

JANUARY 2012

Yangshuo **Now**

Chinese New Year In Yangshuo

Do It Yourself: Beer Fish

Moon Hill Bike Ride

Maps, Recommendations, Info & More ...

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New Year Dragon Parade on West Street

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FROM THE EDITOR

'Xinnian kuaile' – Happy new year.

It's a brand new year full of potential & this year brings with it an exciting new Yangshuo magazine to fulfill your every dream.

In each issue we will explore different aspects of what makes Yangshuo the unique and exciting place that it is. By focusing on upcoming festivals and events, highlighting things we consider worth exploring and providing essential information we hope to help you make the most of your time in Yangshuo.

So sit back, relax, open a beer and read on!



Cycle an alternate route to Moon Hill



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Coming Up

Chinese New Year



Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is the most important holiday of the year and commemorates the lunar New Year. It's a time for everyone to return to their family or ancestral home and, once there, throw themselves into eating, drinking and celebrating ... loudly.

In Yangshuo, people will usually eat at home with their families before heading out to the Li River for the fireworks spectacular. Many local cafés and restaurants will close for a while but re-open later in the evening. There are always a number of restaurants that stay open the whole night. Some local bars get very busy in the evening but a lot of their clientele prefer to bar hop, giving the streets an energetic and friendly buzz which will last into the early hours of the New Year.

There seems to be some disagreement as to exactly when or where the festival originated. According to one version there was once a monster called 'Nian' that attacked Chinese villages every spring. The monster ate everything in its path – animals; plants; people; even buildings. One spring, the inhabitants of a village hung red paper on their doors and threw green bamboo on a fire when 'Nian' came to town. The monster was startled by the bright colours and loud crackling noise of the burning bamboo and it turned round and fled to the hills.

Word quickly spread and since that day, people hang red lanterns and paper signs outside their homes and make as much noise as possible (with bigger and better fireworks replacing bamboo) on New Year's Eve. Today 'nian' is the Chinese word for year.

NEW YEAR DETAILS

New Year's Eve: 22nd Jan

Fireworks Display: 8pm

New Year's Day: 23rd Jan

West Street Parade: Various Times

FIREWORKS

On the 22nd of January, there will be official fireworks at 8pm (approx) which lasts for about half an hour, then the riverside is open for anyone to light up their own fireworks. This is both impressive and chaotic! Lots of fun.

Fireworks are available all over town and range from only a few yuan to over 300 Yuan for the most impressive pyrotechnic displays.



In anticipation

New Year Calendar

The Chinese lunar calendar is divided into 12 year cycles, each year represented by an animal. The origin of the animal signs is unclear. Legends say they were created by the semi-mythical 'Yellow Emperor' in 2637BC, or Buddha (c563-c483), who invited all the animals to visit him, but only 12 showed up. As a reward he dedicated a year to each. The animals are: Rat; Ox; Tiger; Rabbit; Dragon; Snake; Horse; Goat; Monkey; Rooster; Dog; Pig.

Your Chinese Zodiac animal will come up every 12 years. Those born on or after January 23rd this year, will have the Dragon as their animal and this will come up again when they are 12, 24, 36, etc. A tradition in China is to wear something red during the whole year when it is the turn of your zodiac. You will see many young people (24 years old) wear a string with perhaps some jade or an old coin. This is done to bring some good luck.

There is another cycle on top of the 12 years for each animal. This one is based on the five elements (Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal and Water). This produces a full 60 year cycle. This coming year is part of the Water period.

THE WATER DRAGON 1952 AND 2012

Water has a calming effect on the Dragon's fearless temperament. Water allows the Dragon to re-direct its enthusiasm, and makes him more perceptive of others. These Dragons are better equipped to take a step back to re-evaluate a situation because they understand the art of patience and do not desire the spotlight like other Dragons. Therefore, they make smart decisions and are able to see eye-to-eye with other people. However, their actions can go wrong if they do not research or if they do not finish one project before starting another.

Dragons are most compatible with: Rat, Snake, Monkey and Rooster.

FAMOUS DRAGONS

These people were born in the year of the Dragon:- Ringo Star, John Lennon, Dr. Seuss, Salvador Dali, Liam Neeson, Patrick Swayze and Jeff Goldblum.

