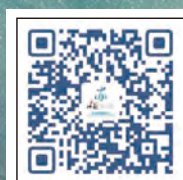


JIANGSU GLIMPSES

SUMMER ISSUE



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JIANGSU

Glimpses

Summer Issue

The Brilliant
Jiangnan Dream
in a Summer Night

Love for Coolness,
Romance and Sports is
the Theme of
Summer Poetry

ENJOY
WATER AND A COOL SUMMER
IN CHARMING JIANGSU



Golden Beach of "Qidong Round Horn" in Nantong

WELCOME to Summer in Jiangsu!

Summer is certainly a hot season in Jiangsu. So the topic of *Jiangsu Glimpses* at this season is water. As should already be obvious, water is everywhere in Jiangsu. As such, it is little wonder Jiangsu is known as "Water Charming Jiangsu".

First though, we should welcome our special guest Ally Zlatar, an artist, curator and activist. Teaching philosophy, history and visual culture at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, Zlatar spent a UNESCO City of Literature Writers Residency in our very own Nanjing last year. And her reflection of the ancient capital of six dynasties in Chinese history? In her opinion, Nanjing is just like a firefly.

That's an appropriate comparison for us too, as fireflies thrive around water in summer.

Jiangsu is home to the lower reaches of the mighty Yangtze River, as well as the many lakes that dot the landscape of the province. In this issue, we take you to Taihu Lake, Hongze Lake and Luoma Lake, etc.

Another water-based distraction comes in the form of the beaches of Lianyungang, and specifically the stunning Lian Dao, which deserves to be much better-known. Here, the waves are high enough to provide for fun swimming, but not so high as to have a potentially dangerous undertow. Being relatively thick, the sand grains also do not cling to the body or clothing. It's beach perfection!

Over in the provincial capital, we take you for a cruise on the Yangtze out of Nanjing to take in the sights on either side of the river and the famed national icon that is the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge.

For the younger ones and children, a visit to one of Jiangsu's many water worlds is in order! In this issue, we "get wet" at many water fun-based attractions in Wuxi and Nanjing. And we even find space to enjoy kayaking, yachting and rafting!

Elsewhere, the night economy has recently become a big focus for China's development. Other Jiangsu cities that are cooler and more comfortable on summer nights offer a host of night-time tours where we can experience their bustle and beauty. We hence in this issue share with you evening visits to Jinji Lake in Suzhou, Qingming Bridge Historical and Cultural Block in Wuxi, Qingguo Lane in Changzhou, the seafood night market in Lianyungang, and quite a few more.

In summer, there're the Children's Day, the Dragon Boat Festival, the Chinese Valentine's Day and the most awaited summer holiday for kids, enabling people to enjoy traditional activities, travel and sports. The Dragon Boat Festival was the first Chinese festival to be included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural List. It's time to take some sticky rice and your favorite fillings, then wrap them up in a bamboo leaf - zongzi! Jiangsu's summer activities are like a box of zongzi. You'll never know what you are gonna get.

The summer of Jiangsu welcomes you!



Summer Issue

JIANGSU

Glimpses



Cover: Lian Dao in Lianyungang
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The Power of Museums

Earlier this summer, the annual event of the museum
world – International Museum Day was held. The
International Council of Museums has announced its
2022 theme: The Power of Museums.

Cool Summer Food

What do Jiangsu people eat in summer? There are
too many seasonal fruits and vegetables to feast on
in summer, such as peaches, watermelons, grapes,
loquats, etc. The sweet aroma of ripe fruits is
everywhere. The food memories belonging to Jiangsu
summer are far more than these...

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Jiangsu has a long history and tradition of literature. In October 2019, Nanjing officially joined the UNESCO's Creative Cities Network and was designated the first UNESCO "City of Literature" in China. In this section, we are honored to invite Ally Zlatar, a writer from Edinburgh, the first city to be designated a UNESCO City of Literature, to join us. Ally Zlatar has been awarded The Princess Diana Legacy Award (2021) and also won special recognition from The British Citizen Award (2022) for her humanitarian actions.

Through exploring the unique literary scene of another "City of Literature", Ally Zlatar will share her impression of Jiangsu with our readers.

NANJING: A FIREFLY

—Ally Zlatar



Fireflies in Linggu Temple, Nanjing

Upon reflection the city of Nanjing embodies elements of the natural world

Nanjing has the resilience of bamboo

The patient strength of water

And can be an emblem of modest rapture of the cherry blossom

Out of all the metaphors I can fathom, I would suggest that

Nanjing at its core evokes the spirit of a firefly

The firefly has slender wings and can thrive in the twilight hours

The firefly reminds us of how nature can create such complex beauty and can form one of many uniquely mighty and

mysterious beings

It is perhaps one of the oddest creatures, it is a soft bodied beetle that emits a warm yellow glow

Nanjing is a small firefly that provides a flicker of light into our understanding of existence through the sincere devotion to the past and powerful literary spaces

The city walls and cultural hubs are the soul and foundation of the people and have over the centuries helped us gracefully divulge into our own evanescence through the brevity of the arts and provenance of heritage that create

tiny moments of satori

A firefly can shine light on the ocean of information, can fly through the stormy skies of knowledge and enlighten us on beauty that scholars cannot even unravel

We are like frogs, in the twilight hours, who gaze at the firefly's twinkle with bewilderment and wonder
This light gives us hope and guides us in our darkest hours

Fireflies are embodied in the city walls and landmarks which preserve the memories of past lives and shelter the bodies and the souls of the present

The city has a sincere authenticity which allows us to confront difficulties and examine our own poignant lives

The flickers of Nanjing's light expound devotion to the past, embracing the present and offers us a breadth to be discovered

Nanjing is a little glimmer of hope that provides sanctuary in literary spaces that allow us to allocate a few brief moments in which to behold and try to make sense of our own existence in an always largely unfathomable 13.8-billion-year-old universe

If you have the pleasure of visiting this city, it evokes the whispers of a firefly

(Source: Nanjing Literature Centre · Nanjing International Residency Program)

ENJOY WATER AND A COOL SUMMER IN CHARMING JIANGSU

— Geng Chunxiao

Jiangsu was built by water and till now, flourishes by it. The Yangtze River running from east to west, the Grand Canal from north to south, the wide and open seashores, and the gentle and pleasant lakes constitute a unique cultural landscape in Jiangsu where rivers, lakes and seas converge. These ancient water systems, which have been flowing in the land of Jiangsu for thousands of years, not only bring convenient transportation and splendid civilization, and nurture amazing natural and cultural scenery, but also generously present the natural coolness in the scorching summer.

In the unbearable high temperature and intense heat waves, we need to be close to water. We love to be near the water and find a touch of coolness. Therefore, "Charming Jiangsu", with the river and sea embracing the world, the refreshing lake breeze, the chilling riverside, and cities filled with lively summer life, shows the coveted ecological beauty. The songs of cicadas and frogs project poetic mood and beauty into this land. The deep greenery nourished by water filters the hot summer sun for us. When bright stars shine in the summer sky, "Charm of Jiangsu" is such an amazing place to enjoy the cool.

Dream Vacation

on the Largest Island in Jiangsu

— Zaytseva Svetlana from Russia
Nanjing University of Finance & Economics student

With the onset of the long-awaited summer, every person has the desire to take time off from everyday life, monotonous work and the hustle and bustle of the city. At this moment, it is best to put all business aside and go to a place where life is slow and unhurried, where all problems are forgotten and every day is like a great, never-ending vacation. One of these places is, of course, a secluded spot by the sea. Listening to the soothing sound of the surf, we can enjoy the incredibly beautiful sunrises, sunsets, and delicious seafood.

Along the about 1,000-km-long coastline in Jiangsu, many islets are scattered like pearls in the blue waters of the Yellow Sea (the Huanghai Sea), and the largest of them is the Liandao in Lianyungang.

Liandao is the largest islet in Jiangsu Province, which takes its

name from the intersection of the eastern and western islet group. Liandao borders the port of Lianyungang city. It has a coastline of 18 kilometers long and covers an area of 7.57 square kilometers. Most of the islet consists of picturesque forests and winding mountainous landscapes that offer majestic views of the sea.

In the center of the Liandao, there is a beautiful natural beach, Da Sha Wan Amusement Park, where adventure seekers can experience the speed of speedboats and motorboats, ride hovercraft or just play with the sea waves. Those who prefer a more relaxed pastime can enjoy the sea waves from the shore or even build a sand castle. After that, it is not superfluous to visit the fishing village and try the local cuisine, namely absolutely fresh seafood such as yellow croaker, prawn, pomfret, mackerel, oysters and mantis shrimp, as well as the local tea - Yunwu tea. This is also the production base of seaweed, and you can buy some seaweed as a souvenir.

In the evening, there is nothing more beautiful than a walk along the shore of a quiet harbor in the interior of the islet - Suma Bay. Here the sea merges with the sky and you can see peacocks circling in the air. A slow walk on the beach, a cool breeze, the gentle music of the surf... When you are tired, you can sit down on the warm sand and watch the fascinating sunset. All these create a cozy and calm atmosphere, helping you relax and get rid of the accumulated stress.

Once you visit this place, you will definitely want to return here again, together with your loved ones, to hide from the hustle and bustle of the world on a cool islet and realize your most beautiful dreams of a perfect vacation.



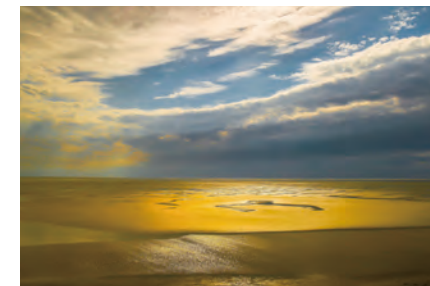
TIPS

Opening hours: 08:30-17:20

Tel: 400-828-2898

Transportation:

15 km from Lianyungang East Railway Station,
25 minutes' drive



Here, you can observe birds up close with the help of binoculars, watch the spectacle of tens of thousands of birds flying in Tiaozini Wetland, and appreciate the summer charm of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage site.

Come to Tiaozini,

Sub-area of a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, to Gather Seafood on the Beach

— Geng Chunxiao

Come to watch migratory birds, gather seafood on the beach, and enjoy the beautiful UNESCO World Natural Heritage site! Tiaozini Wetland, located in the northeast corner of the coast of Dongtai City, Yancheng, is the first UNESCO World Natural Heritage site in Jiangsu Province and the 14th UNESCO World Natural Heritage site in China - a sub-area of China's Yellow (Bohai) Sea Migratory Bird Habitat (Phase I). It lies half-way along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, one of the three major migration paths, also known as the "International Airport for Birds".



TIPS

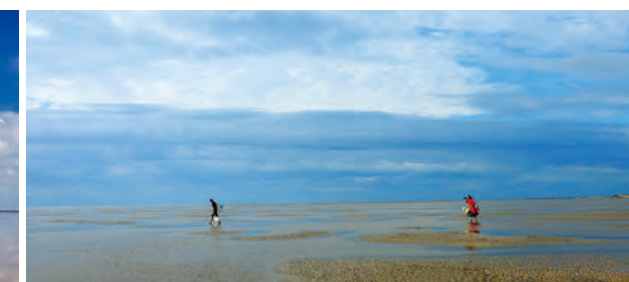
Opening hours: 08:00-17:30
Tel: 0515-85680999
Transportation:
 70 km from Dongtai Railway Station, 1 hour and 15 minutes' drive

Tiaozini Wetland in midsummer is stunning in all kinds of weather. In the misty rain, the green of the Artemisia halodendron, the yellow of the shoal, and the white of clouds complement each other. When the sky is clear and bright, it becomes a mirror of the sapphire blue sky. In the early morning or at dusk when the sun shines all over the sky, the calm beach seems to be carpeted with colored silk and satin.

Tiaozini has a unique view of the sea, with flat beach, soft mud and a wide field of view. When the tide rises, it's a world of waters, and when the tide falls, it's a

wide expanse of flat land. It's not only rich in creatures and a good place to catch seafood, but also an ideal place to watch the sunrise and the changing tides.

Walking barefoot on the "sticky" beach after the tide recedes, or chasing the waves, or treading on clams and digging brackish-water crabs, you'll accidentally become covered in clay but reap a lot of happiness. You can also come to seafood restaurants in Tiaozini to try authentic local seafood such as clams, large razor clams, mud snails, pomfrets, etc., taste delicious coastal delicacies, and listen to the stories of coastal people on boats to fish.



SUNSET

on the Golden Beach in Nantong

— Zaytseva Svetlana from Russia
Nanjing University of Finance & Economics student

Every person should go to the sea at least once in his or her life, feeling the sea air, listening to the sound of the surf, and enjoying the beautiful sunset... For this you do not have to buy plane tickets to fly to other countries and carry a heavy suitcase everywhere. Sometimes the most magical places are much closer than we think. We are talking about the beautiful port city of Nantong in Jiangsu, namely the famous Golden Beach of "Qidong Round Horn".



"Qidong Round Horn" borders the Yellow Sea in the east and the Yangtze River in the south. The Yangtze River, the East China Sea and the Yellow Sea meet here. The muddy river water and the azure sea water are clearly distinguished, and these three waters are inextricably intertwined, making it a unique landscape.

At this place you can also see the huge statue of Da Yu, a legendary Chinese hero who tamed the Yellow River, and Yinyang building. If you climb the building, you can see the beautiful sunrise, which occurs here earlier than other places in Jiangsu Province.

The Golden Beach is located in the east of "Qidong Round Horn". It gets its name from the amazing visual effect that can be seen here every summer evening. During sunset, the rays of the setting sun illuminate the seashore, giving the appearance of gold dust being scattered on the shore - the sand on the shore glows with a ray of golden sunlight, as if it was made of real gold. This unforgettable sight will remain in the memory of every



eyewitness for a long time.

The low tide and high tide area on the beach is quite large, so everyone has the opportunity to ride an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) over the sand at low tide and ride through the waves of the sea at high tide together with a professional trainer. In the evening, after low tide, you can ride an ox cart, or just walk along the endless beach with friends, looking for crabs, mud snails and clams, playing and enjoying this "beach party".

