

# NEW LIFE IN SHANGHAI!

## Expats share their stories with joys and hopes

### Staff Reporters

The streets of Shanghai are full of vitality these days, and we are happy to see the familiar scenery of so many joyful foreign faces among the crowds.

As a metropolitan city, Shanghai has always appreciated the contributions made by people coming from afar,

and extended a welcome hand toward newcomers.

It has been four months since January 8 when Shanghai optimized the management measures for inbound travelers after China downgraded COVID-19 to Category B management for infectious diseases from Category A.

Last Friday, the World Health Organization said that the COVID-19 pandemic no longer

constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), the WHO's highest alert level.

During the past four months, Shanghai has tried hard to create an even friendlier environment for expatriates to live and work. Shanghai Daily also offered a lot of practical services on our new platform City News Service (CNS), as part of the measures.

The efforts have paid off. Although the number of newcomers is not available, we can see them on the streets, in the shops, restaurants and offices.

Shanghai Daily has followed these newcomers, especially those hoping to make Shanghai their new home and develop their careers in the city. We set up a column called "2023 newcomers" to

find how these people fare, and here is a wrap-up of what we have found.

They come from different countries, with different occupations in different industries, and even speak different languages to express their high expectations toward the future.

But one thing is in common — they are confident of their choice of Shanghai.

### Marco Carniti, from Italy

The Italian theatrical director Marco Carniti was among the first group of foreign artists to come to Shanghai after China opened its borders following the relaxation of COVID-19 rules in January.

"I feel very lucky and grateful to be here," Carniti told Shanghai Daily. "The warm welcome I received at the airport made me feel like a rock star."



For the original article: <https://www.shine.cn/feature/art-culture/2302085981/>



### Jean-Charles Fortoul, from France

Jean-Charles Fortoul feels a stronger commitment to China as travelers return to tourism destinations around the world.

As chief executive officer of Club Med Asia Pacific's Resorts Business Unit, Fortoul was busy meeting with partners and colleagues in Shanghai after he arrived in February. He was also learning Chinese to better interact with the people here.

As the tourism industry moves into a new phase, he is optimistic to see a strong comeback, with occupancy

rates going up and people going back to Club Med's high-end resorts.

Such optimism comes from Fortoul's 28 years of experience in the hospitality industry and 20 years with Club Med, and he is no stranger to China.



For the original article: <https://www.shine.cn/biz/economy/2304033222/>