Secret Garden Boutique Hotel (Advertisement)

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Learning the lingo

The main language spoken in Yangshuo is their own version of Mandarin which the locals call Yangshuo Hua. Most of the words are very similar to Mandarin so this is the best language to learn before coming here.

Some Yangshuo Hua

How much is it?

Mandarin 多少钱 Duōshǎo qián

Yangshuo Hua Haoduo qian

Where are you going to?

Mandarin 你去哪里 Nǐ qù nǎlǐ

Yangshuo Hua Ni ke nake



More Chinese

Hello	你好	Nǐ hǎo
Good Morning	早上好	Zǎo shànghǎo
Good Evening	晚上好	Wan shanghao
Good Night	晚安	Wǎn'ān
Goodbye	再见	Zàijiàn
Thank You	谢谢	Xièxiè
I Don't Understand	我听不懂	Wǒ tīng bù dǒng
I Don't Know	我不懂	Wǒ bù dǒng
Where Is The Toilet?	洗手间在那里	Xǐshǒujiān zài nǎlǐ
Yesterday	昨天	Zuótiān
Today	今天	Jīntiān
Tomorrow	明天	Míngtiān

Chinese For The Holidays

These are the most common sentences used over the Chinese New Year holiday

Happy New Year 新年快乐 xīn nián kuài lè

Good Luck (fortune) 恭喜发财 gōng xǐ fā cái

In return you may hear:-

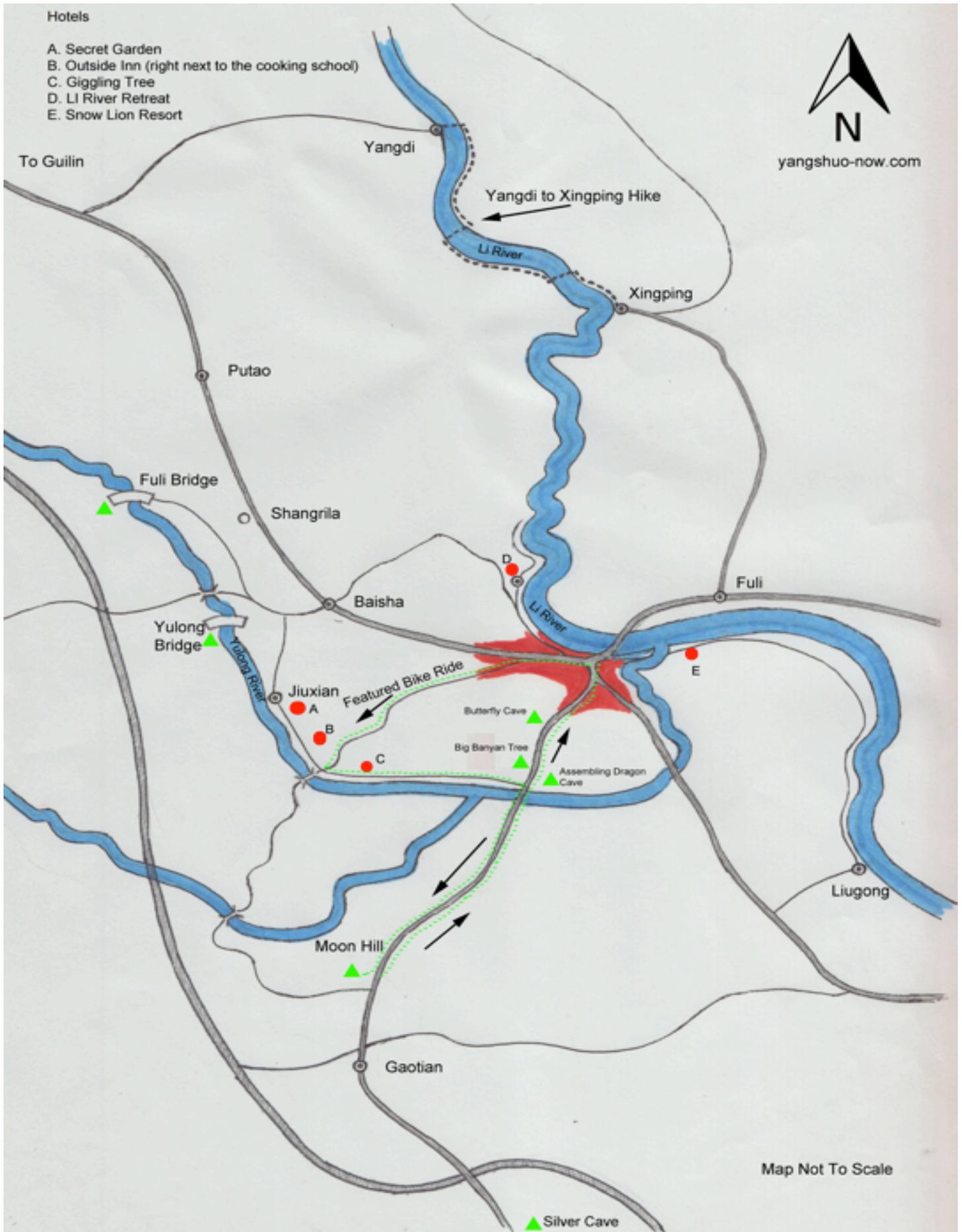
紅包拿來 Hóngbāo ná lái

which means 'Please give me a red envelope'. This is a tradition where young, unmarried children are given a red envelope with some cash in it.

Restaurant Chinese

Restaurant	餐厅	Cāntīng
Breakfast	早饭	Zǎofàn
Lunch	午饭	Wǔfàn
Dinner	晚饭	Wǎnfàn
Tea	茶	Chá
Coffee	咖啡	Kāfēi
Beer	啤酒	Píjiǔ
Wine	葡萄酒	Pútáojiǔ
Chicken Meat	鸡肉	Jī ròu
Pork Meat	猪肉	Zhū ròu
Beef Meat	牛肉	Niúròu
Duck Meat	鸭肉	Yā ròu
Mutton	羊肉	Yáng ròu
Vegetarian Dishes	素菜	Sù cài
I Am A Vegetarian	我是吃素的人	Wǒshì chīsùde rén
Delicious	好吃	Hào chī
The Bill	买单	Mǎidān

Yangshuo County Map



Out and about

Local Bike Ride

A bike ride is a terrific way to experience the countryside since you can go as fast or as slow as you want.

In this issue we focus on a bike ride from Yangshuo to the Yulong River and then on to Moon Hill. This is a popular excursion. It can be done on your own or with a local guide if you want to know more about rural life around Yangshuo. This ride offers an excellent introduction to the Yangshuo countryside. You also get to go to one of Yangshuo's most famous sites and see some really stunning scenery along the way. The ride is mostly on flat sealed roads.

