



蘇州  
平

PINGJIANG  
SUZHOU

江



平江客棧

PINGJIANG LODGE

平江客棧  
歡迎您！

Welcome to **Pingjiang Lodge** !

苏州是中国名城，古代称为吴、东吴、吴门、姑苏、平江，位于江南，素有渔米之乡之称，并以江南水乡和园林闻名，古人就说「上有天堂，下有苏杭」。苏州水道纵横交错，被誉为「东方威尼斯」。

在公元前五百余年的春秋时期，吴王阖闾命伍子胥，于今天的苏州建造吴国都城，因近姑苏山及姑苏台而称「姑苏城」。三国孙吴在此崛起，号为「东吴」，隋代称为苏州，宋代设置平江府。此后，苏州一直是江南地区的经济、文化中心。宋代平江崇文重教，是全国首屈一指的商业及文化城市，人文风气浓厚，中国园林艺术始于宋代，兴盛于明清两代。

明清两代是苏州的全盛时期，养蚕桑造丝等手工业及商业贸易发达，文化兴盛，人才辈出，诗文戏曲等皆流行。昆曲闻名全中国；苏州山水园林之美，则成为中国园林艺术的极致；多座园林古迹列为联合国世界文化遗产。

今天苏州古城历代文物景点丰富。平江路上，有现代建筑师贝聿铭设计的苏州博物馆和明清时期的拙政园，以及毗邻太平天国忠王府，还有苏州古城门，都是当地重要景点。

本册子将向各位来访的客人，介绍苏州的历史与文化，以及平江路与本客栈的特色。

## Preface

### Pingjiang Lodge at a Glance

Suzhou is a famous city in China, known as Wu, Eastern Wu, Wumen, Gusu and Pingjiang historically. Situated in Jiangnan (lands immediately to the south of Yangtze River's lower reaches), Suzhou has long been dubbed the "Land of Fish and Rice", and is well known for its Jiangnan water villages and gardens; hence the old saying, "Heaven above, Suzhou and Hangzhou below." It has also been dubbed "Venice of the Orient" for its crisscrossing watercourses.

In the 6th century BC, during the Spring and Autumn Period, King Helü, of the Wu State ordered Wu Zixu to build the state's capital on the site of today's Suzhou. It was called Gusu City for its contiguity to Gusu Mountain and Gusu Terrace. Sun Quan in the Three Kingdoms Period rose to power and established the Eastern Wu regime here. It was named Suzhou during the Sui Dynasty (581 - 618), and became the Pingjiang Prefecture in the Song Dynasty (960 - 1279). Thenceforth Suzhou has always been the economic and cultural center of the Jiangnan district. During the Song Dynasty, Pingjiang experienced significant developments in culture and education, making it the country's foremost commercial and cultural city featuring a strong humanistic atmosphere. Chinese garden art also originated in the Song Dynasty, and thrived in the Ming (1368 - 1644) and Qing (1666 - 1911) dynasties.

The Ming and Qing dynasties saw a golden age of Suzhou: sericulture and silk handicraft prospered; commerce and trade bloomed; culture flourished; notable talents appeared in large numbers; literature and opera thrived, with the Kunqu Opera gaining countrywide renown; and Chinese garden art typified by Suzhou gardens reached its acme. Now many classical gardens in Suzhou have been inscribed on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List.

The old city of Suzhou has a wealth of historical attractions. On Pingjiang Road, there are the Suzhou Museum designed by the famous modern architect Ieoh Ming Pei, and the Humble Administrator's Garden built in the Ming Dynasty. Close to them are the Mansion of the Taiping Loyal King and the old city wall gate of Suzhou, both being major tourist destinations.

This booklet aims to introduce to Lodge guests the history and culture of Suzhou, and the unique features of Pingjiang Road and Pingjiang Lodge.

# 历史长廊

苏州的历史，起源于春秋时期吴王阖闾（吴王夫差的父亲）命投奔吴国的楚国大臣伍子胥建造都城姑苏，至今已超过二千五百年。今天苏州的虎丘等地，还保留了与伍子胥、西施及吴王夫差有关的古迹。古代长江下游一带山区较多山越等土著，汉人数目不多。东汉末年，孙氏在江南地区建立势力，后来成为三国时期的吴国；到晋代及五胡十六国时期，中原长年战乱，大批土族南迁，将农耕技术和中国文化带入当地，这时期当地称为吴州及吴县。

隋代开皇九年（公元589年）易名苏州，并开凿通往南北的大运河，苏州位于重要交通及通商路线，地位显要。苏州位于长江以南富庶之地，物产丰富，唐代中期以后，江南在全国地位日益重要。

宋代到明清时期，江南地区物产丰饶，富甲天下，有「苏湖熟，天下足」之说；当地手工业及商业发达。宋代（公元960年—1279年）苏州称为平江，设置平江府，为浙江西道治所。此时苏州已是重要的工商业都会，尤以出产丝绸著称。明清两代，苏州更是经贸及文化中心，当时财力雄厚的徽州商人，也活跃于苏州等华东大埠。