The sea air clears your mind, the hustle and bustle of everyday life is far away, the wind caresses your face, and the waves are always happy to walk with you on the soft sand. And in the evening, watching the sunset by the sea and then admiring the stars, you will feel how beautiful and infinite our world is, and what happiness you live here and now.

In these places, you can have a good time,
rest your body and mind,
and enjoy the view of the vast sea.



TIPS

Opening hours: 08:00-18:30

Tel: 0513-69919888

Transportation:

40 km from Qidong Railway Station,
50 minutes' drive



Intimate to water by the Grand Canal bank

—Holly Guo

The Grand Canal flows leisurely on the land of Jiangsu, nourishing cities along its banks. It also brings people bursts of coolness that is exclusive to summer.



In 1415, Chen Xuan, an official of the Ming Dynasty, dug a river channel - Qingjiangpu, along the old channel of the Shahe River dated back to the Northern Song Dynasty. The opening of Qingjiangpu helped Huai'an win the title of "Canal Capital".

The Qingjiangpu Scenic Area of Huai'an Li Canal Cultural Corridor, taking Li Canal as an axis, has a diversified culture including canal, opera, celebrities, couplets and so on. On the south bank are Guoshi Pagoda, Chen and Pan Memorial Temple, Ciyun Temple, etc. On the north bank are the former residences of famous people, Huai'an Shuilong Bureau, Water Ferry, etc.

To appreciate the beauty of Qingjiangpu, rafting on the Li Canal is an excellent choice. The pavilions and pagodas on both sides of the canal reflect each other among the rippling canal where wild ducks are cruising. The night is even more enchanting and colorful with bright lights and shadows. On both sides of the road, neon flashes under stars dotted in the sky. Take a cruise on a gaily painted boat, admire the illuminated houses on both sides of the canal, listen to the murmur of the water, and you're tracing the prosperous scenery of the former water transportation center.

TIPS

Opening hours:

closed on Mondays

Tel: 0517-83910209

Transportation:

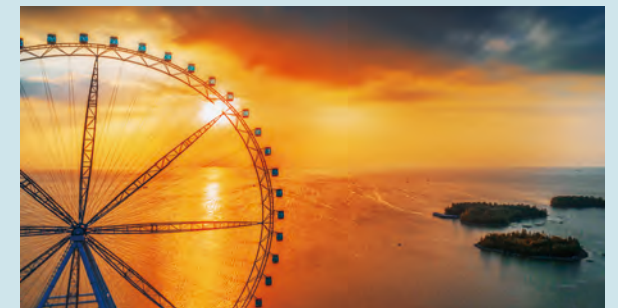
20 km from Huaian East Railway Station,
30 minutes' drive

The east side of the Grand Canal is connected to Luoma Lake at Suqian. On the east bank of Luoma Lake, the rippling blue water, fine white sand, swaying cattails and tall palm trees enhance each other's beauty, making people feel like they are on a tropical beach. Luoma Lake Beach Park consists of three areas: leisure beach, sports beach and water bay beach, which organically integrate lake sightseeing, water sports and beach entertainment.

At the lakeside bathing beach, you can rent a speedboat to experience the thrill of riding the wind and waves of the big lake. Wherever the speedboat goes, layers of waves are stirred up. When the cool breeze blows your face, the heat is gone! Every summer, the International Sand Sculpture Festival is held here. Lifelike sand sculptures of different shapes stand on the beach. This year, the 4th International Sand Sculpture Festival in Luoma Lake will last until October, with the theme of "Animation Carnival", giving sand sculptures new vitality.

In addition to playing, by walking barefoot on the soft white sand and listening to the lake water lapping the shore, you can feel the beauty of nature to the fullest; or you can comfortably sit on a beach chair in a thatched hut and take a nap, enjoying the soothing lake breeze.

You can also drive 30 minutes to the Dongguankou Historical and Cultural Park in the southeast of Suqian City. The water area here is about 22,600 square meters. The ancient city wall, old wharf, old market and other buildings are artistically reproduced, showing the prosperity of the ancient charm of Dongguan in the past. On the majestic tower, you can overlook the Grand Canal and have a panoramic view of the waterfront.



TIPS

Opening hours:

Monday to Thursday: 09:00-20:30

Friday to Sunday: 09:00-22:00

Tel: 0527-81002999

Transportation:

25 km from Suqian Railway Station, 40 minutes' drive





On the banks of Hongze Lake, the fourth largest freshwater lake in China, there is Hongze Lake Ancient Weir Scenic Area in Huai'an, which is a complex ecological and cultural tourism scenic spot integrating cultural experience, health care and leisure, lake sightseeing, and forest exploration.

With a history of over 1,800 years, Hongze Lake Levee is a world cultural heritage site and a key historical and cultural site under state protection, including multiple historical sites along such as Emperor Qianlong's Imperial Stele, Zhouqiao Big Pond and Xinba Dam Site etc. It is the Great Wall on the water and a "natural oxygen bar". Walking along the embankment while breathing the fresh air and feeling the cool lake breeze of Hongze Lake is comfortable and cozy.

Water Kettle Town in the scenic area covers an area of 755 mu (50.3 hectares). Its architectural style is dominated by imitating the Song Dynasty style gardens, pavilions, terraces and buildings alternating with each other, small bridges and the floating rivers reflecting each other. The exquisite and particular buildings and limpid, clear river water have drawn a modern version "Riverside Scene at Tomb-sweeping Day", a masterpiece by Zhang Zeduan from the Song Dynasty. Everything you expect in "Jiangnan", or the area south of the down-

stream Yangtze River, is all here.

The Fisherman Bay is sparkling and graceful, sometimes calm with the water and the sky merging in one color; and sometimes turbulent with waves surging and crashing on the shore. There is also a beach that children love. If you have enough time, you can wait for the sunset here. The scenery where the water and the sky are connected is particularly spectacular, and every shot is scenery.



In hot summer, the Hongze Lake has a vast expanse of water. In addition to the Hongze Lake Levee and the lakeside bathing beach, the Happiness Park is also a good place to escape the summer. The Ancient Weir Scenic Area is very close to the urban area of Hongze, and it is very convenient to go to the surrounding area to eat after playing. You can taste the authentic lake delicacies in any restaurant.

TIPS

Opening hours: 09:00-16:30

Tel: 0517-87299881

Transportation:

57 km from Huai'an East Railway Station, 1 hour's drive



The metasequoia forest is a paradise for wild animals. Great bustards, white storks, black storks, gray herons, and egrets like to nest and live here the most.

If you are looking for more joy by water, the Sihong Hongze Lake Wetland Scenic Area in Suqian City is recommended. Floating a boat in the reed maze, you can enjoy the beautiful scenery among bends of the waterway where reeds are like green gauze tents, listen to the joyful chants of water birds, feel the refreshing lake breeze, and appreciate the purity of the "ecological oxygen bar".

Go sightseeing on the Bailu Lake, you can see the vast expanse of green waves and boundless smoggy water in the distance and the field of lotus leaves close by. Flocks of egrets either stand overlooking, or walk on the dam, or fish in the lake. Visiting here, you'll have a poetic feeling just like "floating on green waves and rambling in a painting".

A 30-minute drive can also take you to Mudun Island in Suqian to participate in the annual Hongze Lake Lotus Festival, where you can watch the delightful lotus of thousands of acres sway.



TIPS

Opening hours: 08:30-17:30

Tel: 0527-80828210

Transportation:

88 km from Suqian Railway Station, 1 hour and 12 minutes' drive

INFINITE SCENERY IN TAIHU LAKE

—Clytie

TIPS

Opening hours: 09:00-16:00

Tel: 0512-66555665

Transportation:

32 km from Suzhou Railway Station, about 30 minutes' drive

Taihu Lake is beautiful, and its most charming part is in Wuzhong. Wuzhong District owns 80% of the Taihu Lake. Many scenic spots are scattered along the nearly 180-km-long Taihu Lake shoreline, with stunning views.

The 186.7-km-long No. 1 Highway around the Taihu Lake links many scenic spots along the lake. The scenery along the route is excellent with many cultural relics and historical sites, and abundant natural resources, which is a must-see of the Taihu Lake.

It is not too hot in early morning or at dusk in summer, and you can start your cycling trip from the Dongshan Visitor Center and ride along the "Taihu Blue" and "Binhu Red" of the No. 1 Highway around the Taihu Lake. The scenery is picturesque along the way. You can breathe fresh air in green mountains and forests and feel the cool breeze kissing your face. One side is the endless Taihu

Lake, and the other side are patchwork of quaint villages - the scenery will be engraved on your mind while you're riding. You can ride all the way to the Daixinwan Bridge to take refreshing and artistic photos, which is also a must-go place for many young people.

Turtle Head Isle in Binhu District of Wuxi occupies the most beautiful corner of the Taihu Lake. Looking into the south, it resembles the seaside of the coastal resort city of Qingdao; and looking into the north, it has the similar scenery of the West Lake in Hangzhou. Surrounded by the green lake, under the heavy shadows of the mountains, and in front of the iris ensata, you would suddenly feel like being in an old painting and that the time is quiet and leisurely pleasant. Before and after the Dragon Boat Festival, Taihu residents like to hang calamus to celebrate the festival, which is intended to ward off evil spirits and disease.



Turtle Head Isle of Taihu Lake in Wuxi, famous for its spring cherry blossoms, is also suitable for summer visits, whose iris ensata in summer is also a must-see.



YANGTZE CRUISE IS PERFECT SUMMER OUTING

—Frank Hossack

A stiff breeze on the mighty Yangtze River is a perfect way of keeping cool in this summer. To immerse yourself in the charm of the Yangtze River, it's worth experiencing the river cruise "Yangtze River Legend".

Visitors can take this cruise to see more than 10 famous cultural and natural attractions along the river, including Muyan Riverside Scenic Area, Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge, Zhongshan Wharf, Pukou Wharf, Yuejiang Tower, Yanziji Park and Baguazhou. And if you are lucky enough, you can also see Yangtze finless porpoise swimming in waves. With a total distance of about 27 kilometers and about 2 hours of sailing, the tour offers an in-depth look at the natural scenery, historical and cultural landscape and the charm of the Nanjing section of the Yangtze River.

The spiral stairs on the "Yangtze River Legend" cruise remind tourists of the movie *Titanic* starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. Once off land, you can find yourself at the foot of the spiral stairs. But it only takes you just a split second to realize again that this is in China and everything needs to be as good as it gets.

In retrospect, those steps are also a glimpse of things to come; that you're in for a really rather special experience.

Starting from the Wumadu Cruise Terminal on Yongji Avenue, the cruise has been put into use for many years. Over one year ago, the "Yangtze River Legend" cruise entered service after being upgraded as a luxury liner.

The "Yangtze River Trip" sets off by sailing



TIPS

Tel: 025-86551688

Transportation:
Wumadu Cruise Terminal is 25 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 48 minutes' drive



a few kilometers downstream, passing Muyan Riverside Scenic Area (affording a great view of the Bodhidharma caves) and Yanziji, before turning around near the Nanjing Baguazhou Yangtze River Bridge (formerly the NO. 2 Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge).

Then it's on to the highlight of the cruise; the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge. And top of the bucket list for all on board is a pic of themselves in front of the first bridge spanning the Yangtze River built without foreign help. It's hard not to be touched when tourists are rushing to take photos. On a more practical level, the detail discernible on the bridge's substructure can be viewed from the cruise, which will be a delight to any civil engineer, while nice touches are also afforded by the sign informing captains to "obey the law of the sea".

As the bridge recedes, we come upon Pukou Wharf and Pukou Railway Station, before once again turning around. According to the guide, Pukou Railway Station was the place where well-known Chinese scholar Zhu Ziqing was inspired to write the rem-

iniscence essay *Retreating Figure*. It's also the place where *The Story of a Noble Family*, the Chinese television series based on famous Chinese novelist Zhang Henshui's novel was filmed. Back on the right, going downstream again offers excellent views of Zhongshan Wharf that was completed in 1928. And there is also the former Nanjing Train Ferry Loading Trestle, built in 1933, which was the first railway train ferry line in China to ferry trains on giant wheels laid on rails, thus opening a direct railway line from Shanghai to Beijing.

Not long after we come upon a new sightseeing bridge right beside the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge. Looking far away, the transparent ring-shaped bridge looks like a shining pearl necklace for the south fort of the bridge.

The bridge with a central glass deck is part of a 1.1-km-long extension to the Binjiang Greenway, which has finished its construction. From the bridge to the Nanjing Yuzui Wetland Park in the south, now a total of 21 kilometers of riverside walk for running and biking.

Then we're back under the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge. On our way back, we can see the Yangtze finless porpoise observation point, Nanjing Green Exposition Park and Nanjing Jinling Shipyard. Although we didn't have the chance to witness the Yangtze finless porpoise, known as the "giant panda in water", leaping out of the river, the "Yangtze River Legend" cruise still brings visitors a wonderful trip. It may be one of the most enjoyable afternoons you have spent in Nanjing.



THE BRILLIANT JIANGNAN DREAM in a SUMMER NIGHT

—Geng Chunxiao

In the hot summer, when the gentleness and beauty of the charm of Jiangsu in the daytime fade away at night, a picturesque scroll of brilliance in a sea of lights will be unfolded. Yanhe Lane Seafood Night Market of Lianyungang, Qingming Bridge Jinye Liangxiao Night Market, Qingguo Lane night cruise, taking a night tour on the Jinji Lake, listening to Kunqu opera at the Surging Wave Pavilion at night, looking for beautiful night scenery by the Confucius Temple... These "night pearls" sparkle, so that "Charm of Jiangsu" is enhanced with a different kind of beauty among the sound of paddles and light and shadow.

The clouds of summer heat disperse and are replaced by a cool breeze. The night economy is about the common life of people and is the light of the city, embodying the good life in Jiangsu. The beauty of a night tour of Jiangsu lies not only in the dazzling night view, the delicious food or the profound history and culture, but also in the cultural tourism space that displays the city's aesthetics, in the dynamic and exciting cultural tourism activities, and in every enthusiastic participation in cultural tourism consumption. Together they form the vivid and beautiful view of "Charm of Jiangsu".





