

天堂蘇州 东方水城

Suzhou: The Venice of the East





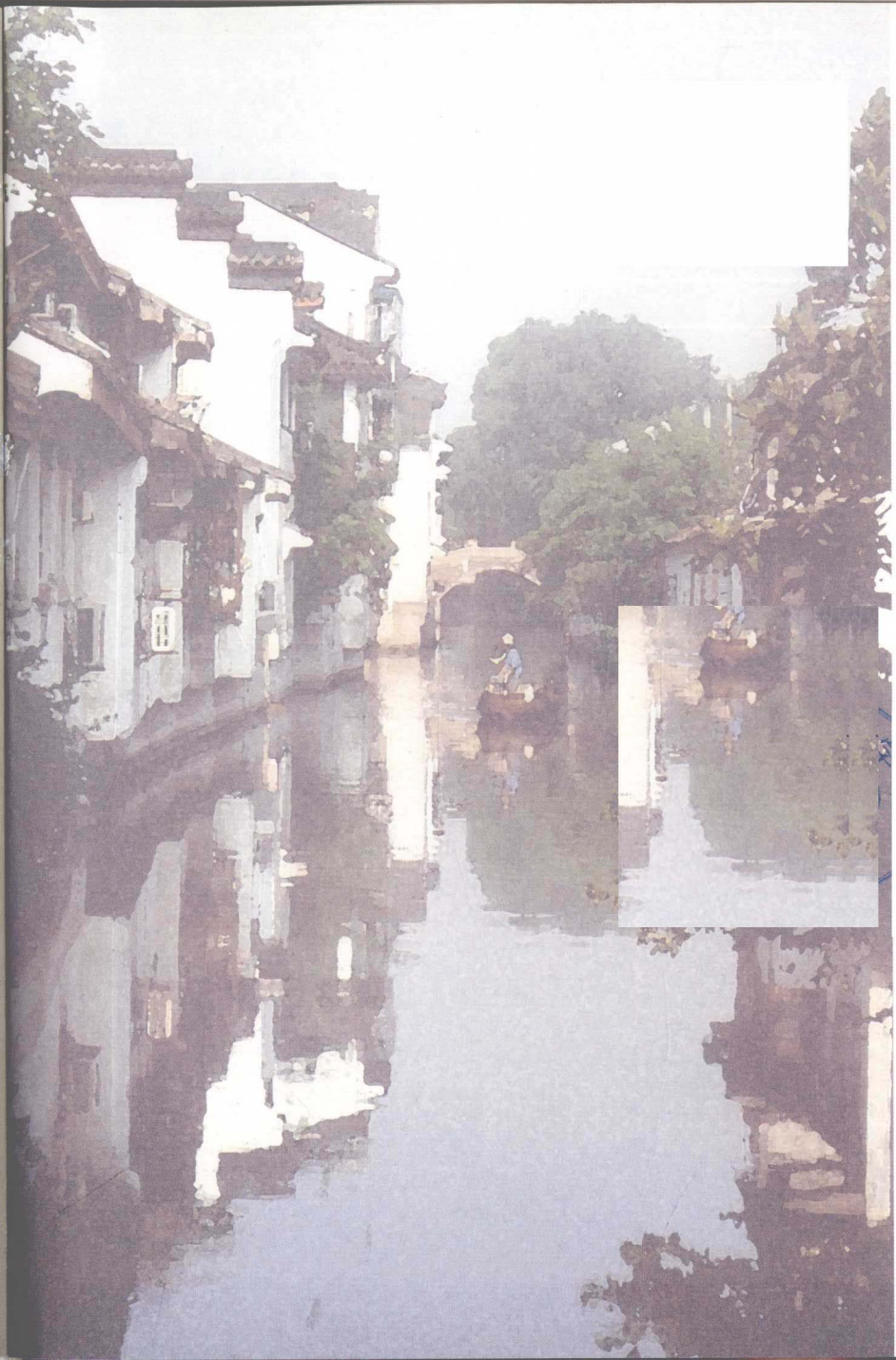
天堂苏州

东方水城



中国旅游出版社

Suzhou: The Venice of the East



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装帧设计: 布蔚青

苏州市在中国的位置图

The Location of Suzhou on the Map of China



图书在版编目(CIP)数据

天堂苏州 东方水城: 汉英对照 / 亦然 吕大千撰文.

