

# LIJIANG – MY HOMETOWN

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It is said that few people in the world don't love Lijiang. Those who have been in Lijiang are reluctant to leave, or want to come back after they leave Lijiang, for those who haven't been there, Lijiang has become a knot keep spinning in their mind, or a special station they are heading for in their whole life. Only after they get there, will they feel peace in the mind, and will they live a successful life.

I believe all of the above saying, for the unique glamour of Lijiang! I, as a native in Lijiang, have such a feeling for Lijiang that can't be described by words. I feel its beauty and attraction not less than people from places other than Lijiang. It is very famous that local people love Lijiang. Such natives are called "being home obsessive" by other people. That's because this beautiful land of Lijiang offers the local people happiness, luckiness, harmony, peace, the present and the future. The magnificent Yulong Snow Mountain is the kind and open-minded personality of the local people; the mysterious and colorful water of Lugu Lake is the soft passion of the Lijiang girls; the simple and dignified Old Town is the plain and humble heart of the local people. Friends all over the world have traveled over mountains and seas and met here on the Jubeijie Street (or the Bar Street). The past-life of Lijiang probably was full of glances back, if we apply a famous saying of love: people could get the meeting today by glancing back for 500 years in the preexistence.

This is Lijiang, like mountain – strong and mighty, like water – kind and passionate; like mist – pretty and floating; like fire – overflowing with enthusiasm. As a native of Lijiang, I feel I am very happy and lucky to grow up in Lijiang! The blue sky, the swimming clouds, the free air, the green land with fresh flowers, the hill and forests with flowing streams and the culture existing for ages, I love all of these mentioned. I love this piece of land. I love my hometown like all the other people who left their hometown.

"Let's go to Lijiang!" is a romantic appointment among the youth, I know. Lots of friends who have been to Lijiang have

a strong sense of predestination. It's obvious it is a strange place with strange scenery and strange people, but they soon get a feeling of belonging. If two strangers start to talk about Lijiang, they'll get to know each other immediately, like two old acquaintances. This sense of predestination doesn't only exist among the strange tourists, but also exist between the local people of Lijiang and the tourists, because the natural affinity of Lijiang and the simplicity and honesty of the local people give friends from afar a comfortable and easy feeling of being at home.

"The most valuable thing is the sunshine, while the least valuable thing is time!" said those who travel to Lijiang and are reluctant to leave. They are called "Lipiaozi" (a certain group of tourists who are fond of staying in Lijiang). In their mind, Lijiang is a colorful and happy land rolling the sun rays, the moon light and the natural aura into one. They throw away the past and pour into Lijiang. Some of them enjoy the busting of the city, some of them the peace. Gradually they have become a charming landscape of Lijiang, quite like the ancients who lived a secluded life in an extraordinary realm.

Ten thousand people have ten thousand kinds of feelings to Lijiang. A hundred people create a hundred different cities of Lijiang in their minds. Only those who have been to Lijiang know the secrets. Thus thousands of thousands people come to Lijiang, and all of them love it without previous arrangement. In their QQ signatures and Blogs are the good memories of Lijiang. Not only the scenery or the Old Town but also the flourishing of the city cannot explain the dreams and persistence of so many people. Then I hope all the friends come to Lijiang, engraving in Lijiang their own memory, keeping in Lijiang their good mood. Lijiang is sure to give the passion you like! Even if you don't know what you want to have, what you want to pursue, only by arriving in Lijiang, may the nature let you know!





