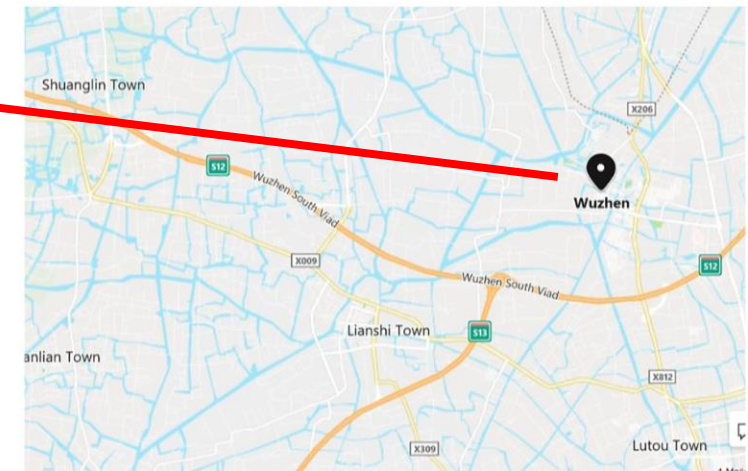
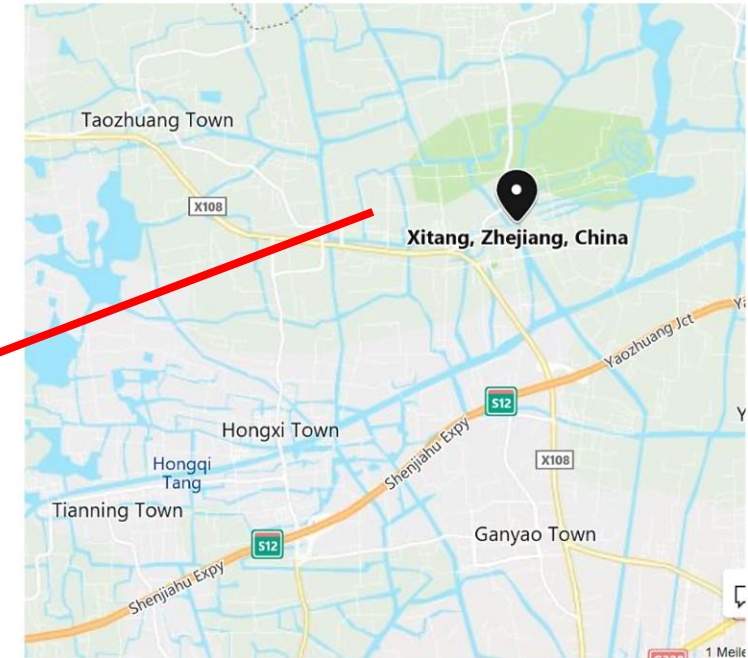
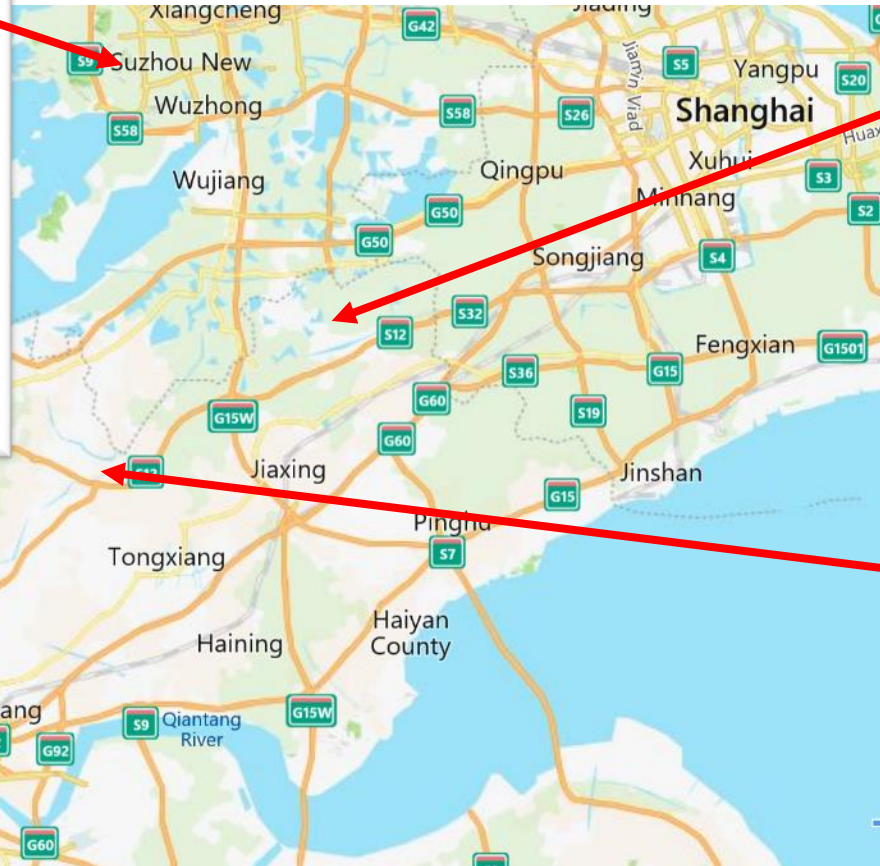
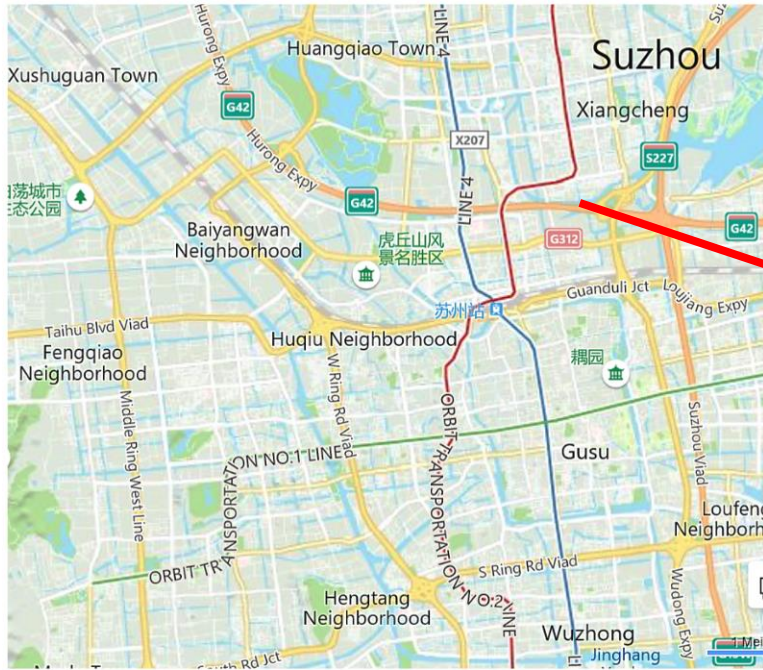