—北京: 中国旅游出版社, 2008.4

ISBN 978-7-5032-3430-9

I. 天… II. ①亦…②吕… III. 苏州市—概况—画册
IV. K925.33-64

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2008) 第 040512 号

封面: 苏州山塘街水巷

Front Cover: Shantang Street in Suzhou.

封底: 网师园月到风来亭之春 (摄影: 吕大千)

Back Cover: The Moon Coming with Breeze Pavilion in the
Garden of the Master of the Nets in spring. by Lü Daqian

书名: 天堂苏州 东方水城

撰文: 亦然 吕大千

出版发行: 中国旅游出版社

地址: 北京市东城区建国门内大街甲9号二楼

邮政编码: 100005

制版: 北京燕泰美术制版印刷有限责任公司

印刷: 北京顺诚彩色印刷有限公司

版次: 2008年4月第1版 第1次印刷

开本: 889毫米×1194毫米 1/24

印张: 5

定价: 58.00元

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前言

——亦然

苏州是一群聪明人居住的地方，智者乐水，这座东方水城里便波光潋滟、荡漾可人。

水城是江南水乡的博览会，水巷是水城的精华所在。没有人不喜欢水巷。人家就“枕”在河流上，生活就“枕”在河流上，人与大自然相依相靠，息息相通，心便觉得踏实而宁静。到过苏州的人最难忘的便是水巷，觉得水城中最为自然的地方还得数水巷。房子就一幢幢清水出芙蓉般地在河边亭亭玉立着，河水想流就直截了当地流来了。想出门访友了，走出家门踏上河埠再跳上小船就凌波而去；想增添一些生活用品，就留心一下窗下河道上来来往往的船只，它们有不少就是为城里的人们送生活必需品的。闲下来，安安静静对着窗外的水和天读读书，读唐诗“君到姑苏见，人家尽枕河”，读宋词“过尽千帆皆不是”，苏州水巷里的河上没有帆，只有橹，那就改成“过尽千橹皆不是”吧。等谁呢？你想起了许多发生在苏州城里的缠绵悱恻的故事，对着静静流逝着的河水发呆。有叮叮咚咚的评弹弦索声隐隐传来，不知唱的是哪一对才子佳人的命运。

苏州城是一张古琴，其中最容易拨动人心的一根弦便是水巷。

要画出苏州水巷并不困难，只要掌握几大要素就行，最重要的古人已经总结了：小桥、流水、人家，另外再点缀一些东西，无非粉墙黛瓦，临水窗户，河埠头，岸上花树，河中小船，以及“杨柳岸，晓风残月”

之类，稍加渲染就可以了。要紧的是千万不要妄想毕其功于一画，想在一张画纸上将苏州水巷景色一网打尽，最后弄巧成拙。苏州水巷万千变化，神奇莫测，春秋晨昏，各有不同。上帝清楚，苏州水巷是写不尽、画不完的。

就说桥吧。在苏州水城里，随便到哪几条小巷走一圈，都像走进了一座桥的博览会，五步一登，十步一跨，谁也记不清一路上经过了多少座桥。水巷里的桥每一座都像一条巧妙的比喻，使人浮想联翩，觉得苏州古城真是风采端庄。或者说每一条巧妙的比喻都像苏州水巷里的小桥，在水

陆频繁割据的地方，飞起一道道彩虹，使人们的想象力畅行无阻，酣畅淋漓。苏州水城有画桥三百，试想，如果一篇散文里竟有三百条妙喻此起彼伏，那文章无论如何不能小觑。

桥还是外地人了解姑苏风土人情的好处所，伫立桥上，看傍水人家，绿树掩映，水巷女子在河埠上上下下，衣杵起落，声音远远传来，慢了半个节拍，如空谷回音，竟使人恍如隔世。看苏州姑娘上桥来了，对襟小衫儿尽是丝绸，潇潇洒洒，琵琶扣盘得雅致古朴，一级级石阶娉娉婷婷走去，风情万种；又有挽着满篮沾露香花的卖花姑娘，打

1. 宝带桥横跨在古运河上。苏州的古桥，是苏州水城中最为富特色的代表性建筑之一。

The Precious Belt Bridge over the ancient canal. Actually, ancient bridges are the most representative architectures in Suzhou.



