



Summer Snaps



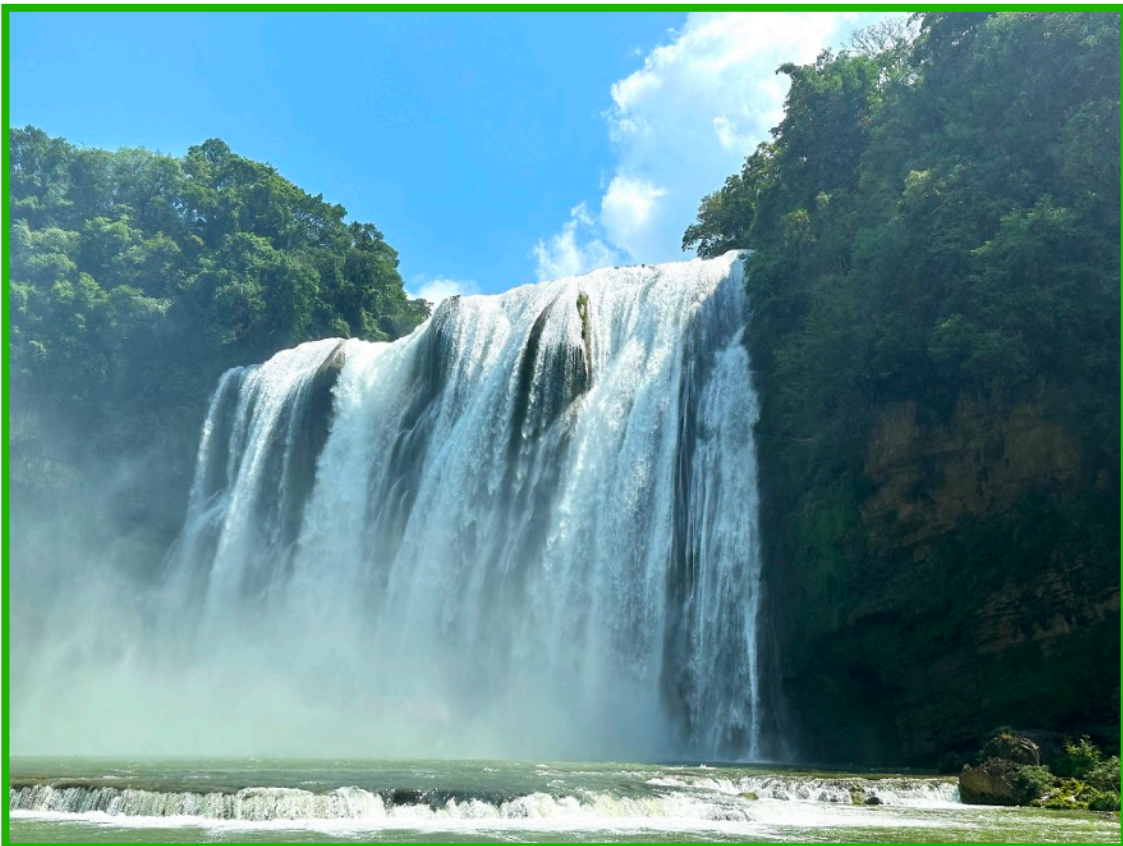
*In this edition, we continue & conclude with
Christine Aylward's
recent quick trip to China*

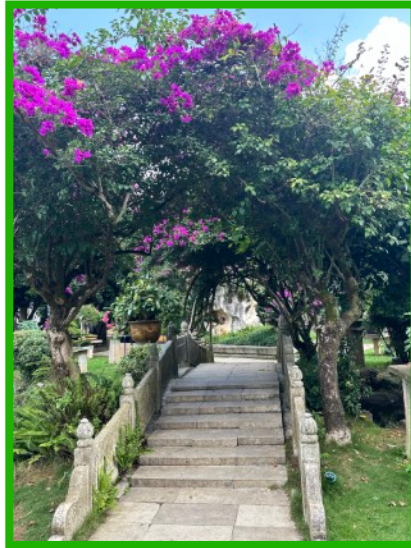
Enjoy!



Christine writes: “One cannot visit Guizhou without going to Huang Guo Shu 黄果树, the National Park famous throughout China for its scenic landscapes and stunning waterfalls. We made a day excursion to see the largest waterfall in the region.”

Huang Guo Shu 黄果树 is the name of local trees: *Pouteria campechiana*, common name: cupcake fruit or eggfruit.





The bonsai garden 盆景区 inside the park was a sheer delight



Above: “the World’s Longest Escalator” at 170 meters (0.11 miles)



L: The waterfall can be viewed from different angles. We skipped viewing it from the underneath...

Back to Guiyang: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, completed in 1876, is nestled amongst a crowded residential area. The grounds and the inside are well kept.



JiaXiu Pavilion, 甲秀楼, built in 1598, is a welcoming oasis surrounded by dense high-rises.



Credit: YouTube



Guizhou's sheer number of cigarette smokers **in public** was staggering, from young fashionable people to old farmers and in between. Cigarette smoke permeated everywhere.



another night market



R: the road to Guiyang Airport is lined with beautiful trees, miles long

Back to Dad's home: Typhoon Bebinca, the strongest since 1949, closed two suspension bridges over the Yangtze River for a day.

The day after Bebinca was the Moon Festival, a national holiday when families traditionally get together to eat mooncakes and appreciate the roundest and brightest moon of the year.

I was told that nowadays people have such fast-paced lives that they do not have much free-time.



Mooncakes from Sichuan 四川, tea and jasmine flavor



I made up for all the years I did not have mooncakes. In our region, they are made of red bean paste, fruits, nuts, and are neither too sweet nor heavy.

L: red dragon fruit



WenFeng Park 文峰公园
on the evening of the
Moon Festival. Very few
people were out.



more city scapes



On the way back to PVG (Pudong Int'l Airport)



It was 89°F outside



I took this photo May 2015

The Shanghai Yangtze Bridge
Construction began: Dec. 28, 2004
Completed: Nov. 8, 2008
Open for traffic: October 31, 2009
Spanning 25.6 kilometers (~16 miles)



An electric car charging station at a gas station near Shanghai Yangtze River Bridge

Almost all Didi (equivalent of our Uber) cars were electric, with license plate in green color

Since 1982, Chinese citizens have voluntarily planted approximately 80.5 billion trees, equivalent to each person planting 57 trees.

The auto industry has undergone transformative changes since my prior trip in Feb. 2016, with both Chinese and international brands all made at manufacturing facilities inside China.

Security cameras are ubiquitous, even inside taxis. My headshot and passport were required for all train and plane rides, as well as hotel stays.

China has become a “Cashless Society”, where one can travel anywhere with a cellphone and ID, without the need to carry cash.

U.S.-China relations are at an all-time low, and news reports on the US, on tv or in newspapers, are negative.

Oddly, I saw very few tourists from the West during this trip.



Back home in Santa Fe!

