

Ticket

1. Buying a Ticket Online

- **Choose a reliable platform:**
 - Official 12306 app or website (www.12306.cn) — but it's complicated because it requires real-name registration and a Chinese phone number.
 - Easier alternatives:
 - Trip.com (English interface)
 - China Highlights, Ctrip, or other travel agency sites that help foreigners.
 - **Input correct passport information:**
 - Full name (must match your passport exactly).
 - Passport number (instead of Chinese ID number).
 - Sometimes you will need to upload a passport photo for verification.
 - **Payment:**
 - Use international credit cards (Visa/Mastercard) if using platforms like Trip.com.
 - 12306 sometimes does not accept foreign cards — using Alipay or WeChat Pay (linked with a card) works better if you have them set up.
 - **Receive confirmation:**
 - After payment, you'll receive an **order confirmation** with details:
 - Train number
 - Departure time
 - Carriage and seat number
 - Your booking reference/order number
-

2. Preparing for Travel

- **Prepare these before you go to the station:**
 - Your **passport** (physical copy, not just a photo).
 - **Booking reference** (screenshot or printout is better).
 - Make sure the passport you bring is the same one used to book the ticket.
-

3. At the Station: Getting Your Ticket

- **If you have an electronic ticket** (most major routes):
 - You **do not need** a paper ticket.
 - Go straight to security check and ticket gate.
 - **Show your passport** at the manual check counter (not the automatic gate).
 - Staff will scan your passport and let you through.
 - **If you need a physical paper ticket** (some routes or if station requires it):
 - Go to the **Ticket Office** (售票处) — look for signs.
 - Queue up at the **manual counter** (人工窗口).
 - Tell the staff you need to "取票" (qǔ piào = pick up ticket).
 - Hand over your **passport** and booking reference.
 - Staff will print out your ticket for you.
-

4. Boarding the Train

- **After getting ticket (or using passport directly):**
 - Pass through security check (baggage scanner).
 - Proceed to the waiting area.
 - When your train is ready for boarding, follow signs to your gate (检票口).
 - Show your passport (or ticket + passport) at boarding.
-

Summary Quick Checklist:

Step	What you need to do
Book ticket	Use Trip.com or similar; input passport info carefully
Before station	Bring passport + booking confirmation
At station	1. If electronic ticket: go to manual gate with passport 2. If need physical ticket: go to ticket office with passport
Boarding	Show passport (and ticket if needed)

Would you also like me to prepare a simple printable **passport phrase card** in Chinese you can show at the station to make pickup faster? (Example: "Hello, I have booked a ticket online. Here is my passport. I need to pick up the ticket.") — it can really save you stress if the staff don't speak English!

Of course! Here's a **simple printable phrase card** you can show to station staff when picking up your train ticket in China:

[English]

Hello, I have booked a train ticket online.

Here is my passport.

I would like to pick up my ticket.

Thank you!

[Simplified Chinese]

您好，我在网上预订了高铁票。

这是我的护照。

我想取票。

谢谢！

[Pinyin (pronunciation guide)]

Nín hǎo, wǒ zài wǎngshàng yùdìng le gāotiě piào.

Zhè shì wǒ de hùzhào.

Wǒ xiǎng qǔ piào.

Xièxiè!

You can **screenshot this** or **print it on a small card** and just show it to staff.

If you want, I can also create a nice printable PDF version for you — would you like that too? ✨

Travel Guide: From Beijing Airport to Shijiazhuang (for Beginners)

1. Arrival at Beijing Capital International Airport (PEK)

- **After landing:**
 1. Go through **Immigration Control** (passport check).
 2. Pick up your **luggage** at the **Baggage Claim** area.
 3. Pass through **Customs Inspection**.
 - **Before leaving the airport:**
 - **Money:** Exchange a small amount of **cash (Chinese RMB)**.
 - **Phone/Internet:** You can buy a **Chinese SIM card** or use roaming.
 - **Language Tip:**

Very few airport workers speak fluent English. If you need help, **show written Chinese phrases**.
-

2. From Beijing Capital Airport to Beijing West Railway Station (北京西站)

- **Goal:** You must reach **Beijing West Railway Station** to catch your bullet train to Shijiazhuang.

Best options:

Method	Details	Time	Cost
Taxi	Most convenient. Get an official taxi from the taxi line.	1–1.5 hours	120–160 RMB
	Show: "去北京西站，谢谢!"		
Private Car	Book online via apps like Trip.com (in English).	1–1.5 hours	150–200 RMB
Airport Shuttle	Cheaper, but slower and harder to use for non-Chinese	1.5–2 hours	~30 RMB

Method	Details	Time	Cost
Bus	speakers.	hours	

✓ **Advice:** For first-time travelers with luggage, **take a taxi**.

3. At Beijing West Railway Station

- **Entering Station:**
 - First, go through a **security check** (bags scanned, passport checked).
 - **Collect Your Train Ticket:**
 - Go to the **Ticket Office (售票处)**.
 - Show your **passport** and **booking confirmation** to staff.
 - Say: "我要取票" (wǒ yào qǔ piào = I want to pick up my ticket).
 - **Finding Your Train:**
 - Look at the **big electronic boards** showing train numbers.
 - Find your train number (example: GXXX).
 - Follow signs to the correct **waiting area**.
 - **Boarding:**
 - Boarding usually starts **15–20 minutes before departure**.
 - Line up when your train number is called.
-

4. Bullet Train Journey to Shijiazhuang

- **Train Type:** High-speed trains (G-series, D-series).
 - **Travel Time:** Around **1 hour** to **1 hour 20 minutes**.
 - **On Board:**
 - Very clean and modern.
 - Comfortable seating (reserved seat).
 - Toilets, snack carts, and power outlets available.
 - **Tip:**

Keep your **passport** and **train ticket** with you. You might be asked to show them during the trip.
-

5. Arrival at Shijiazhuang Railway Station

- **After getting off the train:**
 - Follow the signs for **Exit (出站口)**.
 - Go through a short security check again (passport sometimes checked).
 - **Transportation from the station:**
 - **Taxi:** Official taxis available outside.
 - Show your hotel address written in **Chinese characters**.
 - Fare in city: usually around **20–40 RMB** for short trips.
 - **Pickup:** If someone is meeting you, wait just outside the Exit.
-

Simple Summary Checklist

Step	Action
1	Land at Beijing Capital Airport
2	Take a taxi to Beijing West Railway Station
3	Pick up train ticket using passport
4	Pass security and wait for your train
5	Take bullet train to Shijiazhuang
6	Exit station and take taxi or meet your pickup

Helpful Phrases in Chinese

English	Chinese (Simplified)	Pinyin
Beijing West Railway Station	北京西站	Běijīng Xīzhàn
I want to pick up my ticket.	我要取票	Wǒ yào qǔ piào
Please take me to this address.	请带我去这个地址	Qǐng dài wǒ qù zhège dìzhǐ
Thank you!	谢谢!	Xièxiè!

Final Tips

- **Plan extra time:** Airports and train stations in China are very busy. Arrive early to avoid stress.
- **Stay connected:** A Chinese SIM card helps you use translation apps like Google Translate or Baidu Translate.
- **Be patient:** Most Chinese people are friendly but may not speak English. Showing written Chinese really helps!