桥端盈盈走过，空气中飘留着她幽幽的香气，使人情思恍惚。你看，小桥成了苏州姑娘表演的T型台了。

桥走多了，生命的步调便会从容自在。所以，苏州人中间急性子的不多，他们优哉游哉，好像生来便有一种上帝赐予的闲情逸致。有了一份好心情，便有了消受自然之美的福分。

苏州城在水里荡漾着，苏州人的生活才情在水里荡漾着。比如书画吧，草圣张旭的笔下流着水的风姿、水的狂想；黄公望的笔下流着水的灵秀、水的蕴藉；唐寅的笔下流着水的妩媚、水的清婉；吴湖帆

的笔下流着水的睿智、水的宁静……缠绕在苏州人耳边的同样是水的风情：盛名于世的昆曲，水一样的柔情蜜意，苏州人过去干脆叫她水磨腔；深入人心的评弹，水一样的善解人意，苏州人须臾离不开她哩。

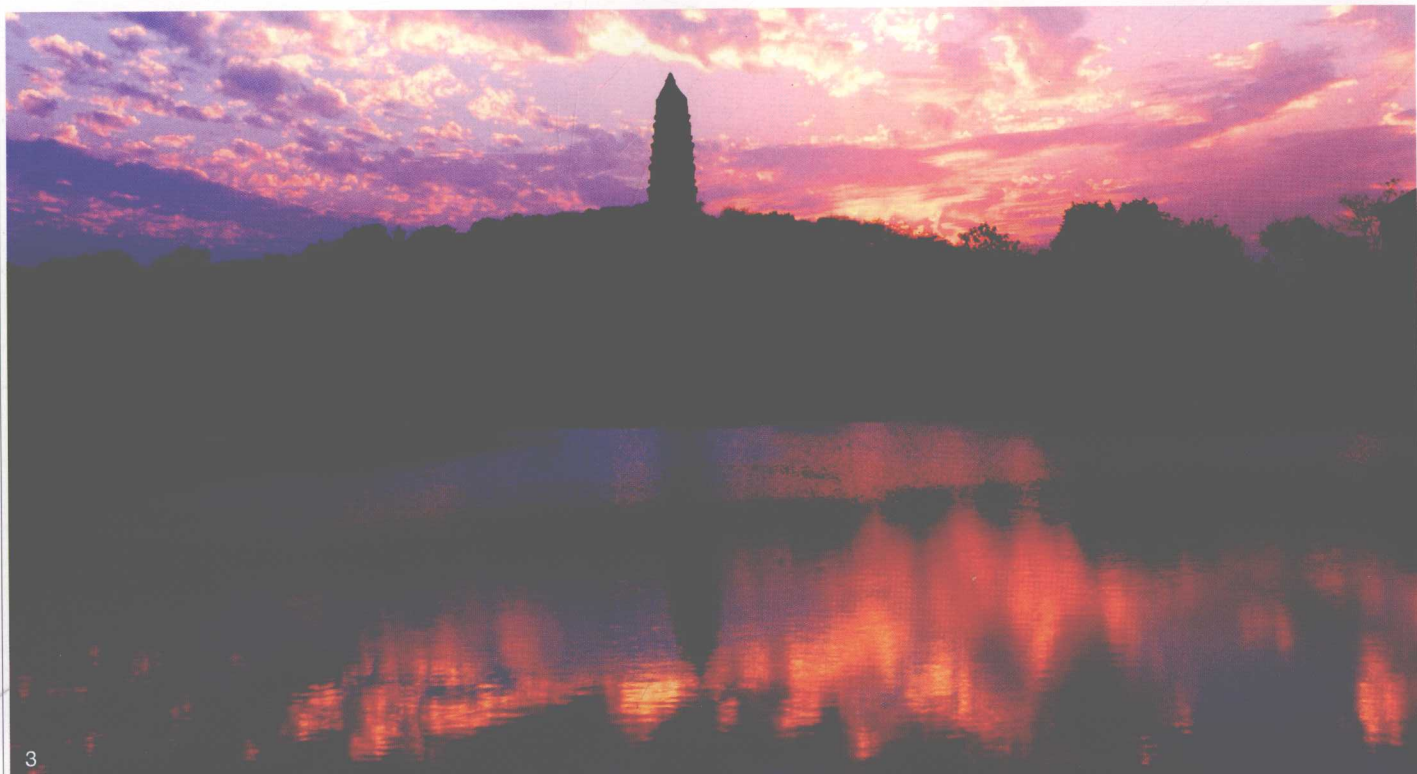
游人只合苏州老，实在不能长居苏州，那就把对水城的思念折成一页纸帆，在那片如梦似幻的水上柔柔地漂吧。

