

# One day tour in Suzhou City

(May 28, 2005)

## ● **PROGRAMME:**

Take bus to Suzhou in the morning. Visit the largest garden in Suzhou-Humble Administrator Garden, Tiger Hill. Then you will have a chance to visit the silk factory and Great Canal. Go back to Shanghai in the late afternoon. (Lunch is included)

## ● **TOUR COST**

6-9 persons: \$78/person

10 persons or up : \$67/person

## ● **INTRODUCTION TO SUZHOU CITY**

Suzhou is a well - known historical and cultural city, as well as a key scenic tourist one, and a coastal economic opening area.

The long history of the city has left behind many attractive scenic spots and historical sites with beautiful and interesting legends. The elegant classical gardens, the old - fashioned houses and delicate bridges hanging over flowing waters in the drizzling rain, the beautiful lakes with undulating hills in lush green, the numerous scenic spots and historical sites, and the exquisite arts and crafts, etc. have made Suzhou a renowned historical and cultural city full of eternal and poetic charm.

**Humble Administrator's Garden:** Located in the northeastern part of Suzhou city, Humble Administrator's Garden is the largest private garden in Suzhou. First laid out in 1509 AD, the garden's scenery is focused on a central pond with various buildings of pavilions, terraces, chambers and towers located by the water or on hillocks in a natural, unsophisticated, and appropriate composition.



**Tiger Hill Pagoda**, or Yunyansi, was built from 959 to 961 during the Song Dynasty. It is a 48-meter-tall brick pagoda with seven stories and eight sides. It leans to the north almost imperceptibly by 3.5

degrees. Chinese engineers estimate that it weighs about 6,000 tons. Like many pagodas of the Tang and early Song periods, it is a stone imitation of earlier (or contemporary) wooden pagodas. The "brackets" and "lintels" carved on the surface are not structural, but decorative. Since this is clearly an imitation of wooden designs, Tiger Hill Pagoda preserves a valuable record of how wooden pagodas of the area must have been constructed.



**The Grand Canal** of China is the world's oldest and longest canal, far surpassing the next two grand canals of the world: Suez and Panama Canal. The building of the canal began in 486 B.C. during the Wu Dynasty. It was extended during the Qi Dynasty, and later by Emperor Yangdi of Sui

Dynasty during six years of furious construction from 605-610 A.D.. The canal is 1,795 Km (1,114 miles) long with 24 locks and some 60 bridges.

**Silk Factory:** Suzhou is also famous for its silk production. In the factory you can see how the silk is processed from the silk worm to the final woven cloth.