The waterways and villages west of Shanghai

The Waterways and Villages west of Shanghai

On our way from Hangzhou to Shanghai we passed through a large area with a huge number of small canals and small beautiful old cities. These will be part of another presentation.



Pictures taken by members of VDE group visiting China 2006, maps are taken from BING

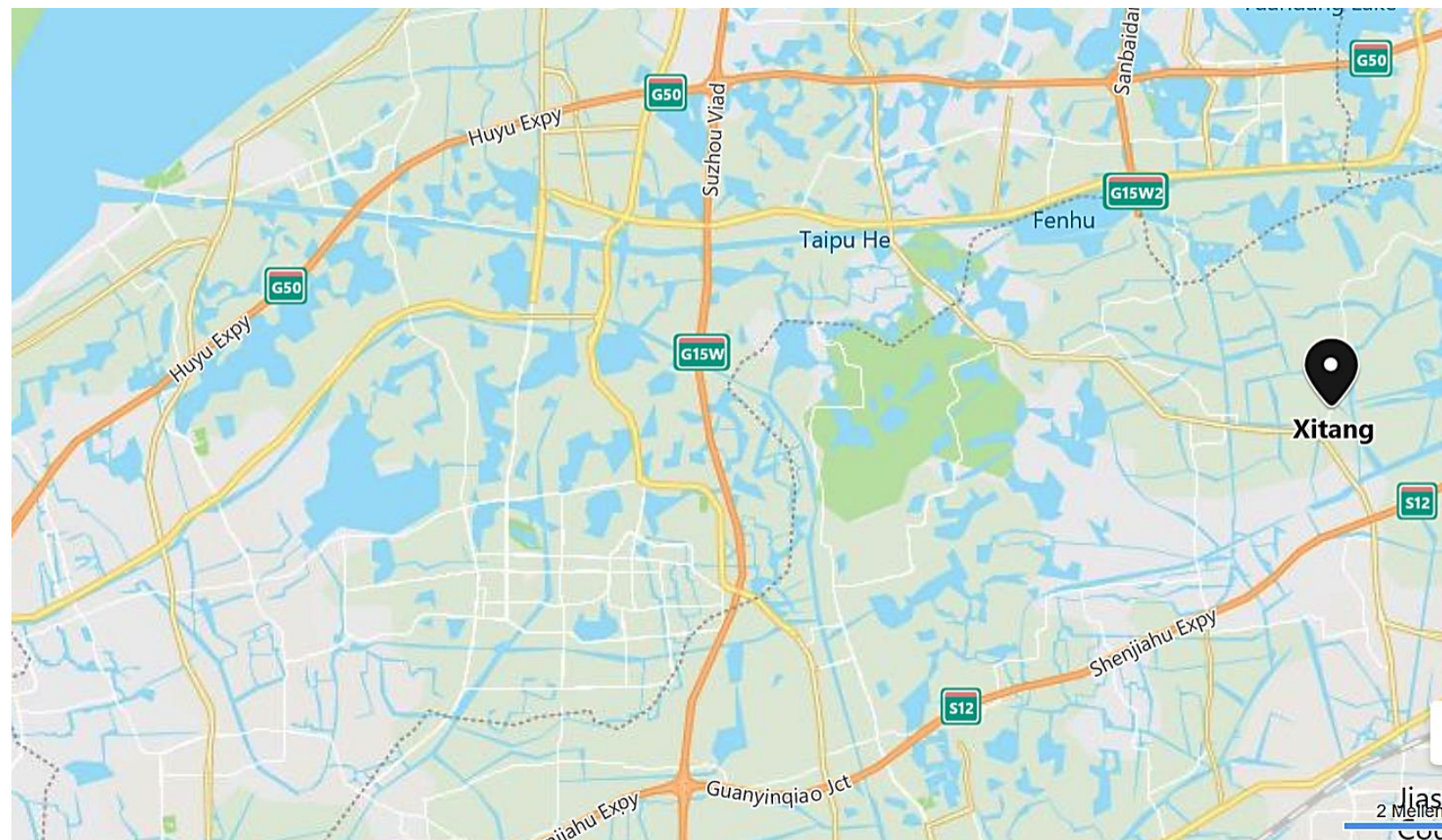


The Grand Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the longest canal or artificial river in the world. Starting in Beijing, it passes through Tianjin and the provinces of Hebei, Shandong, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang to the city of Hangzhou, linking the Yellow River and Yangtze River. The oldest parts of the canal date back to the 5th century BC, but the various sections were first connected during the Sui dynasty (581–618 AD). Dynasties in 1271–1633 significantly restored and rebuilt the canal and altered its route to supply their capital.

The total length of the Grand Canal is 1,776 km (1,104 mi). Its greatest height is reached in the mountains of Shandong, at a summit of 42 m (138 ft). Ships in Chinese canals did not have trouble reaching higher elevations after the pound lock was invented in the 10th century. Despite temporary periods of desolation and disuse, the Grand Canal furthered an indigenous and growing economic market in China's urban centers from the Sui period onwards to the present. It has allowed faster trading and has thus improved China's economy. The southern portion remains in heavy use to the present day.

Taken from Wikipedia

The following presentation will show you a bit more from the red marked area of the Grand Canal.



