

AN INTRODUCTION TO CHANGZHI CITY

PROFILE

Changzhi, located in the southeast of Shanxi province, has a total area of 13900 square kilometers. It has jurisdiction over 4 districts, 8 counties and 1 state-level high-tech development zone, and has a population of 3,180,000 with an urbanization rate of 56.47%.

As the second economy in Shanxi, Changzhi is rising rapidly and vigorously in Central China thanks to its long history, cumulative talent, rich natural resources and fantastic ecologic environment .

ADVANTAGEOUS GEOGRAPHIC POSITION

Changzhi neighbors Hebei and Henan provinces on the east and Linfen city on the west. On the south is Jincheng city and on the north Jinzhong city. It is the convergence point of Bohai Economic

Circle, Central China Economic Zone and Longhai Economic Belt.

AGREEABLE CLIMATE

Lying between NL 36° and 37°, Changzhi is in the Golden Living Belt on Earth. The semi-humid continental monsoon climate make the city neither fiercely freezing in winter nor extremely scorching in summer. The average elevation is 1,000 meters and there are 205 days in a year free of frost. It has an annual rainfall of 609 mm and enjoys a yearly average air temperature of 10.5°C. More than 30 percent of territory is covered with green. All these features have Changzhi bear comparison with Chengde, a summer resort ever for Chinese royal families. It has a nickname of “City Without Fans”.

On its east is 40-square-kilometer Laodingshan forest park and on its west are 27-square-kilometer Zhangze Lake and a 10-square-kilometer wetland. Around the city, five tree belts protect it from

sand storms from the north. Rivers wind their ways across the urban district, becoming part of scenery. The city has been labeled as good across North China in aspect of air quality.

SPLENDID CULTURE

As a cradle of Chinese civilization, Changzhi is called a Home to Chinese Folktales. It's said that many legends or fairy tales happened here, such as a bird named Jinwei filling a sea with pebbles, Niuwa, a goddess mending the sky with a stone, Houyi shooting the extra nine suns off and an old man Yugong removing a mountain away from in front of his home. As early as ancient ages, Yangdi, a Chinese ancestor, tried all kinds of wild plants to sort out the edible ones so that people began settling down in one place and changed their lifestyle from nomadism to farming. The Chinese agriculture is therefrom started. Changzhi enjoys a history of more than 2,300 years. In Ming dynasty, the name of Changzhi was started, implying a hope for a long ruling and security.

Sixty-six relic sites have been listed to be of nation-level, such as Longmen and Faxing temples. There are also 16 pieces of nation-level intangible cultural heritage under protection. It therefore has another name of “a museum of ancient culture and architecture”.

ABUNDANT TOURISM RESOURCES

A series of natural scenery feature Karst and Danxia landforms, like Taihang Mountain Gorges, Tongtian Gorge, Taihang Water Villages, Taihang Dragon Cave, Tianji Mountain and Shenlongwan Valley etc. Nine scenic spots are of grade AAAA and one grade AAAAA. Taihang Mountain Gorge is listed as one of the Top Ten in China. Pingshun Huaye Rafting and Tianjishan Waterfall are both entitled the first in North China. Lingkongshan Jiugan pine has the name of King of Chinese Pine, which is in the records of Shanghai Guinness World Records. The subalpine meadow is the biggest in North China, covering an area of over 200,000 Chinese mu.

The intelligent and diligent ancestors of Changzhi, left a great legacy. More than 3,000 ancient buildings of all kinds were erected successively from Tang to Qing Dynasties, many of which are nationwide unique.

Changzhi is a holy land for Chinese revolution as well. There are 700 revolutionary sites to commemorate the renowned elite of Chinese revolution, such as Zhu De and Deng Xiaoping. In addition, there's a village named Xigou, where a famed feminist Shen Jilan, a congresswoman from the 1st till the 13th NPC of China, has ever been living and working.

CONVENIENT TRAFFIC

The convenient traffic network of highway, railway and airway bolsters the implementation of China's BRI program in Changzhi, and fuels the exchange with the coastal areas and foreign countries and regions.

Highways: The five expressways connect Changzhi with cities like Taiyuan, Handan, Jincheng,

Anyang and Linfen. The national 208 and 309 highways cross the city territory and the pitch roads stretch to every village. The city highway network integrates itself into the national one, reaching as far as the country borders.

Railways: Taiyuan-Jiaozuo and Handan-Changzhi railways are the arteries for Changzhi to go outside in all directions. The projects are underway, including the construction of Shanxi Southeast Great Railways, the capacity expansion of Handan-Changzhi and Handan-Jinan railways. Through the city from north to south is the bullet train railway from Taiyuan to Zhenzhou, which connects the nationwide high-speed railway network. A direct train runs every day between Changzhi and Beijing.

Airways: Changzhi airport is an important one in Shanxi, and there are 20 air lines between Changzhi and Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Kunming, Chongqing, Guangzhou, Wuhan, Xiamen, Guiyang, Guilin, Dalian, Lanzhou, Yantai and Taiyuan etc.

DEVELOPED INFRASTRUCTURE

The city is changing constantly. The infrastructure has been greatly developed with aspects of water, electricity, gas, heat, telecommunication and optical cable etc. The IT industry has accelerated vigorously and now is in full swing. All sorts of social causes has made great strides, such as college and vocational education, medical services, public culture, financing, commerce, logistics among others. The city level and capacity has been continuously stepped up.

