LEELINE GROUP

Your Trusted Sourcing Partner In China

Yiwu Sourcing Tour - Buyer's Guide

The six districts, itinerary options, what is included, and the questions buyers ask before they fly - condensed into one printable guide.

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WHAT'S INSIDE

• The six districts at a glance - what to source where
• Itinerary options: 3, 5 and 7 days
• A sample 5-day schedule, hour by hour
• Before you fly: visa, transport, payments and market hours
• What is included in a guided tour
• Questions buyers ask before they fly

1. The Six Districts At A Glance

Yiwu International Trade City runs Districts 1-5; the Global Digital Trade Center (commonly called District 6) opened east of District 5 in October 2025 and is a separate building with its own mix of categories. Map your product list to districts before you travel - wandering the market without a plan is how buyers lose days.

District	Core categories	Booths	Best for
D1	Toys, artificial flowers, jewelry, accessories, craft decorations, holiday supplies	9,000+	E-commerce sellers sourcing impulse-buy and gift items
D2	Hardware tools, small electronics, appliances, bags, suitcases, rain gear, umbrellas	8,000+	Retailers and wholesalers sourcing everyday consumer goods
D3	Stationery, office supplies, sports equipment, cosmetics, eyewear, buttons, zippers	7,000+	Brands needing custom packaging and private-label options
D4	Socks, gloves, scarves, hats, knitwear, underwear, daily necessities, personal care	17,000+	Apparel brands and general merchandise retailers
D5	Imported goods, bedding, home textiles, auto supplies, pet products	6,000+	Buyers sourcing premium or cross-border lines
D6	Fashion jewelry, designer toys, smart devices, beauty and personal care, AI and AR/VR equipment, IP goods	5,200+	Brands and higher-ticket, social-driven products (opened Oct 2025)

Booth counts are drawn from China Commodity City Group (SSE: 600415) market disclosures and the Global Digital Trade Center's October 2025 opening, and move as the market expands. Most booths are trading companies or front-shop factories rather than the factory itself - verifying what sits behind a booth means travelling out of the market.

2. How Long Do You Need?

Tours are built around your product list, not sold as fixed packages. These three lengths cover most first and repeat visits.

Length	Best for	What it covers
3-day express	A focused product list	2-3 categories across 1-2 districts, 10-15 pre-screened booths, 8-12 supplier meetings, sample collection and a pricing comparison.
5-day deep dive	Multi-category sourcing	4-5 categories across 3-4 districts, 20-30 booths, 15-20 meetings, one local factory visit and a post-trip supplier report with rankings.
7-day comprehensive	Building a full product line	Districts 1-5 plus the Global Digital Trade Center, 30+ booths, 2-3 factory visits with QC process audits, sampling and logistics setup.

What Is Included

• Pre-trip supplier research and a route pre-mapped from your product list - so you are not hunting for sections on the day.

• A bilingual sourcing specialist for the whole tour: translation, pricing negotiation in Mandarin, and on-the-spot supplier documentation.

• Live quality assessment: material and workmanship checks captured in a structured report with photos, pricing data and comparison scores.

• Sample collection, evaluation and shipping from your shortlisted suppliers, plus a supplier scorecard on price, quality, reliability, communication and capacity.

• After the tour: order placement, staged quality control at 25%, 50% and 75% of production, freight, customs clearance and Amazon FBA prep.

• One accountable account manager who keeps supplier communication running between visits.

3. What A 5-Day Tour Actually Looks Like

Indicative timings from a recent 5-day tour. We confirm current opening hours and any public-holiday closures before you book, and build your own schedule around your categories and dates.

Day	Focus	How the hours run
Day 1	Land, orient, start in District 1	08:45 pickup from Yiwu airport or the high-speed rail station · 09:30 District 1 toy and gift street, working a pre-screen list of around 12 booths · 13:30 jewelry and accessories, price comparison and on-the-spot sampling · 16:30 back at the hotel to log quotes, photos and booth numbers.
Day 2	Districts 2 and 3 across your categories	09:00 District 2 hardware and small electronics · 11:30 bags and luggage · 13:30 District 3 stationery or cosmetics, depending on your list · 16:00 shortlist review and a first supplier scorecard, so day three only revisits real contenders.
Day 3	District 4, plus the Global Digital Trade Center	09:00 District 4 textiles and apparel accessories, the highest booth density in the market · 13:30 transfer east to the Global Digital Trade Center for brand-led and connected products · 16:30 compare findings against the earlier shortlists.
Day 4	Factory day, outside the market	08:30 leave Yiwu for one or two of the factories behind your shortlisted booths · verify production lines, capacity and licensing in person · 15:00 return for sample packing and consolidated shipping quotes.
Day 5	Negotiate, confirm, close out	09:00 parallel negotiation with the final two or three suppliers · 12:00 MOQ and lead-time confirmation on your target lines · 14:00 sample handover, shipping arrangement and a written post-trip report with supplier rankings.

