

南京工业大学 旅游实用英语 课程论文

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班级 学号 姓名 得分

MY TRAVEL PLAN

Part 1 Tourist site

Today, I plan to appreciate the beautiful scenery of the Humble Administrator's Garden.

The Humble Administrator's Garden is located at No.178, Northeast Street of Suzhou's ancient city, covering an area of 52,000 square meters. It is a classical garden that was first built in the early 15th century and features the distinctive characteristics of the water towns of southern China. After several hundred years of ups and downs, it still retains the plain, spacious, and serene style of the Ming Dynasty, and is renowned as the "finest private garden in China."

In the fourth year of the Ming Dynasty's Zhengde era (1509), a disgruntled official named Wang Xianchen returned to his hometown after experiencing setbacks in his career. He acquired the site of the Dahun Temple and began to build a garden on the property, which would eventually become known as the Humble Administrator's Garden. Not long after the garden was built, Wang Xianchen passed away, and his son lost the entire garden in a night of gambling to the Xu family. Over the past 500 years, the Humble Administrator's Garden changed hands many times, and at one point, it was divided into three parts with different names and ownership, including private gardens, government-owned gardens, and even residential areas. It wasn't until the 1950s that the garden was fully restored and reunited under its original name, the Humble Administrator's Garden.

The Humble Administrator's Garden is divided into three main sections: the eastern garden, the central garden, and the western garden. In addition to these sections, there is also a residential area that has been converted into garden museum exhibition hall.

The eastern section of the garden was originally known as "Guī Tián Yuán Jū", named after Wang Xinyi, a government official who built a villa in the eastern part of the garden during the Ming Dynasty in 1631. The eastern section covers an area of approximately 31 acres and was completely rebuilt since

the original garden had been abandoned for a long time. The layout of the garden is characterized by level terrain, distant mountains, pine forests, lawns, bamboo groves, and winding waters. The main buildings in this section, such as Lanxue Hall, Furong Xie, Tianquan Pavilion, and Zhuixun Peak, are all relocated structures. The eastern section of the garden retains the spacious and lively style of the garden and is complemented by pavilions and ponds. Commencing my tour of the Humble Administrator's Garden from the eastern section, as it currently serves as the primary gateway to the garden, I will obtain a map and guidebook from the service center. From there, I intend to explore the various scenic landscapes, pavilions, and flora that characterize this section of the garden, including the renowned Furong Xie pavilion. As I immerse myself in the tranquil atmosphere of the garden, I look forward to experiencing the rich cultural heritage and intricate design that have made the Humble Administrator's Garden one of China's most treasured and renowned cultural landmarks.

Following my exploration of the eastern section of the Humble Administrator's Garden, I plan to continue my tour by visiting the central section, which is considered the heart and essence of the garden. This section is anchored by the magnificent Yuanxiang Tang building, with other scenic spots radiating out from it. Notable features in this section include the Huangshi rockery to the south of the building, and a picturesque pond with two hills connected by a small bridge in the middle. To the west hill is the Xue Xiang Yun Wei Ting, while to the east hill is the Dai Shuang Ting, forming a stunning juxtaposition of natural beauty. Along the eastern side of the Yuanxiang Tang building, there are several other notable structures and scenic spots, including the Luyi Tang, Wuzhu Youju, Xiuqi Ting, Pipa Yuan, Haitang Chunwu, and Linglong Guan.

As the final leg of my tour of the Humble Administrator's Garden, I will chose to explore the western section, which may be the smallest part of the garden but certainly not lacking in its beauty or historical significance. This section is replete with a plethora of ancient buildings, structures, and scenic spots that are sure to leave a lasting impression on me. The main buildings in the western section of the Humble Administrator's Garden are the Eighteen Arhats Hall and the Thirty-Six Mandarin Ducks Hall. These two halls share one main hall, which is divided into two sections. The northern section was originally used by the garden's owner for banquets, opera performances, and music appreciation, while enjoying the sight of mandarin ducks playing in the water accompanied by the sounds of traditional Chinese instruments. This

section was named the Mandarin Ducks Hall. The southern section, on the other hand, is home to the Mandala Flower Hall, which is named after the mandala flowers, that grow within.