COME TO LIANYUNGANG to Eat Authentic Seafood in the Night Market

—Ju Shenshi

Yanhe Lane Night Market has the most authentic seafood barbecue stalls in the coastal city of Lianyungang.

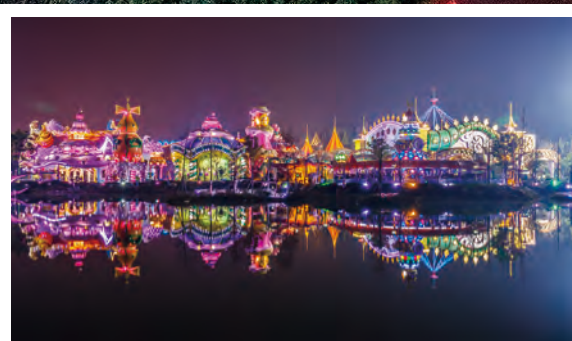


Every day as the sun sets and night falls, the seafood barbecue stalls become alive with incessant hellos and shouts, all kinds of seafood and snacks exuding tempting aromas, and an endless stream of diners enjoying the delicious taste of the coastal city. In January 2022, in the selection of "Charm of Jiangsu • The Most Beautiful Night", Yanhe Lane Night Market ranked first in the overall score and was listed in "the Top Ten Night Markets" in Jiangsu Province. Mantis shrimp, oyster, conch, crayfish, squid, abalone... You can find all kinds of seafood here. In summer evenings, meet three or five friends at a food stall and sit in the open air while eating seafood, drinking beer, chatting and laughing. How refreshing!

Having dined and wine to satiety, a visit to the Yanhe River at night is warranted. There is a Magpie Bridge near the Yanhe Lane Night Market, which is a good place to go on Chinese Valentine's Day in summer. The water surfaces besides the Magpie Bridge on Yanhe River are equipped with a water curtain light show and a music fountain. A night culture corridor on both sides of the river is also created by the "ancient footpath" and the magic light and shadow. Taking a cruise on the Yanhe River to enjoy the scenery, you can watch the light and shadow of the water curtain and listen to the water melody... The Magpie Bridge Festival in July, the lanterns in August, and the melody heard in a boat with an unobstructed view of the Yanhe River are waiting for you.

CHANGZHOU'S NIGHT WITH THE GRAND CANAL FAIRS AND DINOSAURS

—Holly Guo



To experience Changzhou's night, the Qingguo Lane located in the most prosperous section of the Grand Canal in Changzhou CANNOT BE MISSED.

It has numerous boats vying with each other and countless businessmen and guests swarming. For thousands of years, Qingguo Lane has resided in the city snuggling the Grand Canal. The river, interdependent with the houses along the river, the streets of the block, the former residence of celebrities, and majestic mansions, integrate the ancient beauty of the Grand Canal with modern style of a new Changzhou.

Qingguo Lane Historic and Cultural District is a typical residential community along the canal in the south of the Yangtze River. The entire block is unfolded along the ancient canal in the shape of a comb, displaying a typical southern water town, with houses standing by the flowing water. In the gentle moonlight, the light of newly lit lanterns and the starlight, the long canal is especially

beautiful. You will be fascinated by the lane life of the city in the colorful light and shadow.

At present, the block has gathered diversified scenes such as innovation space of intangible cultural heritages, master studios, homestay inns, and catering teahouses, boasting interesting night tour activities. "Qingguo Xishi" aims to create theme fairs of superb domestic goods, beautiful handicrafts, Qingguo night banquet, and Qingguo co-brands, and take tourists to experience the prosperity of the fair in the ancient lane where vendors and tourists jostled each other. It is a place where traditional culture collides with contemporary trends, allowing tourists to immerse themselves to experience the "Chinese fashion trend" and find new activities in summer nights.

G

lobal Dinosaur Town, 10 kilometers away from Qingguo Lane, is also a must-see in Changzhou Scenic Area and is known as "Oriental Jurassic". It gathers a number of leisure and entertainment venues such as China Dinosaur Land, Dino Water Town, and Dinoman Club, whose gorgeous lights brighten the night sky of Changzhou. The implementation of the music festival, the sports festival, the tent film festival, and the intangible cultural heritage exhibition has made Changzhou Global Dinosaur Town a place that children are longing to go in the summer vacation.

Among them, China Dinosaur Land holds different activities such as the exciting night tour, cool night show, and bright cruise every summer. In recent years, the new activities have enhanced the beauty of night in different ways: "Bright Starlight Patrol" turns the hot air into gorgeous colors, where you can experience the exciting surprise of "live dinosaurs" and interact closely with them; "Big D Music Festival" brings a super exciting music experience where colorful lights echo with the drums of restlessness, bringing the summer night to its peak.



Drift on JINJI LAKE and Listen to Kunqu Opera in the World Cultural Heritage Garden

—Geng Chunxiao



When the heavy traffic and riot of sounds in the daytime fade, the bright lanterns on the shore of Jinji Lake in Suzhou are lit up at night. On a cool summer night, the scenery on the smoggy and immense Jinji Lake completely unveils the "ancient charm and modern style" of the water town Gusu. 7.4 square kilometers of waters adds radiance to the garden and the water village, which is the most fashionable and vibrant side of Suzhou tourism, just like "double-sided embroidery" integrating both ancient charm and modern style.

Be it on a boat or on foot along the lake,

or boarding the ferris wheel to have a night view of Jinji Lake, the bright lights are as brilliant as the Milky Way, applying colors to the surface of the Jinji Lake, which is extremely gorgeous. Thousands of lights around the surrounding areas flicker like stars. The buildings are decorated with neon lights that are particularly eye-catching, spectacular and dazzling. The 14-km-long footpath around Jinji Lake connects Suzhou's iconic building "Gate of the Orient" the finishing touch of Suzhou's night view "Music Fountain", and Jinji Lake light show and other scenes. The colorful lights outline the unique shape of buildings, and decorate the Li-

gongdi Causeway, rendering it a gorgeous rainbow on Jinji Lake. The Moon Harbor and Taohua Island in the lake center is also particularly beautiful at night.

You can read or shop at Eslite Bookstore, watch operas at Suzhou Culture and Arts Center, and listen to Kunqu Opera in Suzhou Garden at night... At Jinji Lake, the most beautiful "urban living room" of Suzhou, culture and tourism are deeply integrated, the night economic pattern is complete, and cultural scenarios are rich, depicting a prosperous night picture of Suzhou that's most international, fashionable, and modern.

As an important part of Suzhou gardens, some of which serving as UNESCO world heritage sites, the waters around the Surging Wave Pavilion are equipped with a light belt for night sightseeing. Whenever night falls, along the Renmin Road by the Surging Wave Pavilion, and through Yinxu Bridge to Dayun Bridge, the warm orange lights are orderly lit up. In the garden, the immersive garden version of Kunqu Opera *Six Chapters of a Floating Life* kicks off at night. When the melody and soft Suzhou dialect encounter greenery shadows, it perfectly recovers the enjoyment of Kunqu Opera in the garden of distinguished families in "Jiangnan", or

the area south of the downstream Yangtze River in ancient times. It should be reminded that the night performance time needs to be confirmed in advance with the scenic area.

As one of the four famous gardens in Suzhou, the Master-of-Nets Garden is the first tourist attraction in Jiangsu and even

the whole country to open and launch night tour products, which often hosts night garden performances. Kunqu Opera, Pingtan, Guqin, traditional stringed and woodwind music, classical dance and other art performances with Suzhou characteristics come out in turn. The garden and the song are combined into one, and being in it is like traveling through time and space.

TIPS

Jinji Lake

Tel: 4007-558-558

Transportation: 10 km from Suzhou Railway Station, 20 minutes' drive

Surging Wave Pavilion

Opening hours: 07:30-17:30

Tel: 0512-67970005

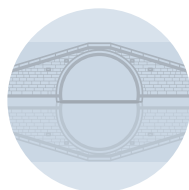
Transportation: 6 km from Suzhou Railway Station, 18 minutes' drive



When the Lanterns are On, Look for Fireworks on Qingming Bridge

—Geng Chunxiao

Wuxi, located on the junction of the Yangtze River and the sea, borders the Taihu Lake. It is a famous historical and cultural city cultivated by the Grand Canal which not only passes through the city in Wuxi, but also passes around it, shaping the old city of Wuxi into a turtle shell and creating the historical districts of Beitang Street outside the north gate and Qingming Bridge Historical Culture Block outside the south gate. The Qingming Bridge Historical Culture Block, rooted on the banks of



the Wuxi section of the Grand Canal and located at the southern end of Wuxi City, takes the canal as the center axis and Qingming Bridge as the core, preserving the original ecological features and the living habits and customs inherited from generation to generation. With the ancient river, bridge, street, kiln and temple adding radiance to each other, the block is known as "the open-air museum by the canal".

The section extending from Kuatang Bridge to Qingming Bridge of

the ancient canal is 1.5 kilometers long and about 20 meters wide, dotted by historical relics and human landscapes along the bank. You can feel the night breeze, stroll on the stone road of the Qingming Bridge Historical Culture Block, watch the canal water connecting the ancient bridges, and visit the Chinese Silk Industry Museum, the ancient kiln group site, the traditional opera pier, and the former residence of celebrities... These long corridors along the water and carved windows are all telling the charm of "Jiangnan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River.

The many elements in this area such as the temples, towers, pagodas, rivers, streets, bridges, kilns, houses and workshops are as intoxicating as in *Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival*, a masterpiece by Zhang Zeduan from the Song Dynasty.

Night experience consumption products of cultural tourism such as immersive performing arts, intangible cultural heritage interaction, and 3D light show make the night of the Qingming Bridge Historical Culture Block even more beautiful and lively. In the block, Wuxi "Jinye Liangxiao" Night Market is built, which includes the canal night banquet, Qingchuang fair, dynamic stage, special lanterns, and mobile floats, forming a colorful life of the night market.

When lights are on, you can watch the wonderful performances such as traditional Chinese costume parade at the night market "Jinye Liangxiao", and live in special homestays along the south street and experience the common life in "Jiangnan".



Drifting on the canal at night,
you can also see the households
on both sides.





ENJOY the "NIGHT FEAST" of Culture and Tourism of Ancient Capital Nanjing

— Yara from Egypt
Hohai University student

With the bloom of pomegranate flowers and phoenix flowers in summer, we can start a night tour at Nanjing Confucius Temple Qinhuai River Scenic Area. Qinhuai River, flowing for a thousand years, countless literati and writers have left their poems here. Ancient boats, water pavilions, green windows and vermilion houses... are all vaguely reminiscent of the old days, and here you can look for the dream of Jinling and feel the ancient capital of six dynasties in Chinese history at night.

Confucius Temple Qinhuai River Scenic Area in Qinhuai District of Nanjing is one of the most famous open scenic areas in China. The scenic belt takes Ten kilometers of Qinhuai River as the axis, and the Confucius Temple as the center, with Dongshuiguan in the east and Xishuiguan in the west. The scenic

belt is famous for the flourishing culture in "Jiangnan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River, and the style of elegance and freedom. It contains the Confucius Temple, Zhan Garden, Zhonghua Gate Castle and other influential scenic spots.

When night falls, the lanterns are on, and the lights on both sides of the Qinhuai River are brilliant. Take the Qinhuai Painting Boat on the river, along the river



TIPS

**Nanjing Confucius Temple
Qinhuai River Scenic Area**

Tel: 025-52209788

Transportation:
10 km from Nanjing Railway
Station, 15 minutes' drive

hall buildings on both sides of the river, quaint and magnificent, the water pavilion water corridor stretches endlessly, scenic spots, historical relics are dotted, restaurant and tea houses along the river, the breeze is gentle, and the willows on both sides of the river are weeping. "Night Stand in Qinhuai" immersive cruise ship, paddle sound and light shadow through the "city that never sleeps", and "cultural night market" continues to heat up...

It is a 20-minute walk from the Confucius Temple for you to come to CinNaLane Historical and Cultural Leisure Block. There is The Former Residence of Gan Xi (Nanjing Folk Museum) and Daban Lane.

The lantern market, literati gathering, traditional Chinese costume try-on... After the lantern market at Daqiao, you will encounter the immersive performance *Happy Events of Nanjing*. CinNaLane's scenery at night is charming. The core culture here is intangible cultural heritage and opera. When you come to CinNaLane during the holidays, you can hear the sound of opera everywhere. In Qinhan Hutong and small stages in the block, opera, incense art, and folk music performances, as well as the intangible cultural heritage Baiju, are staged in turn.



TIPS

CinNaLane Historical and Cultural Leisure Block

Tel: 025-86882711

Transportation:
13 km from Nanjing Railway Station, 16 minutes' drive



The century-old restaurant Liuhuachun used to be the place where Soong Mayling invited George C. Marshall for dinner. In 2019, it was newly settled in CinNaLane. After tasting Jingsu cuisine and Huaiyang dishes in Liuhuachun, you can also drink a glass of German craft beer in one of the many bars

nearby, or go to the Finnegan's Wake-Irish Bar hidden in the alley for a taste of Irish whiskey. After drinking and eating to satiety, tourists can watch folk cultural performances, visit the night fair of intangible cultural heritage, and feel the cultural connotation of the "World Literature Capital".



A 600-YEAR-OLD GARDEN AND A 1800-YEAR-OLD AVENUE

— Geng Chunxiao



Zhan Garden is one of the "Four Famous Gardens in Jiangnan" and is the best-preserved classical garden complex of the Ming Dynasty in Nanjing. In Zhan Garden, which has a history of more than 600 years, there is the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom History Museum.

It is worth mentioning that Zhan Garden is the location where the Grand View Garden in the TV series *A Dream of Red Mansions* (1987 version) and the Bai Mansion in the TV series *The New Legend of White Snake* (1992 version starring Zhao Yazhi) were filmed. Wang Fulin and Xia Zuhui, the directors of these two TV series, were both born in Jiangsu. Many classic TV series were filmed here, which is enough to see the exquisite classicism of Zhan Garden.