Xitang is a historic town in Jiashan County, Zhejiang, China. As of the 2016 census it had a population of 57,400 and an area of 83.61-square-kilometer. Xitang is a water town crisscrossed by nine rivers. The town stretches across eight sections, linked by old-fashioned stone bridges. In the older parts of town, the buildings are set along the banks of the canals, which serve as the main transportation thoroughfares in the area.

Taken from Wikipedia

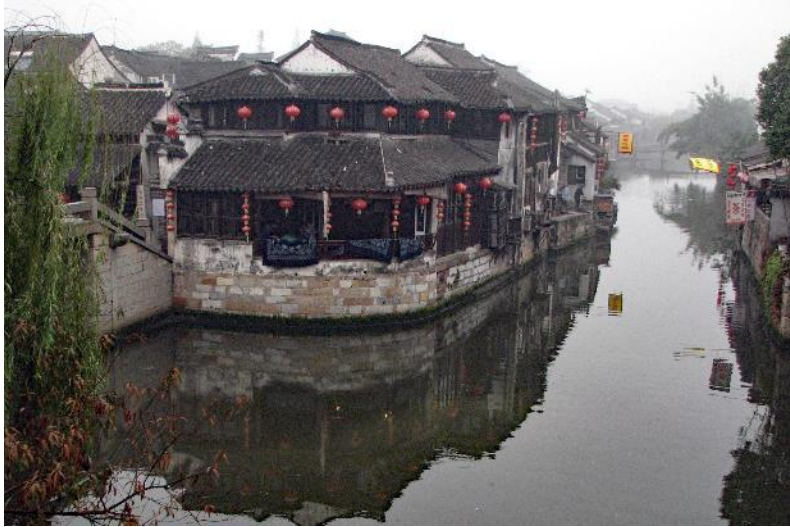


Let's us first a boat to see more from the old part of Xitang



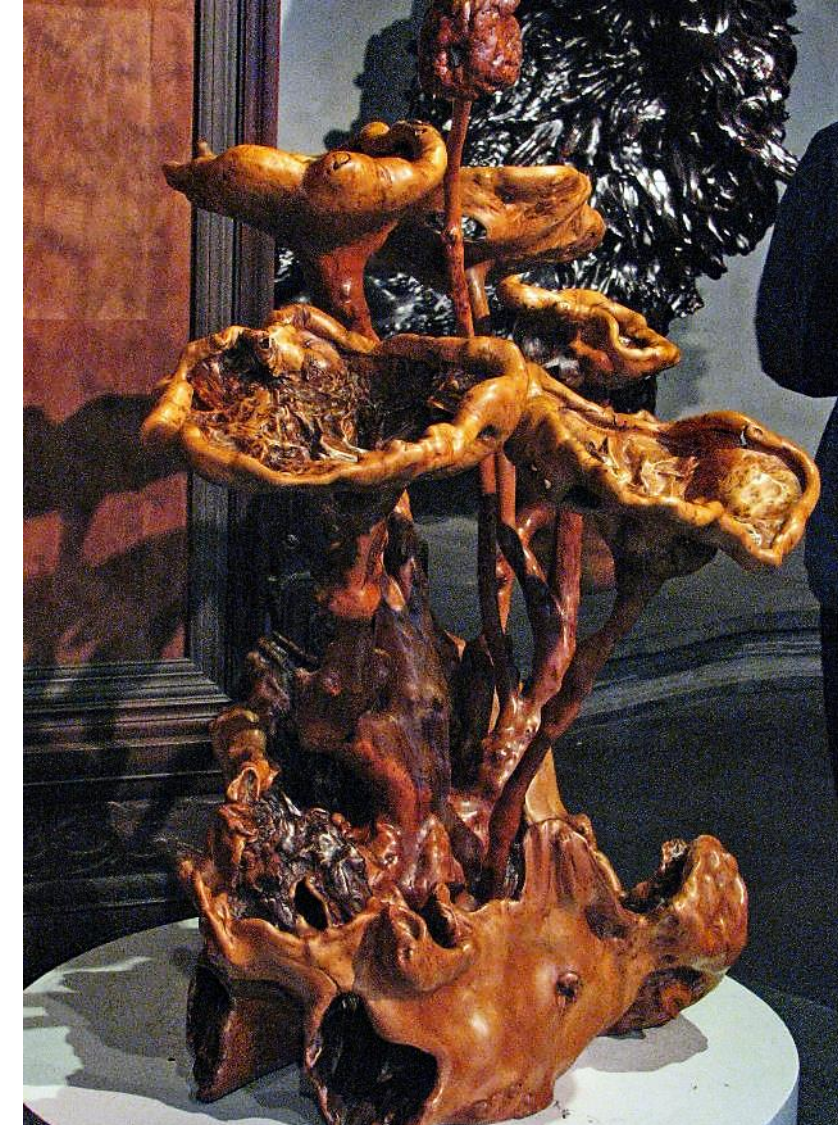
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Let's us first a boat to see more from the old part of Xitang



