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(白)
米饭 (bai2)
mi3 fan4

Plain white rice is the staple food throughout Southern China, and chances are when eating out in the South, it will be served to you whether you ordered it or not. In Chinese cuisine, the function of rice is to make you feel full, as opposed to 菜(cai4), the word for the other dishes, which are supposed to help you finish your rice.



炒饭
chao3
fan4

Fried Rice is the Chinese equivalent of chili. The byproduct of excess meat, vegetables, and rice, plus an egg or two, fried rice came about as a way to make use of excess groceries after a meal. Thesedays, it's commonly ordered in restaurants as an alternative to white rice.

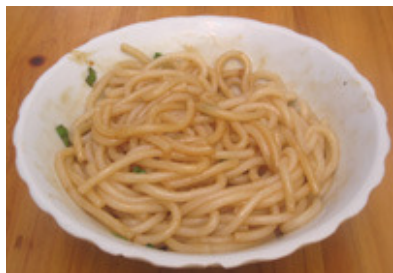


米粉 mi3 fen3 rice noodles



四川
凉粉 si4
chuan1
liang2
fen3

Over the years, the Chinese have come up with several new and creative ways to eat rice. If you like your rice long, flat, squishy, and spicy, then **Sichuan Cold Rice Noodles** make a great appetizer. They are typically topped with a spicy sauce and cilantro, and served cold or room temperature.



拌粉
干 ban4 fen3
gan1 thick rice noodles with sauce mixed in



稀
饭,
粥

xi1 fan4,
zhou1 rice porridge

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