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### Recommended Tourist Itineraries

- A Tour of Guilin Mountains and Rivers

**Route:** Guilin - Lijiang River - Yangshuo

Sight: Guilin's landscape has always been known for its green hills, clear waters, strange caves and beautiful rocks. With amazingly beautiful karst landscape and idyllic scenery, it is said that Guilin's scenery is the best in the world, making it a treasured tourist destination.

- A Tour of Sino-Vietnamese Border

**Route:** Jiuzhou Ancient Town - Detian Waterfall - Mingshi Garden - Sino-Vietnamese Friendship Pass

Sight: This route includes beautiful rural scenery,

mountain great waterfalls and beautiful border towns with a unique atmosphere. The Sino-Vietnamese Friendship Pass plays an important role, as a connection between the two countries.

- A Tour of Ethnic Customs

**Route:** Longji Terraced Fields - Huangluo Yao Village - Chengyang Wind-Rain Bridge - Rongshui Mao Village - Gin Island

Sight: The Zhuang, Yao, and Miao ethnic groups make up the majority of Guangxi's ethnic population. These ethnic groups have brilliant cultures and customs. Miao and Dong villages boast wonderful Chinese architecture.

## Guangxi Overview

Guangxi, "Gui" for short, with the provincial capital Nanning, is located in the western region of Southern China. Magical landscape and diverse ethnic customs can be found here.

Guangxi, a land with concentrated developed karst landforms, has magical karst caves, beautiful peaks, green waters, waterfalls and sinkholes. Guilin's mountains and rivers, Dashiwei sinkhole, Detian Waterfall, etc., are the most famous and most appreciated features of its landscape.

The region has a typical subtropical monsoon climate with abundant heat and rainfall, and distinct wet and dry seasons. Summers are hot and suffocating.

Guangxi has a long history. As early as the Qin Dynasty, Qin Shi Huang built the world's first artificial canal—the Lingqu Canal here. The magnificent Jingjiang Royal Palace in Guilin was built when Zhu Shouqian, the grandnephew of Emperor Taizu of Ming Zhu Yuanzhang, was appointed king there.

Guangxi boasts both traditional and ethnic cultures, including the exciting March 3<sup>rd</sup> Zhuang Singing Contest. There are magical Miao villages here. Bama is the world-renowned hometown of longevity.

Website: gxta.gov.cn

### Area & Population

236,700 square kilometers.  
By the end of 2012, the permanent population was 53.69 million.

### Administrative Divisions

Guangxi Zhuang Nationality Autonomous Region comprises 14 prefecture-level cities, including Nanning, Guilin, Liuzhou, Wuzhou, Guiyang, Yulin, Qinzhou, Beihai, Fangcheng, Chongzuo, Baise, Hechi, Laibin, and Hezhou.

## Guilin

Guilin has always been known for its green hills, clear waters, strange caves and beautiful rocks. With amazingly beautiful karst landscapes and idyllic scenery, it is said that "Guilin has the best scenery in the world" and hence it is a prestigious tourist destination.

Website: www.guilin.gov.cn

### Xiangshan Park

Xiangshan Park got its name because the mountain resembles an elephant drinking water from the Lijiang River. It is representative of Guilin's landscapes and the symbol of Guilin City. Between the elephant trunk and legs, there is the Shuiyue Cave which looks like a bright moon floating on water, forming the famous view "Xiangshan Moon on Water."

### Jingjiang Princes' City

Jingjiang Princes' City, the Ming Dynasty mansion of Jingjiang King Zhu Shouqian, reflects/embodies recent centuries of Guilin's history and culture. Natural

## Guilin

The Lijiang River originates in the Kitten Mountain, known as "the First Peak in South China". It is the place with the most typical karst topography in the region. It resembles a green silk ribbon winding among the peaks. The scenery is hailed as "100-li Li River, 100-li Landscape Gallery."

Website: www.liriver.com.cn

### Nine-Horse Fresco Hill

The Nine-Horse Fresco Hill is a great artistic nature landscape. The colorful mountain stands by the river, looking like a painted scroll from afar. When watched closely, it appears as if a group of horses were standing or lying, looking into the sky, or leisurely grazing.

### Xingping Ancient Town

Xingping Ancient Town has always been known as "the most beautiful landscape in the world." It is located between mountains and the river, and has various views, white walls,

## Guilin

"The landscape in Guilin is the best in China, and the best landscape in Guilin is in Yangshuo." This is the best description of the natural scenery of Yangshuo. It is known for its "green hills, clear waters, strange caves and beautiful rocks."

Website: www.yangshuotour.com

### West Street

West Street is a flagstone road with a history of 1,000 years full of exotic atmosphere, nicknamed "Foreigner Street." Various shops selling folk costumes, crafts, antique porcelain and other goods can be found here. Its distinctive feature is the number of bars and cafes that can be found here.

