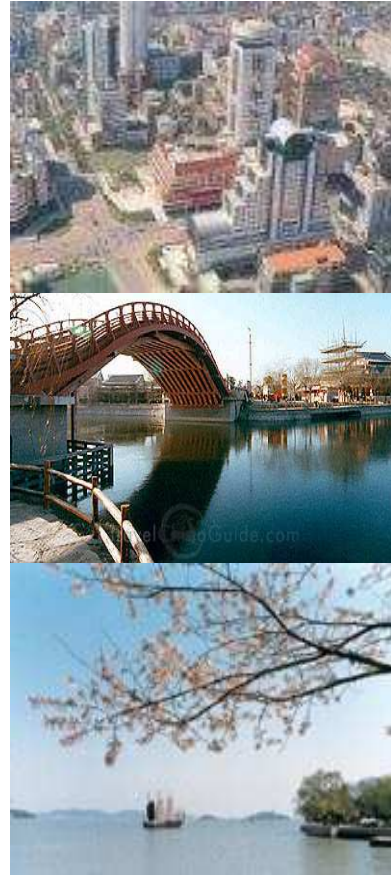


Wuxi Introduction

Wuxi is located at the center of China's Yangtze Delta, reaching up north to the Yangtze River, bounded on the south by Lake Taihu, with Shanghai to its east and Nanjing to its west. Wuxi is a fine tourist attraction outstanding for its natural beauty: The Turtle Head that best presents the Taihu Lake; the brand-new 9.5km² Lake Lihu Scenic Area; the eco-friendly Yixing with its intriguing karst caves, bamboo forests and tea



plantations; Jiangyin, the birth-place of the great geographer and traveler Xu Xiake, with breath-taking sights on the Yangtze as well as sites of cultural significance. Wuxi is a famous city in China's Jiangnan (South-of-the-Yangtze Area): the cradle of Wu Culture, a birthplace of China's national industry and commerce as well as the place with the best-preserved section of China's Grand Canal that unfolds the charm of the traditional Jiangnan. Wuxi is a modern city for leisure: The thriving economy of Wuxi makes leisure a possibility, a trend and a fashion.

History:

Wuxi's earliest forebears appeared some 6,000-7,000 years ago. In 202BC, a county administration named "Wuxi" was officially set up for the first time by the Han Dynasty Emperor. In 1295 in the Yuan Dynasty, Wuxi was once promoted to prefecture. In 1927, Wuxi County came under the direct jurisdiction of Jiangsu Province. On Apr. 23, 1949, the Municipal People's Government of Wuxi, was established.

Location:

Latitude: 31°7'-32°2'N

Longitude: 119°33'-120°38'E

Population: 4.48m

Size: 4,788km², of which 16.8% are hilly land, 31.4% water surface and the rest plain.

Climate: North Asian sub-tropical climate, mild and long frost-free, with 4 distinct seasons. January average, 3°C; July average, 28°C; Annual precipitation, 1,000mm; Sunshine time (urban area), over 2,000 hrs.

Political Economy: Greater Wuxi administers 2 outlying cities: Jiangyin and Yixing, and 7 boroughs: Chong'an, Beitang, Nanchang, Binhu, Xishan, Huishan & the New. Wuxi, with five ten-thousandth of the country's total land and 4‰ of the population, contributes nearly 2% of the country's total economic strength.

Wuxi was rated the 8th in its competitive drive by the “2005’ Blue Paper on the Competitiveness of China's Cities.”

Shopping



Famed as “Little Shanghai”, Wuxi boasts brisk trade and commerce activities which are mostly carried out around the city center.



Tea-pots made of Yixing's red terra-cotta clay
(also called purple sand terra-cotta)



Afu, always in pairs, the
representative Wuxi clay figurines



Silk products



Taihu fresh-water pearls



Huge tea-pots

Food



Wuxi has always been renowned for its fine Jiangnan food. Wuxi's Ying Bin Lou Restaurant enjoys a great fame like Suzhou's Song He

Lou Restaurant and Hangzhou's Lou Wai Lou Restaurant. The three have been known as the “Best Three Restaurants in Jiangnan” for over 100 years. Outstanding for both traditional

and innovative cuisines, Wuxi specially features Lake & River food.