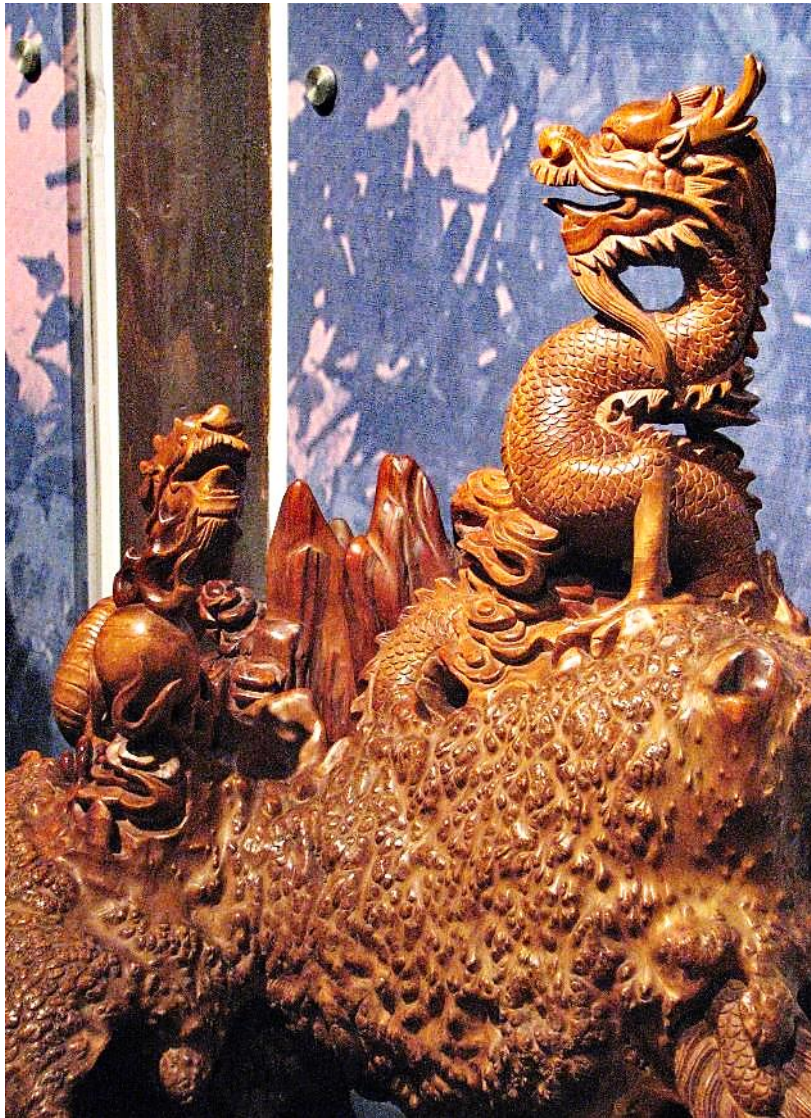
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Now let's have a look into a factory producing very beautiful art decoration by using the roots of special trees



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Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz or members of VDE group
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We also got a chance to have a look into a private house including ist nice garden in the backyard



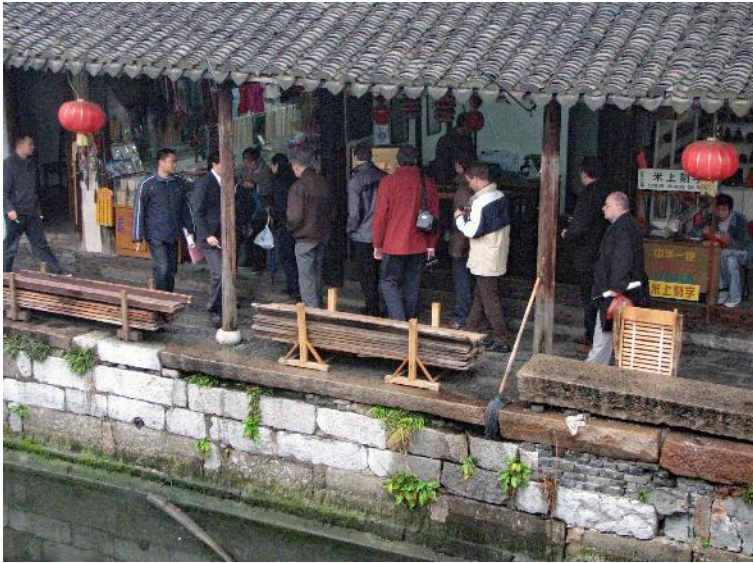
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Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz or members of VDE group
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Now it is time to make a short walk through the city and come closer to the people



Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz or members of VDE group
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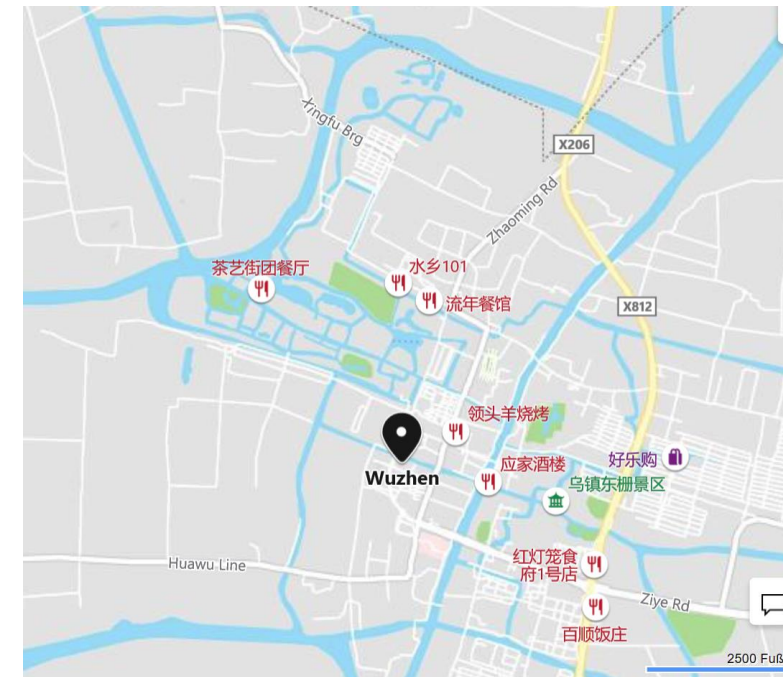
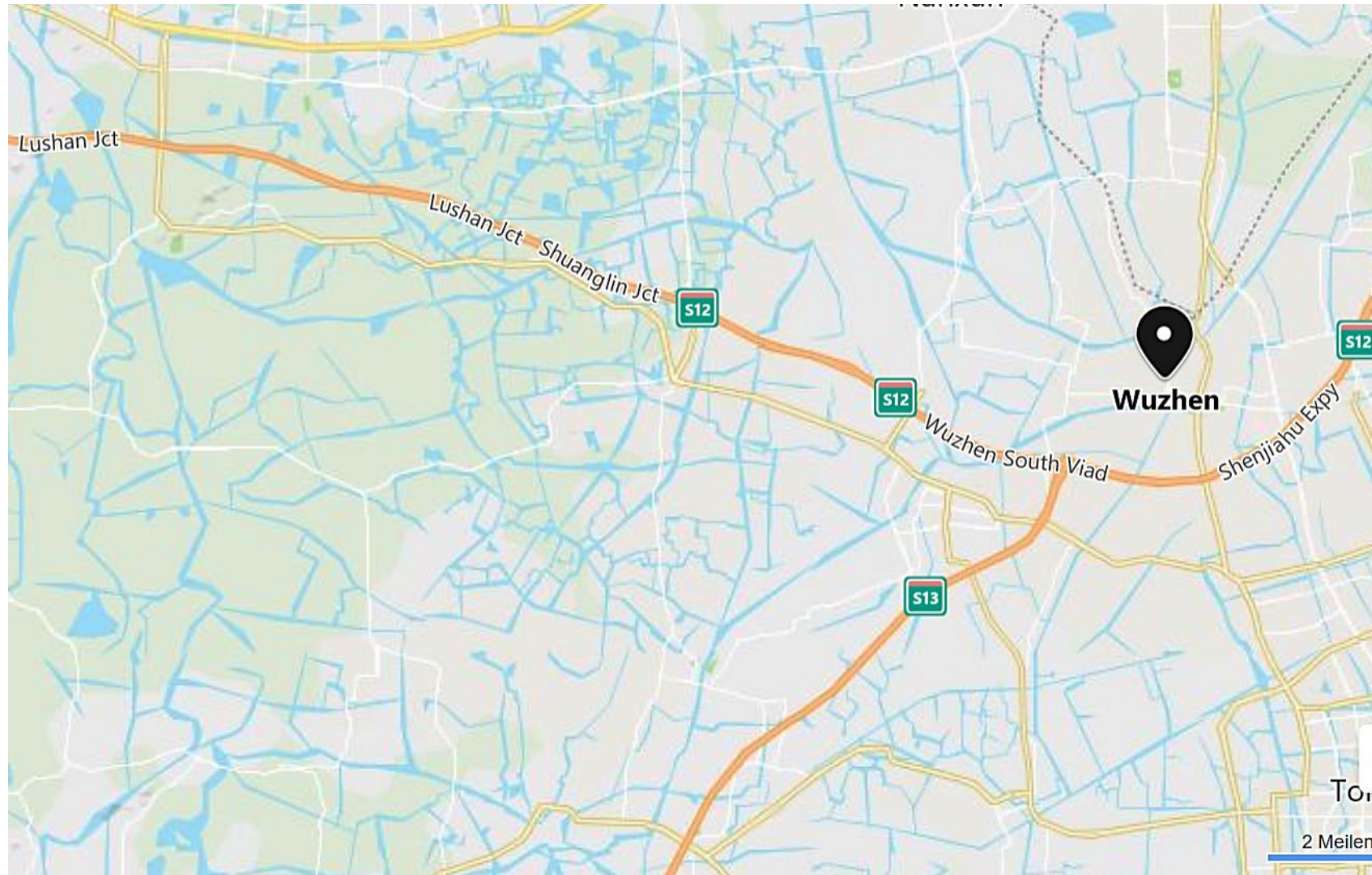
Now it is time to make a short walk through the city and come closer to the people



Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz or members of VDE group
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Wuzhen with its 60.000 inhabitants is divided into six districts. These are: the traditional workshops district, the traditional local-styled dwelling houses district, the traditional culture district, the traditional food and beverage district, the traditional shops and stores district, and the water township customs and life district. Following an east-west-east circuit created by these six districts, visitors can witness reenactment of traditional practices and cultures.

Taken from Wikipedia



Wuzhen is the home town of Prof. Cai, Xiaoshu from USST, who promoted the cooperation between USST and BTU for about 25 years

Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz, maps are taken from BING

Let's start with a boat tour to see the city first from the waterfront



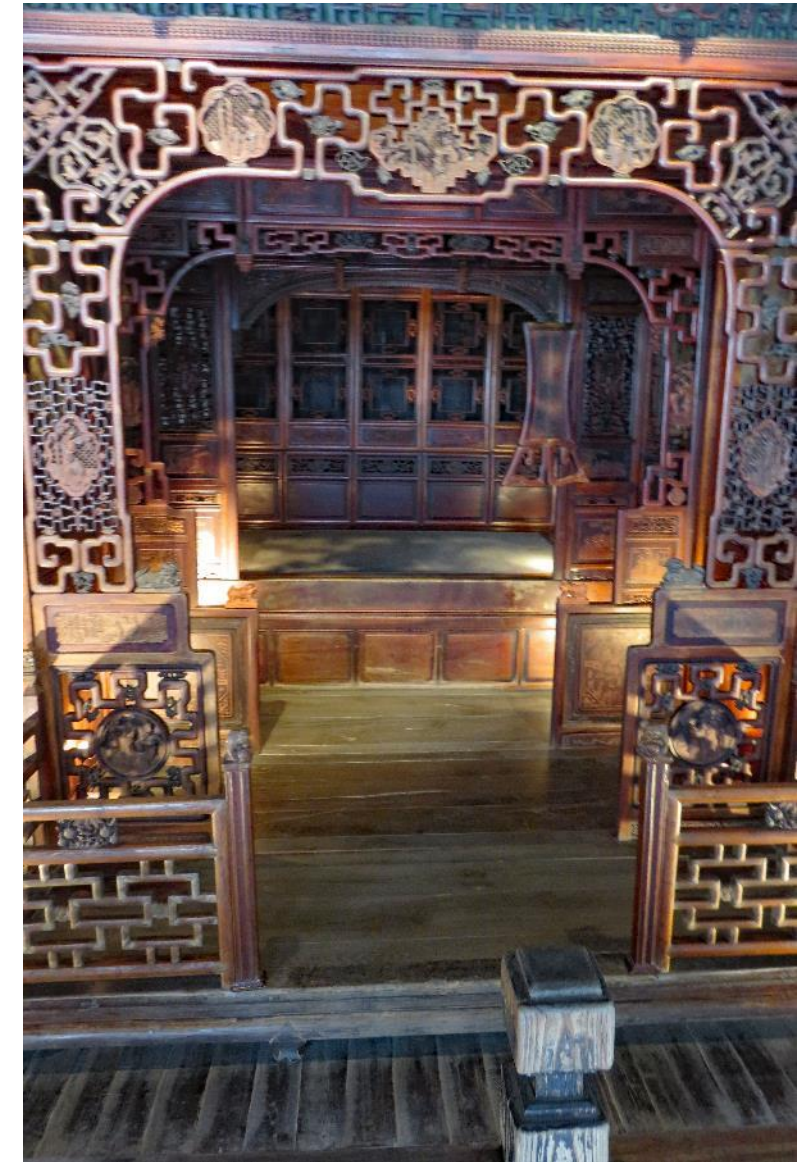
Let's start with a boat tour to see the city first from the waterfront