Part 2 Food and Specialty

Suzhou is the center of the Eastern Chinese food culture and the birthplace of the Su-style cuisine. Su cuisine is one of the eight major cuisines in China, and Suzhou's snacks hold an important position in Chinese snack culture. The famous saying "eating in Suzhou" has been around for a long time.

To begin my discourse on the delectable cuisine of Suzhou, I will draw attention to the exquisite dish of Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish. This iconic Suzhou delicacy is renowned for its unique presentation, complex flavor profile, and cultural significance.

The Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish is a renowned traditional dish originating from Suzhou, Jiangsu Province. When served, the fried mandarin fish (or carp) is immediately drenched in a steaming hot braised sauce, which causes the dish to emit a gentle sizzling sound, reminiscent of a squirrel's chatter. This characteristic sound and the striking resemblance of the dish's presentation to a squirrel lend it its name.

The precursor to the Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish was the Squirrel-shaped Fish, which was recorded in the Qing Dynasty's "Tiaoding Collection." The dish was made by taking the belly of a tuna, removing its bones, frying egg yolks, and sculpting the dish into a shape resembling a squirrel. Over time, the dish evolved into the Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish, which is made by deep-frying a mandarin fish or carp until crispy and golden brown and then coating it in a sweet and sour sauce. The dish's aroma is further enhanced by the addition of pine nuts and red berries, which give it a fragrant and distinct flavor.

The Squirrel-shaped Mandarin Fish is not only a feast for the taste buds but also a visual delight. Its unique appearance and exquisite taste have made it a favorite among locals and tourists alike, and it is considered one of Suzhou's most iconic and beloved dishes.

When it comes to Suzhou snacks, it is impossible not to mention Su-style mooncakes. As a traditional pastry with a long history and cultural significance, Su-style mooncakes are a must-try for anyone visiting Suzhou. Unlike other mooncakes from different regions, Su-style mooncakes have a thinner pastry crust and a greater filling-to-crust ratio, resulting in a crispy and fragrant texture that is highly favored by consumers.

Su-style mooncakes come in a wide variety of fillings, with the most popular being the Five Nuts and Lotus Seed Paste flavors. Daoxiangcun is a famous chain bakery in Suzhou, and their Su-style mooncakes are highly praised and considered one of the most famous mooncake brands in Suzhou. Daoxiangcun's Su-style mooncakes are made using traditional techniques and carefully selected high-quality ingredients, resulting in a classic and unique flavor. With a history of hundreds of years, the unique flavor and exquisite craftsmanship of Su-style mooncakes have become an important component of Suzhou's culinary culture and a representative of Suzhou's cultural heritage.

In addition to its culinary delights, Suzhou is also famous for its many renowned local products, with Su embroidery being the most iconic and representative of them all. Suzhou is a city steeped in cultural heritage and artistic traditions, and Su embroidery is a shining example of the city's rich history and artistic legacy.

The hallmark of Su embroidery is its intricate and delicate stitching, which is executed with precision and finesse. The embroidery is characterized by its vivid and vibrant colors, which are used to depict a wide range of subjects, including birds, flowers, landscapes, and figures. The embroidery patterns are often based on classic Chinese literary works, and they are designed to convey a sense of elegance, grace, and refinement.

The process of creating Su embroidery is a highly skilled and labor-intensive one that involves multiple stages, including design, sketching, coloring, stitching, and finishing. Each step requires meticulous attention to detail and a deep understanding of the materials and techniques involved. The resulting pieces are not only beautiful works of art, but also valuable cultural artifacts that bear witness to the rich history and traditions of Suzhou.

Today, Su embroidery is widely recognized as one of the most exquisite and refined forms of Chinese embroidery, and it continues to be a source of pride and inspiration for the people of Suzhou. Whether as a decorative element in the home, a gift for a loved one, or as a treasured addition to a private collection, Su embroidery is a timeless and enduring symbol of the beauty and creativity of Chinese culture.