You can enter the garden at 17:00 for the night tour when it's not dark. The breeze blows when you stroll through the corridor under the rosy glow of sunlight, and the

your dress, and the quaint pavilions and pagodas in Zhan Garden become resplendent under the neon light. The lights are changing, the lake is vast, the ancient music is echoing, and among the ships and pavilions, the talented and beautiful ladies walk with the music, just like in a dream.

Little Sister Lin Falls down from the Heaven, The Peony Pavilion, The Butterfly Lovers... the immersive live-action opera performance starts at 18:30. A romantic piece of Kunqu Opera, a scene of "A Dream of Red Mansions" in the Yueju Opera, and the vast expanse of water under the misty halo render the scenery of Zhan Garden all the more touching.

It should be remembered that the immersive live-action opera performance is held every Saturday night and may be suspended due to weather and other factors. Please refer to the announcement of the scenic area. Don't forget to bring mosquito repellents. The luxuriance of plants in this "No. 1 Garden in Jinling" will surprise you.



TIPS

Zhan Garden

Opening hours: 08:30-17:00 (day), 17:00-21:00 (night), closed on Mondays
Tel: 025-52201849

Transportation: 9 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 24 minutes' drive

light and shadow in Zhan Garden are intertwined. On the Ma Tau walls, there are oleanders, trumpet creepers, hypericum, and pomegranate flowers. In the courtyard, with the window under the banana leaves, the roof made of green tiles, the water of a ravine stream and the wind breezing through the pine trees, every frame is full of the fresh beauty of "Jiangnan". The courtyard is filled with Chinese parasols, hackberries, camphor trees, osmanthus, michelia trees, willows, etc. When encountering the hydrangea blooming in front of the western rockery among the flowers and trees, it is an unforgettable beauty for more than 600 years that haunts my heart.

Zhan Garden is a riot of colors during daytime and is poetic and picturesque at night. When night falls and lights are on, the shadows under moonlight dance with

The superior beauty of Nanjing lies in its mountains, rivers, city and forest during the day, in the nighttime cultural tourism space that shows the aesthetics of the ancient capital, and in the 24-hour cultural tourism activities full of vitality. When you come to Nanjing Changjiang Avenue at night, you can feel the endless vitality and prosperity of the ancient capital of six dynasties in Chinese history. Nanjing Changjiang Avenue with a history of the ancient capital Jinling for more than 1,800 years is about 1,800 meters long, and gathers more than 30 cultural, tourism and business resource carriers. Along the Nanjing Changjiang Avenue is a thousand-year-old cultural heritage and classics, where you can see the Meiyuan Xincun Memorial of the Delegation of Chinese Communist Party, The Oriental Metropolitan Museum/The 3rd-6th Century, and the Presidential Palace Scenic Spot, Nanjing Library, 1912 Block, Jiangsu Art Museum, Jiangning Imperial Silk Manufacturing Museum and a series of cultural relics and historical sites and modern

cultural tourism attractions, which can be said to have one scenic spot every three steps and one remains every five steps.

The common life of the city is hidden in the night market. On the bank of the Yangtze River, at the foot of the Mufu Mountain which combines natural scenery, historical and cultural sights, and the charm of the river, you can roam in the Nanjing Muyan Binjiang Scenic Area. On one side is a steep mountain, and a mighty river on the other. Between the massive river and the majestic mountain, the Wumadu Car Boot Sale Cultural Fair held from time to time has been very hot recently.

Cars with star lights hung neatly line up; the carefully arranged car boots are opened, displaying summer special drinks, barbecues, Nanjing ducks, plum cakes, flowers, and a dazzling array of accessories and cultural and creative products... It

not only brings a new life scene combining music, movies, river banks, evening breeze, and slight drunkenness, but also connects the beautiful memories of Matai Street Night Market, Shanxi Road Night Market, Hunan Road Night Market, etc., which are all the most vivid and beautiful scenes of summer nights.





The sounds of the wind, of the rain,
and of reading aloud all come to my ears;
the affairs of the family, of the state and
of the world are all my concerns...

THE POWER OF MUSEUMS

—Geng Chunxiao

Earlier this summer, International Museum Day was held. The International Council of Museums has announced its 2022 theme: *The Power of Museums*.

On the occasion of the 46th International Museum Day, TravelGo, a Chinese travel service platform, released the "Top 10 Most Popular Museums for Travelers in China in the First Half of 2022". Nanjing Museum and Nanjing Imperial Examination Museum of China, also known as Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall, were included in the list.

Museums in the 21st century, on top of making the world a better place, have enormous potential and influence to enrich summer life. Coinciding with the summer vacation, the museums have become a good place for students to study. Science and technology museums, memorial halls, art galleries, public cultural spaces... Entering the research and study spaces shared by the host and guests all over Jiangsu, you'll find they all have humanistic concern, aesthetic taste and cultural connotation. Whether it's watching plays or exhibitions, reading or watching movies, learning knowledge, entertainment, or immersive experience, research spaces with both

"beauty" and "connotation" everywhere have not only become a new landmark of Jiangsu's cultural and tourism integration, but also nurtured the minds of students with the thousand-year-old cultural heritage.

The sounds of the wind, of the rain, and of reading aloud all come to my ears; the affairs of the family, of the state and of the world are all my concerns... This couplet hanged more than 400 years ago by the Donglin Academy in Wuxi, a famous academy in China, demonstrates the earnest expectations for young people from ancient times to the present. In the Wuxi public cultural space, the Donglin Academy's "Academy Life Culture and Tourism Experience Center", which carries Donglin Academy's style of study for a thousand years and the vitality of the times, has

opened new learning activities such as research camps and traditional art training during the summer vacation. It also regularly conducts performances of Guqin, Kunqu Opera, Xiju Opera, Pingtan, and folk music, attracting many students wearing traditional Chinese costumes to come and taste special cakes and attend tea parties of the culture of Number One Scholar "Zhuangyuan", which means the exam's highest scorer.

During the summer holidays, we will also celebrate China's 17th Cultural and Natural Heritage Day. China boasts 42 intangible cultural heritage items on the UNESCO's Lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage as of December 2020, ranking first in the world. Data from TravelGo shows that by the end of May 2022, the number of searches for

tourism related to cultural heritages has increased by 127% year on year. In the whole country, it is people in Jiangsu province that pay the most attention to cultural heritage tourism. The intangible cultural heritage is the cultural code shared by every Chinese person. They are not displayed on shelves or frozen in Chinese characters, but are vividly integrated into our lives. We invite foreign college students from all over Jiangsu to visit the Chinese Imperial Examination Museum and other good places for research and study, to experience Fu Baoshi's style, Lin Sanzhi's manner, and Yan Wenliang's charm, and to have education tourism in summer, 'self-improvement and self-cultivation that's the same as thousands of years ago.

Interestingly, every year the second day of the International Museum Day is China Tourism Day, and China Tourism Day has a long history with Jiangsu.

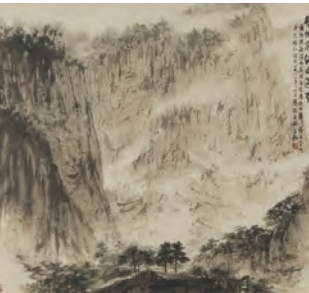
In the 1608, 22-year-old Xu Xiake decided to take a trip without plan. He set out from his hometown of Jiangyin, Jiangsu province. After more than 30 years, he traveled most of China. He wrote a 600,000-word of *The Travels of Xu Xiake*, and he was called "The Chinese 'Traveling Saint'". More than 400 years later, Ma Shaoqin, a native of Ninghai, Zhejiang province, called for the establishment of "China Tourism Day" and it was dated at May 19, which was the opening day of *Diary of a Visit to Tiantai Mountain*, the first chapter of *The Travels of Xu Xiake*. After the adoption of the resolution, every year on May 19 is "China Tourism Day" since 2011. On the occasion of this ancient day of fun brought by the 400-year-old KOL in the field of tourism, the charming Jiangsu with more than 300 registered museums, sincerely invites you to visit.



Fu Baoshi Memorial Hall

A Painter's Former Residence
Near Century-Old Academies

— Jhandre R. Intriago from Ecuador
Hohai University student



⬆ Fu Baoshi's painting and calligraphy works

TIPS

Opening hours:
closed on Mondays
Tel: 025-83732904
Transportation:
15 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 30 minutes' drive



standards of that time. He went to Japan to study the History of Oriental Art in the Tokyo School of Fine Arts. After returning to China, he worked in the National Central University and Nanjing Normal University. Fu Baoshi was also the director of the Jiangsu Traditional Chinese Painting Institute and the vice chairman of the Chinese Artist Federation.

An ancient but elegant style with a poetic atmosphere and new painting techniques represent Fu Baoshi's works. His feelings towards the land of China are also strongly recognizable, as the splendor of rivers and mountains inspired by nature are present in most of his paintings, making him the representative landscape painter of his time. In addition to landscape painting, Fu Baoshi was also inclined toward figure painting. His paintings became so well known that he was even considered more advanced than most of his contemporaries for his innovative brushwork and unique image composition.

Among many of the fine art theses by Fu Baoshi, he analyzed the evolution of Chinese painting and consequently thoroughly investigated the history of landscape painting in past centuries, including works by other renowned Chinese great painters. Fu Baoshi sought to equal the greatness in his works of painters from different eras, such as the Yuan Dynasty and the Ming Dynasty, among others, until he finally became one of the master painters of his time.

In Ecuador, the South American country I come from, there were also great painters comparable to Fu Baoshi. Ecuadorian painters developed a wide variety of styles ranging from religious pieces to landscapes and abstract paintings that allow us to admire the art history of an area rich in resources and culture. In contrast to the works of Fu Baoshi, Oswaldo Guayasamín, known to be one of the most important Ecuadorian painters of the 20th century, focused his works on poverty. He was an avid supporter of indigenous people.

Lin Sanzhi Memorial Hall

Appreciate

"Sage of Cursive Calligraphy"

—Geng Chunxiao

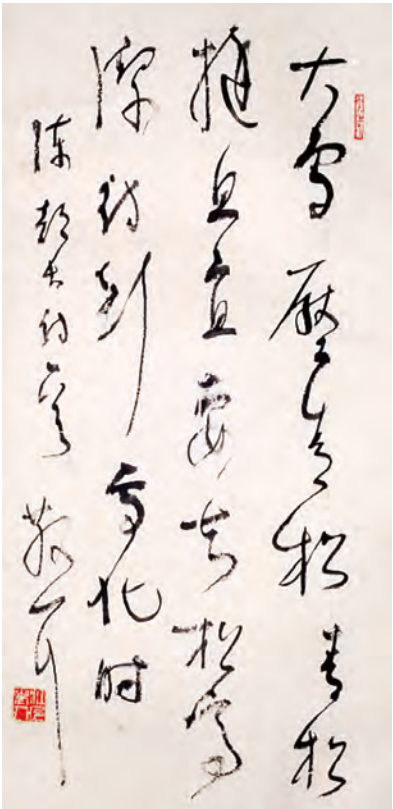


Mr. Lin Sanzhi was born in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province in 1898. He is a master of poetry, calligraphy and painting in modern China, and is known for "three wonders". His bold and unrestrained "San Style" cursive script is particularly beyond comparison today, winning him the name of "Sage of Cursive Calligraphy".

Qiyu Mountain Cultural Park in Pukou District, Nanjing, used to be a place where ancient people set up altars to pray for rain. The grass and trees here reveal the ancient charm of immortality. Today, it brings together the memorial halls of Lin Sanzhi, Hu Xiaoshi, Gao Ershi, and Xiao Xian, the four contemporary calligraphers, and tens of thousands of precious calligraphy and paintings in the collection. Each brick and tile carries a strong cultural atmosphere.

Among them, the Lin Sanzhi Memorial Hall was built by the mountain, with the garden-style buildings of Ming and Qing dynasties hidden on the sunny slope in green pines and cypresses. The main exhibition buildings in the hall are the Sanmu Mountain House, the Stele Gallery, and the Qiyu Mountain Painting and Calligraphy Institute. The museum has more than 500 paintings and calligraphy works by Mr. Lin Sanzhi.

It takes 45 minutes to drive from Qiyu Mountain Cultural Park to Pukou Caosheng Shuxiang Cultural Park, where calligraphy culture is the core to build a cultural exchange base, including Lin Sanzhi Art Exchange Center, Lin Sanzhi's former residence "House of Three Obsessions" and other places. In addition, you can also visit Lingongdi at night to appreciate the calligraphy culture and artistic style.



⬆ Lin Sanzhi's calligraphy works

TIPS

Lin Sanzhi Memorial Hall
Opening hours: closed on Mondays
How to book: Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Qiyu Mountain Memorial Hall of Cultural Celebrities"
Tel: 025-58884949
Transportation: 25 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 40 minutes' drive

Caosheng Shuxiang
Opening hours: 09:00-17:30
How to book: Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Cao Sheng Shu Xiang"
Tel: 025-56670066
Transportation: 50 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 1 hour and 10 minutes' drive





Take a Literary and Retro Aesthetic Journey in Suzhou

—Hu Xiao

There is an old ancient Greek style building by the Surging Wave Pavilion in Suzhou with twelve quite distinctive Roman columns in front of the corridor.

Here, you can talk to the literati garden in "Jiangnan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River. It used to be the site of Suzhou Art Academy, one of the cradles of modern art education in China. The main building is the Greek-style teaching building built by Mr. Yan Wenliang, commonly known as the "Roman Building".

The founder of the art academy, Yan Wenliang, has cultivated a large number of artistic talents. Along with Xu Beihong, Lin Fengmian, and Liu Haisu, he is listed as the "Four Founders" of China's modern art education. He established China's first art museum, the Suzhou Art Museum, which has been here for over a century.

After renovations in recent years, the Yan Wenliang Memorial Hall has been connected to the Surging Wave Pavilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the oldest existing garden

in Suzhou. The memorial hall specially restores the classrooms, school flags, school emblems, school journals and other physical materials used by Suzhou Art Academy. Here, you can also watch interviews with old alumni of Suzhou Art Academy. In addition, exhibitions of Yan Wenliang and Suzhou Art Academy are held all year round.