苏州是吴文化的发祥地，又是中原文化与江南文化的交汇点，文学、戏曲和书画大师辈出。公元1035年，北宋名臣范仲淹在苏州任地方官，期间建立文庙、创办府学，鼓励教育。此后，苏州文风兴盛，成为人文荟萃之地，在明清时期更成为「状元之乡」。现在，游客踏足文庙，可以了解古代苏州的教育与文化。清代画家徐扬的《姑苏繁华图》，就描绘苏州在清代乾隆盛世下工商繁华、物阜民丰的景象。在《姑苏繁华图》出现的山塘街，号称「姑苏第一名街」，保留了不少古代苏州的历史文化景观。

苏州文人雅士辈出，这些才子、文人和官员等除爱好诗词和戏曲、书画外，也喜欢园林艺术，搜集太湖奇石，在大宅庭园中建造山水园林。园林艺术始于宋代，明清时期达到中国的顶峰，很多名园占地甚广，有奇石、花木、亭台楼阁等景色。不少苏州园林，到今天仍然展现独特的中国传统建筑艺术。苏州的名园如拙政园、留园与沧浪亭等，均属世界著名的园林。

唐宋及明清四代，苏州有桥三百座以上，是中国桥梁数量最多、密度最高的城市。苏州现在仍保存一百六十八座古桥，样式各异而又精巧古朴，继续让当地居民使用，成为苏州古城特色之一。其中平江路是一条沿河并行的小路，保留了昔日民居和路桥格局，以及数座建于宋代到清代的古老石桥，富有古城水乡风味。





## Gallery of History

Suzhou dates back over 2,500 years when King Helü, (King Fuchai's father) of the State of Wu in the Spring and Autumn Period (770 - 476 BC) ordered Wu Zixu, a former official of the State of Chu who had fled to seek shelter at Wu, to construct his capital Gusu. Today we can still see relics connected with Wu Zixu, Xi Shi and King Fuchai in places like Tiger Hill in Suzhou. In ancient times, the mountainous areas around Yangtze River's lower reaches were mainly inhabited by local tribes such as the Shanyue tribe, and the Han population was relatively small. In the late Eastern Han Dynasty, Sun Quan seized control of the Jiangnan district, and later established the State of Wu in the Three Kingdoms Period. During the Jin Dynasty and the Period of the Wu Hu (Five Barbarian Tribes) Uprising and Sixteen Kingdoms, the Central Plain areas were plagued by years of war. Many gentry families migrated south, introducing their agricultural techniques and Central Plain culture into the Suzhou area, known as Wu Prefecture and Wu, County, at that time.

In 589 (the 9th year of Kaihuang, the first era name of Emperor Wen of Sui Dynasty), the name Suzhou was adopted. The Sui government constructed the Grand Canal to connect the northern and southern parts of the country. Suzhou gained importance for its position on a major transportation and trade route. Situated on the fertile land immediately to the south of Yangtze River, it was abundant in resources and produced a rich variety of products. After the mid Tang Dynasty, Jiangnan became an increasingly prominent area in the country.

From the Song Dynasty to the Ming and Qing dynasties, Jiangnan was the country's wealthiest region with abundant resources and products, as reflected in the old saying, "When Suzhou and Huzhou have a good harvest, the whole country will have enough food". Handicrafts and commerce also prospered. In the Song Dynasty, Suzhou was called Pingjiang, and Pingjiang Prefecture was established as the capital of Zhejiang Xidao district. By then Suzhou had become an important industrial and commercial hub, well known for its silk products. During the Ming and Qing dynasties, Suzhou was a cultural as well as an economic and trade center. At that time Hui merchants with large capitals were active in big ports in East China, Suzhou being one of them.

As the cradle of Wu culture and a meeting point of Central Plain culture and Jiangnan culture, Suzhou has produced many great masters of literature, opera, calligraphy and painting. In 1035, Fan Zhongyan, an eminent politician in the Northern Song Dynasty, took up an official position in Suzhou. During his tenure, he built a Confucian temple, and instituted the Prefecture School to promote education. Thereafter culture and education thrived, with the city often featuring a constellation of cultural worthies. In the Ming and Qing period it even became the "Land of Zhuangyuan (the title awarded to the top scorer in the palace examination)". Tourists visiting the local Confucian Temple will get an understanding of the education and culture of Suzhou in the old times. The painting "Prosperity of Gusu", a work of the Qing Dynasty painter Xu Yang, depicts scenes of a prosperous Suzhou bustling with industrial and commercial activities in the heyday during Emperor Qianlong's reign. The Shantang Street which appears in the painting, often referred to as the "Best Known Street in Gusu", preserves many of the city's historical and cultural attractions.

Suzhou abounded in men of letters and refined tastes. Many of them, and many government officials as well, were enthusiastic about garden art besides poetry, opera, calligraphy and painting. They would collect strange rocks from Lake Taihu for building gardens with hill and water scenes in their big residences. Developed in the Song Dynasty, Chinese garden art reached its zenith in the Ming and Qing period. Many gardens were on a grand scale, featuring scenery composed of grotesque rocks, flowers and plants, pavilions, towers and chambers. Today, Suzhou gardens are still representative of the unique traditional architecture of China. The most famous ones like Humble Administrator's Garden, Lingering Garden and Surging Waves Pavilion have all become world renowned gardens.