Let's start with a boat tour to see the city first from the waterfront

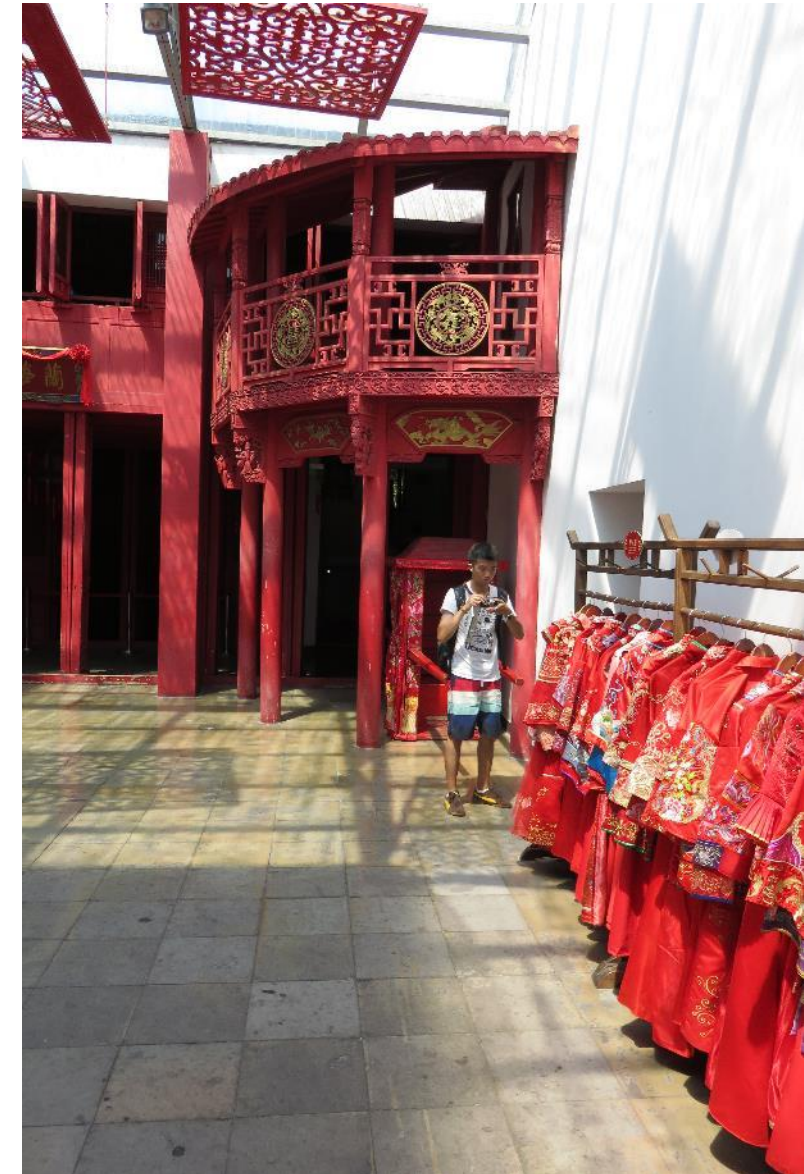






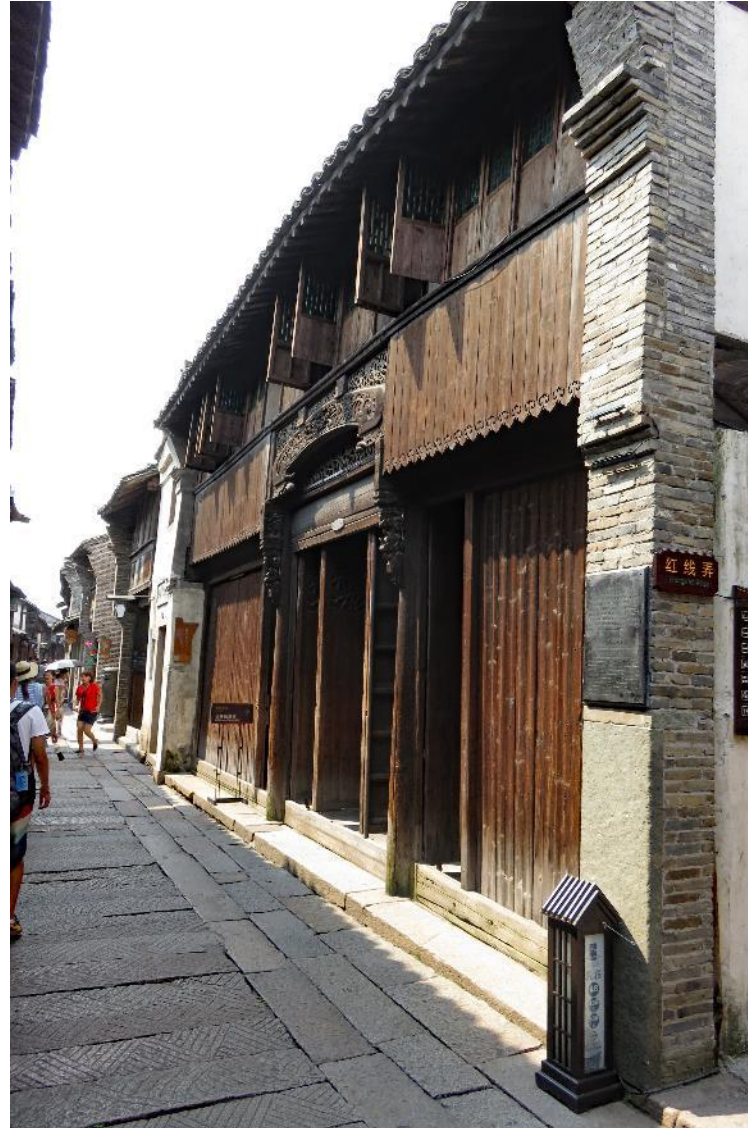






