips (CXMT), displays (BOE's largest base), new-energy vehicles (NIO, Volkswagen-Anhui), and home appliances.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Xinzhan / IC zone

MEMORY & DISPLAYS

CXMT (DRAM) and BOE's largest display fab anchor a mature electronics chain.

NEV cluster

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

NIO headquarters and Volkswagen-Anhui; a fast-growing EV supply base.

INDUSTRIES

Semiconductors (DRAM) · Displays · New-energy vehicles · Home appliances

KEY PRODUCTS

Memory chips · LCD/OLED displays · EVs & components · Appliances

ANCHOR FIRMS

CXMT · BOE · NIO · Volkswagen-Anhui

SOURCING NOTE

For advanced memory, displays, and EV components, Hefei's government-backed chains are very mature and well-equipped — a genuine new frontier for high-tech sourcing.

● Wuhu 芜湖 ANHUI

SPECIALIST

Autos & robotics

~3.7M pop ~\$80B GDP approx Home of Chery

An automotive and robotics city anchored by Chery, with growing industrial-robot, appliance, and new-materials clusters.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Chery base

AUTOMOTIVE

Anchors a vehicle and components chain.

Robotics cluster

INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS

Growing robot and automation tenants.

INDUSTRIES

Automotive · Industrial robots · Appliances · New materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Vehicles & components · Industrial robots · Appliances

ANCHOR FIRMS

Chery · Robotics firms

SOURCING NOTE

A capable, lower-cost inland option for automotive components and automation hardware.

● Chongqing 重庆 CHONGQING

MAJOR HUB

Laptops, motorcycles & NEV

~32M (municipality) pop ~\$430B GDP approx ~1/3 of the world's laptops

A western megacity that became a laptop-manufacturing giant (a large share of the world's notebooks), a historic motorcycle base, and now a fast-growing NEV center (Changan, Seres/AITO with Huawei).

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Xiyong / laptop base

NOTEBOOK PCS

Quanta, Inventec, and brand programs assemble a very large share of the world's laptops here.

NEV cluster

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Changan and Seres/AITO anchor a growing EV and components chain.

INDUSTRIES

Laptops & electronics · New-energy vehicles · Motorcycles · Auto parts

KEY PRODUCTS

Notebook PCs · EVs & components · Motorcycles & engines

ANCHOR FIRMS

Changan · Seres/AITO · Quanta/Inventec (laptops)

SOURCING NOTE

For laptop-class electronics and NEV components at inland cost, Chongqing is strong; China-Europe rail from the region gives a freight edge to EU buyers.

● Chengdu 成都 SICHUAN

MAJOR HUB

Electronics & software

~21.4M pop ~\$300B GDP approx Foxconn iPad/electronics base

A western electronics and software hub — Foxconn iPad assembly, IC packaging, and a large games/software sector — with strong talent and improving China-Europe rail logistics.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Hi-Tech Zone (West)

ELECTRONICS & CHIPS

Foxconn, IC packaging, and a deep software/games cluster.

INDUSTRIES

Electronics assembly · Semiconductors (packaging)
· Software & games · Aerospace

KEY PRODUCTS

Tablets & electronics · IC packaging · Software

ANCHOR FIRMS

Foxconn (Chengdu) · Software & game studios

SOURCING NOTE

Good for electronics assembly and software/firmware partners inland; rail to Europe is a logistics plus.

● Xi'an 西安 SHAANXI

MAJOR HUB

Hard-tech & solar

~13.2M pop ~\$170B GDP approx Longi, Samsung NAND, China-Europe rail

Western China's hard-tech capital — aerospace, semiconductors (Samsung's largest overseas NAND fab), and solar (Longi, the world's largest solar maker) — and the starting point of the China-Europe Railway.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Hi-Tech Zone

CHIPS & SOLAR

Samsung NAND fab and Longi's solar base anchor mature chip and PV chains; labor costs below the coast.

Aerospace base

AVIATION & SPACE

A leading aerospace-manufacturing center for China's programs.

INDUSTRIES

Aerospace · Semiconductors · Photovoltaics · New energy

KEY PRODUCTS

Aerospace components · Power semiconductors · Solar panels · Wind equipment

ANCHOR FIRMS

Longi Green Energy · Samsung (NAND)

SOURCING NOTE

Ideal for European buyers: the China-Europe Railway from Xi'an reaches the EU in roughly two to three weeks, faster than sea. Solar and semiconductor chains are mature, with lower inland labor costs.