In the Tang, Song, Ming and Qing dynasties, there were over 300 bridges in Suzhou. It was the city with most bridges and the highest bridge density in China. Today, it still features 168 ancient bridges exquisitely constructed in various styles, which are still used by the inhabitants. Running alongside a river, Pingjiang Road is a small street preserving many old folk houses and an ancient street-bridge layout. Along it there are a few stone bridges built during the period from the Song Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty. The area is filled with special charms of an ancient water village.

# 马可·孛罗眼中的苏州

意大利旅行家马可·孛罗 (Marco Polo, 公元1254年 - 1324年) 在元代初年从欧洲远道前来中国，住了十七年，并游历当时中国的上都、大都 (北京) 及苏州等城市，回国后著述《游记》 (Travels)，描述旅途见闻，其中关于当时中国城市繁华的内容，震动欧洲。

他在《游记》中盛赞苏州城的建筑，称苏州「是一颇名贵之城」，周围六十多里，下辖十六个富庶的大城市和城镇。城内人口稠密，有许多医术高明的医生和学识渊博的学者。马可·孛罗根据当地谚语「上有天堂，下有苏杭」，推测苏州意思为「地上城市」。来自意大利水乡威尼斯的马可·孛罗称苏州为「东方威尼斯」。

苏州工商业发达，《游记》称居民以经营工商业为主，「生产大量的生丝制成的绸缎，不仅供给自己消费，使人人都能穿上绸缎，而且还营销至其他市场」。

马可·孛罗还注意到苏州的桥，说当地有六千多座石桥，「桥甚高，其下可行船，甚至两船并行」。据说，元代苏州城内有桥三百多座，城郊有桥近一千座。马可·孛罗的说法虽然可能有所夸张，可是苏州的确是石桥众多，今天各位踏足苏州，相信都会认同这一点。





## Suzhou in the Eye of Marco Polo

The Italian traveler Marco Polo (1254 - 1324) came a long way from Europe to China in the early Yuan Dynasty, and lived in China for 17 years. During this period he toured such Chinese cities as Shangdu, Dadu (Beijing) and Suzhou, etc. He wrote about his journeys after returning to his country. Depiction of the prosperity of Chinese cities in his "*Travels*" stunned Europe.

He highly praised the architecture of Suzhou, calling Suzhou a "noble city". According to his description, Suzhou was more than 60 square miles in size, with 16 affluent cities and towns under its jurisdiction. It was densely populated, and there were many skillful physicians and erudite scholars. From the local saying "Heaven above, and Suzhou and Hangzhou below", Marco Polo inferred that the name Suzhou meant "city on earth". However, coming from Venice, the Italian "City of Water", he dubbed Suzhou "Venice of the Orient".

The industrial and commercial prosperity of Suzhou is also described in his "*Travels*". He said the citizens were mainly engaged in industrial and commercial undertakings, "Produce large amounts of satin fabric made of raw silk, not only for their own use - such that everyone can wear in silk satin - but also for selling to other markets."

He also paid attention to the bridges of Suzhou, saying that Suzhou had over 6,000 bridges, "The bridge spans are very high, allowing boats to pass by; and two boats can pass underneath it side by side." By some accounts there were over 300 bridges within the city of Suzhou in the Yuan Dynasty, with nearly 1,000 more on its outskirts. Marco Polo's account may be an exaggeration, but it is true that Suzhou has a large number of stone bridges. When you come to Suzhou, you will realize how true it is.

# 地区导航 平江路

平江路是苏州老城北部一条沿河并行的路，是当地保存得最完整的历史老街。在宋代石刻城市地图《平江图》中就能看到平江路，是当时苏州东半城的主要道路。平江路小河两岸都保留了原来的明清民房建筑、石桥、石板铺成的路，以至整个区原来的古老风貌。

平江河和石路都不阔，所谓「水陆并行，河街为邻」，属典型的江南水乡。八百年来，平江路保留了原来的街道格局和特色；河道两岸的房屋，街道和河道的宽度相配合，石路与水巷纵横交错，河道旁种满树木，增添水乡风味。虽然平江路在苏州闹市之中，可是这里的古朴宁静与一街之隔的车水马龙，已经截然不同。

平江路南起于干将东路，北越白塔东路和东北街相接；跟拙政园、苏州博物馆和太平天国忠王府等当地著名景点相距不远。平江路以石铺成，两侧有很多窄巷，并有石桥连接，其中包括平江客栈所在的钮家巷。路上行人、单车和电瓶车往来频繁，游客则乘坐小船，欣赏两岸老房子等景色。数座石桥连接平江河的两岸，这些石桥均是平江路上的古迹，最早的有建于宋代的胡廨使桥，其他的则大多建于明清两代。

平江路属重点保护的历史文化街巷，区内的老宅多建于明清时期，大部分仍有人居住。一些沿街和河的老式房屋开设了各式商店，从出售丝绸到年轻人潮流商店都有，既保留传统，也有潮流特色；如传统唱昆曲的的茶馆，以及特色餐厅，吸引年轻人留连。