## 天雨流芳 人文古城

THE OLD TOWN OF LIJIANG -  
A LAND OF HUMANITY OVER  
WHICH GODS CAST BLESSINGS



丽江古城坐落于玉龙雪山下，已有近千年历史，1997年12月4日荣登世界文化遗产名录，成为一座世界文化名城。丽江古城又是镶嵌在世界自然遗产三江并流东南缘的璀璨明珠，是世界记忆遗产纳西东巴古籍的搜集和研究中心。它是以平民化、世俗化的百姓朴素民居为主体的“建筑群”类型世界文化遗产。其主体部分是大研古城，并形成了白沙—束河—大研三位一体的丽江古城整体格局。丽江古城历史悠久，朴实自然，兼有水乡之容，山城之貌，千百年的积淀凝聚成博大精深的文化内涵。玉龙雪山在一马平川的丽江坝子北端拔地而起，象一位身着银盔玉甲的英武勇士昂首云端，与近在咫尺的古城相映生辉，雪山古城成了丽江千秋永驻的绝佳美景，是丽江标志性的景观。

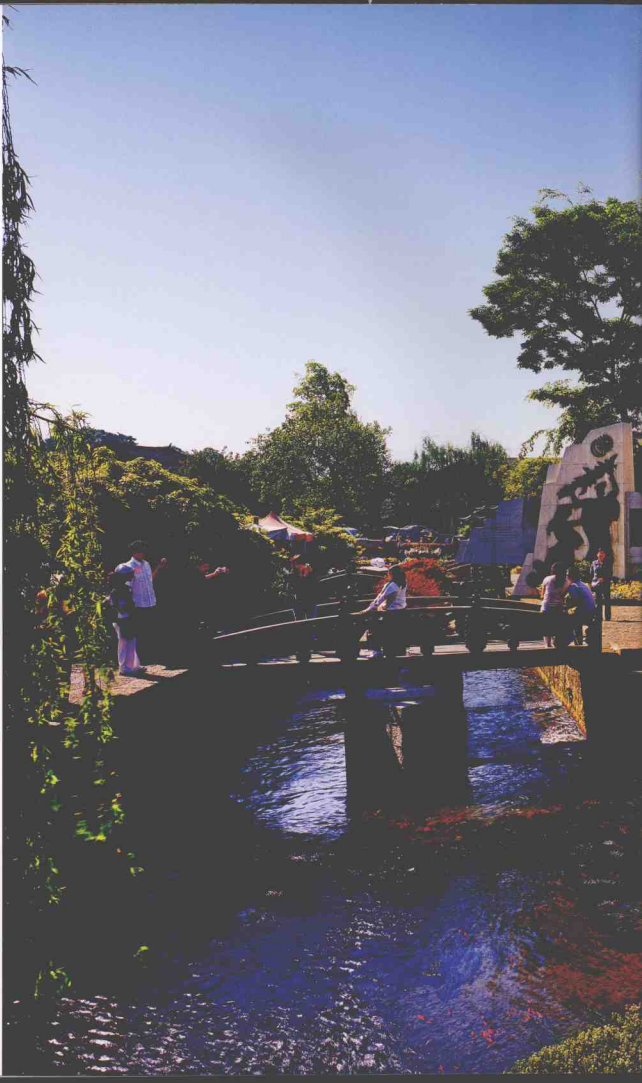
The Old Town of Lijiang is located at the foot of the Yulong Snow Mountain. With a history of about 1,000 years, the Old Town was listed on the World Cultural Heritage and became famous all over the world. It is a bright pearl engraved on the south-east edge of the area of the Three-parallel-river which is the World Natural Heritage. It is also the collection and research center of the Dongba Ancient Books and the Literature of the Naxi people. It is a kind of World Cultural Heritage that takes the simple and ordinary residential house-complex as its major part. The main part is the Dayan Old Town, forming a layout of Baisha - Shuhe - Dayan as the trinity of the Old Town of Lijiang. The Old Town of Lijiang has a long history. With its beautiful mountains and rivers, its profound cultural connotation accumulated through ages, the Old Town of Lijiang attracts lots of tourists who are reluctant to leave once they are in Lijiang. The Yulong Snow Mountain, like a brave warrior dressed in silver armor looking over the clouds, rises abruptly from the north end of the Lijiang Flatland. The mountain and the Old City bring the best out each other. The snow mountain and the old city have become the most beautiful, symbolic and eternal scenery of Lijiang. It is also the landmark of Lijiang's scenic spots.