From Yan Wenliang Memorial Hall, it takes a 30 minutes' walk to Wu Zuoren Art Museum, which is located near the Twin Towers, a famous ancient architectural attraction in Suzhou, and not far from Suzhou Pingjiang Historic Block.

Wu Zuoren is another leading figure in the Chinese art community after Xu Beihong, and is an outstanding contemporary Chinese painter. With a style of his own, he has deep attainments in sketching, oil painting, and art education, and in the creation of Chinese painting.

After the renovation, Wu Zuoren Art Museum has successively launched exhibitions such as "Research Exhibition of Wu

Zuoren and Xiao Shufang's 'Foziling Reservoir'" and "Research Exhibition of Wu Zuoren and Suzhou", systematically displaying Wu Zuoren's artistic thought of "art for life" and his deep affection for hometown.

Along with the Yan Wenliang Memorial Hall and Wu Zuoren Art Museum, which belong to the Suzhou Municipal Center of Public Culture, there is also the Hang Mingshi Pastel Art Museum located on the bank of the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal. Not far away is the Suzhou Stone Lake scenic spot. It can be said that the beauty is in the museum, and the museum is in the painting.

As the first pastel art museum in China, the Hang Mingshi Pastel Art Museum has a construction area of 1,600 square meters, and has successively launched exhibitions such as "Hangmingshi Pastel Exhibition" and "The No. 1 Master of Calendar Picture Art, Hang Zhiying Art Documentary Exhibition". It regularly carries out the "Face to Face with Masters" pastel painting salon, which has become a shining cultural card of Suzhou.

TIPS

Yan Wenliang Memorial Hall

Opening hours: closed on Mondays

How to book:

Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Suzhou Municipal Center of Public Culture"

Tel: 0512-65305218

Transportation: 5.9 km from Suzhou Railway Station, 30 minutes' drive

Recommended nearby attractions:

Surging Wave Pavilion, 280 meters from the art museum

Wu Zuoren Art Museum

Opening hours: closed on Mondays

How to book:

Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Suzhou Municipal Center of Public Culture"

Tel: 0512-65245629

Transportation: 6.2 km from Suzhou Railway Station, 30 minutes' drive

Recommended nearby attractions:

Twin Towers, 120 meters from the art museum



Hang Mingshi Pastel Art Museum

Opening hours: closed on Mondays

How to book:

Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Suzhou Municipal Center of Public Culture"

Tel: 0512-69351268

Transportation: 11 km from Suzhou Railway Station, 40 minutes' drive

Recommended nearby attractions:

Stone Lake scenic spot, 2.5 km from the art museum





Nanjing Imperial Examination Museum of China

— *Wali* from Nepal
Nanjing University of Aeronautics and
Astronautics student

Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall was built in 1168, and it was initially the examination venue for prefecture and sub-prefecture schools. After the expansion, it reached its peak during the reign of the Emperor Tongzhi in the Qing Dynasty. It covered an area of 300,000 square meters, which included 20,644 exam cells. It produced the largest number of Zhuangyuan (the highest scorer), Bangyan (the second highest scorer), and Tanhua (the third highest scorer). It was the most influential examination hall in Chinese history.

The construct of the Imperial Examination Museum of China in Nanjing is based on the site of Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall, and it is a theme museum that system-

atically reflects the ancient Chinese imperial examination system and culture. It consists of three parts, which includes the main body of the four-story underground museum, the preservation area of Mingyuan Mansion, and the imperial examination themed culture experience zone in the south pavilion. You can learn about the thousand years' history of the imperial examination, the examinees' challenging experience of preparing for exams, as well as the mass culture influenced by the imperial examination. You would experience the prosperity of Nanjing as the center of the examination in southern areas and understand the historical value of the imperial examination system.

The Chinese imperial examination system has lasted for more than a thousand years since its founding during the Sui Dynasty.

The collections in the museum are mainly documents and archives, ancient engraving books, calligraphy and painting, furniture couplets, ceramics, silk fabrics and so on. There is also a precious champion plaque in the exhibition hall. The plaque is decorated with hollow carved figure paintings, depicting scenes.

In order to allow the audience to deeply perceive the ancient imperial examination culture, the museum uses many technologies and multimedia means. On the big screen at the entrance of the welcome hall, animated short films such as *Fish Leaping Over the Dragon Gate* are played. As long as a scholar passes the Palace Examination and become a "Jinshi", this achievement would be called "Mount Longmen", implying that a "fish" becomes a "dragon", and



making the start of being a political official.

Kuixingtang's "Kuixing Diandou" is a popular interactive device for audiences. Kuixing is the star official in charge of the imperial examination and literary movement in ancient legends. The ceiling is designed as a starry night sky, through highlighting the dipper, the scene implies the allusion of the blessing of Kuixing. Visitors could have an immersive experience when admiring the theme film about a candidate's journey of testing projected on the circular screen above the wall.

Since the Song Dynasty, "Succeeding in the Imperial Exam" had been regarded as one of the four universally recognized greatest pleasures in one's life. Succeeding in the Imperial Examination by studying hard was every intellectual scholar's life ideal in the past, and a magnificent glory for individual and their family, was even prevalent as a social value.

I feel very lucky to experience the profound history and culture of Jiangnan Imperial Examination Hall which is more than 800 years old.



TIPS

Opening hours: 09:00-21:30

How to book:

Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the We-Chat public account of "Nanjing Imperial Examination Museum of China"

Tel: 025-52236971

Transportation:

10 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 20 minutes' drive

Take an Adventure in Nanjing Science and Technology Museum

— Rosy from Gabon
Hohai University student
Photographed by Liu Chenghe



Curious about technology, some Chinese friends and I visited the Nanjing Science and Technology Museum in summer vacation. As soon as we arrived at our destination, I noticed the special and innovative shape of the main building, which looked like a giant oval flying saucer from a distance and a submarine up close. My friend told me that it was designed by a famous Canadian designer, inspired by the Nautilus from the science fiction novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne. Another distinctive feature of this place compared to other science museums lies in its beautiful park. It includes a wetland park, a back hill, a ceremonial square and other outdoor attractions. The vast space in front of

the main building is called the ceremonial square, and the park is divided into two sides, east and west, by the main road. The park is full of greenery, which makes you feel like entering a new world. All the plants and animals in the park are accompanied by explanatory signs with scientific information about the species, making it easy for visitors to learn about nature at leisure.

The first floor of the exhibition hall shows some knowledge of plants, water and the earth, from which you can learn some common sense, such as where the daily water comes from, how to make trees grow faster. The second floor shows the extensive application of artificial intelligence technology. A variety of technology products charm me a lot, such as machine fish, music robots. The most interesting thing is that there are many interactive games related to science and technology in the exhibition hall, allowing visitors to experience the unique feelings brought by science and explore the scientific mysteries behind the magical phenomena, so as to achieve the effect of education and entertainment. Nanjing Science and Technology Museum truly integrates science and technology with humanities, arts and nature.

TIPS

Opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday 09:00-17:00

How to book:

Make an appointment in advance on the homepage of the WeChat public account of "Nanjing Science & Technology Museum"

Tel: 025-58076111

Transportation:

3 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 9 minutes' drive

Enjoy COOL Summer Food

—Geng Chunxiao

What do Jiangsu people eat in summer? There are too many seasonal fruits and vegetables to feast on in summer, such as peaches, watermelons, grapes, loquats, etc. The sweet aroma of ripe fruits is everywhere. The food memories belonging to summer in Jiangsu are far more than these...



COLD DRINK >> >



Suzhou Mung Bean Soup

Suzhou people's mung bean soup is different, with more than 10 kinds of ingredients: red and green shreds, glutinous rice, mung beans, wax gourd sugar, candied dates, raisins, kidney beans... Paired with chilled mint water, it is the best "life-sustaining weapon" for Suzhou people in summer. The earlier Suzhou mung bean soup was roughly divided into the traditional version with lily and mung beans as the representative ingredients, and the high-end version with red and green shreds, wax gourd sugar, and candied dates as the representative ingredients. Now on the market, the high-end version of Suzhou mung bean soup has gradually replaced the traditional version, and has become the most representative summer heat-relieving weapon in the streets and alleys of Suzhou.



Suzhou Sour Plum Soup



For native Suzhou people, to quench their thirst in summer, a cup of traditional sour plum soup is indispensable. The ingredient selection and production of sour plum soup are very particular. The main raw material is dried plums, called sour plums, also known as black plums, and its "predecessor" is green plums. After picking the plums, they are dried at low temperature to make black plums, which are then boiled with ginger, white sugar, brown sugar, sweet-scented osmanthus and other ingredients using an old-fashioned method. On a hot summer day, drinking a sip of the cold sour plum soup spreads its unique sweet and sour aroma to the bottom of the heart. Savoring it, the sweetness and mellow fragrance are enough to dilute all the troubles of summer. In the old days, most of the sour plum soup was supplied by fruit shops or candy stores, and it was purely handmade. Today, although it has been changed to machine production, the mellow taste of sour plum soup has not changed over the years. Every summer, you can still buy bottled sour plum concentrated juice or canned sour plum soup in Suzhou traditional candy stores and souvenir shops.



Yangzhou Slender West Lake Wuting

Bridge Ice Cream: In the Slender West Lake, Wuting Bridge is like a slim and graceful lotus. Have a bite of the small and exquisite Wuting Bridge ice cream with milky fragrance, you're enjoying a way of Huaiyang life.

Suzhou Humble Administrator's Garden

Jianshan Tower Ice Cream: Open the window of the tower, you can see peaks after peaks and feel a carefree and leisure life without going out of the city. The unique fan-shaped ice cream allows you to enjoy

a feast for both the sight and taste. The signature of Suzhou is printed on the stick, which can also be collected as a bookmark.

Xuzhou "Landmark" Cultural and Creative Ice Cream:

Students from the Youth Learning Club of Xuzhou Open University designed the cultural and creative ice cream of various shapes based on Xuzhou's landmark buildings, including Yunlong Mountain, Yanzi Tower, Xima Stage, Jiuli Mountain, Sugong Pagoda,

Pengzu Garden, the concert hall and others. There are strawberry, green orange and other flavors and they are made of milk powder, cream, pulp and so on. The words "I love Xuzhou", printed on ice cream sticks, indicate the original taste of old Xuzhou.

Zhenjiang Vinegar Culture Museum, Nanjing Museum, and Imperial Examination Museum of China in Nanjing

have respectively reproduced Hengshun Sauce and Vinegar Factory, the underglaze red plum vase with the pattern of three durable plants in winter - pine, bamboo and plum blossom made in the Hongwu period of the Ming Dynasty that is the most precious treasure of Nanjing Museum, and Mingyuan Tower as the shape of the cultural and creative ice cream with symbols of the scenic area, and launched strawberry, cream, yellow rice wine, aromatic vinegar, soy sauce cheese and other flavors based on their exclusive features.



Huai'an Qingjiangpu Tower Ice Cream: As the first cultural and creative ice cream in Huai'an, Qingjiangpu ice cream was created by Huai'an Group of Culture and Tourism. In terms of shape, it chose Qingjiangpu Tower, a characteristic building with Huai'an Grand Canal culture. Standing at the intersection of the southern water villages and the northern plain, you may as well hold the ice cream in hand and take a picture for yourself to record the moment.

Xuanwu Lake Cultural and Creative Ice Cream:

It's modeled on Xuanwu Gate, every pillar, doorway, window and every detail of which is highly restored on the ice cream. The left side of the Xuanwu Gate is decorated with plum blossoms, and the upper right corner is a bright moon, implying happiness as perfect as the flowers and the full moon. The tradition of appreciating

plum blossoms and the moon at Xuanwu Lake is also integrated into it. In 2022, the Xuanwu Lake Scenic Area has also launched a new series of cultural and creative ice creams with cherry blossoms. Four plump cherry blossoms are crowded together, which is quite cute.

NAU Ice Cream: Nanjing Agricultural University's "Nong-flavor" cultural and creative ice cream combines the latest scientific research achievements of the tea science major of Nanjing Agricultural University, and has launched three flavors of green tea, black tea and dark tea. The design focuses on the main school building, the enrollment mascot Nanxiaonong, and NAU Roast Chicken. These cultural symbols that are deeply rooted in the

hearts of people are lively and lovable. As an ice cream combined with technology, "Nong-flavor" ice cream relies on the technical process of the technical team of the Institute of Tea Science of Nanjing Agricultural University, selects high-quality Nanjing Yuhua Tea as the raw material, and adopts stone-grinding micron-level wall-breaking technology and ultra-low temperature ultra-fine grinding to retain beneficial components such as tea polyphenols, amino acids and multivitamins in the raw tea material.

Niushou Mountain Cultural and Creative Ice Cream: In the middle of the ice cream are the representative Usnisa Palace and Usnisa Pagoda of Niushou Mountain. Against the background of the

pond water and lotus, you're holding the majestic Niushou Mountain in the palm of your hand. The ice cream stick contains blessings such as "Bullish Lucky", and the scenic area also launched a cultural and creative ice cream in the shape of the Fengling Tower.

Jiming Temple Cherry Blossom Ice Cream: Jiming Temple in Nanjing combines the ancient temple building Bhaishajyaguru Pagoda with the Jiming Temple Road Cherry Blossom Avenue, and the characteristics of Jiming Temple are carefully carved on the ice cream, so that tourists can enjoy the taste of spring in summer. The ice cream stick has a signature inside, which can also be used as a bookmark collection.

Cultural and Creative ICE CREAM

—Samantha

In recent years, many cultural and tourism venues have produced the cultural and creative ice cream with the elements of the scenic spots. Holding the cultural and creative ice cream to take pictures has become the "standard practice" for many people on the tour.

COOL DIM SUM >> >



—Miya

Lianyungang Banpu Bean Jelly

The special snack in Banpu Town, Lianyungang, is made by diluting the starch of beans or sweet potatoes into a paste and then condensing it. It is smooth and elastic in shape, tender in the mouth, slippery on the palate but not greasy, and tastes refreshing and fragrant mixed with garlic, sesame oil, vinegar, chili sauce and other seasonings.

