

## 1. THE DANYAND-KUNSHAN GRAND BRIDGE:

The Danyang–Kunshan Grand Bridge is a 164.8-kilometre-long (102.4 mi) viaduct on the Beijing–Shanghai High-Speed Railway. It is the longest bridge in the world.

The bridge is located on the rail line between Shanghai and Nanjing in Jiangsu province. It is in the Yangtze River Delta where the geography is characterized by lowland rice paddies, canals, rivers, and lakes. The bridge runs roughly parallel to the Yangtze River, about 8 to 80 km (5 to 50 mi) south of the river. It passes through the northern edges of population centers (from west to east) beginning in Danyang, Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou, and ending in Kunshan. There is a 9-kilometre long (5.6 mi) section over open water across Yangcheng Lake in Suzhou. Construction was completed in 2010 and the bridge opened in 2011. Employing 10,000 people, the project took four years and cost about \$8.5 billion. The bridge currently holds the Guinness World Record for the longest bridge in the world in any category as of June 2011.