Rare-earth capital

~2.7M pop ~\$60B GDP approx World's largest rare-earth base

The rare-earth capital of the world — the Bayan Obo deposit makes Baotou the center of rare-earth mining and processing — plus a large iron-and-steel base.

MARKETS & DISTRICTS

Rare-earth zone

RARE-EARTH PROCESSING

Mining, separation, and magnet-material production at a scale found nowhere else.

INDUSTRIES

Rare earths · Steel · Magnets & materials

KEY PRODUCTS

Rare-earth materials & magnets · Steel · New materials

ANCHOR FIRMS

China Northern Rare Earth · Baosteel (Baotou)

SOURCING NOTE

For rare-earth materials and permanent magnets, Baotou is the upstream source; export of certain rare-earth items is subject to Chinese control regulations, so check current licensing rules.

04 One-product towns

Single towns that supply much of the world's stock of one thing.

LIGHTING & LED

Guzhen

古镇 · Zhongshan

Global center of decorative and LED lighting; complete chain from drivers to fixtures.

TOYS

Chenghai

澄海 · Shantou

One of the world's true toy capitals — plastic toys, RC, educational toys.

SOCKS

Datang

大唐 · Zhuji

Billions of pairs a year; a whole-town sock economy.

NECKTIES

Shengzhou

嵊州 · Shaoxing

Makes the majority of China's neckties and a huge share of the world's.

BUTTONS & ZIPPERS

Qiaotou

桥头 · Wenzhou (Yongjia)

The 'button capital' — extraordinary concentration of buttons and trims.

LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICALS

Liushi

柳市 · Wenzhou (Yueqing)

National center for breakers, contactors, and industrial controls.

TOOTHBRUSHES & AMENITIES

Hangji

杭集 · Yangzhou

A dominant share of the world's toothbrushes and hotel amenities.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

Zhili

织里 · Huzhou

One of the largest kids'-wear clusters anywhere.

FRESHWATER PEARLS

Shanxiahu

山下湖 · Zhuji

The global hub for freshwater-pearl farming, grading, and trade.

WIRE MESH

Anping

安平 · Hengshui (Hebei)

The world center of wire mesh and woven-wire products.

LUGGAGE & BAGS

Baigou

白沟 · Baoding (Hebei)

A vast luggage and bag manufacturing and trading town.

CASHMERE

Qinghe

清河 · Xingtai (Hebei)

China's cashmere capital — raw and processed cashmere trade.

FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Wuyi

武义 · Jinhua

Makes a large share of the world's gym and home fitness gear.

UMBRELLAS

Songxia / Shangyu

嵛厦 · Shaoxing

A leading umbrella-manufacturing town.

LINGERIE & UNDERWEAR

Gurao

谷饶 · Shantou

One of the world's largest bra and underwear clusters.

HANFU & COSTUMES

Caoxian

曹县 · Heze

E-commerce-native cluster for traditional dress, costumes, and woodcraft.

FALSE EYELASHES

Pingdu

平度 · Qingdao

Makes the majority of the world's false eyelashes.

WOOL SWEATERS

Dadun / Dongguan

大朗 · Dongguan

Dalang knitwear — one of the largest sweater towns on earth.

Shipping modes

MODE	TRANSIT	COST	BEST FOR
Sea (FCL)	25-40 days	Lowest	Large orders, heavy or bulk cargo
Sea (LCL)	30-45 days	Low	Smaller orders, less than container load
Air freight	5-10 days	High	Urgent, lightweight, high-value items
Rail to EU	15-25 days	Medium	EU-bound, balanced speed and cost
Rail to ASEAN	7-12 days	Medium	Southeast-Asia-bound cargo
Express courier	3-7 days	Highest	Samples, small packages, documents
Ro-Ro	25-35 days	Medium	Vehicles, heavy equipment, NEV exports

Major export ports

PORT	REGION	BEST FOR
Shenzhen / Yantian	Guangdong	Electronics, general cargo, cross-border e-commerce
Ningbo-Zhoushan	Zhejiang	Heavy goods, auto parts, NEV exports (Ro-Ro)
Shanghai	Shanghai	All cargo, high-value & refrigerated goods
Guangzhou / Nansha	Guangdong	General cargo, small commodities, furniture
Qingdao	Shandong	Northern exports, appliances, bulk cargo
Tianjin	Tianjin	Northern China, heavy machinery, aerospace
Xiamen	Fujian	Southeast-Asia routes, electronics