Starting at the end of West Street, turn right onto the busy Pantao Lu towards Guilin. After about 500m, turn left (just before the petrol station) and continue for 200m to the traffic lights. Heading straight across the intersection, you're on the road which is the gateway to the Yulong River. This is a mainly residential area with many small local restaurants.

Following this road for about 2kms you reach one of the new gates, which is part of a project to beautify the countryside. This is the entrance to the Yulong Valley scenic area. There have been constant rumours that there will be an entrance fee to this area but it's still free at the moment. You can climb the stairs to top for really nice views.



Continuing on this road you reach the small village of Yima. A few of the local old ladies stand by the side of the road here selling flower wreaths which the domestic tourists like to wear on their heads. After Yima, the road continues to Chaolong Village (and eventually Jiuxian). Before reaching Chaolong there is a 90° bend in the road, which is where you take the turn off to Moon Hill.



You are now heading south down the Yulong River Valley. A short section of the road is not sealed so the road is a bit bumpy. Along here there are many small villages where you can catch a glimpse of rural life. On reaching the sealed part of the road, if you turn right you arrive at one of the starting points for a bamboo raft trip on the Yulong River. You could stop and do a hour and a half bamboo raft ride or continue on your bike. Either option is good.

Continuing along the road for a few kilometers you will reach the road that links Yangshuo with Moon Hill and then Gaotian. At the intersection turn right and you will reach Moon Hill (on the left-hand side) in about 10 minutes.



The best place to take a picture of Moon Hill is the village across the road. You can do this before you enter Moon Hill park and climb the steps to the 'moon'.



Bike Ride continued...



The climb takes about half an hour. There are many old ladies that will follow you trying to sell water, postcards and whatever else they are carrying. A 'no thank you' or 'bu yao' will hopefully mean they follow someone else. From the 'moon' part you get some really scenic views. There is a rough path to the very top but we only recommend this when the path is very dry.

