China Cultural Celebrities’ Manuscript Library
Resource: Part of cultural celebrities’ manuscripts
Opening Hours: 13:00~16:30, Tuesday & Friday

Meeting Room
Resource: Audio and video collections
Opening Hours: Appointments Needed

Audio-Visual Rooms I (for individual use)
Resource: Videos of Shanghai Library Lectures
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Tuesday~Sunday

Audio-Visual Room II
Resource: Films (updated every month)
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Tuesday~Sunday

Music Resources Reading Room
Resource: The latest music scores, reference books and CD
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Tuesday~Saturday

Music Appreciation Room
Resource: Audio and video collections
Opening Hours: Appointments Needed

Friendship Library
Resource: Donated foreign books and audio/video materials
Opening Hours: Loan—13:30~16:30, Monday
9:00~16:30, Tuesday~Sunday
Reading—9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

The United Nations Depository Reading Area
Resource: Chinese and English publications of main organs of UN
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

Foreign Books & Proceedings Reading Room
Resource: Foreign books and proceedings within 4 years
Opening Hours: Loan—13:30~16:30, Monday
9:00~16:30, Tuesday~Sunday
Reading—9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

Reading Area for Newspapers and Periodicals in Foreign Languages
Resource: Newspapers and periodicals in foreign languages (newspaper within 3 months; periodicals within 2 years)
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

Arts, Design Product Catalogs, Japanese and Russian Collections Reading Room
Resource: Foreign books on arts, design and Japanese & Russian books
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

EXPO Information Reading Room
Resource: Documents and digital resources on World Expo
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Monday~Sunday

The Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei
Resource: Foreign documents published before 1949
Opening Hours: 9:00~17:00, Monday~Saturday

Opening Hours during National Holidays: 9:00~16:00
Introduction

Shanghai Library is a comprehensive public and research library. In October of 1995, it merged with Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of Shanghai and thus took the lead in integrating public library services with SciTech and industry information research function.

There are 33 reading rooms, 20 individual carrels, 2 exhibition halls, 4 lecture rooms, 1 multi-functional hall, 1 auditorium and several music-appreciation rooms in the library. The advanced integrated management software governs the main services, ranging from acquisition, cataloging to circulation and book searching while a cybernotated book-carrier system allows the delivery of closed stack resources from the 6th–23rd floors to readers at the counter on the 1st floor within 30 minutes.

The library features 50,95 million books, newspapers, periodicals and patents. The 3.7 million volumes of historical documents, in particular, constitute the special treasures of the library, including over 160 thousand items in Sheng Xuanhuai Archives and 18 thousand titles of genealogical files (342 family names), the richest of its kind in China. With the purpose of meeting the rapidly increasing demand of readers and social development, the library is paying relentless efforts to innovate its services, as a result of which, over ten projects were conducted of great social influence such as the "One—Card—Through" System, Shanghai Information Service Platform, Shanghai Library Lectures, Short Message Service, Window of Shanghai, Collaborative Online Reference Service, and National Indexes to Chinese Newspapers and Periodicals.

The library opens everyday throughout the year to people from all walks of life. Since 1996 when the new building was officially put into use, over 900 thousand cards have been issued to the public. Recent publications are displayed on open shelves to provide maximum convenience for readers. At the end of 2006, a self-service reading room was added to enable self-issue/return.

Basic Information

Network Room
Resource: Network databases and internet
Opening Hours: 9:00–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Self-Service Reading Room
Resource: New arrivals, recent periodicals and newspapers
Opening Hours: 15:00–21:30, Monday–Sunday

Chinese Documents Circulation Room
Resource: Books (published within five years) and current periodicals
Opening Hours: 13:30–20:30, Monday
8:30–20:30, Tuesday–Sunday

General Reading Room
Resource: Newspapers (Chinese newspaper: 2 years ago; foreign newspaper: 3 months ago), journals (2 years ago), books (Chinese books: 1975 to present; foreign books: 5 years ago), Braille books, patents, standards, reports and conference proceedings
Opening Hours: 9:00–16:30, Monday–Sunday (reference reading)
13:30–16:30, Monday (reference lending)
9:00–16:30, Tuesday–Sunday (reference lending)

Multimedia Newspapers Reading Room
Resource: Chinese newspapers published at home within 2 years, electric newspaper, TV news and yellow page
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday (E—paper:8:30–17:00)

Modern Document Reading Room
Resource: Modern Chinese books, newspaper and periodicals
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Saturday

Shanghai Local Collection Reading Room
Resource: Books, yearbooks, maps, encyclopedia and literary works on Shanghai
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Saturday

Chinese Ancient Books Reading Room
Resource: Ancient books (including their reprints)
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Saturday

Genealogy Reading Room
Resource: Genealogy
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Saturday

Rare Books Reading Room
Resource: Rare books and their full-text discs
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Saturday

Chinese Social Science Books Reading Room
Resource: Books on social science (and a special collection for female readers)
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Chinese Social Science Periodicals Reading Room
Resource: Periodicals on social science (published within 2 years)
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Economics and Law Reading Room
Resource: Books on economics and law, as well as some government communique materials and materials for qualification examinations
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Sports & Tourism Reading Room
Resource: Books on sports and tourism, periodicals (within 2 years), and Chinese maps
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Chinese Science & Technology Books Reading Room
Resource: Chinese science and technology books (within 5 years)
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Chinese Science & Technology Periodicals Reading Room
Resource: Chinese science and technology periodicals (within 2 years)
Opening Hours: 8:30–20:30, Monday–Sunday

Reference Books Reading Room
Resource: Yearbooks, encyclopedia, dictionaries, name lists, university brochures and maps
Opening Hours: 9:00–17:00, Monday–Sunday

Books Promotion Hall
Resource: The latest books (for exhibition only)
Opening Hours: 8:30–17:00, Monday–Sunday

Patents, Standards & Technical Reports Reading Room
Resource: Patents, standards, technical reports and indexes (over 10 years ago)
Opening Hours: 9:00–17:00, Monday–Sunday