• The market moves fastest in the morning; bargaining gets slower and less patient in the last hour before booths close.

• The market closes only for Chinese New Year, roughly two weeks - we do not schedule tours across it. It trades through the National Day holiday, though individual merchants may still take a few days off.

• Factory verification happens outside the market and takes at least half a day, which is why it gets its own slot rather than being squeezed between booths.

4. Before You Travel

The practical side of a Yiwu trip - entry, transport, money and opening hours. We re-confirm all of it once your dates are fixed.

Topic	What to know
Visa & entry	Rules move quickly, so check your passport on the National Immigration Administration site before booking. As of September 2026, nationals of 50 countries enter visa-free for up to 30 days, and 240-hour (10-day) visa-free transit covers 57 countries through 65 ports. UK and Canadian passports are on a temporary 30-day visa-free window that currently runs to 31 December 2026. Meetings and factory visits are covered by both schemes; paid work is not.
Getting there	Yiwu has its own airport (YIW). Hangzhou (HGH) is the usual alternative at roughly 35 minutes away by high-speed rail, and Shanghai is about 90 minutes by rail if you are combining cities. Inside Yiwu, Districts 1-5 are short taxi rides apart, but the Global Digital Trade Center sits east of District 5, so allow extra travel time.
Paying in the market	The market runs on RMB. Alipay and WeChat Pay are broadly accepted once linked to an international card, and cash still works for small purchases. Larger deposits normally go by bank transfer to the company account, so carry your passport - it is needed for that paperwork.
Market hours & Sundays	The districts generally trade around 08:30-16:30, and many merchants close on Sundays. We route the tour around both and re-confirm hours before each travel date.

Entry and transit rules checked September 2026 against the National Immigration Administration (en.nia.gov.cn). Market hours are indicative - confirm current hours on the market's official platform (yiwugo.com) before you travel.

5. Questions Buyers Ask Before They Fly

How many days do I need in Yiwu?

Two things decide it - how many categories you are sourcing, and whether you want factory visits. One focused category is usually a three-day trip. Multi-category buyers, or anyone adding factory verification, generally need five days or more, because the factory day sits outside the market.

What MOQs should I expect in Yiwu?

Lower than most buyers expect. Many booths will quote from a single carton, far below the pallet-level minimums common on Alibaba. Custom packaging, private-label printing and tooling raise the floor, sometimes sharply. We negotiate MOQs against your actual volumes instead of accepting the first number quoted.

Should I visit the Global Digital Trade Center (District 6)?

If your line includes designer toys, fashion jewelry, connected devices, beauty or IP-led products, yes - it is the one part of Yiwu built around brand and design rather than general merchandise, and it opened only in October 2025. Because it stands east of District 5 as a separate building, we schedule it as its own half day.

Do I need a guided tour, or should I hire a sourcing agent?

Hire an agent if you already know who you want to buy from and just want the buying run handled - vetting, negotiation, QC and shipping, without flying. Take the guided tour if you want to see the market yourself and meet owners face to face before committing. Many clients do the tour first, then keep us on as their agent for reorders.

Can you help if I have never sourced from China before?

First-time buyers are common on these tours. You get a pre-trip orientation covering visas, payment and how the market floor works, and your specialist handles all supplier communication, negotiation and documentation. You leave with supplier relationships and a procurement plan, not just samples.

Is Yiwu better than Alibaba or 1688?

They serve different purposes. Alibaba and 1688 are good for initial supplier research, but they cannot replace touching materials, comparing quality across several suppliers in one day, and negotiating face to face. Many buyers use the tour to establish suppliers and then manage the relationship remotely afterwards.

How much does it cost?

The fee is quoted per project based on tour length, the number of categories, how many supplier meetings you need, and whether you want post-tour factory verification. You get a written proposal before committing. Flights, hotels, meals and sample freight are separate, and we give you an estimated budget during the consultation.

How is the Yiwu tour different from a China Sourcing Tour or a Factory Tour?

The Yiwu tour focuses on Yiwu International Trade City and the Global Digital Trade Center - best for multi-category, low-MOQ small commodities. A China Sourcing Tour covers several cities. A Factory Tour is a single-factory audit for a supplier you have already chosen.

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Plan The Route Before You Fly

Send us your product list and target quantities, and we will map your SKUs to the right districts, shortlist suppliers, and build an itinerary around your dates. Free quote, no obligation.

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