## 平江路与《平江图》

《平江图》是南宋时期平江（即今天的苏州城）的地图石刻，于南宋绍定二年（公元1229年），由郡守李寿明主持刻绘，是中国少数流传至今的古代城市石刻地图。《平江图》标示当时苏州城的平面图、街巷及河道交错分布，还有城墙、护城河及官署位置等；其中包括今天的平江路，地图上的道路规划和房屋的位置，基本上保持当年的模样。苏州以园林闻名，部分园林也标示在《平江图》上，如沧浪亭，当时被称为「韩园」。

今天，《平江图》原石置于文庙及碑刻博物馆，与另外数块宋代碑刻一同展出，而仿制品则放在平江路北与白塔东路交界的一个亭子中展出，游人到平江路游览时，可以留意细心观看。

## 闻名世界的苏州园林

中国古典园林，从建筑性质来看，分为帝王宫苑、寺庙园林和第宅园林三大类，苏州园林就以寺庙园林和第宅园林为主。苏州园林经历宋元明清四代的累积，成为中国江南私家园林的代表，堪称中国古典园林之最，是建筑、山水、花木、雕刻、书画的综合艺术品，集自然和艺术美于一体，有「江南园林甲天下，苏州园林甲江南」的美誉。

苏州园林特别多，是因为当地具备多项优越条件：首先是经济富裕，物产丰富，奇花、异草、湖石等完备而充足。其次，苏州的湖光山色优美，造就优美的自然环境，为人们造山理水，提供了摹拟的范本。另外，当地文化发达，文人众多，造就生活艺术化的条件。最后，苏州工艺发达，杰出工匠辈出，不少名园出自他们的匠心独运。

苏州现有保存完好的古典园林七十三处，沧浪亭、狮子林、拙政园、留园分别代表著宋、元、明、清四个朝代的艺术风格，合称「苏州四大名园」。其中拙政园和留园更被列入中国四大名园之列。此外，拙政园、留园、网师园、环秀山庄、沧浪亭、狮子林、艺圃、耦园、退思园等九个古典园林，分别于1997年和2000年获联合国教科文组织列入《世界文化遗产名录》。





## District Navigation

### Pingjiang Road

Located in the north of the old city of Suzhou and running alongside a river, Pingjiang Road is the best preserved historical street in the area. The road appears on the stone carved "Map of Pingjiang" of the Song Dynasty, during which it was a major road in the eastern half of Suzhou. It features Ming and Qing period folk houses on both sides of the river. These old houses, the flagstone streets, the stone bridges, and the overall landscape are all preserved in their ancient forms.

Both the Pingjiang River and the flagstone streets are not very wide. As described by the saying, "Streets and rivers go side by side, and land and water routes run in parallel", the area is a typical Jiangnan water village. Dating from 800 years ago, Pingjiang Road still maintains its original street layout and characteristics. The houses flanking both banks of the river; the streets and river courses matching each other in breadth; the stone paths and water lanes crossing each other; and shady trees bordering the waterways, all contribute to the aura of a water village. Although located within Suzhou's urban area, Pingjiang Road is an ancient, peaceful neighbourhood, posing a stark contrast to the hustle and bustle immediately across the street.

Pingjiang Road runs south-north from Ganjiang East Road, cutting Baita East Road to meet Dongbei Street. Famous tourist attractions like the Humble Administrator's Garden, Suzhou Museum and the Mansion of Taiping Loyal King are all nearby. The road is flagstone-paved. Many narrow lanes branch from its two sides, with stone bridges linking them up. Among them is Niujiaxiang (an alleyway) where Pingjiang Lodge is located. The road bustles with pedestrians, bicycles and battery powered vehicles. Tourists are often seen taking a boat ride to admire the old houses along the river and the scenery around. A number of stone bridges linked the two sides of Pingjiang River. They are all historical relics of Pingjiang Road. The oldest is the Huxiangshi Bridge constructed in the Song Dynasty. Most of the others date back to the Ming and Qing dynasties.

Pingjiang Road is an important historical and cultural street under protection. Its old houses were largely built in the Ming and Qing dynasties, many still being inhabited. While retaining its traditional characteristics, the area has its trendy aspects, with the streets and waterways lined with various kinds of shops and eateries converted from ancient houses, ranging from those selling silk satin to chic stores; and from tea houses offering Kunqu Opera performance to stylish restaurants with a special appeal to young people.

### Pingjiang Road & "Map of Pingjiang"

The "Map of Pingjiang" is a Southern Song Dynasty stone-carved map of Pingjiang (present-day Suzhou). It was drawn and carved in 1229 (the 2nd year of Shaoding, the second era name of Southern Song Emperor Lizong). The government official in charge of the work was Prefect Li Shouming. Being one of the few surviving ancient stone-carved city maps of China, it depicts the overall layout of Suzhou at the time, showing its network of streets and watercourses, the city wall and moat, and government offices, etc. Pingjiang Road is also labeled. The street layout and locations of houses shown on the map remain basically the same today. Suzhou is renowned for its gardens. Some of them are recorded on the map, including Surging Waves Pavilion, known as Han Yuan, at the time.