The Three Traditional Delicacies



Wuxi Ravioli



Wuxi Pork Spare-ribs



Stuffed Fried Gluten

Three Yangtze Delicacies



Yangtze herring
(called Huiyu in Chinese)



Knife fish



Yangtze shad

Three-white Lake Delicacies



White Shrimp



White fish



White bait(Ice fish)



Wuxi's honey juicy peach



Dafu Bayberry



Choice Teas

Characteristic Street



The Nan Chan Temple Zone of Culture and Trade

A painstakingly planned and built center of culture and tourism, it takes advantage of the ancient Grand Canal, the time-honored Nan Chan Temple and the Fabulous Light Pagoda to boost its attraction.

Zhongshan Road Commercial Street

Right at the center of Wuxi, it is the grandest and the most prosperous of this kind in Wuxi. Zhongshan Road is rated as one of China's exemplary civilized roads.

Qin Shi Road Fine Food Street

Also known as “Europesque Street”, it is a northern extension into Beitang Borough of Zhongshan Road.



Chong An Temple Pedestrian Precinct

Beginning the 20s & 30s of the previous century, the precinct was home to Wuxi's business, cultural and leisure activities. Various forms of folk arts & performances were displayed here to entertain the people. Wuxi's famous blind folk musician Ah Bin could then be always seen playing instruments to make a living. Rebuilt and transformed, the precinct now presents itself as a brand-new business center of the city.



Xiao Lou Xiang Tourism Block

With a long history and inhabited by lots of historic figures, it is regarded as a fine example showing Wuxi's customs and tradition. Enclosed courtyard plus several sections in depth constitutes the unique architectural feature of the houses in the block, in which, the setting up of a garden of famous Wuxi figures is under way and old buildings there will be utilized for showing traditional local art.



Jiankang Road Shopping Area

At the converging point of the Jiankang Road with Xianqian Street, there used to be a residential area for Wuxi's rich and noble. The place now is crammed with nice and delicate shops and stores of various kinds.



Hui Hill Clay Figurines Street

The street houses workshops, studios, shores for making, showing or selling clay figurines.

Tourism Festivals and celebrations



Bell-tolling at the Ling Shan Wonderland of Buddhism

Held respectively on the New Year's Eve and the lunar New Year's Eve as one of the traditional activities for “seeing off the old and ushering in the new”, visitors are overwhelmed with the spectacular scenes displayed one after another at the wonderland.



The Nan Chan Temple Lantern Festival

By tradition, Chinese observe the tradition of Lantern Festival which falls on the 15th of the first moon of the lunar calendar. Nan Chan Temple has become the venue for the festival which attracts great numbers of tourists as well as local people.



Yangshan Peach Blossom Festival

Wuxi's Yangshan is famous for honey juicy peaches. Late March through early Apr. every year, when Yangshan dazzles with blooming peach blossoms, the festival is held to attract tourists. Performing arts, calligraphy & paintings by famous artists can also be shown there.

China Xu Xiake International Tourism Festival

As a grand gathering in China's tourism circle, the festival, taking advantage of the great fame of the great traveler, aims to promote Wuxi's tourism as well as China's.



Wu Culture Festival

Wuxi is the cradle of Wu Culture. The Wu Culture Festival held in Wuxi aims to carry on the fine civilization of the Wu Region, showcase its historical and cultural richness and limelight the unique feature of Wuxi, so as to early turn it into one of China's "Famous Cultural Cities".



Taihu Hill-and-Water Cultural Festival

Held every Apr. and lasting some 20 days. During the festival almost all the scenic spots and parks will organize a variety of cultural activities.



Taihu Golden Autumn Fine Food Festival

Held every Oct. and all the Star Hotels & restaurants will join hands to showcase Wuxi's fine cuisine.