## 井邑

### 大研古城 THE DAYAN OLD TOWN

丽江大研古城，始建于南宋末年，选址独具特点，北象山、金虹山，西枕狮子山，东南和南面与开阔平坝相连，既避开西北寒风，又朝向东南光源，迎春夏东南之风，形成坐靠西北，放眼东南的整体格局。大研古城依山就势而建，不求方正、不拘一格、自由灵动地随地势水渠建屋布街，房屋层叠起伏，错落有致；道路结合水系顺势而建，曲径通幽，清溪而充满灵气，既有山城风貌，又有水乡韵味，是巧妙地利用地形和流水建成的杰作，被誉为“中国最科学的古建筑群布局”，是一代代纳西人民智慧的结晶。

The Dayan Old Town first built in the last year of the Southern Song Dynasty. Its location is very special: with the Elephant Hill and Jinhong Hill at its north side, the Lion Hill at its west side, joining a broad flatland at the southeast and south side. This location makes the Dayan Old Town facing the warm sunshine from the southeast, greeting the southeast wind in spring and summer, and avoiding the cold wind from the northwest. The overall layout of the Dayan Old Town is to have its back towards the northwest and to look into the southeast. Not seeking the shape of square or being stick to one pattern, the houses and streets in the Dayan Old Town were built along the hill and the streams. The houses are therefore in pleasing disorder. The roads and streets are winding along the stream, leading people to a secluded place. The layout of the old town is lively and full of aura, blending the charms of mountainside district and water towns. It is a masterpiece of building a town by making full use of the terrain and streams. It is praised as "the Chinese ancient buildings that constructed in the most scientific way." It is the intelligence gathering of the Naxi people generation after generation.

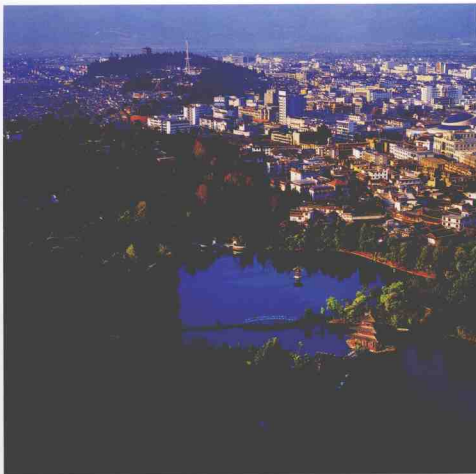






“水车、流水、照壁已经成为丽江古城的入口标志。水车  
潺潺斜斜地撒过青石的栏杆，在水车下游孩童们已忘情嬉  
戏，从历史的悠远和宁静，感悟着生命的一次次轮回。”

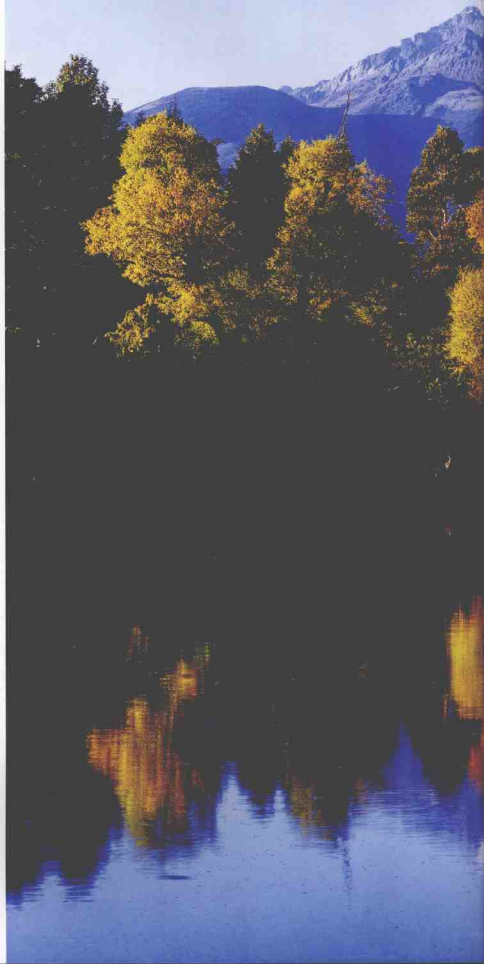
The water wheel, the flowing water and the screen all have become  
the symbols of the entrance to the Lijiang Old Town. The water wheel is  
splashing over the old days. Standing by the water wheel and listening to the  
old stories cycling in the memory, you can feel that the water wheel cycles  
with the birth and death of the human beings.