3. 虎丘旭日——千年古城水乡的名片

The Tiger Hill in the Setting Sun, a landmark of the millennium-old water city of Suzhou.

2. “君到姑苏见，人家尽枕河”。

Local residences on the riverside.



Preface

Yi Ran

Suzhou is a dwelling place for wise people who take delight in waters, and naturally, rippling waters abound in this canal-floated city of the east.

The water city, a microcosm of the water region in the southern Yangtze delta, is best seen in the water alleys, whose charm appeals to everyone. The houses, and actually the whole life, rest upon the canals. An ease of mind rises from the harmony and mutual dependence between man and nature. Along the flowing waters of canals lined by quaint houses, a boat trip may take one to see a friend, wherever he lives. And from the boats coming and going, you get what you need for daily necessities. Reading by the window on the edge of water is simply a pleasure. As you contemplate the still waters, a line from the Tang poetry spontaneously comes to the mind: "Behold, as you visit Suzhou, all the houses rest on canals as pillows." An expression from the Song poetry "thousand sails gliding by" may also fit into the scene, except that "sails" should be replaced by "sculls". The plucking music of local ballad singing sometimes vibrates across the waters, singing the romances of the scholars and pretty ladies of the past.

The city of Suzhou is an ancient lute, and the strings are the water alleys.

It is no hard job to draw pictures of the water alleys as long as you get hold of the essential elements, summed up by the ancients: delicate bridges, flowing waters, and inhabitant houses. Additional adornments may be the white-plastered walls, gray roof-tiles, waterside windows, quays, blooming trees on riverbanks, or "weeping willows, and the crescent moon in breeze". The key is to drop your ambition to present the scene of the water al-

leys of Suzhou in just one painting. Their variegated scenes of fascination, different in seasons and the hours of the day, are endless for the artist.