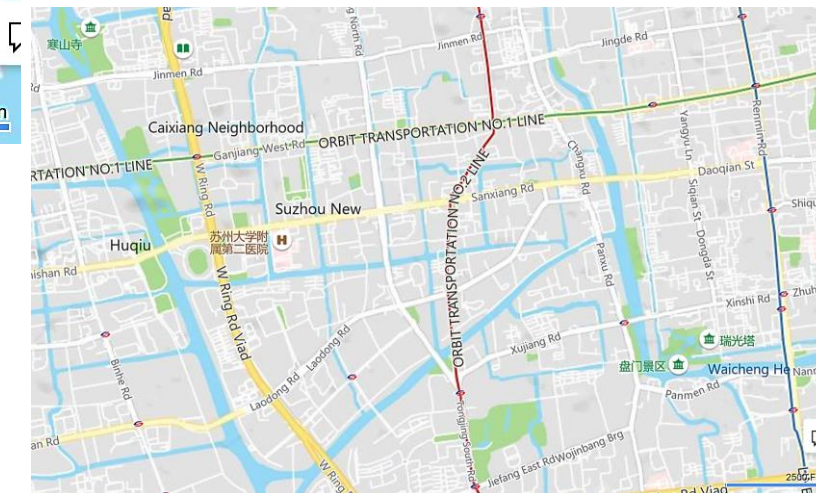
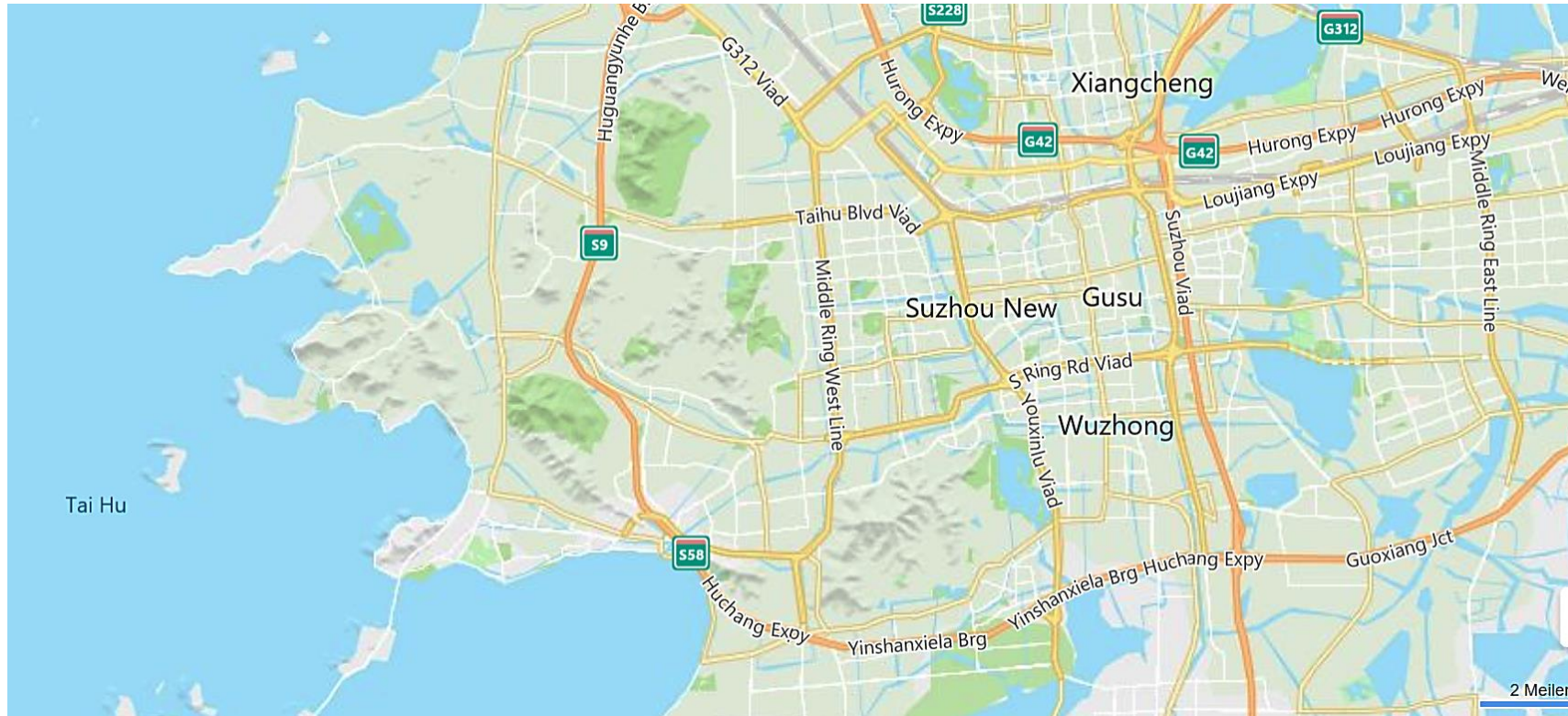
Pictures taken by Prof. Schwarz, maps are taken from BING