Incoterms, plainly

TERM	NAME	WHO CARRIES THE RISK
EXW	Ex Works	Buyer handles everything from the factory door. Maximum control; you arrange all transport and export.
FOB	Free On Board	Seller delivers to port; buyer handles shipping. The default for most buyers — control over freight and carrier choice.
CIF	Cost, Insurance, Freight	Seller ships to destination port. Convenient for smaller orders when you don't want to manage freight.
DDP	Delivered Duty Paid	Seller delivers to your door, duties included. Easiest for cross-border e-commerce and small buyers; watch for hidden margin.

Finding suppliers

- Identify the right city (and town) for your category before you shortlist suppliers.
- Use B2B platforms (Alibaba, Made-in-China, Global Sources) and 1688 for domestic depth.
- Visit the category trade show and the relevant wholesale market in person.
- Get referrals; a warm introduction outperforms a cold inquiry.
- Use remote factory tours and live-stream sourcing to pre-screen before traveling.

Building resilience

- Diversify: keep a qualified backup supplier in a second town or region.
- Map the full chain — your supplier's suppliers are where hidden bottlenecks live.
- Hold 2-4 weeks of safety stock on critical components.
- For some lines, pair China sourcing with regional/near-shore assembly to balance cost and risk.

Quality control

BEFORE PRODUCTION

Approve samples, lock specs in writing, agree AQL standards, confirm certifications and ESG.

DURING PRODUCTION

Run in-line and mid-production inspections; monitor the timeline; resolve issues early.

BEFORE SHIPMENT

Final random inspection, check packaging and drop-test, verify quantities and documents.

ESG & EU compliance

- Look for ISO 14001 (environmental) and SA8000 (social) certifications.
- Ask for recent third-party audit reports, not just certificates.
- Factories in advanced hubs (Suzhou, Wuxi, parts of Dongguan) more often have these ready.
- For the EU, verify product-level compliance early: CE/UKCA, RoHS, REACH, GPSR, and category rules (EN 71 for toys, RED for radio).

Negotiation

- Always get 3-5 quotes minimum and compare on landed cost, not unit price.
- Understand the true cost structure, including raw-material and tooling costs.
- Negotiate on total value — payment terms, MOQ, lead time, QC — not just price.
- Build long-term relationships; loyal customers get better terms and priority.
- Be willing to walk away, and put every spec and date in writing.

Survival phrases

Hello	你好	Nǐ hǎo	Thank you	谢谢	Xièxiè
How much?	多少钱?	Duōshǎo qián?	Too expensive	太贵了	Tài guì le
Can it be cheaper?	能便宜点吗?	Néng piányi diǎn ma?	Sample	样品	Yàngpǐn
Factory	工厂	Gōngchǎng	Quality	质量	Zhìliàng

Minimum order quantity	最小起订量	Zuìxiǎo qǐdìng liàng	Delivery time	交货时间	Jiāohuò shíjiān
Mold / tooling	模具	Mújù	Certification	认证	Rènzhèng
Goodbye	再见	Zài jiàn			

Glossary

FOB

Free On Board — seller delivers to the port of departure; buyer arranges and pays for the sea freight onward.

MOQ

Minimum Order Quantity — the smallest run a supplier will accept, often negotiable on repeat business.

OEM / ODM

OEM builds to your design; ODM offers an existing design you can rebrand and tweak.

AQL

Acceptable Quality Limit — the sampling standard used in pre-shipment inspections to accept or reject a lot.

EMS / OSAT

EMS = electronics contract manufacturing (box build). OSAT = outsourced chip packaging and test.

Gongban

A shared public reference design / 'public board' — a ready-made hardware base that suppliers iterate on, especially in Shenzhen.

GPSR

EU General Product Safety Regulation — broad safety and traceability obligations for products sold in the EU.

CHINA INDUSTRY ATLAS · 2026 edition · An open, unbranded reference.

Figures are approximate; the durable value is the specialization map. Verify supplier-specific claims, certifications, and current export-control and import rules independently before committing.