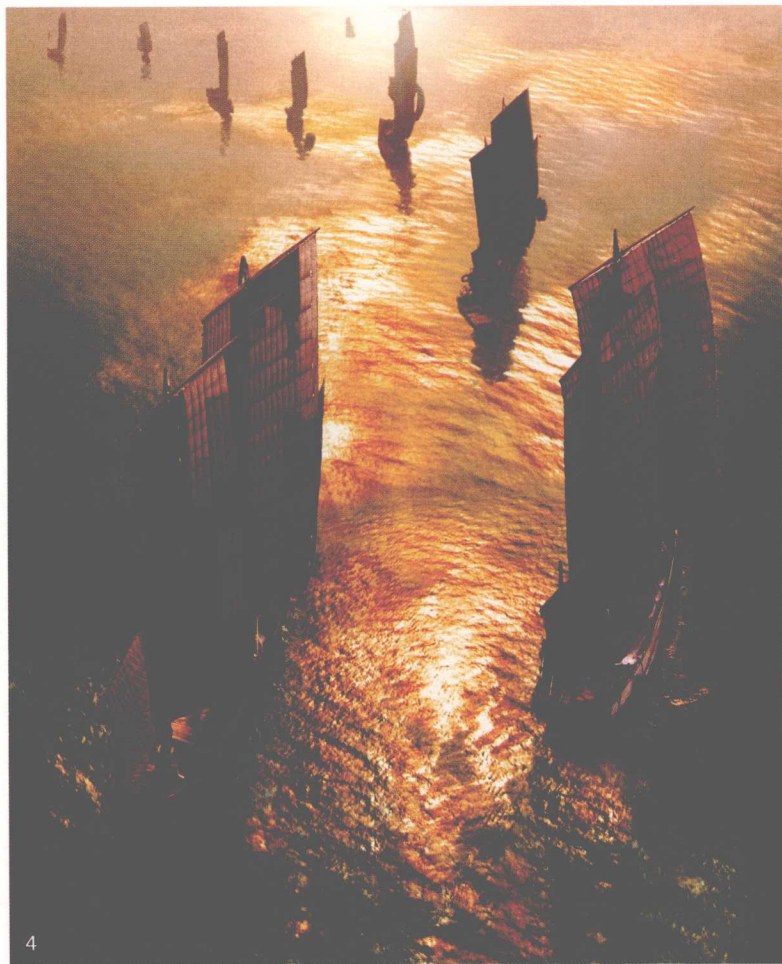
Roaming along narrow streets and lanes, so frequented by bridges across the water alleys, you feel like making a round of an exhibition of bridges. Every few steps will land you on a bridge, and you just lose track of the number of bridges gone past. The delicate bridges evoke literary imaginations, for there are as many stories behind them as there are bridges.

The bridge affords a good vantage point to observe the local customs: the dwellings hanging over the water's edge under verdant trees, women doing laundry by the steps leading to water, club beating at the clothes, rhythmic echo in the air. Presently, native girls in traditional silk blouses come gracefully over the bridge, or a flower girl carrying a basket goes by, leav-

ing a wisp of faint scent. The bridge is just like a stage where to enact out the beauty of Suzhou girls.

Bridges slow down paces and make easy tempo of life. That's why few natives feel hurried in life. People here are born with a leisurely mind to appreciate the beauty of nature.

The city of Suzhou floats on water, so the life and talent of Suzhou people are closely associated with water. In calligraphy, for instance, the master



hands of Zhang Xu, Huang Gongwang, Tang Yin, and Wu Hufan invariably display traits of water: wild, cursive, deep, clear, tranquil or composed flow of water. The world-famous Kunqu Opera excels in sweet, mellow singing known as the "water-melted tone". It seems that Suzhou people are forever linked with water.

Visitors to Suzhou look enviously at the life in Suzhou. They keep their yearning for the water city

even in dreams.

4. 太湖面积 2420 平方公里, 苏州占其四分有三的水面。烟波浩渺, 渔帆点点, 形成了闻名中外的太湖风景区。

The world-famous Taihu Lake spans 2,420 square kilometers, of which three fourths are within the

territory of Suzhou. The vast, misty lake is dotted with several fishing boats.

5. 早春二月, 苏州乡间田野的油菜花, 生机盎然。Oilseed rape fields in early spring.







6. 苏州古典园林建筑师巧夺天工，把园外宝塔“借”入园中，起到了扩大视野的作用。

Owing to the creative wit of its architect, the classical garden in Suzhou takes advantage of the pagoda outside to expand the field of vision.

古典园林

苏州园林留给无数相机的情影大都是亭台楼阁、飞檐戗角，其实，苏州园林的主角永远是水。

水是园林的脉络。园林之水讲究来有源去有流，那是与大自然神秘律动的息息相通。水在园林里左顾右盼地流着，胸有成竹地流着，于是那些扇亭画阁歌台舞榭都心领神会地找到了自己的位置，一张和谐而优雅的全家福就在人们的赞叹面前定格了。

水是园林的气息。园林之水至情至性、清澈而斑斓，那些花呀、树呀、草呀，其实都是她的颜色，她的颜色其实就是生活中最醇净的颜色，不然人们怎么会在园林里感受到那种宾至如归的亲切？