Suqian Crystal Hawthorn Cake

It is a special traditional cake in Suqian which is beautiful in color and tastes refreshing. It's yellowish and transparent like crystal, hence the name. Its main raw material is high-quality iron ball hawthorn which is so named because of its hardness and iron ball-like shape. It feels icy and slippery in the mouth, promotes the secretion of saliva and nourishes the face, and whets the appetite in summer.



COLD NOODLES / PORRIDGE >> >

Suzhou Fan Cold Noodles

Steam the noodles with eggs and alkaline water, boil in boiled water for a while and fished them up, mixed with a little cooked onion oil, cool it with a fan, and then mixed with sesame oil, shrimp soy sauce, bean sprouts, shredded cucumber, shredded chicken or minced pork and pickled beans. This is Suzhou Fan Cold Noodles. It tastes smooth and not sticky, with a refreshing fragrance and chewy texture.



Taizhou Rice-bit Porridge

Rice-bit porridge refers to porridge made from highland barley and rice. Highland barley is naked barley. There is a custom of eating this porridge in Taizhou, Jiangsu, and it has the reputation of "Taizhou black coffee". To make this porridge, it is necessary to add a little alkaline water to cook the porridge into red or light brown. The locals often get up in the morning to cook porridge, and come back from work to drink cold porridge, which alleviates the inner heat and nourishes the stomach and tastes refreshing and silky.

COLD DISH >> >



Yangzhou Old Goose

Just having porridge is a bit bland. Adding some fresh flavor might be better. Yangzhou is known as the "Goose City" and the old goose in Yangzhou can be served in a banquet and also be cooked at home. The old geese in the urban areas of Huangjue, Gaoyou Lingtang, Baoying Wubao, and Yizheng Chadao, etc. are especially famous, and Huangjue old goose is even rated as an Intangible Cultural Heritage Project. Yangzhou people like eating geese and consume more than 20 million geese a year with an average of more than 40,000 geese per day. Especially in summer, people like to eat a morsel of chopped old goose to sips of beer. How pleasant!



Wuxi Braised Goose

Wuxi people have the habit of eating braised dishes in summer, and the braised goose is one of the most representative ones. Goose meat is not only nutritious, but also has certain effects of dietary therapy.

SUMMER FRUIT

IN JIANGSU >> >

—Wang Chao

Dongtai Watermelon



It's a special local product of Dongtai, Yancheng City. The peel is smooth with bright light green covered with dark green stripes, and the flesh is bright red and full of refreshing juice. In April 2020, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs officially approved the registration of National Geographical Indication of Agricultural Products for "Dongtai Watermelon".



Hengxi Watermelon



It's a specialty of Jiangning District, Nanjing City, which is petite and exquisite with fresh yellow flesh. The sandy soil in the low mountain and hilly areas of Hengxi, the unique conditions of temperature, light, water and fertilizer, as well as the comprehensive application of fine varieties and advanced cultivation techniques, have made the Hengxi watermelon thin-skinned, crisp, sweet, juicy and refreshing.

Jurong Grape



It's the specialty of Jurong, Zhenjiang City, which is thin-skinned, tender and succulent with small seeds, and you won't get tired of it after taking a lot. Jurong has now become the largest production base of table grapes in Jiangsu Province, with more than 20 varieties of grapes, including Xiaheci, Kyoho, Meirenzhi, Guigongzi, Guigongzhu, Giant Rose, and Golden Finger, with a picking period lasting more than 100 days.

Wuxi Yangshan Peach



Wuxi Yangshan peach is produced in Yangshan Town, Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province, a famous peach town in China. The peach fruit is large in shape, beautiful in color, tough and easy to peel, rich in aroma, juicy and sweet. It's so tender that it melts in the mouth, and has the reputation of "flesh made of water".



Suzhou Baiyu Loquat and Qingzhong Loquat



Suzhou Baiyu loquat and Qingzhong loquat are new varieties of Baisha series planted in Dongshan, Xishan and other places in Wuzhong District of Suzhou. They mature in early summer each year, with round, sweet and juicy fruits. Baiyu loquat can be rated the "king of kings" among loquats. The flesh is as white as white jade, and the skin is thin and easy to tear. When you bite it, the sweet juice wraps your taste buds.

The Qingzhong loquat in Xishan is also not a false name. It is large, thin-skinned, fleshy, with a small core, delicate and smooth in taste, sweet and refreshing, pleasantly sour and juicy.

Suzhou Cuiguan Pear

Suzhou Shushan Cuiguan pear is sweet and juicy, with thin skin, a small core, delicate and tender flesh, and full of juice. It is known as "June Snow".



SEAFOOD / LAKEFOOD >> >



Nantong Crispy Tripe Tip with Jellyfish

—Li Jiayue

Nantong Lys Port is famous in the Jiangsu sea area for the highest yield and the best quality of jellyfish. Especially in summer, crispy tripe tips with jellyfish heads are a refreshing must-eat dish for Nantong people. The crispy tripe tip is commonly known as "pig tripe". Choose fresh tripe tips, boil them in boiling water, add ginger and green onion to remove the fishy smell, and cut

the cooked fresh tripe tips into strips before placing them on a plate with fresh jellyfish. Take another small bowl, pour aromatic vinegar, soy sauce, and chili oil, and sprinkle with minced ginger and green onion to make a seasoning bowl. The jellyfish is crisp, tender and fresh, and the tripe tip is soft and chewy. Then dip them in the spicy and sour seasoning - how wonderful!

Changzhou Changdang Lake Seed Shrimp

"Eat crabs in autumn and shrimps in summer" is a tradition of Changzhou people to enjoy seasonal delicacies. The most attractive summer delicacy is Changdang Lake seed shrimp, one of the eight fresh foods in Changdang Lake. Braised Three Shrimp Parts refers to the three parts of seed shrimp - shrimp meat, shrimp roe and shrimp

brain. Fresh ingredients, meticulous processing, and just the right amount of heat make this worldly delicacy. Diners who really know cuisine will never waste any kind of ingredients. Larger seedless lake shrimp can be made into fried salt-and-pepper shrimp, and smaller ones can be made into raw shrimp dressed with sauce.



FOOD FESTIVAL >> >

Huai'an Xuyi Lobster



Xuyi lobster is a freshwater lobster, which generally grows and breeds in Douhu Lake, Hongze Lake and other rivers and ponds in Xuyi. The Xuyi lobster is bright red



and shiny, and its meat is tender and plump. The Xuyi annual lobster feast attended by thousands of people in Huai'an has a long-standing reputation. Various cooking methods are used to present the most beautiful common life in the world, so that lobster fans can enjoy the feast and the joy of eating lobster delicacies.

Xuzhou Fuyang Festival



"Fuyang" refers to the mutton after the hottest part of the summer. "Eating mutton in the hottest days" has a long history in Xuzhou, Jiangsu, together with Xiaoxian County. It starts on the first day of the dog days and ends on the last day of it every year, which lasts for one month. Eating mutton in the hottest days is treating heat



in the body with heat and helping the body to sweat and detoxify, removing the dampness in winter and spring. It is a method of food therapy.

Dragon Boat Festival Celebrations

in Jiangsu are as Colorful as Zongzi with Different Flavors

—Geng Chunxiao



death of Qu Yuan, a scholar of the State of Chu, or cherishing the filial daughter Cao E of the Eastern Han Dynasty, the Dragon Boat Festival is full of sincere feelings towards the family and the country, and is the spiritual homeland of Chinese people.

Fresh meat zongzi, sweetened bean paste zongzi, red date zongzi, bacon and egg yolk zongzi, red bean zongzi, white glutinous rice zongzi... Now there are endless varieties of zongzi. Zongzi, with 2000 years of history, is also becoming more and more fashionable, and zongzi in the blind box is very popular this year. According to the person in charge of Tmall Supermarket, the tea drink flavor is the representative of the new taste of zongzi on the e-commerce platform this year. With tea and tea sets, zongzi changes from staple food to dessert. The consumption scene of zongzi has also moved from the festive dinner table to afternoon tea, which can also meet the ceremonial sense of camping and picnic.

Jiangsu people are compatible with the taste of zongzi; both sweet and salty are acceptable. Buying reed leaves, soaking glutinous rice, pulling cotton thread - zongzi that you make yourself are the sweetest. In fact, the summer life of the "Charm of Jiangsu" is sometimes like a box of zongzi: you never know what the next wonderful surprise will be unveiled in front of your eyes.

When it comes to summer delicacies, zongzi cannot be missed, which is the iconic food of the Dragon Boat Festival.

The fifth day of the fifth lunar month is the Dragon Boat Festival which has a history of more than 2,500 years. It was originally a festival for the Chinese people to cure diseases and prevent epidemics. Later, the festival and custom of expelling poison and warding off evil spirits gave rise to a variety of folklore activities such as sacrifices, entertainment and health care.

As one of the important traditional folklore festivals in China, the Dragon Boat Festival was the first Chinese festival to be included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural List. The Dragon Boat Festival activities all over the country are rich in content. Among them, the unique custom in Suzhou, one of the four important heritage sites of the Chinese Dragon Boat Festival, was selected into the UNESCO Intangible Cultural List in 2009.

Whether it is recalling Wu Zixu, a famous general of the State of Wu in the Spring and Autumn Period, commemorating the

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL CUSTOMS

in Suzhou are Included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural List

—Geng Chunxiao



As one of the four important heritage sites of the Dragon Boat Festival in China, Suzhou's Dragon Boat Festival customs were included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural List in 2009, with the same level as Suzhou gardens.

The origin of the Dragon Boat Festival in Suzhou can be traced back to Wu Zixu, a famous general of the Wu State during the Spring and Autumn Period. Later, with the development of Suzhou's society, economy and culture, the Dragon Boat Festival, which started in memory of Wu Zixu, gradually evolved into a grand annual carnival, forming a complete set of Dragon Boat Festival folklore activities corresponding to Suzhou's natural climatic conditions, daily production and life, economic characteristics and cultural development.

Wu Zixu was a general of the Wu state in the Spring and Autumn Period. He helped Helu, the King of Wu, build the famous Helu city and laid the foundation

for the prosperity of the Wu state. Later, he assisted Fuchai, another King of Wu, and achieved the great cause of occupying the southeast and dominating the Central Plains. And he not only built the city of Suzhou, but also endowed this ancient city with the soul of water. The Xujiang River leading to Taihu Lake, the moat surrounding the city, and the three horizontal and four straight rivers in the city together outline the skeleton of Suzhou City. Thousands of years later, the Grand Canal also extended and expanded on the basis of these waterways, and the rivers flowed endlessly, bringing countless prosperity to the South of the Yangtze River.

After Wu Zixu died, the people of Wu would row dragon boats in Xujiang River and other places to commemorate him every year at the Dragon Boat Festival in May. Dragon boat racing is a Dragon Boat Festival custom that is very popular among Suzhou people. Each dragon boat will be very ornately decorated. The "dragon

head" of the boat is high, the "dragon tail" is raised, and the hull is painted with dragon scales in various colors. Colorful banners and flags are fluttering and flying. During the race, the warriors row hard to the beat of the drums splashing waves. On the shore, gongs and drums are deafening, and the audience are swarming like clouds, exuding a hubbub of voices.

In addition to the dragon boat races in Xujiang, Xumen, Changmen, Fengqiao and Shantang to commemorate Wu Zixu, the Dragon Boat Festival activities in Suzhou involve almost all aspects of people's daily life, such as clothing, food, housing and transportation: Suzhou local customs of life wisdom formed to adapt to nature and humanities, such as picking herbs, making realgar wine, making sachets, hanging wormwood and calamus, hanging pictures of Zhongkui (a mythical figure who could drive away evil spirits in Chinese folklore), etc.; customs about Suzhou's long silk weaving culture and unique clothing

culture, such as wearing clothes printed with five poisonous creatures, tiger-head shoes, tiger-head belly bands, and colorful ropes, etc.; customs related to Suzhou food culture traditions, such as making zongzi and eating Duanwu lunch.

Suzhou people will hang green calamus and wormwood on the front of their house, supplemented by garlic. The leaves of the calamus are shaped like swords, and are called "water swords" by the people, which are said to be able to "kill thousands of evil spirits" and avoid "five poisons". In fact, because the early summer is humid, the herbal smell of calamus and mugwort can play a role in repelling mosquitoes. Suzhou people also wear sachets, which are embroidered with patterns of flowers, birds and beasts with silk threads, and contain Chinese herbs such as realgar, atracylodes, vanilla, etc., which have the effect of dispelling plague and poison.

During the Dragon Boat Festival, many ex-

periential activities were launched in scenic spots in Suzhou, such as dragon boat races, garden tours in traditional "hanfu", and sachet making. In Suzhou, the Dragon Boat Festival holiday saw a growth of nearly 25% in the popularity of tourism-related search terms such as "intangible cultural heritage" and "culture", according to TravelGo.

In recent years, the environment and features of the Xujiang area in Suzhou and the ancient Xumen City Wall have been restored, and a theme cultural park with the stone statue of Wu Zixu as a symbol has been built in the Xujiang area. The annual Jinji Lake Dragon Boat Race has become a grand event for Suzhou people to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival in the new era. From Xujiang River to Jinji Lake, from Changmen North Wharf to Moonlight Wharf, things have changed with time, but people's inheritance of Wu's folk customs has always been the same, and their yearning for a better life has never changed.



Hang Nanjing Colored Zongzi & Wear Zhenjiang Tiger-head Shoes

—Geng Chunxiao

Nanjing's colored zongzi production skill for Dragon Boat Festival is a traditional skill in the list of representative items of municipal intangible cultural heritage. It's said that, originally, zongzi was colored to protect it from being eaten by flood dragons after being thrown into the Miluo River. Nowadays, the small and exquisite colored zongzi has become a mascot in the eyes of many people. It is believed to exorcize evil spirits, avoid disasters, and pray for blessings. At Dragon Boat Festival, the elder Nanjing people will hang colorful zongzi at home and also send colored zongzi to each other, and they'll put five cereals in the colored zongzi to symbolize a bumper harvest.