### Yulong River

The Yulong River is called "Little Lijiang River." Its name comes from the Dragon King of the East Sea, who, according to legend, was attracted to the region during his travels. The section from Yulong Bridge in Yangshuo to the Qing's Ferry boasts the best scenery. With beautiful mountains and



## Nanning

Nanning is the largest city in Guangxi, the hometown of red beans, and a historic border city where the Zhuang, Han, Miao, Yao and other ethnic groups gather. It is known as the "Green City."

### Qingxiu Mountain

The Qingxiu Mountain's most attractive features are the sage cypress forests, palm groves, rainforests and other characteristic botanical gardens. The scenic spot includes the Longxiang Tower, the tallest in Guangxi, where one can overlook the Green City of Nanning.

### Yangmei Ancient Town

Yangmei Ancient Town, built in the Song

Dynasty, is a beautiful ancient town. The Zuojiang River forms a river bend here. When the sun sets, green sparkling water reflects green verdant bamboos, creating a landscape so marvelous that it is unforgettable.

### Jiulong Waterfalls

According to legend, after defeating the Bronze Drum Demon here, the Holy Dragon guarded the waters and transformed into the Jiulong Waterfalls. At the region spot, there are towering trees and gurgling streams. Unique geological formations and long-term water erosion create spectacular waterfalls.

## Beihai

Beihai has a long culturally diverse history and varieties of cultural relics. As an important departure port on the ancient "Marine Silk Road", it is a national historical and cultural city, as well as the only open coastal city in Western China.

Website: www.bhly.gov.cn

### Weizhou Island

Weizhou Island, formed by volcanic eruption, is China's largest extinct volcanic island. Here there are towering rocks, rare stones, and many modern Western-style buildings.

### Silver Beach

Silver Beach is famous for the "Five Unique" aspects of its beach: long and flat, fine white sand, soft waves, no sharks and no other features. It is known as "China's First Beach" owing to its beautiful scenery. A romantic water screen movie is held in the evenings.

## Bama

Longevity Village

Bama County is a famous "World Hometown of Longevity" where there have been many centenarians since ancient times. Bama Village is a longevity village in Bama. Among the 515 people in the village, there are as many as 7 centenarians, nearly 200 times the international standard.

### Panyang River

The Panyang River is the mother river

of Bama. It winds slowly between steep peaks and villages. The fertile farmlands and scenic valleys are filled with beautiful mountains and karst caves.

### Crystal Palace

This karst cave is the epitome of the hometown of longevity in the world. Its crystal stalactites are like centenarians, making visitors marvel at the wonder of Nature.

## Karst Landform

### Fengshan Sanmenhai

Sanmenhai, there is the world's only water-based sinkhole and other unique geological features. You will find beautiful natural environment, rich flora, fauna and landscape resources, a high concentration of negative oxygen ions, mysterious mountains and rivers, and gorgeous caves.

### Leye Dashiwei Sinkhole

Dashiwei Sinkhole is the world's largest sinkhole group. Within a radius of less than 20 square kilometers, there are 24 sinkholes in mountains. Thrilling and majestic, they are one of the world's rarest tourist spectacles.

### Wuming Yiling Cave

Yiling Cave, known as "Gin Palace" in the Zhuang language, means "a cave as beautiful as the palace." It is a typical karst cave with stalactites of varied shapes and colors, which are very wonderful.

## National Customs

### Longsheng Longji Terraced Fields

Longji Terraced Fields with graceful lines are spectacular. Known as "the highest terraces in the world", they are more magnificent than the Bali's Tegallalang Rice Terraces. There are also beautiful golden bamboo Zhuang villages here.

Website: www.tsljw.com

### Liuzhou Rongshui Mao Village

Rongshui is home to the Miao, Yao, Dong, Zhuang, Han and other ethnic groups. There are charming and picturesque scenery and beautiful

wood buildings. During holidays, horse-riding, fighting, singing and dancing provide a very boisterous atmosphere.

### Dongxing Gin Island

Gin Island located along the banks of the Beibu Gulf is a unique settlement of Gin ethnic group, China's only ocean environment ethnic group. The Gin ethnic group has a unique culture and exotic costumes. Gin people speak Vietnamese. The tropical island atmosphere is extremely strong here.

## Transportation

- By Air

Guangxi currently has 6 airports: the Nanning Wuxu International Airport, the Guilin Liangjiang International Airport, the Liuzhou Bailian Airport, the Beihai Fucheng Airport, the Wuzhou Changzhou Airport and the Bose Tianyang Airport, which provide 80 air routes. Among them, the Guangxi Guilin International Airport is the largest.

- By Train

The Hengyang-Pingxiang Railway, Nanning-Kunming Railway, Jiaozuo-Liuzhou Railway and Longli-Liuzhou Railway are major lines in Guangxi that can reach its major cities. At present, some mountain foothill areas still lack railway access.