If you're hungry after your climb you can have lunch at Moon Hill café at the bottom of the hill next to the park entrance. With a full belly, jump on your bike and ride in the direction of Yangshuo.

The first tourist site along the way is Assembling Dragon Cave. It is an interesting cave with absurdly lit stalactites and stalagmites. There is also a short boat trip inside the cave. The next site is the Big Banyan Tree which is best viewed from the roadside. We can't see why you would pay to see a tree, but local tourists flock here in large flag following groups. Further up the road is the Butterfly Cave, which is not as impressive as Assembling Dragon cave. Also on this part of the road you may spot people rock climbing

As you get closer to Yangshuo the traffic builds up, but you're soon back in West Street and it's time to relax and have a cold drink.



Kali Mirch Indian Restaurant (Advertisement)



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- Mutton And Chicken Curries



Spice Up Your Yangshuo Experience

Location:

We are located a short walk from West Street

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Ph: 13457364955 (Hindi)

Email: bittubishal@gmail.com



Spotlight On

Local Guide Jack

In this edition, we have a chat with one of Yangshuo's finest local guides, Jack.

Q. What is your full name?

A. My full name is 周红光; Zhou Hong Gang which translates to Red Sunshine. My English name is Jack, after the character in the movie Titanic, since he was kind, genuine and courageous. The name "Jack" is also very popular and easily remembered.

Q. How old are you and do you have any siblings?

A. 26. I have an older brother. He is a civil engineer working in Shanghai.

Q. How far did you go at school?

A. I also completed a degree as a civil engineer in 2006.

Q. Where did you learn to speak English?

A. Well, the same way most other Chinese students have, I began to learn English in Middle school. Of course, we spent most of the time on English grammar. I began to learn spoken English by myself after I graduated from high school. I used to listen to BBC News and Voice of America's special English Program at college.



Q. How long have you been guiding in Yangshuo?

A. I first guided some college students just after I graduated from college. So I have worked as a tour guide for five years.

Q. What is your favourite part of guiding?

A. Maybe being inspired by my clients. Besides, I care about my client's feedback and feeling. I'm delighted if my guiding skills are noticed and praised by my clients. Now, I feel that walking, hiking and cycling in the beautiful rural area is my favourite part of guiding.

Q. Which part of Yangshuo do you like the most?

A. Yangshuo has become more and more commercialised, I don't like the crowded areas and the very touristy places. As a matter of fact, I like the beautiful rural areas, such as: downstream of Li River, upstream of Yulong River; Putao town, Jinbao town, and Yongcun village. I would like to discover more places with amazing scenery for my clients.

Q. When you are not working, what do you do to relax?

A. I always believe that work is just a part of life, I do have lots of hobby and plan while I am not busy. Cooking is my favourite hobby. I would like to cook many delicious Chinese dishes according to the cookery book which I especially bought from the bookstore. I also do like to travel, play table tennis, outdoor sports, music, movies and shopping.

Q. Where have you travelled? Have you travelled overseas?

A. I've travelled to Hengshan mountain in Hunan Province (which is my home province), Shenzhen city in Guangdong Province, Southeast Guizhou Province and Northern Guangxi Province. I haven't travelled overseas till now, but I am going to travel to other famous places at home and abroad in the following years.

Q. Finally, what is the last book that you have read?

A. I also love reading books. My favourite books are mostly detective stories and cookery My last book was a typical Chinese cookery book.

We'd like to congratulate Jack on his recent marriage. We wish him and his wife all the best in the future.

Footnote

Jack is highly rated local guide. At the time of publication he is rated #1 on Tripadvisor for tour operators.

Jack specializes on trips in Yangshuo, Longsheng's Rice Terraces and into Guizhou province.

His contact details are:

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Email: jackprivatetours@163.com

MSN: iamjackboy@hotmail.com

Mobile: +86 13471399655

Recommendations

Hotels

When deciding which hotel to stay in, the first criteria should be where is the hotel located, in the town of Yangshuo or out in the countryside.

The hotels in Yangshuo generally get more exposure to street noise as well as some music and crowds for the restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

If you stay in the town, you have opportunities to go shopping and have only a short walk to find places to eat.

The hotels in the countryside offer quiet stays and some of them have spectacular views. They are closer to the sites that you will most likely visit and you can walk around the villages that are nearby. Some of these are restored old buildings where you can experience the past but in comfort.

