



Summer Snaps



*In this edition, we continue with
Christine Aylward's
 recent quick trip to China
 Enjoy!*



Christine writes: “It was over 90°F everyday, so dad and I decided to fly out to a cooler climate: Liu Pan Shui, Guizhou Province. Liu Pan Shui, known as “Cool City”, is a resort town where it remains around 20°C (68°F) in the summer and 50°F in the winter.”



in hot pink: 3 hours by plane from XingDong Airport to Guoyang, Guizhou Province



In Guiyang, the capital city of Guizhou Province, we visited the famous Evening Market 青云市集 (Qing Yun City Market)

The mind-boggling Night Market: Around 550 businesses, mostly eateries, stretching across almost half a mile! The pedestrian-only streets are packed with food vendors of various sizes, offering all sorts of dishes, many of which are local favorites. The majority of their customers are tourists. Last summer, over 3.4 million people visited the market!

Most businesses stay open until midnight.



Very impressive digital works throughout the Night Market

From Guiyang, we took a bullet train to Liu Pan Shui, a 1-hour-and-20-minuter ride, covering about 300 kilometers (186.4 miles). The train was very comfortable and punctual.



View of Liu Pan Shui from my hotel room



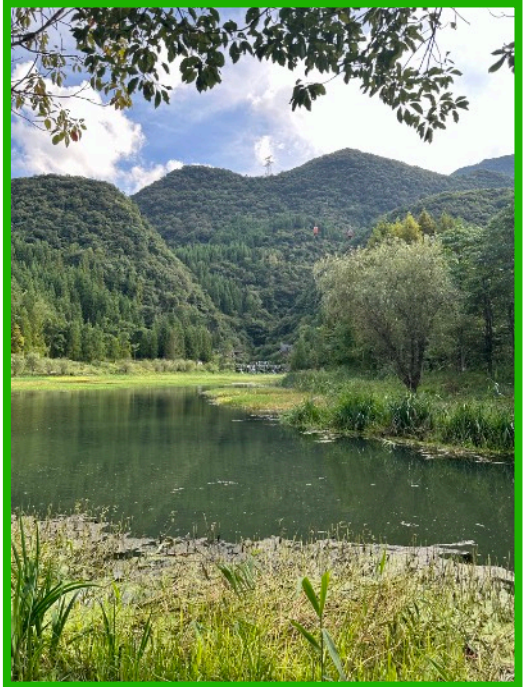
Liu Pan Shui, with a population of over three million, is a popular resort hotspot. Rich in minerals, it has the largest coal deposit south of the Yangtze River. Over the last 15 years, more than 100 coal mining companies have been shut down due to environmental regulations. Tourism is now one of the main industries. When I arrived, the temperature was similar to that of Santa Fe, NM, but with much higher humidity.

The entire lower section in the picture above is the newest massive four-story mall, which also includes a museum and children's playground. Most of the stores are unoccupied and very few people are inside the mall.



Above: People's Square

L: a residential neighborhood



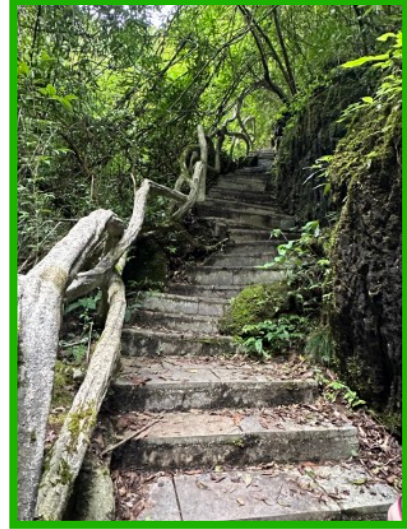
I loved visiting Minghu Wetland Park. There were very few people aside from a few joggers on the scenic trail and a few kite flyers on the bridge.



Surprised to see a huge Ferris wheel and a string of empty cable cars, visible in this photo, running along the entire mountain range.



I squealed with delight when I came across these “roots” on the trail inside a ticketed section... only to realized later they are man-made! The impressive concrete work blends in and functions as sturdy railings.



Whole area from another angle

Next: a few more pictures from the trip and the conclusion
Please stay tuned...