Guangxi also has the Nanning-Guangzhou High-Speed Railway, Hengyang-Nanning High-Speed Railway, Liuzhou-Nanning Intercity Railway and other high-speed railways which not only shorten the time to get to major cities across the country, but also make transportation between Liuzhou, Guilin, Nanning and Beihai more convenient.

- By Road

In Guangxi, a road network with "five vertical and three horizontal" national highways has been constructed, including the Nanning-Liuzhou-Guilin, Nanning-Qinzhou-Beihai, Binyang-Nanning-Fangcheng Port and other highways.

## Accommodations & Travel Services

- Accommodations

Name	Star-rate	Add	Tel
Guangxi Walton Hotel	5	No.88 Eastern Section of National Rd., Nanning	771-2111888
Nanning Phoenix Hotel	4	No. 63 Chaoyang Rd., Nanning	771-2119888
Lijiang Phoenix Hotel	5	No.1 Shanhu N. Rd., Xiufeng District, Guilin	773-2822881
Shერთan Hotel Guilin	5	No.15 Binjiang Rd., Xiufeng District, Guilin	773-2825588
Guilin Grand Hotel	4	No.14 Rongshu N. Rd., Xiangshan District, Guilin	773-2823950
Guilin Sightseeing Hotel	4	No.20 Lijiang Rd., Qixing District, Guilin	773-5882688
Pingxiang Tianbao Hotel	4	Linsheng Building, Puzhai Trade City, Pingxiang	771-5092200
Beihai Shangri-La Hotel	5	No.33 Chating Rd., Haicheng District, Beihai	779-2062288
Jinyuan Hotel Wuzhou	4	No.3 Xinxing Three Rd., Wuzhou	774-3930666

- Travel Services

Name	Add	Tel
Guangxi Kang Hui International Travel Agency	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Erqing Building, No.31 Jianzhong Rd., Nanning	771-5618958
China Travel Service of Guangxi	No.26-1 Jinhu Rd., Nanning	771-2626228
Guilin Kang Hui International Travel Agency	No.10 Zhongshan N. Rd., Guilin	773-3897058
China Travel Agency in Guilin, Guangxi	6 <sup>th</sup> Floor, No.2 Faxing Rd., Qixing District, Guilin	773-2839899
China Travel Agency in Chongzuo, Guangxi	B4-104 Dongyuan Mingcheng Building, Nanning Chongzuo	771-7960828

## Dining and Shopping

- Dining

Guangxi's famous snacks include Nanning Laoyou rice noodles, Liuzhou snail rice noodles, Qinzhou trotter rice noodles, Guilin rice noodles, Wuzhou tortoise jelly, Bama miniature pig, Yulin sliced dried beef, Yulin wonton, etc.

Guilin rice noodles: When visiting Guilin one must taste rice noodles. Guilin rice noodles come in round and flat varieties. Rice noodles' taste depends on the kind of brine used. Local brines vary from shop to shop.

- Shopping

Guangxi specialties mainly include Shatian pomelo, litchi, mango and other tropical fruits, as well as unique local

## Sino-Vietnamese Border

### Daxin Detian Waterfall

Detian Waterfall straddling across China and Vietnam is Asia's largest transnational waterfall. The magnificent waterfall has twists and turns with surging columns of falling water.

### Jingxi Jiuzhou Ancient Town

In Jiuzhou area, there are magnificent peaks, picturesque landscapes, a pastoral countryside, and rich Zhuang folk customs. There is also the nationally renowned Silk-Ball Street by the river. Three generations of locals, men and women, old and young, can all make embroidered silk balls, which are considered a special feature of Jiuzhou.

### Pingxiang Friendship Pass

The Friendship Pass is one of the nine famous passes in China. National Highway 322 runs across the gate of Friendship Pass and joins the Vietnamese highway. It is an important land route to Vietnam.

## Guidong Culture

### Zhaoping Huangyao Ancient Town

Huangyao is an ancient town with a history of nearly 1,000 years. It prospered in the Song Dynasty and was built during the reign of Emperor Wanli in the Ming Dynasty. Currently, many Ming and Qing buildings are well preserved, among which the "Dream Home" is the most famous.

### Hezhou Hakka Round House

Hakka Round House built in the Qing Dynasty is distinguished by finely carved beast patterns, simple and elegant Ming and

Qing furniture, passionate Hakka dance, as well as picturesque idyllic scenery.

### Guiping West Guiping Mountain

In West Guiping Mountain, there are towering old trees, sweet springs, craggy rocks, twisting and tranquil stone paths as well as the Ligong Ancestral Temple, the Xishi Nunnery, the Longhua Temple, the Ruqian Pavilion, the Zhongshan Flying Pavilion, the Dragon Pavilion, the Ruyi Pavilion and other buildings.

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