In addition to hanging colored zongzi, children in Nanjing will stuff a salted duck egg into a bag made of five-color silk threads during the Dragon Boat Festival. If this salted duck egg comes from Gaoyou, Yangzhou, it will be enviable. The craftsmanship of Gaoyou salted duck eggs has been included in the list of representative items of intangible cultural heritage in Jiangsu Province.



Salted duck eggs are a must-have for Nanjing people on the Duanwu lunch table, and they are also a good partner for zongzi. According to Mr. Xue Bing, a famous writer in Nanjing, there is a traditional folk custom of eating "five yellows" at the Dragon Boat Festival in "Ji-an-nan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River, that is, five kinds of "yellow" foods, such as salted egg yolk, eel, yellow croaker, cucumber ("yellow mel-

on" in Chinese) and realgar wine. In the old days, people believed that the Dragon Boat Festival was a time when "yang" (a Chinese philosophical concept, opposite to "yin") prevailed the most during the year. Eating seasonal foods such as "five yellows" on this day could exorcize evil spirits and detoxify.

In addition to the "five yellows", Nanjing people also eat "five reds": amaranth, red oil duck eggs, roast duck, river shrimp, and braised yellow croaker. With the changes of the times, the content of "five yellows" and "five reds" has changed, but in general, they are all out of a good vision to disperse poison and avoid summer heat.

During the Dragon Boat Festival, adults can drink realgar wine or calamus wine, while children love sesame oil mung bean cake and red oil duck eggs. Tie colorful ropes, hang folium artemisiae argyi sachets, wear colorful velvet flowers, draw gourd paintings... Nanjing's various intangible cultural heritage folk customs of the Dragon Boat Festival dress up the children beautifully and fragrantly.



Colored zongzi
Photographed by Zheng Rui



Eating five red is a tradition of the Dragon Boat Festival in Nanjing
1. red oil duck eggs 2. river shrimp 3. amaranth 4. braised yellow croaker 5. roast duck



Dragon Boat Festival costumes in Zhenjiang are also very famous. In 2008, it was selected as a traditional art item in the representative list of Zhenjiang municipal intangible cultural heritage. Tiger-head shoes are hand-made children's shoes in Zhenjiang's traditional Dragon Boat Festival costumes. According to research, they have been popular at least before the Yuan Dynasty. A "king" character is embroidered on the tiger's head to protect the child from evil and to grow up healthily.

stealing lucid ganoderma to rescue her husband and flooding the Jinshan Temple after failing to find her husband. The love story of Bai Suzhen and Xu Xian puts on a veil of amorous feelings for the Dragon Boat Festival, and adds a layer of mystery to Zhenjiang.

The Dragon Boat Festival floats down from the time river of more than 2,000 years, entrusted with people's prayers for a better life and their love for their relatives and friends. The traditional customs of the Dragon Boat Festival are to pray for peace and health, bearing the wisdom of the ancients to live in harmony with nature. History and culture, tradition and human feelings, innovation and inheritance, go hand in hand and blend together in every traditional festival and every day of life. At every traditional festival, we will be strengthened by looking back on the traditional Chinese culture that has been passed down through the ages, and we will have a gentler heart because we look forward to reunion and miss our loved ones.



Hang folium artemisiae argyi sachets



Spread the realgar wine on the forehead to disperse poison

LOVE

FOR COOLNESS, ROMANCE
AND SPORTS

IS THE **THEME OF
SUMMER POETRY**

—Geng Chunxiao

In summer, in addition to air conditioning, we also need some natural coolness. The boundless greenery nourished by the charming water of Jiangsu can cool us down. There are some scenic spots that filter the hot summer sun for you. Just listening to its refreshing name will make you feel cool and yearn for it.

The sunflower and pomegranate contend in beauty, and gardenia and mugwort compete for being more fragrant. This is the blossom exclusive to summer. So, it's the best time to walk into this sea of sweet flowers, come to the beautiful countryside, find a cool place, and share sweet things with each other under the moonlight in front of the flowers.

In summer, in addition to the Dragon Boat Festival, there are also festivals such as International Children's Day and Qixi, the

Chinese Valentine's Day. The most important thing is the long summer vacation. For children, this is seasonal happiness.

Either in camping or on the way to camp is a true portrayal of the early summer. According to Tmall May 2022 Consumption Trend Report, camping has spread from the wilderness and suburbs to city parks and even community lawns, with a canopy tent holding up the ceremonial sense of a national holiday. Unlike traditional outdoor camping in the style of “Man

vs Wild”, solid wood tables and chairs, mountain clothing, gorgeous lighting as well as hand-brewed coffee, craft beer, and barbecue are all standard configuration for urbanites. In addition to food and photography, what to play while camping is becoming more and more important. Outdoor sports such as windsurfing, frisbee and lure fishing make camping more dynamic. Camping sites by water and in forest are more popular with tourists, and the ones with open-air music festivals and open-air movies attract tourists more.

The weather is getting warmer, but it cannot stop people from being close to nature. Big data from the travel service platform Fliggy shows that with the opening of the “high temperature standby mode”, sports such as water play, surfing have become popular. The number of water sports related orders in June increased by more than 90% compared with the same period in May. Summer sports such as frisbee, paddling, rafting, kayaking, and bamboo rafting have gathered momentum, just like this vibrant summer.

Bamboo Sea, Mountain Forest, Clear Stream... Look For Natural Coolness With a Temperature that's

2^{°C} Lower

—Geng Chunxiao

the legendary place where the Seven Fairies descended. As the origin of the folk love between Dong Yong and one of the Seven Fairies, it is also very romantic.

The Nanshan Bamboo Sea in Changzhou on the conjunction of the three provinces, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Anhui, even embraces thousands of mu of bamboo forest. It is away from the hustle and bustle of the city and has a unique microclimate. The boundless moso bamboo, surrounded by mountains and boulders, emits a fragrance that can be smelled. The unique natural ecology has formed a summer resort with a natural temperature 2 °C lower than other places.

Tianmu Lake in Changzhou is surrounded by mountains, in which islets are scattered, with the water and the sky emerging into one color. The Tianmu Lake Water World near the Tianmu Lake Tourist Resort is

surrounded by mountains and rivers, which provides a refreshing ecological water-playing experience. There is also bamboo sea rafting in Tianmu Lake, which is close to Nanshan Bamboo Sea. Floating down along the current with a 360-degree turn, you'll immerse yourself in the cool stream water, and feel the feeling of riding the wind and breaking the waves.

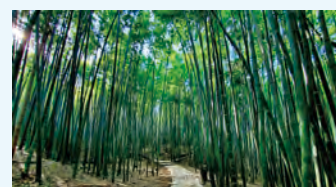
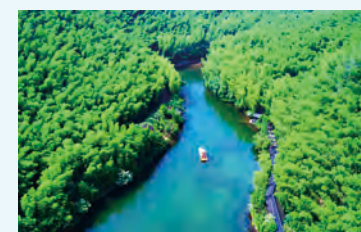
Qingliang Mountain in Nanjing has been a summer resort since ancient times, and was once the summer palace of the emperors of the Southern Tang Dynasty. The mountains in the park are undulating, the trees are lush, the river breeze is refreshing, and there are many bamboos that bring coolness. There is the largest ginkgo grove in Nanjing City, and various trees such as Liriodendron Chinese whose canopies are like green umbrellas, rendering it the "green lung" of the city. Chongzheng Academy in Qingliang Mountain is famous for its 50-year-old sweet viburnum. When it is not in bloom, it is a cyan bud. When it blooms, the color of the flowers changes from cyan to white. The white flowers

are full of trees like snow pressing the branches. The flowering period lasts from spring to early summer.

Not far away, Nanjing Hydrangea Park uses colorful hydrangeas to create a sea of colorful flowers in summer. The blue and purple hydrangea macrophylla "Endless Summer", the blue and white hydrangea paniculata Sieb "Snow Diamond", the pink hydrangea macrophylla "Sabrina", the light red Hydrangea Arborescens "Tiana"... Colorful flowers nestle against the park's rippling waves, bringing coolness and comfort.

Liangpengxia Village, getting its name from a cool shelter, is located at the foot of Wuxiang Mountain in Nanjing, between the remainder of Donglu Mountain and Qiuhu Mountain, adjacent to Zhongshan Lake and Yaojia Lake. The village is half hidden among the faraway mountains and nearby water. Every summer, Liangpengxia Village is surrounded by thousands of acres of mountain gardenia flowers which can be found all over the mountains and plains. They exude fragrance, and are extremely

conspicuous in a green forest. When the summer breeze sweeps past, the mountain gardenia flowers sway and the fragrance spreading with the wind even fills up the sultry air. Such a large gardenia field, even if you just pass by, will leave fragrance upon your body. In your spare time, holding a cup of gardenia tea while sitting on a reclining chair under the big tree in the tea room, smelling the fragrance of gardenia, is a pleasant relaxation. When you smell the fragrance of gardenias, you will know that the early summer is coming.



Nanjing Shitang Bamboo Sea is located at the junction of Jiangsu and Anhui. It is nestled against Jiulong Pond, boasting 30,000 mu (2,000 hectares) of contiguous green bamboo. The two mountains of bamboo with deep greenery, interspersed with a pool of clear water, are refreshing and pleasant. Thanks to the tea mountain, bamboo sea, pine waves and virid pond, coupled with the large-scale planting of moso bamboo, it can preserve water and soil resources, adjust the local microclimate, and the air is rich in negative oxygen ions, so tourists in the scenic spot can experience a temperature about 2°C lower than the outside. The Shitang Renjia (Shitang Village) next to the Shitang Bamboo Sea is an ancient village surrounded by green mountains. In the village, you can taste roasted pork with bamboo shoots, and drink bamboo leaf tea to clear away the boredom and anxiety in the summer. It takes 20 minutes by car to reach the Seven Immortals Dafu Village, which is

There is A LOT OF FUN in the Countryside!

—Kelsey

"Send Operas to the Countryside" is a public-interest cultural project in Jiangsu Province that has been going on for many years to better meet the spiritual and cultural needs of the grassroots. As a veritable "Hometown of Opera", Huai'an brings together a variety of operas such as Peking Opera, Huai Opera, and Huaihai Opera. The Huai Opera Troupe of Lianshui County, Huai'an City, with its unyieldingness and perseverance, went all the way from the rugged road to the smooth avenue, and forged a contemporary path for the grassroots troupe to inherit and carry forward traditional opera. They set foot in the countryside, highlight local characteristics, sing for the era and have truly achieved closeness to the people and the grassroots, becoming the main force in benefiting the people and sending operas to the countryside.

As a beautiful business card of the city's cultural and people-benefit brand, *Meet at the Ancient Stage* has performed more than 200 times since its debut on Nov. 1, 2015, benefiting nearly 100,000 audiences. It not only sent the dance drama *My Liulaozhuang*, the Huangmei Opera *Fairy Couple*, the Huai Opera Excerpt *The No.1 Scholar and the Beggar* and other cultural feasts to local residents, but also opened up a "holy place for learning" for the vast number of local opera talents.

In addition to the characteristic "small theater", Huai'an has also "woven" a service network of "Famous Artists Stationing in Villages", where famous municipal masters come to the village to give lectures, district-level famous masters station in villages for training, and the town's literary and art teams pair up with the villages to help them. Villagers can be "face-to-face" with famous artists easily.

Listening to a literary class in a rural courtyard, watching a classic Huai Opera in a local theater, and admiring masterpieces in the painting and calligraphy base... Such "down-to-earth" literary and artistic enjoyment has an ordinary part of Huai'an people's daily life.



The Mazhuang Village is located in Pan'anhu Street, Jiawang District, Xuzhou City, which used to be "half coal ash and half soil". After unremitting efforts, it has now achieved "half green hills and half lake", changing from a poor and backward small village in the past to a national key village for rural tourism. What comes with it is the continuous enlargement of cultural symbols.

In 1988, a legendary farmer brass band was established, namely Mazhuang Farmers Orchestra. Members of the orchestra were all villagers from Mazhuang Village. Peasants tried to play Western musical instruments with their hands that once held sickles and hoes and presented popular performances in the fields. Without the guidance of teachers, they went to the music department of colleges and universities to invite them; without training sites, they trained in the field. Under the principles and policies of the Communist Party of China, the orchestra arranges literary and artistic works that are close to reality, life, and the masses, focusing on the rich and colorful life of the masses in the countryside. Over the past 30 years, the Farmers Orchestra has trained more than 300 people. They went to Italy and Japan to participate in competitions, and gave exchange performances with art groups and friends from more than 20 countries and regions including Russia, Canada, France, Austria, and Spain, showing the charm of Chinese culture and the style of farmers in the new era of Mazhuang.

Under the Moon and Flowers in Summer, Let Me Tell You

My Romantic & Sweet Secrets

—Geng Chunxiao

In summer when flowers and greenery are lush,
the fragrant flowers witness sweet love. Follow the
fragrance to meet the romance of summer.

On the seventh day of the seventh lunar month is a traditional Chinese folk festival - Qixi, Chinese Valentine's Day. Qixi is endowed with the beautiful love legend of "The Cowherd and the Weaver Lady". According to legend, on the seventh day of the seventh lunar month, the Cowherd and the Weaver Lady will meet on the Magpie Bridge in the sky. Praying for blessings, begging for craftsmanship, sitting and watching Altair and Vega, and praying for marriage are all traditional customs of Qixi.

This year's Qixi will fall on Aug. 4, and it's the best time to talk about sweet things.

Nanjing Luhe Pingshan Forest Park is located in the Pingshan Forest Farm, where the mountains and forests are rolling and green, and the tea garden in the forest is like a blanket. The Dreamland Park here has 1,314 cypress trees, symbolizing lifelong fidelity, and it is a must-go place for Qixi. Next to the "Lovers Stone" in the park, you can overlook the east to watch the sunrise, which is even more romantic. In addition to Dreamland Park, you can also go to the Forest Adventure Park, Cuiming Lake Aquatic Park, and Pingshan Tearoom. In summer, you can drift on the blue waves and enjoy a panoramic

view of the lakes and mountains.