These hotels are a better choice if you want to get away from the crowds and have a getaway while still experiencing rural China right up close. If you need to go into town then you can easily get a car to drive you.

Hotels in Yangshuo

Magnolia Hotel	7th Heaven
Rosewood Inn	Climbers Inn
Morning Sun	Showbiz Inn

Hotels in the countryside

Secret Garden	Li River Retreat
Giggling Tree	Snow Lion Resort
Mountain Retreat	Village Retreat

Restaurants

Yangshuo has a diverse range of restaurants. There are restaurants that just serve Chinese food, or a mix of Chinese and Western food. The following is a list of our favourite establishments.

Cloud 9

This restaurant serves only Chinese food. They specialize in Sichuan style dishes whilst also doing excellent local dishes. This is a great choice if you are after a banquet with a few friends and you can share a number of dishes.

Pure Lotus Vegetarian

A more upmarket restaurant with excellent vegetarian food. It is worth visiting the restaurant just for its design.

Kali Mirch Indian

An Indian only restaurant that serves top notch Indian dishes. They have their own tandoor oven which makes great naan's and roasted chicken dishes. This restaurant is great if you want something completely different.

Mixed Dishes Restaurants

If you are looking for a mix a Chinese and Western dishes such as sweet and sour pork and a pizza, there a large number of places catering for you. Try one of these:

Mimosa, 7th Heaven, Lucy's, Kelly's or Riley's.

Very Local Restaurants

We love eating at any of the 'hole in the wall' places. Try the local rice noodles which are filling and very cheap.



Li River Retreat (Advertisement)

Located just on the outskirts of Yangshuo town, The Li River Retreat offers some of the very best views in this area. We pride ourselves on our hospitality and service levels.

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Email: reservations@li-river-retreat.com

We hope to see you soon!



Beer Fish

Beer Fish 啤酒鱼 (Píjiǔ yú) is a very popular dish amongst the locals.

Fish is seen as a premium meat when compared to chicken, pork or beef. The fish traditionally used in Yangshuo for this dish is carp as it is easy to breed in the Li River. You could try it with other fish but a good white fish is recommended.

We use the local beer here in Yangshuo (Liquan) for this dish. It is not very strong on alcohol but adds a nice flavour.

Ingredients

These measures are for a two person serving

- Fish 100g. Filleted with skin on one side
- 1 Tomato, chopped
- 1/2 Red pepper, 1/2 green pepper, sliced
- 1 spring onion - cut in 1 inch long
- 1 clove of garlic - crushed
- 50g ginger - sliced
- 1/4 teaspoon of salt
- 1 teaspoon of oyster sauce
- 1 tablespoon of soy sauce
- 1/2 glass of beer
- 1 tablespoon of oil



Cooking Method

- Heat wok and add oil
- Put fish into the wok with the skin side down, sprinkle salt on top of the fish
- Fry skin side until the skin is brown
- Add the garlic and ginger
- Turn the fish over so the skin side is up
- Add all the vegetables, stir fry until soft
- Add the oyster, soy sauce and beer. Cover with a lid and cook for around 5 minutes
- Remove the lid and add the spring onions
- Serve



This local recipe was brought to you by the
Yangshuo Cooking School

Yangshuo's original specialist cooking school.

You can learn how to cook this dish and many more!

- 2 Classes per day
- 5 Dishes per class
- English speaking teachers

Contact Details

Website: yangshuocookingschool.com

Email: info@yangshuocookingschool.com

Useful Information

Phone Numbers

Police: 110

Ambulance: 120

Post Office

28 Pantao Lu (across the road from West Street)

Open from 9am till 9.30pm.

Money Exchange

Bank Of China has 2 branches, one on West Street (next to KFC) and one on Pantao Lu next to the local market.

Open from 9am till 5pm.

ATMs

There are several ATMs in Yangshuo. You can find them on West Street, Pantao Lu and Diecui Lu. These take most foreign cards.

Internet

Most hotels and cafes offer free Wi-fi. Some places will also have desktop computers for free. However, few will have any printing or scanning equipment. The better hotels will have these services.

There are internet bars around Yangshuo. Prices start from 5 Yuan per hour. Bring some ID with you as you will need to register before being allocated a computer.

