



Beautiful China



SUZHOU
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Recommended
Tourist Itineraries

● **Classical Gardens of Suzhou**

Route: Humble Administrator's Garden - Lion Grove - Lingering Garden - Canglang Pavilion
Sight: Gardens are a symbol of Suzhou. They not only reflect an elegant architectural interest and aesthetic pursuit, but also express their owners' perspectives on life. Suzhou gardens are free of pretention and ostentation, and maintain an introverted pose but symbolic meaning.

● **Suzhou Ancient City**

Route: Tiger Hill - Hanshan Temple - Pingjiang History Block - Temple of Thanksgiving - Panmen Gate
Sight: Suzhou has a history of more than 2,500 years.

In this city with white walls, grey tiles, and clear water flowing under small bridges, one can experience the gentle misty rain, charming peach blossoms, countless water lanes, ancient streets and cuisine.

● **Ancient Water Towns**

Route: Zhouzhuang Ancient Town - Tongli Ancient Town - Luzhi Ancient Town - Mudu Ancient Town
Sight: Water is the soul of Suzhou and the ancient town is the memory of the city. Rowing a boat and rocking mildly in its water lanes, the sights along both sides spread out just like an unfolding ink-and-wash scroll. Only in this way can you get a genuine experience of the unique style of the water town.



Suzhou Overview

Suzhou, historically named Wujun, was built during the reign of the King Helü of Wu, with a history of 2,500 years. Suzhou has enjoyed such a long history with rich cultural development and is well known at home and abroad for its reputation captured in the phrase: "Just as there is paradise in Heaven, there is Suzhou and Hangzhou on Earth." It is a fascinating place indeed.

Suzhou has a typical subtropical monsoon climate, comfortable in spring and autumn with a pleasant temperature, hot in summer and cold in winter.

Water is the soul of Suzhou. Its gentleness and agility help create the city's special temperament. Elegant and tender, Suzhou is honored as the "Oriental Venice."

Gardens are a symbol of Suzhou. They not only reflect an elegant architectural interest and aesthetic pursuit, but also express their owners' perspective of life. Suzhou gardens are free of pretention and ostentation, and maintain an introverted pose but symbolic meaning. The most prestigious gardens include the Humble Administrator's Garden, Lingering Garden, Master of the Nets Garden, Lion Grove and Canglang Pavilion.

Website: www.visitzs.com

Area & Population

6,267 square kilometers.
By the end of 2012, the registered population was 6.48 million.

Administrative Divisions

Suzhou comprises 5 municipal districts and 4 county-level cities, and the City Hall is located in Gusu District.



Historical sites
of Suzhou

Construction of the Suzhou Ancient city began in B.C. 514, giving it a history of 2,500 years. Since ancient times, it has been a place where cultural elites and pretty girls have gathered. It is well known at home and abroad for its reputation captured in the phrase: "Just as there is paradise in Heaven, there is Suzhou and Hangzhou on Earth."

Pingjiang History Block

Pingjiang History Block is the best-preserved ancient block in Suzhou. With clear water flowing under small bridges, and deep and serene lanes, it is deemed as the epitome of Suzhou Ancient City. The well-known Quanjing Guild Hall and Kunqu Opera Museum are also located on this block.

Panmen Gate

Panmen Gate is a symbol of Ancient Suzhou Ancient City, and is the only city gate with both land and water throughout the country. It represents the earliest era of Suzhou Ancient City's construction history. The position and scale of the city have remained largely unchanged over the past 2,500 years, making it unique across the country.

Suzhou Museum

Suzhou Museum was designed by the famous Chinese-American architect Ioh Ming Pei. Its geometric exterior has a simple, mild and elegant tone suitable for Suzhou's general landscape.



Transportation

● **Accommodations**

Name	Star-rate	Add	Tel
Pan Pacific Hotel Suzhou	5	No.259 Xinsih Rd., Suzhou	512-65103388
Garden Hotel Suzhou	5	No.99 Daichengqiao Rd., Suzhou	512-67786778
Aster Hotel	3	No.488 Sanshiang Rd., Suzhou	512-68291888
Shangri-La Hotel Suzhou	5	No.168 Tianyun Rd., Suzhou	512-68080168
New City Garden Hotel	5	No.1 Shidian Rd., Suzhou	512-68250228
Kempinski Hotel Suzhou	5	No.1 Guoshin Rd., Gongyuan District, Suzhou	512-62897888
Gloria Plaza Hotel Suzhou	4	No.535 Gangjiang E. Rd., Pingjiang District, Suzhou	512-65218855
Younger Central Hotel Suzhou Garden Hotel	4	No.63 Gong Alley, Guanqian St., Pingjiang District, Suzhou	512-65159998
New Jialing Mansion Hotel - Suzhou	4	No.477 Luyuan Rd., Jinchang District, Suzhou	512-85888888
	4	No.601 Nanhuo E. Rd., Canglang District, Suzhou	512-89177777