Now the original "Map of Pingjiang" is displayed in the Suzhou Confucian Temple and Museum of Inscribed Steles along with several other Song Dynasty stone inscriptions. A replica is exhibited in a pavilion at the intersection of Pingjiang Road North and Baita East Road.

### World Famous Gardens in Suzhou

In terms of their architectural nature, Chinese classical gardens can be divided into three major categories: imperial gardens, monastic gardens and private gardens. Suzhou gardens are largely monastic and private gardens. As a result of cumulative development in the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, Suzhou gardens have become representatives of Jiangnan private gardens, and are considered the best among Chinese classical gardens. They embody an integrated art combining architecture with landscape scenery, horticulture, carving, calligraphy and painting, and are a perfect blend of natural and artistic beauty; hence the saying, "Jiangnan gardens top all others in the country; and Suzhou gardens top all others in Jiangnan."

Suzhou has plenty of classical gardens. This can be attributed to a range of advantageous conditions: Firstly, the area is affluent and rich in resources. It has many rare flowers, plants, and rocks from lakes. Secondly, Suzhou features picturesque water and mountain scenes. The natural scenery provided ideal models for designing garden landscapes. Thirdly, cultural prosperity and a large literary community helped the development of an artistic lifestyle. Lastly, handicrafts thrived well with outstanding craftsmen available in great numbers. Many famous gardens were built with their ingenuity and originality.

At present there are 73 well preserved classical gardens in Suzhou. The Surging Waves Pavilion, Lion Grove Garden, Humble Administrator's Garden and Lingering Garden typify the artistic styles of the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties respectively and are known as the "Four Most Famous Gardens of Suzhou", of which the Humble Administrator's Garden and Lingering Garden are regarded as two of China's four most famous gardens.

In addition, nine Suzhou gardens were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1997 and 2000 respectively: Humble Administrator's Garden, Lingering Garden, Master-of-Nets Garden, Huanxiu Shanzhuang (the Mountain Villa with Embracing Beauty), Surging Waves Pavilion, Lion Grove Garden, Garden of Cultivation, Couple's Retreat Garden, and the Retreat and Reflection Garden.



# 旅 馆 的 故 事

## 平 江 客 栈

平江客栈位于平江路河畔，「小桥、流水、人家」就在咫尺之间。周边有多处著名景点与名人故居，包括拙政园、苏州博物馆等。

客栈由明代望族「方家大宅」和「董氏老宅」改建而成，保留了由明、清、民国以至1960年代文化大革命时期的文物。典雅幽静的园林景观，使客栈与江南姑苏文化融为一体，住客置身其中，可以体会苏州传统文化的优雅和变迁。

平江客栈大堂原是方家老宅的主厅，建于明代中叶，距今已四百五十余年，是整座客栈最古老的建筑物。厅房家具都保留了明清姑苏民居摆设的式样。大厅右边有一台石琴，又有书案和笔墨，供来宾挥笔留言。

### 庭院主题 — 桃、竹、枫、劲松、偕松

客栈分五路，十一苑，四十二房。平江客栈的各个庭院都各有特色和主题，由古老建筑与不同的花草树木形成，给住客不同的感受。院内有假山、竹林、深井、鱼池，室内的布置按照苏州传统民居的形式，古色古香。

桃园是客房的一苑，桃花满园，是以《三国演义》中桃园结义的英雄事迹为主题，此苑有「仁、义、忠、勇」四房。平江客栈有半数房屋属于明末清初建筑，历史超过四百五十年，大多数都有木结构，因此客房都保留原有风貌，从客栈大堂到客房，陈设都采用明清式木家具。

另一个院叫竹园，园子种满竹，有一条石板路通往园子的各房间。园内种了竹子和红枫，取「高风亮节、雄心壮志」之意。园子一座楼房建于民国时期。这楼房二楼门窗由砖砌成并有木建露台。从二楼客房望到室外，除了可以欣赏竹园静谧之美外，还能够观看客栈附近平江路一带的景色，如客栈的老建筑和民居，别有一番风味。

客栈还有枫园，园中种了松、竹和梅，喻长寿、高尚与坚强。千姿里则有梅、兰、竹、菊四个客房。下一个称为净苑，园子以白沙为海，石块为路，景物素雅。

中苑是客栈的商务中心，除了提供上网服务外，还有像棋和围棋，可供客人享受下棋之乐。置身这古老厅堂，大家可以感受这古老大宅的优雅，享受那份闲适的气氛。

沿著中厅向南走，经过大厅，就会到达另一个园子杏林苑，以歌颂仁心仁术、济世为怀的医生。

劲松苑环境清幽，院落里种植了五株形态不同的松树，用以比喻五代同堂，福泽绵延，苍劲长寿。

偕松苑是客栈另一个有客房的院子，种了双松，喻意比翼双飞，情比金坚。





## Story of Pingjiang Lodge

Pingjiang Lodge is located by the side of Pingjiang River, with an attractive proximity to a water village featuring "little bridges, flowing streams, residences" (a famous Yuan Dynasty verse). It is close to many famous tourist attractions, including former residences of celebrities, the Humble Administrator's Garden and Suzhou Museum.