Traffic: The city is surrounded by three ring roads, and eight north-south streets and twelve east-west avenues stretch like a net. It's only a no-more-than-15-minute drive by the high-speed passage from the CBD to each neighboring district or county town.

Electricity: Located in Changzhi is a 1000KV AC pilot project to supply electricity from Changzhi to Jingmen via Nanyang, which, as an essential national power supply route from the North to the South, supplies the highest-voltage power, has the strongest supply capacity, and applies the most advanced technology currently in the world. There are 21 electricity plants in operation.

Water: Compared with other parts of North China, Changzhi is relatively rich in water resources. The

total water resource accounts for 15.4% of Shanxi's total and the per capita volume amounts to 611 cubic meters. All the reservoirs contain 229 million cubic meters. The tap water is accessible for every inhabitant.

Utility: The public facilities in both the city and the county towns is developed, for commerce, living, hospitality etc. The territorial green coverage is 46.23 %, with the green area making up 41.48% of the whole urban district. The per capita green area of the park hit 10.04 square meters. The green characterizes the city.

Sci-tech: In 2020, there are 3,613 petitions for patent, of which 2,291 ones were granted as patents. 464 technical contracts have been signed and filed, involving a total contractual value of 2.10 billion yuan.

Education: At the end of 2020, the city has 6 general institutes of higher education, 38 secondary vocational schools, 51 general senior middle schools, 155 junior middle schools and 493 elementary schools.

Culture: At the end of 2020, the city owns 128 art troupes, 13 cultural halls and 18 museums. There are 2.3m books of all sorts in 13 public libraries.

Health: At the end of 2020, there are 4,411 medical organizations, in which 19,610 hospital beds are offered and 23,610 medical staff serve.

SOLID INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATION

Changzhi has rich natural resources, which lay a solid foundation for industrial development. The proved mineral resources are of more than 40 sorts, consisting of coal, iron, manganese, aluminium, sulfur and gypsum, over 20 of which have exploitation value. The coal is apparently fundamental to the city, whose geological and proved reserves are 90.6 and 29.4 billion tons respectively.

Thanks to the abundant resources, a complete industrial system has been formed, with coal, coke, metallurgy, power, chemistry, machinery, medicine, new energy and materials as the pillars.

With titanic enterprises, like Lu'an, Lubao and Xiangkuang, initiating big projects in industrial parks,

the construction of modern coal chemical businesses are pushed ahead in Luzhou, Lucheng, Xingyuan and Tunliu, in order to extend the industrial chains from coal to coke, gas, power and liquid, and further facilitate clean and efficient utilization of coal with aim of sustainable development.

The equipment manufacture industry is increasingly integrated with digital technologies, covering auto and auto parts cluster headed by Victory and Zhongde, LED cluster led by Gaoke and Lu'an Sunray, Photovoltaic parts cluster centered by Lu'an Solar, and machinery and equipment cluster respectively held by Huaihai, Qinghua, Lu'an Huayi and Orient etc.

Depending on the comparative advantages with regards of Chinese traditional medicine and biomedicine, the interactive development is encouraged among the firms of raw materials, production, packaging, auxiliary processing and distribution so as to forge modern Chinese tradition medicine and biomedicine industrial cluster.

The sector of new materials is composed of lithium cell, mineral fiber, NdFeB permanent magnet, Mg-Al alloy, high-performance oriented silicon steel and new-type building materials etc. The new

energy focuses on coal bed gas, wind power, hydropower, biomass energy among other things. Nationwide famous are Qinzhou millet, Luzhou fiber crop, Shangdang ginseng, walnut, Chinese prickly ash etc. 205 products from 77 enterprises are labeled as pollution-free, green or organic agricultural goods. Six counties (Zhangzi, Pingshun, Tunliu, Licheng, Huguan and Qinxian) are granted the title of Home to Special Produce. Depending on strong local characteristics, a batch of flagship agribusinesses, Qinzhouhuang, Zituan, Linsheng Fruits and Baiheyuan, are growing up rapidly, dealing with Qinzhou millet, green vegetables, local traditional Chinese herbs, walnut, meat donkey and mutton etc. And more and more food processing companies are being established.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

Changzhi has been successively awarded the honorable nation-level titles of a civilized city, a park city, a hygienic city, a forest city, one of China's ten charming cities, a city with advanced security, an art city, a green city, a popular tourism city, a modern agriculture area, a public culture

demonstration city, a smart-city pilot, a technologically advanced city, a sustainable-development pilot area and a model city for community construction.

CLOSE RELATIONS WITH OUTSIDE WORLD

Changzhi has been outperforming in opening to outside world, and become twin cities successively with Reading (USA), Marl (Germany), Briey (France) and Upper Hutt (New Zealand) Gwangju (S.Korea). Changzhi has also established very close trade and economic relations with 26 countries and regions, in particular Morioka (Japan), Kuki (Japan), Volgadonsk (Russia), Pendle (UK) and Saint die (France).

Extensive foreign economic cooperation and exchange stokes greatly the overall growth of Changzhi economic society.