水是园林的灵魂。园林之水至柔至刚、睿智而大度，她是不着标点的诗人，她是不露声色的歌者，她还是饱经沧桑的哲学家，你看那些太湖石，其实都是水的代言人，都是浪的气派、波的蕴藉凝结而成，清风从那些洞孔间穿过，是读着一本无字大书，那难辨的声音讲述一段园林史呢。

水给苏州园林带来了多少情趣哟，你登上了楼，其实是走上了一段水影；你读着匾，其实是读着一种水声；你赏着景，其实是赏着水的构思；你品着花，其实是品着水的心情……

不信？你就沿着这些曼妙的名字走进苏州园林深处吧：濠上观、留听阁、倒影楼、映月廊、塔影亭、濯缨亭、漱石居、小飞虹……

7. 依依小亭，与谁同坐？

An elegant pavilion.

Classical Gardens

Pavilions, terraces, storied chambers, and towers with curved eaves appear in many photos of Suzhou classical gardens, yet the permanent central role in the garden is water.

Water makes for the veins of the garden with source and outlet by the law of nature. The meandering Lakes in the garden assign appropriate positions for architectural elements in a harmonious overall plan.

Limped, crystal water gives life to the garden, nurtures the colorful flowers, trees, and grass, and endears visitors to the garden.

Water is the soul of the garden, at once tender and powerful, shapeless and full of wisdom. The ever-present multi-shaped Taihu rocks that adorn Suzhou gardens owe their authorships to the splashes and waves of water.

Water heightens, and actually creates, the appeal of the scenes of Suzhou gardens. The reflections of towers, blooming shrubs, and what not, are all attributed to water as the artful composer.

When you explore the depth of Suzhou Gardens, you will be convinced of the vital role of water by the literary names of buildings, in frequent associations with water: Creek-viewing Chamber, Hall of Splashing Rain, Tower of Reflection, Moon-reflected Veranda, Pavilion of Pagoda Reflection, Tassel-washing Waterside Pavilion, Small Rainbow Bridge, and so on.

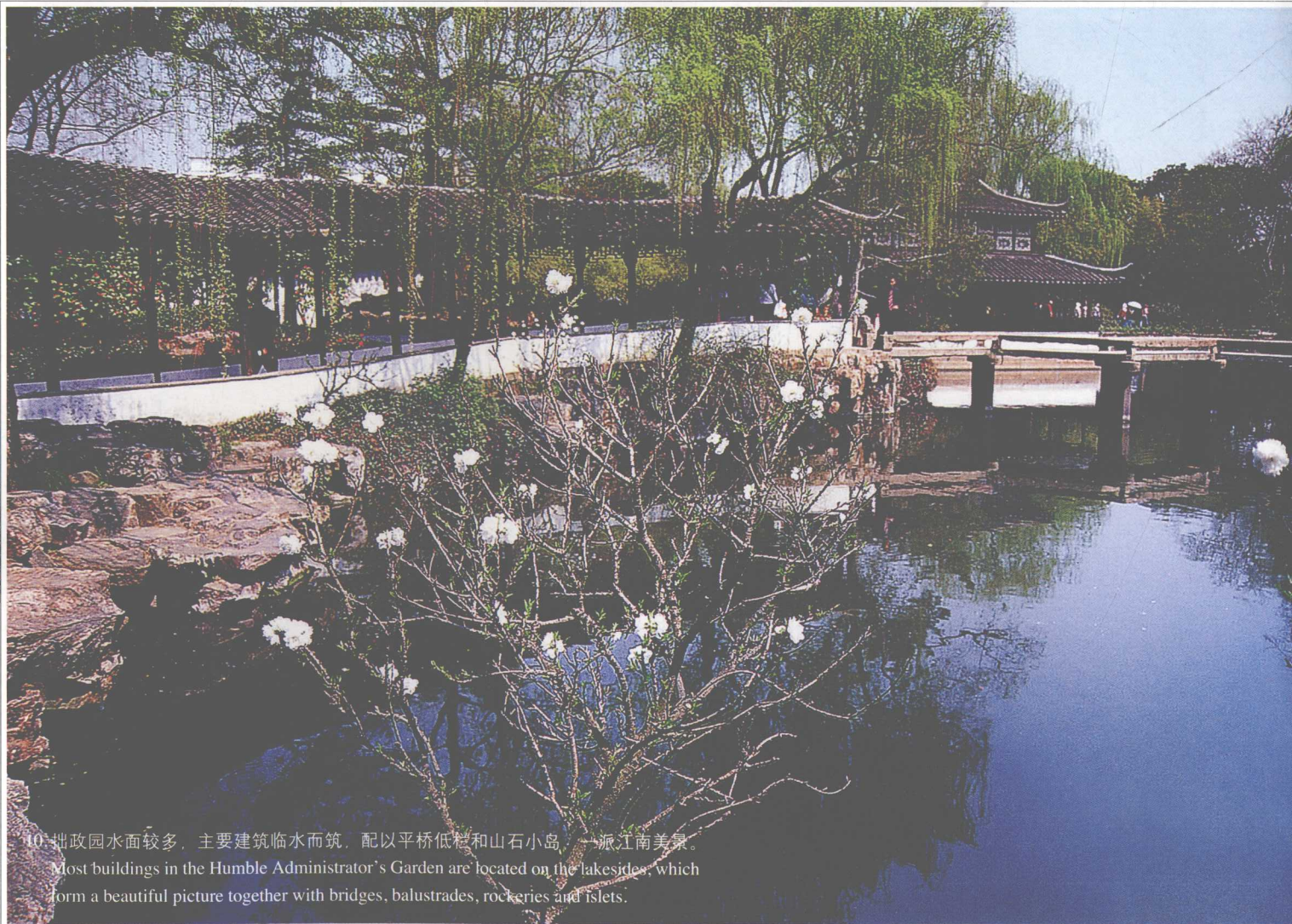
8. 起步回廊，透过漏窗，隐约看到中园美景，使园林两部分相辅相成，“分而不割”，体现了“引人入胜”的建筑手法。