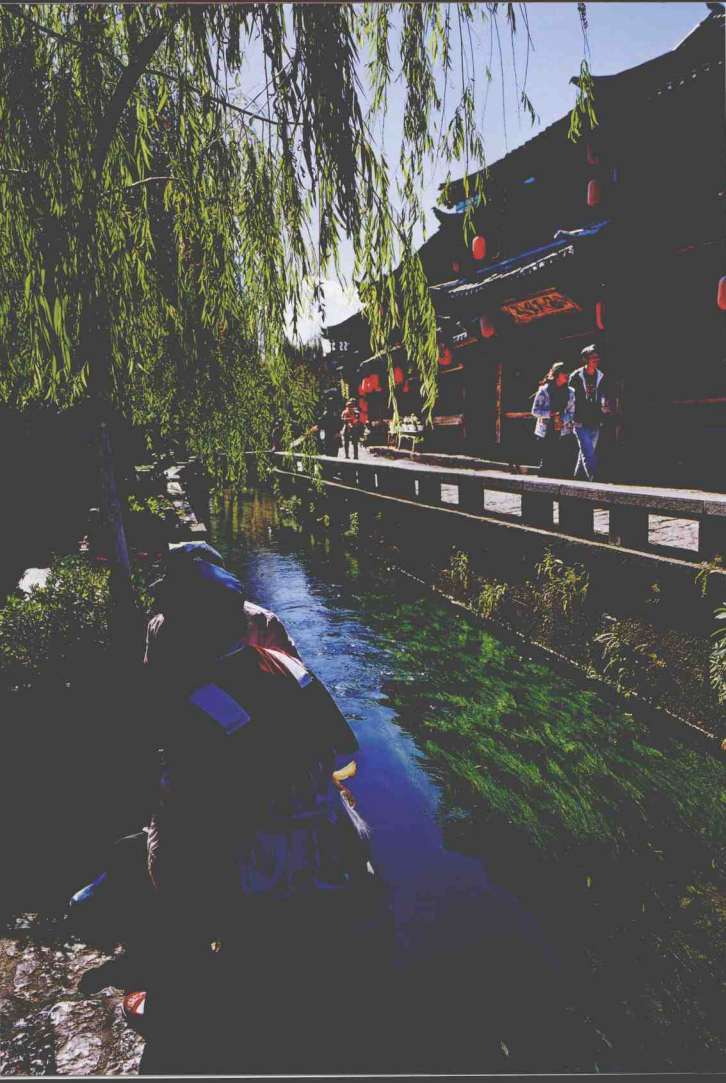
## 黑龙潭 THE HEILONGTAN PARK

黑龙潭是古城的主水源地。这里几十处喷涌的地下水，清莹甘冽。纳西人很尊重水源、保护水源，在此建龙神祠供奉龙神，因而龙潭古树参天，绿荫匝地，喷泉吐玉。黑龙潭可以说是丽江古建筑的博物馆，丽江近郊濒临倒塌的许多古建筑都被移到这里得到保护，如文庙大门“文明坊”、白沙福国寺门楼“解脱林”、福国寺大殿“五凤楼”，又将东巴文化研究院、东巴文化博物馆等设立于此，使黑龙潭文化气息浓郁，是人们了解丽江文化的绝好去处。而黑龙潭舟桥亭楼、绿水青山、雪山倒影的美丽画卷，更是丽江的经典美景。