Medical Services

The main hospital in Yangshuo is on Chengzhong Lu and does provide good health care. If you have travel insurance then they like to use as much of their equipment as possible to raise the total bill.

For something a bit different, we recommend seeing Dr. Lili. She is the person we go to visit when we need a proper therapeutic massage. She is also a specialist on Chinese medicine and acupuncture. She has an excellent command of English and knows Western medicine practices and treatments.

Visa Extensions

For general tourist Visa extensions, these are available in Yangshuo at the local PSB. However, this changes frequently and you may need to go to Guilin anyway.

For other Visa types, you will need to travel to Guilin. Allow 7 days for a Visa extension.

Make sure that you have a valid passport and Visa whilst travelling in China. You can be fined and hotels are not allowed to take you in without valid documentation.

Bus Station

Yangshuo has one small but busy bus station.

There are regular bus services to Guilin, Nanning, Guangzhou and Shenzhen as well as number of local buses going to the nearby towns including Fuli, Xingping, Baisha, Jinbao (for the Yulong bridge), Gaotian (for Moon Hill) and Yangdi.

Train Station and Airport

Yangshuo does not have it's own train station or airport. Both of these are in Guilin.

If you are arriving into Guilin's train station, we recommend walking up to Guilin's bus station and taking an express bus (18 Yuan) or having your hotel in Yangshuo send a car to pick you up.

If you are arriving by plane, and want to use public transport, you will need to take the airport bus into Guilin (20 Yuan) and then take a taxi (8 Yuan) or walk to the bus station to get an express bus to Yangshuo. The other option is to have your hotel in Yangshuo send a car to pick you up at the airport.

Shopping

If you are planning to do any shopping on West Street then be prepared to haggle, a starting price of 300 Yuan may be lowered to as little as 30 Yuan. The trick is to look disinterested and poor.

Crime And Warnings

Yangshuo is generally a very safe place to visit. There have been pickpockets operate in the very busy times around West Street and markets such as Fuli.

If you are travelling into the countryside on a bike, then make sure that the basket on your bike is locked when carrying your day bag. Some people on motorbikes have snatched bags from these baskets in the past.

Touts

Most touts in Yangshuo are easy going and will leave you alone if you ignore them or say something along the lines of 'no thank you'. The most persistent tout (and also the least trustworthy) is a guy who goes by the name of Robert. He normally waits for people coming by bus from Guangzhou and Shenzhen and will tell them all types of lies about hotels being closed or being relocated before taking the poor unsuspecting people off to a hotel which is not what the visitors were after. Their troubles get worse as he becomes very pushy in selling tours, show tickets and onward bus/train tickets. It is best just to ignore him from the very beginning.

Festival Checker

Here are a few of the upcoming festivals within China

Harbin Ice Festival

5th January through until 28 February. Held in three venues (the Grand World of Ice and Snow, Sun Island Park and Zhaolin Park). This festival has grown to become one of the top 4 such exhibitions worldwide. Visitors are recommended to stay at least 2 days.



Spring Festival (New Year)

22-28 January but Saturday 21 January and Sunday 29 January are official working days.

Many Chinese will take a holiday just after New Year's day once they have had the big banquet with their families.

Hong Kong Art Festival

28th January until 3rd March. This month-long event is one of the highlights of the Hong Kong cultural scene. Visitors should look to buy tickets online as many of the best displays and performances are sold out well in advance.



Beijing Dongyue Fair

2nd of February until 20th of February. This is The temple to receive blessings for Happiness in the coming year.

This is a Daoist temple dedicated to the god of Mount Tai, the holiest of the 5 sacred mountains in China.

Lantern Festival

6th of February. This marks the end of the Chinese New Year festival and marks the first full moon of the new Lunar year. Tonight is the night to eat Tangyuan, a sticky rice ball with sesame paste in the middle.



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Li Qing Guesthouse

(Advertisement)

Family run guesthouse in the heart of Pingan. Clean, comfortable rooms with en-suite bathrooms. We also have rooms with balconies facing the rice terraces.



Our Sundeck is the ideal place for a relaxing meal overlooking the rice terraces.

Contact Details

www.liqinghotel.com

liqing_gh@hotmail.com



Miao New Year

11th of February. For the Miao, the tenth lunar month marks the beginning of their New Year. This is celebrated wherever Miao live though most notably in the south-east corner of Guizhou Province near Kaili.