Via see-through windows, one can take a look at the scenery on the opposite side of the zigzagging corridor, which demonstrates the crafty design of classical architecture.





9. 小飞虹倒映水中。苏州园林中唯一的一座廊桥。
The Lesser Rainbow Bridge, known as the only roofed bridge in Suzhou gardens.



拙政园水面较多，主要建筑临水而筑，配以平桥低栏和山石小岛，一派江南美景。

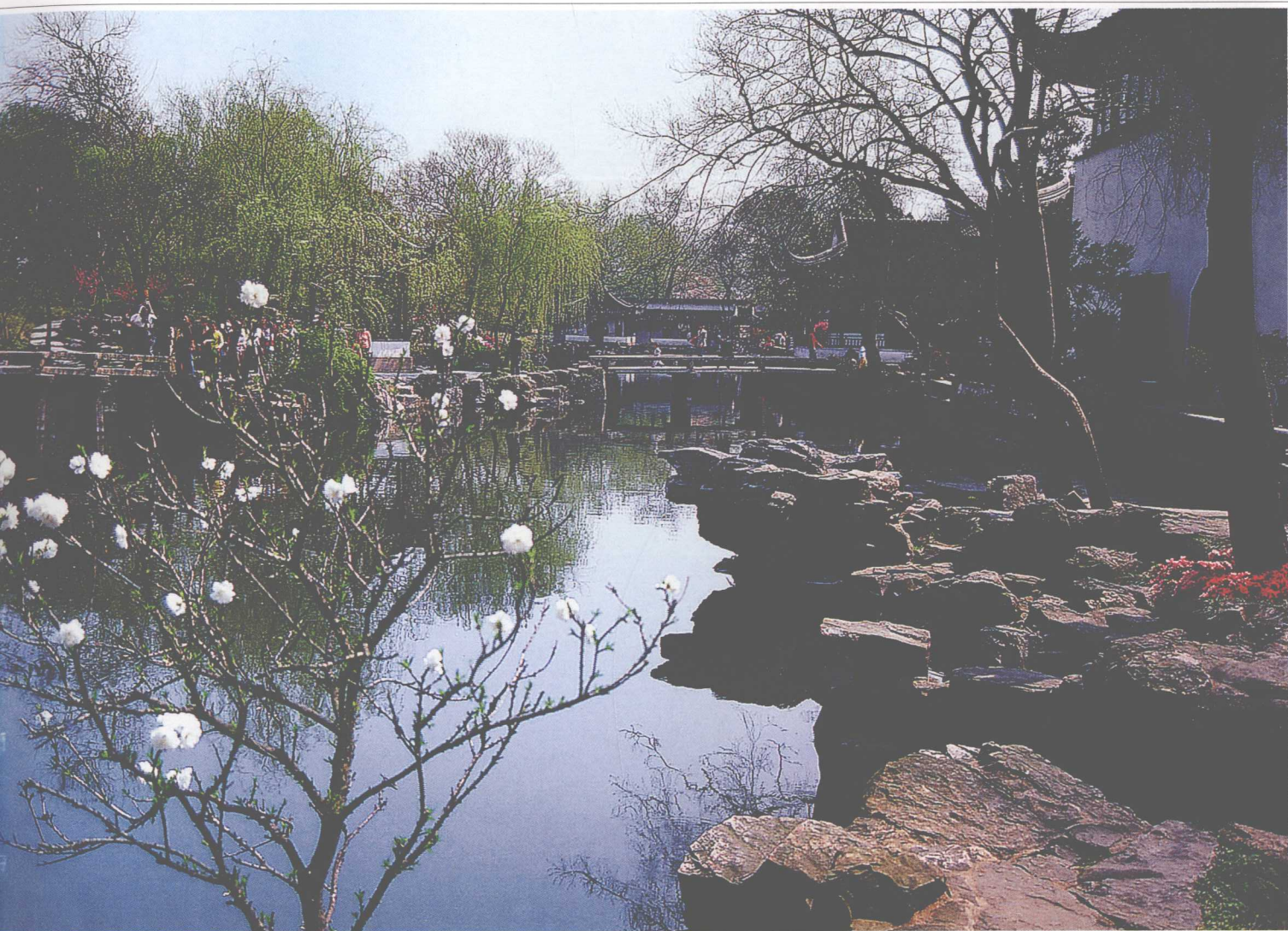
Most buildings in the Humble Administrator's Garden are located on the lakesides, which form a beautiful picture together with bridges, balustrades, rockeries and islets.

拙政园 为中国最大的私家园林，也是中国文人写意派山水宅第园林的典范。拙政园始建于明代正德八年（1513）前后，为明代御史王献臣弃官回乡后，请吴门画派的代表人

物文徵明为其设计的。园林占地面积约4.1公顷，其中水面约占五分之三。拙政园分东、中、西、住宅四部分。东部明快开朗；中部以水为主，池广树茂，为拙政园精华所

在；西部水波倒影，回廊起伏；住宅是典型的苏州民居，现布置为园林博物馆展厅。

As the largest private garden in China, the Humble Administrator's Garden represents the



height of classical gardens and residences of literati in ancient times. Built around 1513, the eighth year during the Zhengde reign of the Ming Dynasty, it was a private garden of a retired government servant named Wang

Xianchen, who invited famous painter Wen Zhengming to design the garden. It covers 4.1 hectares, of which three fifths are water surface. The entire garden is divided into four parts. The east section features a touch of loveliness; The

central section boasts a expanse of water and represents the essence of the garden; The west section features zigzagging corridors; The rest section contains classical residences that have been reconstructed into exhibition halls.

11. 香洲环水，满池荷花，碧叶翻风，
香远溢清。

Breeze spreads around the fragrance
of the lotus pond.

12. 拙政园之夏，荷风四面，曲桥垂
柳，疏朗错落，清爽宜人。

Lotus ponds, zigzagging bridges and
weeping willows compose a pleasant
view in the Humble Administrator's
Garden.



11



12



13. 见山楼

The Mountain-in-View Tower.

14. 柳荫路曲

A walkway snakes under the shade of willow trees.



15. 卅六鸳鸯馆

The Hall of Thirty-Six Mandarin Ducks.
Ducks.

16. 花墙

A flower-covered wall.

17. 留听阁

The Liuting Pavilion.