● **Travel Services**

Name	Add	Tel
Suzhou China International Travel Service	No.18 Dajing Alley, Guanqian St., Suzhou	512-65159177
Suzhou Heping International Travel Service	No.1258 Pinglong Rd., Suzhou	512-65113438
Suzhou China Youth Travel Service	2nd floor, Guoman Building, No.11 Baodai W. Rd., Suzhou	512-65770871
Suzhou Comfort International Travel Service	No.29 Zhongjie Rd., Suzhou	512-65230107



Humble
Administrator's Garden

The Humble Administrator's Garden was built during the Ming Dynasty. It is known as one of the "Four Famous Gardens of China" together with the Summer Palace in Beijing, the Summer Resort at Chengde and the Lingering Garden of Suzhou. It is representative of ancient gardens south of the Yangtze River, described as an outstanding example of garden art in the world.

East Garden

The design of the East Garden is themed on an idyllic setting, with main sights including the Millet Fragrance Hall, Pine Forest Lawn, Waterside Lotus Pavilion and Celestial Spring Pavilion. The souvenir shop for the Humble Administrator's Garden is also found here.

West Garden

With a pond at the center and winding waters linked with a large pool in the middle



Historical Sites
of Suzhou

Hanshan Temple

A poem titled Night Anchorage at Maple Bridge brought Suzhou City great renown both at home and abroad. Nearby, the Ancient Maple Bridge Town was constructed along the river with streets arranged beside the water. The ancient canal encircles the Maple Bridge like a ribbon, presenting a picturesque sight.

Website: www.hanhami.org

Tiger Hill

The Tiger Hill has not only beautiful scenery, but also many popular legends. The yearly Tiger Hill Temple Fair is bustling with noise and excitement. Shantang Street inside the scenic spot is a waterside lane with a typical Suzhou flavor.

Website: www.tigerhill.com

Temple of Thanksgiving

The Temple of Thanksgiving is the temple with the longest history in Suzhou. It is said that it was built by Sun Qian of the Eastern Wu to give thanks to his mother. The pagoda of the Temple of Thanksgiving is a typical pavilion-type stupa in Chinese style. It is a bright pearl of Suzhou City.

Qionglong Mountain

Qionglong Mountain is the most famous mountain in Suzhou, and enjoys abundant natural sights and a secluded environment. It has a number of cultural landscapes. It is said



Transportation

● **By Air**

Suzhou has no airport. The closest airports to Suzhou include Shanghai Hongqiao Airport and Sunan Shuofang Airport.

Hongqiao Airport is located in the suburbs of Shanghai as one of the busiest airports in China. It includes flights to nearly 100 international and domestic cities. It is close to Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station, which has a CRH train departing to Suzhou about every 10 minutes.

Sunan Shuofang International Airport is located at Wuxi Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone. It is 20 kilometers to the northwest of Suzhou and has airlines connecting nearly 30 large and medium domestic cities, making it convenient to fly to Suzhou from all over China.

● **By Train**

Suzhou has four railway stations: Suzhou Station, Suzhou North Station, Suzhou Park Station and Suzhou New District Station. Suzhou Station is mainly a stop for ordinary passenger trains. Suzhou North Station is a stop for high-speed trains traveling towards Beijing and Shanghai. Suzhou New District Station and Suzhou Park Station are mainly stops for CRH trains and high-speed trains traveling to Nanjing, Wuhan, Hangzhou and Shanghai.



Lingering Garden

Built during the Ming Dynasty, the Lingering Garden integrates the garden-building art typical of the South of the Yangtze River and is unique in its structure. With a residence, ancestral temple, household temple and garden, it is an excellent representative of the famous gardens South of the Yangtze River.

Cloud-Crowned Peak

The magnificence of Cloud-Crowned Peak is the largest lakeside rock among gardens South of the Yangtze River. Its name comes from its towering rock summit, which appears just like a stretched crown and a sky-kissing pillar. Salaginites spread out under the Cloud-Crowned Peak, highlighting the delights of the forest spring.

Celestial Hall of Five Peaks

The Celestial Hall of Five Peaks is the largest hall inside the Lingering Garden. The hall includes five broad bays, which are spacious and luxurious. The beams, columns and furniture inside are all made of precious nanmu, so it is also known as the "Nanmu Hall".



Tai Lake

Dongting East Mountain

The East Mountain Scenic Spot is well known for its beautiful scenery, such as lakes, hills, flowers and fruits and numerous ancient houses, villages and towns as well as famous gardens. Thanks to the favorable natural landscape and numerous places of cultural and historical interest, it is honored as "paradise of paradises and garden of gardens."