Lusheng Festival

11th of March. A *lusheng* is a bamboo reed instrument, though they vary widely in size and design. Musical performances form only part of the entertainment, with other activities such as singing, bullfighting, horseracing, and dancing. Again, Kaili is the place to go.



Tomb Sweeping

2-4 April, Saturday 31st March and Sunday 1st April are official working days. This is the time of the year when everyone has to clean the tombs of their ancestors. Although it is a solemn time, it is also a time for a family gathering with a huge banquet to end the day.

Sanyuesan (Fireworks) Festival

5th of April. Sanyuesan is one of the biggest festival in the Dong ethnic area. Locals wear their festive clothing and show of their wares. There are also traditional competitions such as the 'Grab the hoop'. The biggest celebrations are in Sanjiang county.



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Fei Hua's Column

HELP SAVE THE YANGSHUO RAT-TAILED CANAL SQUIRREL!

Due to unrestrained development encroaching upon their natural breeding grounds, the loveable little 'Yangshuo Rat-Tailed Canal Squirrel' is now facing extinction. We urgently need your support to help save these adorable, fluffy, little creatures. We have already captured a few specimens and actively begun controlled breeding programs in canal-side bars and restaurants. Due to spiralling costs, however, we are desperately short of funds to continue the program. The cuddly little critters are active mainly at night, so we need cash for beers to continue our night-time vigil in bars along the canal. With your support, we look forward to a day when Yangshuo again swarms with 'Rat-Tailed Canal Squirrels'. (All donations welcome!)



Orange Tree Cafe (Advertisement)

Our local expert staff are friendly and more than happy to answer any questions. Our cosy alfresco is the ideal place to enjoy our Belgian beer and Australian wine. Our famous organic home made yogurt and our 100 percent natural freshly prepared juices, smoothies, and milk shakes with no added water or sugar.

A healthy treat for cyclists or rock climbers after an energetic day. We also have a great freshly brewed coffee, from espresso and mocha to cappuccino and latte.

Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere, hospitality and refreshing beverage of "orange tree cafe."

Conveniently located at the corner of Binjiang road (滨江路) and Diecui road (叠翠路).

Over looking the Li river. Orange tree cafe is the perfect, people-watching spot. Away from the hustle and bustle of west street.

See You there!



Pingan

In the county of Longsheng (Dragon's Backbone), Pingan Village is nestled in a valley the abounds with terraced rice fields.

Pingan is predominantly a Zhuang minority village with a sprinkling of Yao. How to tell them apart? The easiest way is to look at what the ladies are wearing. The Zhuang ladies wear a blue or white head covering and white tops whilst the Yao ladies are renowned for their long hair and wear black skirts with red/purple tops.



The best thing to do in Pingan is to walk around and explore the wooden houses and see how the locals go about their lives. Afterwards continue up to the two main viewing points. Viewing point #1 is the furthest away from the village and is less visited by the day trippers. Viewpoint #2 is located at the top of the village and is very popular with all visitors. The walk between the two viewpoints is really nice and we highly recommend it. You may also stumble upon a celebration and a feast. It is all part of the experience

Other excellent walks are the hike to the village of Longji (45 minutes) or to the villages of Zhongliu and Dazhai (4-5 hours). The Longji hike is an easy half day trek with the walk there and back. The Dazhai trek is more of a full day trip and you would need to take the bus back to Pingan.

Logistics

Getting To Pingan

1. From Yangshuo, you can take the daily tour that leaves each morning and returns in the evening. We find this a bit rushed, but if you have time constraints then this could be a good option.
2. You could get to Pingan by using local transport. Take the express bus from Yangshuo to Guilin. This drops you off at Guilin's bus station. The take a bus to Longsheng. These drop you off in Longsheng City and from there you can take a local bus to Pingan
3. Hire your own car from Yangshuo. This is the quickest way and gives you a lot of flexibility

Where To Stay

We recommend staying in Pingan at least one night. The town becomes much more relaxed when all the day trippers have gone back to Guilin. You also get the chance to do longer hikes and explore the more remote villages nearby.

There is a very large choice of guesthouses. Our preferred place is Liqing Guesthouse. The rooms are comfy and clean with en-suite bathrooms and most rooms have balconies overlooking the rice terraces. The owners speak some English and are really friendly.