The Lodge was transformed from the big residences of two prominent families in the Ming Dynasty: the Fang and Dong families. It preserves some historical relics of the Ming and Qing period, the Republic of China period, and the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s. Featuring graceful garden landscapes, it blends harmoniously with Suzhou's Jiangnan culture. Therefore in Pingjiang Lodge, you can experience the elegance of traditional Suzhou culture, and its transformation over the years as well.

The main lobby of the Lodge was originally the main living room of the Fang residence, constructed over 450 years ago in the mid Ming Dynasty. It is the oldest structure of the Lodge. The lobby and room furnishings are all in styles characterizing Ming and Qing Suzhou folk residences. On the right side of the lobby, there are a shiqin (a traditional Chinese musical stone), a desk with writing brushes and ink on it for guests to write down their comments.

### Garden Themes at the Lodge - Peach, Bamboo, Maple, Sturdy Pine, Pair Pines

The Lodge has 5 sections, 11 gardens, and 42 rooms. Every garden has its unique features and theme, and contains ancient structures and a variety of flowers and trees, offering lodge guests a special experience. Artificial hills, bamboo groves, water wells, fish ponds are common elements. The interior design and décor of the structures are in traditional Suzhou folk house styles, featuring an antique charm.

Tao Yuan (Peach Garden) is one of the guest room gardens. With the story of "the Oath of Peach Garden" depicted in the novel "*Romance of the Three Kingdoms*" as its theme, the garden is abundant in peach trees, and has four rooms named Benevolence, Righteousness, Loyalty, and Courage respectively. Half of the lodge rooms were built over 450 years ago in the late Ming and early Qing dynasties. Most have wooden structures and maintain their original appearances. The lobby and rooms are all furnished with Ming and Qing style wooden furniture.

Another garden is called Zhu Yuan (Bamboo Garden). With a dense bamboo grove, the garden has a flagstone path leading to the guest rooms. Bamboo and red maple trees have been planted in it to symbolize "noble character and sterling integrity", and "lofty aspirations and great ideals". A building in the garden dates from the Republic of China period. Its upper floor has brick doors and windows plus a wooden balcony. Looking out from the upper floor, you can feast on the serene beauty of Zhu Yuan, and on the sights of the Pingjiang Road area, such as the Lodge's ancient buildings and other folk houses on the street.

Then there is Feng Yuan (Maple Garden), in which pine trees, bamboo and plum trees have been planted, as symbols of longevity, nobility and fortitude. Among the exuberant groves are four guest rooms, named Plum, Orchid, Bamboo, and Chrysanthemum respectively. The next one is Jing Yuan (Pure Garden), featuring a sea made of white sand and paths of stones. The landscape is charmingly simple.

Zhong Yuan (Middle Garden) is the business center of the Lodge. Besides enjoying Internet access, guests may indulge in a game of Chinese chess or Go (weiqi) here with the equipment provided. Inside the old hall of Zhong Yuan, you can feel the elegance of the former residence of a wealthy family and enjoy its relaxed atmosphere.

Proceed south along the middle hall and through the main hall, you will come to Xinglin Yuan (Apricot Grove Garden), a garden honouring capable and benevolent physicians.

Jingsong Yuan (Sturdy Pine Garden) features a very peaceful environment. It has five pines in different shapes, representing five generations living together, lasting happiness, great vigor and longevity.

Lusong Yuan (Pair Pines Garden) is another garden in the Lodge with guest rooms. The pair of pine trees planted here symbolizes a deeply devoted couple.

## 膳房—董氏老宅

踏出平江客栈大门，前往对面，是一座新旧合璧的建筑物，既有新颖的设计，也有古朴的砖墙和院落。这里是客栈的膳房，即客栈的餐厅，由「董氏老宅」改建而成。这里曾经用作粮仓，是灾荒时派米粮赈灾的「义庄」，现改造为新颖的餐厅、会议厅和住房等设施，古今合璧得恰到好处。食客可以坐在河边露天茶座用餐，欣赏苏州河畔和街巷景色，也可以在膳房的中餐厅用餐。

## 平江客栈—古迹此中寻

从平江客栈的外貌，到踏进客栈大门，就犹如进了时光隧道，回到古代苏州的大户庭院。皆因整座平江客栈是明清时期建筑，与整个平江路这历史老街区的建筑物成为一体。

客栈采用「修旧如旧」的原则来改造，保留原有楼房外貌及结构，并增设现代设施，使其成为提供舒适居住的旅馆。古老的檐柱、砖墙，还有木窗和栏杆，均保留原来的建筑样式。

平江客栈有属于不同时期的古迹，是这古老建筑经历时代变迁所留下的印记，能令人感受这里的历史文化气息。整座客栈最古老的建筑物，是昔日的方家大宅。大宅是一座典型江南式园林宅院，建于明代中叶，距今已有四百五十余年。

