

March 4, 1996

Approval given to begin construction work on the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum.

December 18, 1998

Construction work on the museum begins.

April 2001

The museum's construction is nearly finished.

October 21, 2001

The 9th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting is held at the museum.

December 18, 2001

Phase 1 exhibition opens to the public.

May 14, 2005

Phase 2 of the exhibition opens to the public.

March 18, 2010

The museum becomes the first 5A national tourist attraction of its kind in China.

2013

TEA/AECOM 2013 Theme and Museum Index ranked the museum as one of the top 20 museums worldwide for the first time.

March 31, 2023

The last day of operation before it shuts down for the most extensive renovations and upgrades in its history.

2025

The museum will reopen with a new look.

reputable industry report on international attractions, has listed it as one of the top 20 museums in the world for seven years.

Furthermore, it has played a leading role in science promotion in the Yangtze River Delta region, as well as integration into the global science community, forming close ties with dozens of world-renowned institutes, universities, and museums.

The latest round of renovations and upgrades will make it smarter, greener, and more advanced.

It will cover fields like artificial intelligence, robotics, quantum science, information technology, aviation technology, life and health, new energy, and new materials.

To achieve cross-border integration of technology, art, and human culture, new technologies such as virtual reality, human-computer interaction, and data visualization will be introduced.

Some of the 13 exhibition zones' current areas will be upgraded, while others will be converted into new themes.

The four cinemas will be upgraded as well. The IMAX Dome Theater and the IMAX 3D Theater, in particular, will transition from traditional film projection to digital projection. The projection system, sound system, and special effects system in the IWERKS 4D Theater and Space Theater will be upgraded.

The tourist service center, museum shop, and tourist restaurant, as well as the roofs, curtain walls, and electro-mechanical systems of the museum, will be updated to make them more comfortable, smart, and good for the environment.

During the closure, the museum will continue to provide services to the public via online platforms such as its website, WeChat, Douyin, and Bilibili by hosting live shows, lectures, and classes.

Its two sister institutions, the Natural History Museum and the Astronomy Museum in Shanghai, will be open as usual.

Since then, the museum has hosted a number of notable events, including the Pujiang Innovation Forum and the World Laureates Forum.

It has also continued its meteoric rise to become a world-class scientific landmark and one of the world's most popular museums. It has received over 80 million visitors to date.

Notably, the TEA/AECOM Theme and Museum Index, a

Science and technology museum is closed? No worries, Shanghai has other options

Lu Feiran

ALTHOUGH the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum has closed for a renovation for around two years, there are still many other venues in Shanghai where visitors can learn about nature and science.

Follow Shanghai Daily to check out where to gain knowledge about how Mother Nature works and how human sciences develop.



Shanghai Astronomy Museum

The world's largest planetarium, the Shanghai Astronomy Museum, offers a connection between humans and the universe. Apart from exhibits of soil samples from various stars, a solar tower is the main attraction.



Shanghai Astronomical Museum

Although having a similar name to the Shanghai Astronomy Museum, this museum is actually on Sheshan Hill in suburban Songjiang District.



Shanghai Natural History Museum

This museum is usually where Shanghai people get to know dinosaurs for the first time in their life.



Shanghai Meteorological Museum

In a British-style red-brick house, the museum displays a long history of how weather observation started and developed in Shanghai. The house was once the location of the Xujiahui Observatory, the oldest meteorological station in China, built in 1873 – this was also the beginning of weather records in Shanghai.



Shanghai Insect Museum

Despite its name, the museum offers much more than insects. Its exhibition halls simulate different environments, such as rain forests, karst caves, deserts and marshes to display insects, reptiles and amphibians living in them. It has also one of the largest butterfly species collection in the country.



Shanghai Children's Museum

As its name indicates, the museum opens a gate to science and technology to children. The colorfully designed exhibition halls have different themes, mainly on navigation and spaceflight.