Try

This area is know for its local 米酒 (Mijiǔ) or rice wine.



House Building In Pingan



...everyone lends a hand

In The Next Issue

Out On The 15th Of March

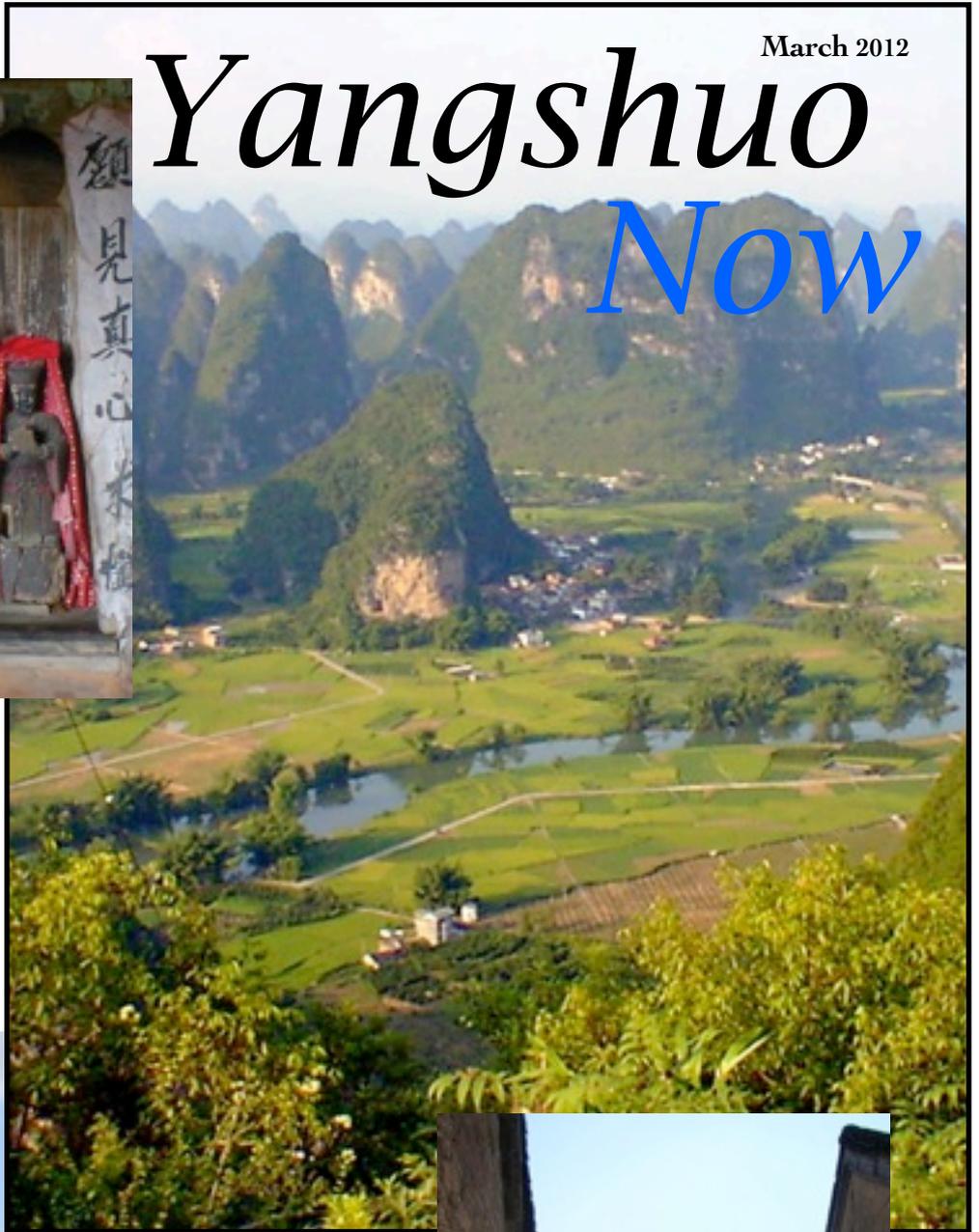
March 2012

Yangshuo Now



Qingming Festival

All you need to know about sweeping graves



Explore The Li River

Discover different options for travelling along the province's most famous waterway.

Jiuxian Ancient Village

An intimate look at this beautiful village in the Yulong River Valley just outside Yangshuo.





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