踏进大门，您可以留意到一口水井，这口井原属大宅的一部分，已有超过一百年历史。这时转头一看，可以看到门楣上留有「永远革命」四字的印记。这些字当然不是属于明清时期方家大宅的，而是1960年代的文化大革命时期，当时红卫兵曾以方家大宅作为司令部，留下的标记，见证现代中国历史的一页。

沿著石铺路面走，步进客栈主厅，这里的柱子和各式桌椅家具，仍保留昔日大宅厅堂的古雅及堂皇气氛。只要抬头一看，楼顶及主梁上金闪闪的，这也是客栈的「文物」，就是昔日大宅在楼房顶及梁上的镏金案花纹，经过漫长岁月，到今天只有少部分保留下来，各位住客不妨细心观看。

在客栈大厅附近的桃园，对面的一堵墙上，保留了一些以红色油漆髹上的《毛主席语录》字句，是文化大革命时期红卫兵以红色漆油髹上的。墙上还有一对木牌，刻上一首毛泽东1935年10月写于长征路上的《七律·长征》，同样是文革时期的文物。

在客栈大厅及高级客房中，您可以看到房顶的横梁和柱子，都是经修复后保留原貌的。此外，大部份客房中古色古香的桌子、椅子、睡床及衣柜等，都是明清时期江南地区的家具，是真古董。置身客房中，便能够真正的感受昔日江南大宅的生活。

在方家大宅对面的膳房「董氏老宅」，还保留著庭院、檐柱和长窗等。膳房金石馆墙上嵌有一块石刻，是清代地方政府发给老宅主人董家的执帖，是重要的文物。





### **Shanfang (Restaurant) - Former Residence of the Dong Family**

Walking out the front door of Pingjiang Lodge and over to its opposite side, you will come to a building mixing old and new. Designed in a modern fashion, it also features some antique elements like an old brick wall and a courtyard. This is the Lodge's Shanfang, or restaurant, transformed from the former residence of the Dong Family. The place used to be a public granary for handing out rice during famines. Today, as a perfect blend of old and new, it houses modern facilities including a restaurant, meeting room and guest rooms. Guests may enjoy alfresco in the outdoor cafe with delightful views over a Suzhou river and the old streets nearby. They may also savour some local delicacies in the Chinese restaurant of Shanfang.

### **Traces of Historical Relics at Pingjiang Lodge**

Admiring the outward appearance of Pingjiang Lodge and stepping inside it, one may feel like being taken back in time to a big Suzhou residence in history; as the entire Lodge is a Ming and Qing period architecture, in harmony with the general architectural landscape of the historical Pingjiang Road.

Transformation of the architecture was done with the approach "restore to its original state", preserving its original appearance and structure while enhancing it with modern facilities, such that it would become a lodge offering comfort and convenience. The old eave columns, brick walls, and wooden windows and railings have all been preserved in their pristine forms.

Pingjiang Lodge preserves relics of different periods. As marks of its past, they will help visitors get immersed in the historical and cultural atmosphere of the place. The oldest structure of the Lodge is the former residence of the Fang Family. A typical gardened Jiangnan residence, it was constructed over 450 years ago in the mid Ming Dynasty.

Getting inside through the front door, you will see a water well, which used to be a part of the residence and dates back over 100 years. Turning around you will notice the remnant marks of a Chinese slogan meaning "revolution never ends" on the lintel. Obviously it did not belong to the residence of the Fang Family in the Ming and Qing dynasties. It is a relic of the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s, during which some Red Guards set up their headquarters here and left their marks, bearing witness to a chapter in modern Chinese history.

Proceeding along the flagstone path and entering the main lobby of the Lodge, you will feel the graceful, dignified air of a living room of an ancient opulent residence. The columns, tables, chairs and other furnishings are all steeped in a historical splendor. Looking up to the ceiling, you will be attracted by some glittering gold engraved on the ceiling and main beam, something belonging to the original house. Only a small part of the original engravings remains after so many years, and it is worthwhile to take a careful look at them.

A wall opposite Tao Yuan near the main lobby preserves some red-painted words from "Quotations from Chairman Mao". Painted by Red Guards, they are also a Cultural Revolution relic. Another trace of the same period is a pair of wooden plaques hung on the wall, with a qilü (seven-character eight-line regulated verse) poem of Chairman Mao, "The Long March", written in October 1935, engraved on them.

In the main lobby and deluxe rooms, the beams and columns have all been restored to their original forms. In addition, the antique desks, chairs, beds and wardrobes of most guest rooms are authentic Jiangnan furniture of the Ming and Qing period, giving guests a real taste of the life in an opulent Jiangnan residence in ancient times.

Shanfang, formerly residence of the Dong Family, is on the opposite side of the former residence of the Fang Family. Its original courtyard, eave columns and long windows have been preserved. In Shanfang's Jinshi Hall, there is a stone inscription inlaid in the wall. Being an official message for the Dong Family from the local government in the Qing Dynasty, it is a relic of significant historical value.