The most recommended item for Qixi is the romantic rose. The bright colors are like the fiery romance in midsummer. Luhe Fengcai Mancheng has 500 acres of roses. It doesn't matter if you miss the full bloom of roses; you can buy rose essential oil as a souvenir to keep the sweet fragrance, or you may as well have a bath in the hot spring full of rose petals. Witnessing the long-lasting and colourful love, crape myrtles, sunflowers and hydrangeas also should not be missed.

Lotus and lily have a good omen of sweetness and happiness in China because they're the homonym for "a hundred years of happiness" (Bai Nian Hao He). More than 3,000 square meters of lilies have been planted around the Guanyin Temple in Jiangning District, Nanjing, with various varieties and colors. Nanjing Luhe Chishan Lake Wetland Park is a "paradise for birds", accompanied by aquatic reeds and cattail. Every spring and summer breeding season, more than 30,000 wild birds of more than 20 species such as egrets, golden herons, night herons, herons, mallards, pheasants, wild geese, coots, gray cranes, and hoopoe inhabit it. In recent years, 2,000 mu (133 hectares) of root lotus, 100 lotus ponds of seed lotus, and 300 mu

(20 hectares) of Indian red water lily have been newly cultivated and developed here, including more than 150 domestic varieties. It is a veritable "Bai Lian Hao He" garden. The pronunciation is similar to "Bai Nian Hao He", which means "forever love" in Chinese.

When it comes to appreciating lotus, except for Xuanwu Lake and Lianhua Lake in Nanjing, the Xigeng Lianxiang Village in Pukou District, Nanjing is also recommended. You can go boating in the lotus pond, enjoy the flowers on the plank road, breathe the faint fragrance of lotus flowers, and enjoy the boundless greenery before your eyes.

In the Lotus Expo Park, there are 580 lotus ponds and 2.5 kilometers of water lily rivers in Xigeng Lianxiang, where nearly 600 varieties of lotus and more than 200 varieties of water lilies are planted. In the summer when the cicadas are buzzing everywhere, the lotus leaves grow well in the fields, the lotus pods are newly green, and the lotus roots are fresh and sweet. What a beautiful scenery that would amaze the French painter Monet!

You can also try lotus root juice and lotus leaf tea, and taste lotus pond delicacies such as fried lotus root with beef fillet, steamed pork



ribs on the lotus leaf, sliced lotus root with sweet sauce, etc. In the old days, lotus leaves were a great eco-friendly thing for wrapping rice and cooked food. It's definitely worth a try to buy some lotus root powder and sweet red heart lotus seeds as a souvenir.

In the glass greenhouse of Xigeng Lianxiang Village, you can see the beauty of Victoria cruziana, the "Hercules in the Water". The leaves of Victoria cruziana are about 1.5 to 2 meters in diameter, like a large disc, which is a treasure in the water garden. As the temperature continues to rise, the leaves of Victoria cruziana will grow larger,

which is expected to satisfy tourists under 50 kilograms to stand on the "Water Hercules" and experience roaming about in a green boat.

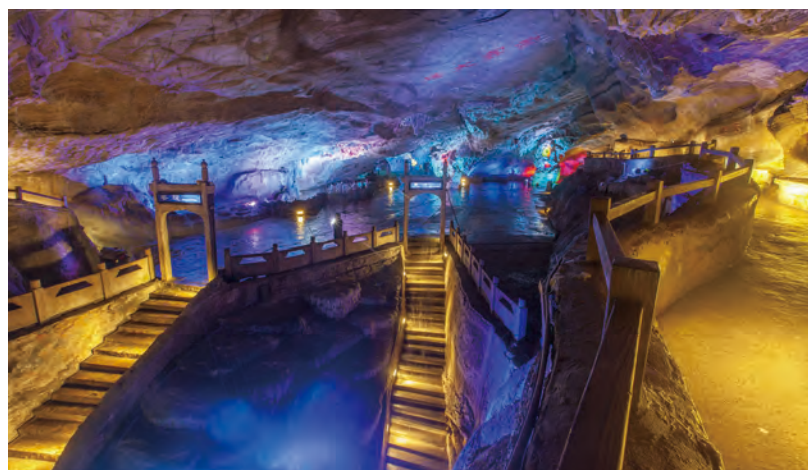
There are three whites in the summer in "Jiangnan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River - jasmine, white magnolia and gardenia, which are very suitable for decoration on the chest or hair.

Xiangtang Taoyuan Valley in Pukou District is located at the southern foot of Laoshan Mountain, and gardenia fields are hidden in the valleys surrounded by mountains on

three sides. Gardenia elements are prominent in various places in Xiangtang Village. Even the coffee shops in the village are named after gardenias. It is also a pleasure to order a cup of coffee in a mountain village simply to enjoy the calmness. The campsite here is also highly recommended. Sitting in the tent, before your eyes are green rice fields and forests of Laoshan Mountain. With smoky wind in the mountains, floating clouds in the sky, and the smell of sweet gardenias, you'll only feel that the years are like flowers, pleasing to both the eye and the mind. Who do you want to share the fragrance of the midsummer with?

A Rafting Adventure IN THE CAVE

—Chole Jiang



TIPS

Opening hours: 08:00-16:30

Tel: 0510-87478801

Transportation:

10 km from Yixing Railway Station, 17 minutes' drive

There are many good places for rafting in Jiangsu. The Blessed Zhanggong Cave in Yixing is well known. The characteristic of Zhanggong Cave is that "there are caves in the caves," with 72 large or small caves. The passages in the cave are steep and tortuous. Go up from the largest Sea King Hall in the cave, you'll get to the top of Mount Mengfeng already when you get out of the cave. Turn around



and overlook the way you come, and you'll find it's like stepping out of a huge eggshell.

The 500-m-long "Underground River Adventure" opened by virtue of the underground river is a highlight. Wearing a safety helmet with a miner's lamp attached to the hat and holding a paddle in hand to explore the cave on a rubber raft is both exciting and novel.

In addition, relying on the natural mountain situation and using the original mountain stream, the scenic spot has also designed a 1,500-m-long whitewater drafting. On the raft, you can go down the rapids in the forest, canyon, and mountain stream, feeling refreshed in your mind and body.

Friends who often watch TV series will definitely feel that the scenery in front of them is very familiar. It turns out that Zhanggong Cave is also a famous filming location for film and television dramas. *Swordsman* and *Tracks in the Snowy Forest* have all been filmed here! In the hot summer, come to take a boat, follow the current, enjoy the beautiful scenery, feel the coolness, and enjoy the ultimate summer experience.

MAGIC KUNG FU on the Bamboo Raft

—Geng Chunxiao



^ Nanjing Pearl Spring Resort is a good place to row bamboo rafts.

TIPS

Opening hours: 08:30-17:00

Tel: 025-58601545

Transportation:

30 km from Nanjing South Railway Station, 50 minutes' drive

If you're interested in traditional Chinese water fights, you can't miss a bamboo raft. Bamboo rafts are made of bundled bamboo and are popular in "Jiangnan", or the area south of the downstream Yangtze River. It is a sport that requires Chinese kung fu, and requires only a single pole to row and to "fight" in the water, which is a great test of dexterity.

Nanjing Pearl Spring Resort with gurgling spring water is cool and refreshing, which is a good place to row bamboo rafts. On the shore of Jingshan Lake, you only need to get on a bamboo raft and punt gently to enjoy the refreshing wind in the mountains, touch the cool spring water, look down at the sparkling lake, and gaze into the winding Laoshan Mountain.

The small bamboo drainage swims in

the river, and the majestic green hills are on both sides of the river. Although it is not as thrilling as rafting in the gorge, it is a more pleasant way to enjoy the poetry on both sides of the river. There are the blossoming lotus magnolias in the scenic area as fragrant as the lotus. The sunset at Jingshan Lake brings the summer atmosphere to full. Under the illumination of the setting sun, the beautiful lakes and mountains and the slightly turbulent clear water make you feel like you're in an oil painting.

The Pearl Spring Water World nearby is very popular every summer, and you can enjoy the coolness of summer by weaving in and out of the Water Villa of Joy, playing with the water on the slide, or standing under the towering water bucket, waiting nervously and expectantly for the joy of being splashed by the water.

Water Parks

in the Furnace City

—Holly Guo

In midsummer, Nanjing is known as the "Furnace City", and the cool and refreshing water park is particularly popular. According to the data from TravelGo in June, water parks, theme parks and zoological and botanical gardens are the three favorite travel themes of the parent-child group during the summer of 2022.



- **Nanjing Jiangning Ginkgo Lake Park** is an amusement park themed around ecology. The park is centered on Ginkgo Lake, surrounded by mountains and rivers. In the hot summer, a mysterious and thrilling "fantasy rafting" in the park is a must; you can also enjoy the natural landscapes such as mountains, waters, flowers and birds in the ecological leisure area.
- **Huachang Dragon Valley in Nanjing**, located on the bank of the Yangtze River, is the largest fully indoor cultural tourism scenic spot in Asia. It has five themed scenes: Dragon Valley Town, Storm Water World, Longzang Valley, Fantasy Future, and Secret Rainforest. Among them, there are many water sports such as water castle adventure, infinity pool, sand island for paddling, treasure island exploration and so on in Storm Water World. Come to play in the water and have fun in summer, embrace the waves here affectionately, and enjoy the coolness.
- **Playa Maya Water Park** is located on the east side of Qixia Mountain, adjacent to the Yangtze River. It combines the mysterious Mayan civilization with modern water entertainment. It has more than 20 sets of large-scale water rides equipment, allowing tourists to enjoy the coolness of the refreshing wind.
- **Tangshan Happy Water World** is located in Tangshan, Nanjing. It has a wave pool with waves up to 3 meters high, the powerful impact of which brings people infinite happiness; 10,000 m² of the real sand beach allows people to enjoy the scenery as on the Gold Coast; 1,000 meters of dream rafting takes you to the wonderful fun of wandering in the ocean. It takes 10 minutes' drive to Ziqing Lake from here. You can visit the Panda House during the day. In the evening, you can enjoy the forest hot spring surrounded by greenery and eliminate the fatigue of playing during the day.



➤ 1.Nanjing Jiangning Ginkgo Lake Park 2.Playa Maya Water Park
3.Huachang Dragon Valley 4-5.Tangshan Happy Water World

LET'S SWAY TWIN OARS

—Geng Chunxiao

Let's sway twin oars... The song of childhood calls for boating on the lake in summer, and feeling the cool natural lake breeze oncoming, which is very comfortable.

Apart from various kinds of kayaking activities such as single-person kayaking, two-person boating, and multi-person racing, Xuanwu Lake is also a training base for dragon boat, as well as Rowing and Sailing for international competitions. The water Sports School, which has achieved excellent results in many boat races, is located here. There is also a very special Junior Rowing team from Nanjing Sujie School.

On the Dragon Boat Festival, the dragon boat races on Xuanwu Lake become exciting again, and the thunderous drums and shouts



resound on the lake. The colorful dragon boats smash the waves on the lake like arrows. You may as well come to "Xuanwu Lake Water Sports Base" on the Sunshine Pier to experience the speed and passion of racing on the lake.

It's worth mentioning that in the 2nd Asian Youth Games held in Nanjing in 2013, the torchbearers who carried out the torch relay took a dragon boat to cross Xuanwu

Lake, passed it to the wharf and arrived at Xuanwu Lake Park, and then boarded the magnificent the Nanjing Circumvallation.

Nanjing Jinniu Lake is an ideal world for leisure aquatic sports, including sailing, speedboats, jasmine yachts and painted boats, which was the venue for the 2014 Nanjing Youth Olympic Games sailing competition and also for the Chinese Dragon Boat Competition.

FRISBEE FEVER!

—Jeanine

As people pay more attention to healthy lifestyles, outdoor travel combined with sports has gradually become the favorite of Generation Z. Big data from the travel service platform Fliggy shows that after May, orders for outdoor items such as frisbees have doubled month on month.

While we talk about Ultimate Frisbee, people may have no idea with this kind of sport originally started from the State of New Jersey, the U.S. It has a history of over 50 years, covering specific rules of American football, basketball and rugby. There are two seven-a-side teams would play on a rectangular field. The objective of each team is to score a goal by having a player catch a pass in the end zone that they are attacking. A thrower should not run with the disc, but may pass the disc in any direction to any teammate. The other team shall take possession and attempt to score in the opposite end zone. Games are typically played to 15 goals or around 100 minutes.

There is another important point of Ultimate is we won't have any judge in the competition. Players and captains are solely responsible for making and resolving all calls in the field. Players need to keep contacting with opponents when their behavior causes disagreement, but if players cannot agree after discussion, the frisbee must be returned to the last non-disputed thrower.

Plenty of Ultimate Frisbee organizations appeared in China. Here in Jiangsu, groups are growing fast. Some experienced players have played for over 10 years. Some are just started for months but we could see potential power inside them. Athletics united people from different cultures and places to build up certain relationships and spirits. If you want to feel released by fully sweating on the field, come and join us!



WELCOME TO Jiangsu

TRAVEL TIPS

Our goal is for you to enjoy your stay in Jiangsu as much as possible. However, during these trying times, vigilance is primordial. Visitors are reminded that China has implemented the "dynamic zero-COVID approach".

- Ensure you have the necessary COVID-19 health checks in place
- Follow the directions of authorities as to epidemic prevention
- Carry a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination certificate, if available
- Wear a face mask throughout your journey by plane, train or on any other public transport
- Reserve suitable accommodation at a local hotel which accepts foreigners
- Download and install APPs useful for making mobile payments, e.g Alipay
- Check the validity of your passport and China visa

Also Good to Know...

- Foreigners do no longer require to get their train ticket in advance at most railway stations in Jiangsu. Station turnstiles are equipped with passport readers; buying a ticket online will suffice.
- If you require a tax invoice for your train ticket, the paper ticket will suffice, and can be obtained in the ticket office. Car -hailing platforms now have dedicated pick up spots at railway stations, usually in the car park. Car-hailing drivers are not permitted to pick up passengers at the drop-off point.
- Each metro system in Jiangsu has its own APP for seamless ticket purchase, which can be swiped at the barrier upon exit and entry. Station staff will be happy to assist in setting up the APP if necessary. Many cities' metro systems also accept payment by WeChat and/or Alipay.