

## Hangzhou Public Library



Hangzhou Public Library, founded in 1958, is a non-profit institution established by the Hangzhou Government. As a comprehensive public library, Hangzhou Public Library aims to provide all citizens with widespread and equitable services, in accordance with its principle: equal, free, no-barrier. Hangzhou Public Library is located in Building J, the Citizen Center in Qianjiang CBD, with a building area of 43,000 m<sup>2</sup> in total. The library building provides 2,300 reading seats, with more than 4,000,000 book collection. At present, the number of full-time staff has reached 158, among which 22 have earned Masters' degree, 2 holding doctoral degree. Hangzhou Public Library is equipped with first-class automatic system.

Besides providing adequate terminals for information inquiry, the library is well covered with Wi-Fi, which has also adopted Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for circulation management, realizing the automatic borrow-and-return.

Hangzhou Public Library has actively explored and practiced the system of "Central Library – Main & Branch Libraries". At present, a new library system has been established that Hangzhou Public Library operates as the centre library, Hangzhou Children's library and 11 district or county public libraries, as well as some other professional branches as the branch libraries. Hangzhou Public Library has become a combination of public libraries' technology centre, cataloging centre, and professional guidance centre.

With first-class facilities and advanced equipments, Hangzhou Public Library provides various forms of cultural activities, to create a complimentary platform of diverse artistic forms and a great many cultural activities for the public to participate and enjoy. In the popularization of culture and art, Hangzhou Public Library advocates the social respect for reading, and help to promote "reading as a lifestyle" to the public. Hangzhou Public Library set the goal to be the city's classroom, citizen's lifelong education centre, historical memory centre, citizen's cultural and leisure centre, as well as public information service centre.