# 苏州 深度 游

## 著名园林

苏州以园林著称，园林是建筑、山水、花木、雕刻、书画的综合艺术品，集自然美和艺术美于一体，其中九座园林更被列入联合国《世界文化遗产名录》。

## 苏州博物馆

苏州博物馆新馆由美籍华人建筑师贝聿铭设计，2006年10月建成。博物馆在苏州城北部，与太平天国忠王李秀成王府相连，面积八千多平方米，内部东侧有太平天国忠王府内的古典舞台等，是全国重点文物保护单位。

## 文庙及碑刻博物馆

苏州文庙又名苏州府学，与沧浪亭属一街之隔，代表古代苏州深厚的文化与教育传统。文庙由北宋名臣范仲淹创建，成为中国第一所庙学。北宋景佑二年（公元1035年），时任苏州知州的范仲淹将州学（后称府学）和祭祀孔子的文庙结合，开创庙学合一（即文庙府学合一）的体制。

文庙所收藏的大量碑刻，以《平江图》、《天文图》、《地理图》和《帝王绍运图》四大宋碑最著名和珍贵。文庙还收藏三千多块明代及清代的石刻和拓片。

## Suzhou In-depth Tour

### Famous Gardens

Suzhou is renowned for its gardens, which embody an integrated art mixing architecture with landscape scenery, horticulture, carving, calligraphy and painting, featuring a harmonious blend of natural and artistic beauty that make the gardens become UNESCO World Heritage.

### Suzhou Museum

The new building of Suzhou Museum was designed by the Chinese-American architect Ioh Ming Pei, and completed in October 2006. Situated in the north of Suzhou, it is connected with the Mansion of Taiping Loyal King and covers an area of over 8,000 square meters. Inside it, there are such relics as the classical opera stage belonging to the Mansion of Taiping Loyal King on the east side. It is a national important cultural relic protection unit.

### Confucian Temple and Museum of Inscribed Steles

The Suzhou Confucian Temple, also known as Suzhou Prefecture School, is located across the street from Surging Waves Pavilion. It is emblematic of Suzhou's deep cultural and educational tradition. Initiated by Fan Zhongyan, an eminent statesman in the Northern Song Dynasty, it was the first temple school of China. In 1035 (the 2nd year of Jingyou, the third era name of Northern Song Emperor Renzong), Fan Zhongyan, then Prefect of Suzhou, integrated the Prefecture School with the Confucian Temple, starting the education system of combining Confucian temples and prefecture schools.

Among the large amount of stone inscriptions in the Temple, the "Map of Pingjiang", "Star Map", "Geographical Map" and "Map of Lineages of Emperors" are the most famous and precious. In addition, the Temple has a collection of over 3,000 stone inscriptions and rubbings of the Ming and Qing dynasties.



# 建议行程

文化精点：苏州二日一夜 / 三日二夜 / 四日三夜

## 第一天

虎丘 ~ 寒山寺 ~ 昆曲博物馆 ~ 轻舟游水乡 ~ 拙政园 ~ 苏州博物馆

## 第二天

灵岩山 ~ 木渎古镇 ~ 苏州文庙 ~ 碑刻博物馆 ~ 沧浪亭

## 第三天

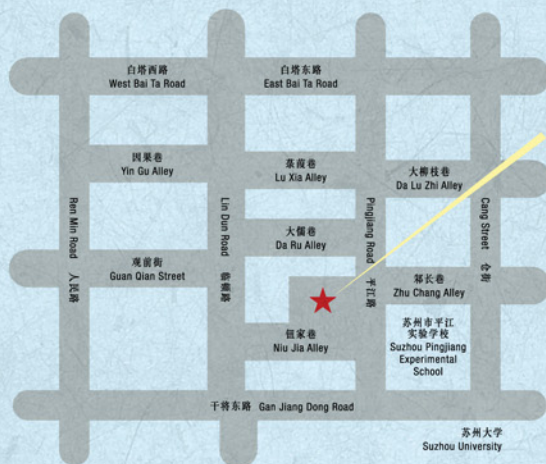
甪直古镇 ~ 留园 ~ 网师园

## 第四天

丝绸博物馆 ~ 山塘街

## ★ 旅游查询

入住平江客栈的旅客可参加特别设计的二日一夜、三日二夜或四日三夜的文化精点旅游系列畅游苏州，让您深入感受苏州「小桥、流水、人家」浓厚的水乡文化氛围。详情请与我们的酒店前台查询。



# RECOMMENDED ITINERARY

Cultural Delights: 2D1N / 3D2N / 4D3N

## Day 1

Tiger Hill ~ Hanshan Temple ~ Kunqu Museum ~ Boat-ride at Pingjiang River ~ Humble Administrator's Garden ~ Suzhou Museum

## Day 2

Lingyanshan Mountain ~ Mudu Old Town ~ Confucian Temple ~ Museum of Inscribed Steles ~ Surging Waves Pavilion

## Day 3

Luzhi Ancient Town ~ Lingering Garden ~ Master-of-Nets Garden

## Day 4

Silk Museum ~ Shantang Street

## ★ TOUR INQUIRY

As honoured guests of Pingjiang Lodge, you are welcome to join our Suzhou Cultural Delights tours ranging from two days to four days, specially designed for you to experience the charming aura of Suzhou's water villages, featuring "little bridges, flowing streams, residences". Please contact the Hotel's reception desk for details.





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