

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910457367003321
Autore	Zheng Yangwen
Titolo	China on the sea [[electronic resource] /] / by Zheng Yangwen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston, : Brill, c2012
ISBN	1-283-31056-2 9786613310569 90-04-19478-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (372 p.)
Collana	China studies ; ; v. 21
Disciplina	387.50951/0903
Soggetti	Merchant marine - China - History Electronic books. China Foreign economic relations China Commerce Foreign countries China History Qing dynasty, 1644-1912
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Facing the seas -- "The inconsistency of the seas" -- Feeding China -- Cette merveilleuse machine -- Les palais europeens -- "Wind of the west" -- Pattern and variation: indigenisation -- "Race for oriental opulence" -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Generations of Chinese scholars have made China synonymous with the Great Wall and presented its civilization as fundamentally land-bound. This volume challenges this perspective, demonstrating that China was not a "Walled Kingdom", certainly not since the Yongjia Disturbance in 311. China reached out to the maritime world far more actively than historians have acknowledged, while the seas and what came from the seas—from Islam, fragrances and Jesuits to maize, opium and clocks—significantly changed the course of history, and have been of inestimable importance to China since the Ming. This book integrates the maritime history of China, especially the Qing period, a subject which has hitherto languished on the periphery of scholarly analysis, into the mainstream of current historical narrative. It was the seas that made Tang China a "Cosmopolitan Empire" (Mark Lewis), the Song dynasty China's "Greatest Age" (John Fairbank), China at 1600 "the

largest and most sophisticated of all unified realms on earth" (Jonathan Spence), and the reign of the three Qing emperors (Kangxi, Yongzheng and Qianlong) China's "last golden age" (Charles Hucker).