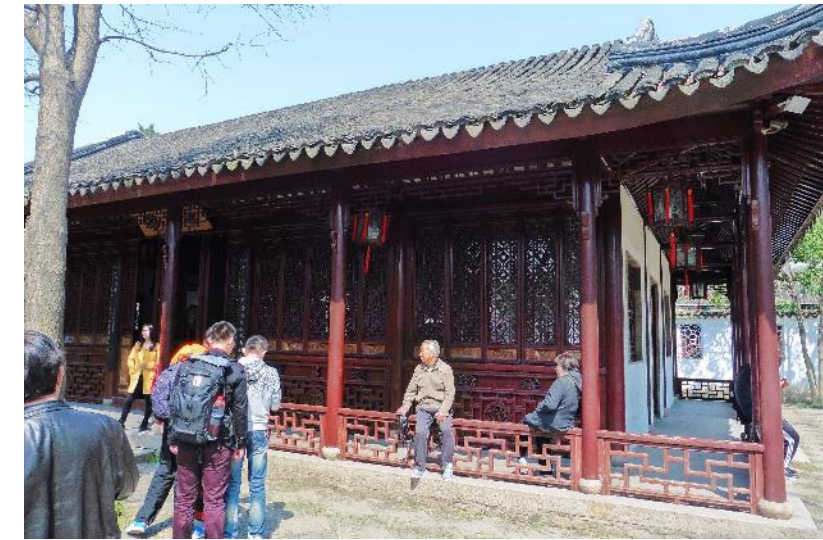
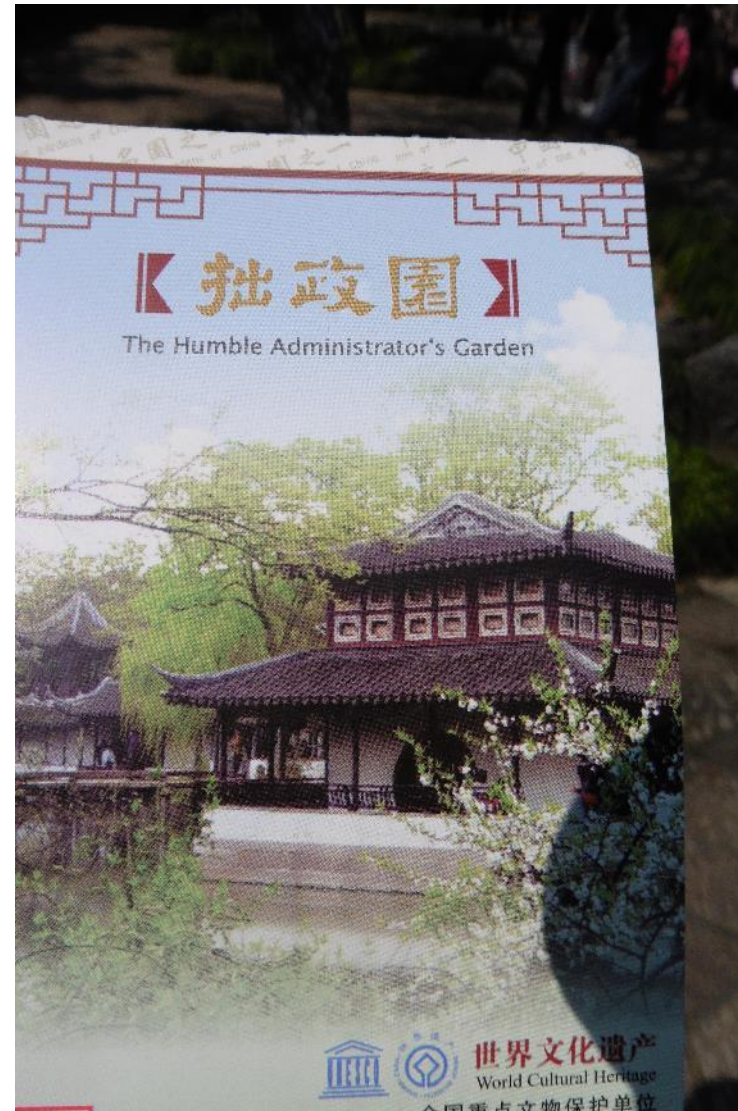
The city's canals, stone bridges, pagodas, and meticulously designed gardens have contributed to its status as one of the top tourist attractions in China. The Classical Gardens of Suzhou were added to the list of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1997 and 2000



Suzhou is a major city located in south-eastern Jiangsu Province of East China, about 100 km northwest of Shanghai. It is a major economic center and focal point of trade and commerce, and the second largest city in the province, after its capital Nanjing. The city is situated on the lower reaches of the Yangtze River and the shores of Lake Tai and belongs to the Yangtze River Delta region.

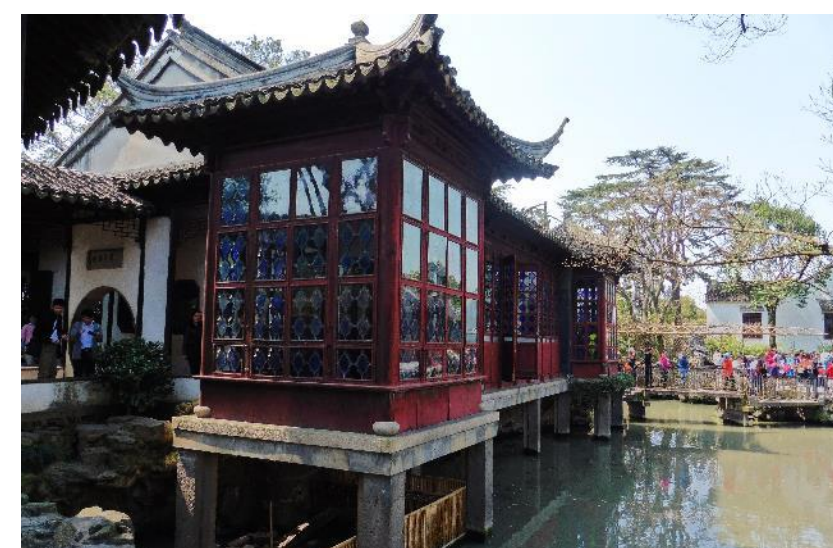
Taken from Wikipedia

Suzhou - The Humble Administrator's Garden





Suzhou - The Humble Administrator's Garden



Suzhou - The Humble Administrator's Garden





Suzhou - Some Impressions of the City