Dongting West Mountain

Dongting West Mountain is the largest fresh water lake islet in China. Hidden Peak is the first among Taihu Lake's 72 peaks, with an elevation of 336.6 meters. Viewed from the crest of the peak, the West Mountain is just like a pearl embedded on the rippling lake surface.

Qionglong Mountain

Qionglong Mountain is the most famous mountain in Suzhou, and enjoys abundant natural sights and a secluded environment. It has a number of cultural landscapes. It is said



Dining

Jiangsu Cuisine is characterized by its rigorous selection of ingredients and its meticulous workmanship. Famous dishes include Yangcheng Lake hairy crab, squirrel-shaped Mandarin fish, shark's fin in clear soup and ring oil eel paste. Famous snacks include sweet dried bean curd, pine nut candy, jujube paste sesame cake, laid new year cake and Caizhizhai pastries etc.

● **Yangcheng Lake Hairy Crab**

Yangcheng Lake hairy crab is a well-known freshwater crab, characterized by its large size, fat flesh, blue back, white belly, yellow hair and golden claw. It is honored as the "king among crabs."

● **Eunuch Lane**

Eunuch Lane is an inner street of Guangqian Street and a famous gourmet street in Suzhou. Though the whole street is only 200 meters long, it houses the most famous restaurants in Suzhou.

● **Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish**

Squirrel-shaped Mandarin fish is the most representative dish of Jiangsu cuisine. This dish has a delicate color, scent, shape and taste. Topped with steaming gravy, it sizzles and crackles before being eaten.



Suzhou Gardens

Master of the Nets Garden

The Master of Nets Garden was built during the Southern Song Dynasty. As a typical mansion garden of Suzhou, it has a compact layout and delicate architecture. The Master of Nets Garden boasts fine garden building techniques, profound cultural details and an elegant garden flavor.

Lion Grove

The Lion Grove is one of the four most famous gardens in Suzhou and representatives of the gardens of the Yuan Dynasty. There are a wide variety of bamboos and stones



Zhouzhuang Ancient Town

Zhouzhuang is a typical water town South of the Yangtze River, where civilian houses are built beside the water and brooks flowing through the whole town. The small stone bridges constitute a wonderful water landscape painting. It is honored as "the First Water Town South of the Yangtze River."

Shen Hall

Shen Hall is the largest civilian house in Zhouzhuang and contains a seated statue of Shen Wansu, a millionaire from the South of the Yangtze River. He was once the



Shopping

Suzhou specialties include silk, and Suzhou-style pastries and crafts, such as Biluchun Tea, Caizhizhai candy, Song Brocade, Suzhou-style preserves, Suzhou embroidery, Taicang meat floss, Taihu Lake silver fish and Taohuzuo woodcut new year picture.

● **Suzhou Embroidery**

Suzhou embroidery is colorful and florid. As a pearl in China's art treasure, the gorgeous and abundant brocade and multicolored lines are main features of Suzhou embroidery.

● **Guanqian Street**

Guanqian Street is located at the center of Suzhou Ancient City, and is the most bustling business district there. It has a number of famous shopping malls, bringing together time-honored Suzhou shops and integrating business, recreation, catering and culture.



Water Towns South of the Yangtze River

Tongli Ancient Town

Tongli Ancient Town, just like a smooth pearl immersed in water, presents a fine, elegant landscape. The old houses, ancient bridges and running water add a pictorial splendor to its splashed-ink landscape.

Luzhi Ancient Town

Luzhi Ancient Town, boasting 41 ancient bridges, is a genuine "bridge capital among water towns." Its famous bridges include Song Bridge, Zhengyang Bridge, East



Suburban Landscape

Shajiabang

Shajiabang is a typical water town South of the Yangtze River. Rowing a boat gently across the reed marshes, or pedaling a farmer's water wheel, one can experience the joy of life in an ancient water town.

Yushan Mountain—Shanghai Lake

Yushan Mountain is a sea of flowers. It has quiet and secluded labyrinths and temples among the mountains. It enjoys the reputation of "the Pearl of the South of the



Entertainment

● **Kunqu Opera**

Kunqu Opera is a treasure of traditional Chinese culture and art. It is well known for its elegant lyrics, graceful tune, and exquisite performance. Hence, it is honored as "the mother of all Chinese operas." Excerpts from the Kunqu Opera are performed at the Shantang Kunqu Opera Museum every day.

● **Suzhou Pingtan**

Suzhou Pingtan is known as the "story telling" and is honored as having the sweetest voice. Its performance is available at small parks, Pingjiang Road, Shantang Street, Stone Road and various towns. Famous performance artists often appear to give regular shows.



蘇州旅遊圖-英文.indd 1

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