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From my suite at Regent Shanghai on the Bund, along the Huangpu River, I would open the doors to my balcony and see hazy, giant silhouettes on sunny mornings and neon skyscrapers in the evening hours. The hotel's appeal goes beyond its (rather perfect) location, though. Every repeat stroll through the halls revealed a new artful detail, many by Shanghainese creatives, like the foyer's lacquered painting of magnolias. There are 135 elegant rooms and suites, dressed in creams and desaturated greens, with shutter-lined windows and closets that nod to the neighborhood's colonial influence. Most rooms have panoramas along the Bund, and stand-alone bathtubs next to floor-to-ceiling windows give the phrase "soaking up the views" a new twist. As a Shanghai newbie, the Regent Experience agents were heaven-sent, sharing tourist advice and whisking me via house car to the pier for an evening river cruise. It was hard to leave the premises, however, with Regent's dining outlets: Save for the lobby's chic pastry lounge, all of the restaurants come with showstopping riverfront views of the Bund. My gourmet Cantonese dinner at Jin Lin was remarkable on its own, the vista a sweet bonus. Instead of standing among the hordes along the promenade, I enjoyed a similar view from a booth at Condé Boutique where I indulged in lemongrass-marinated pork neck and a cocktail. *Accessible hotel. Doubles from \$485.* —[Travis Levius](#)