The Pottery Workshop welcomes international artists to experience life in Jingdezhen. We provide you with the chance to explore traditional Chinese methods of ceramic production with comforts from the western world. Our residency is unique to any other in the world because we utilize a porcelain city as our studio. All the pieces our artists create are finished and fired by the artisans in our community. We are located within The Sculpture Factory, a place where a high concentration of clay manufactures, throwers, flower makers, slip casters, potters, glazers and public kilns coexist.

Fees and Other Costs

- 24-hour access to our residency studio
- Well lit, air conditioned facilities
- Shared studio assistants who introduce you to Jingdezhen by translating and solving technical problems.
- Full room and board. Freshly prepared lunches and dinners are served every day except Sundays.
- Accommodations include flush toilets, hot shower, air-conditioned rooms, regular cleaning service, and free wireless broadband Internet.

The cost of the residency program is 2600RMB/week. Residents are responsible for all other costs such as clay, tools, firing fees, materials, travel, shipping, etc.

When to Come

The studio is busiest from April to June and September to October, when the weather is fair. Summer is hot, but our air-conditioned studios are quite comfortable and the city is buzzing with activity. Winter is our slowest season December/January, where each artist get the most attention.

The studio is open all year except for one month during the Chinese New Year (around the month of February).

How Long to Stay

Besides working in the studio, you will spend a lot of time exploring the city and surrounding area, learning local techniques of pottery production, and getting acclimated to life in China. Therefore, if you intend on producing work in Jingdezhen it is advisable to stay at least four weeks. Most artists find six to eight weeks necessary to complete a body of work.
What to Bring

Common materials and equipment are available at the studio or easily purchased in Jingdezhen. If you foresee needing specific equipment, you can ask us if it can be found in Jingdezhen or if it is best to bring it with you.

Just downstairs from the studio, The Pottery Workshop Cafe has great drinks (cappuccino, americano, latte, etc.), but you may want to bring a bag of coffee beans for yourself to brew in the studio. Also, many Western goods are not sold in Jingdezhen. Western over-the-counter drugs for colds, allergies, diarrhea and other minor ailments could come in handy. Chinese over the counter medications are readily available at nearby pharmacies. Please check with us if you have any concerns.

If you already have an unlocked mobile phone, please bring it along. You can purchase a local mobile number in Jingdezhen for about 100RMB. (If you don’t have a phone we may have phones we can lend.)

Money

Almost all transactions in Jingdezhen are done with cash. You can withdraw money from local banks using your international credit/debit card. (Please be sure to verify with your bank that your card can be used in China.) Travelers checks may be cashed at the bank, but the process may take half a day or longer to exchange. It is best to bring some Chinese currency (RMB) with you from your country of origin. The Pottery Workshop accepts credit cards and/or cash for payment of residency. Credit card transactions may be subject to a 4% surcharge and cannot be used for cash advances in Jingdezhen.

Shipping

Ceramic work you make or buy can be shipped anywhere in the world. Our staff will help you order packing materials and select the best shipping option. Although we can introduce you to a shipper, we take no responsibility for shipment.

Important Note: Recently, the shipping regulations have become stricter. Whereas in the past it was possible to ship various types of items together (e.g. ceramics, clay, over/underglaze materials, kiln shelves), currently we can only help with shipping your own ceramic work. Furthermore, for each type of “functional” ware, a set must be sent to Shanghai for lead testing, which will add to the total cost of the shipment.