The Heilongtan Park is the major water source of the Danyan Old Town. Crystal clear water flows from dozens of spring fountains. The Naxi people adore and protect water sources. They built Shrine of Dragon in the park and worship the God of Dragon who controls water. Therefore, in the park there are old trees as tall as the clouds, grasslands as green as jade and water as clear as crystal. The Heilongtan Park is also like a museum of ancient buildings. People have moved the old buildings which were almost collapsed in the suburbs to the park and protect them. Such as the Wenming Gate at the Gate of Wenmu, the Jietulin (the Spirit Relief Forest) in the Fuguo Temple Gatehouse, the Wufenglou (the Five Phoenix) Pavilion in the Hall of Fuguo Temple. The government also set up the Dongba Culture Research Institute and the Dongba Culture Museum in the Park, which makes the park rich in cultural atmosphere. The park has become the best place where tourists learn the culture of Lijiang. However, the boat on the pool, the bridges over the water, the pavilion along the bank, the green hills, and the snow mountain reflection in the pool create a beautiful picture - the classic beauty of Lijiang.







## 古城的血脉——河流

### RIVERS AND STREAMS - THE BLOOD VESSELS OF THE OLD TOWN

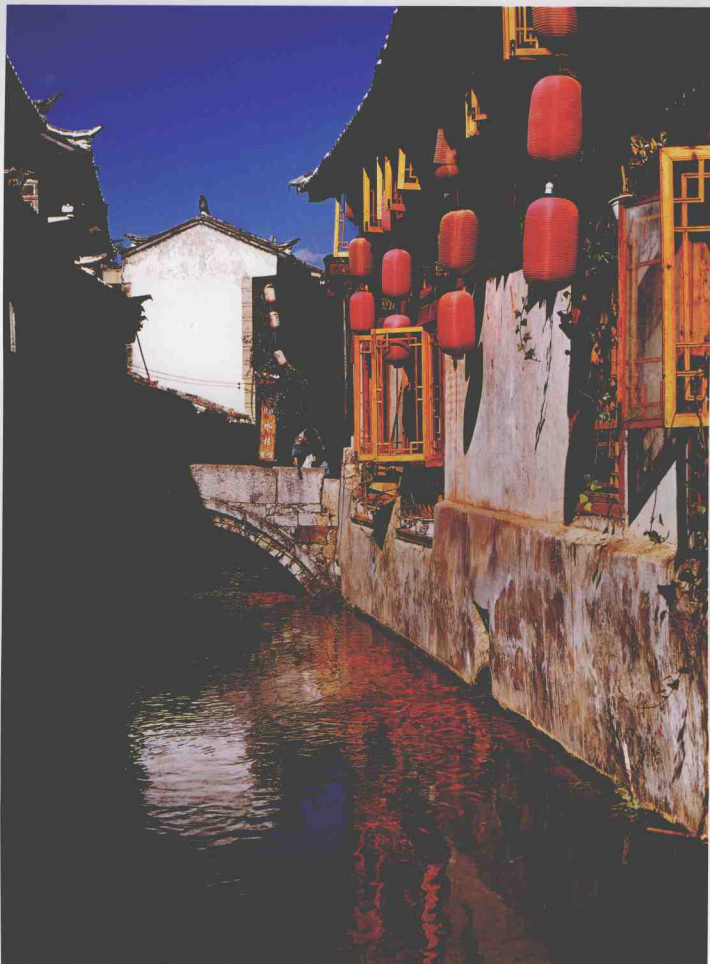
古城之在水车照壁处一分为三，形成中河、西河、东河，之后又分成无数支流，穿街绕巷流遍全城。中河是最古老的自然水系，流水花香，玉水古屋相依相映，极具高原水乡的美学意韵。西河开挖于元代，汇聚了古城“家家流水，户户垂杨”、“小桥流水人家”、“东方威尼斯”及水流“穿墙过院”等美景。东河是清朝兴修的人工河，穿墙过院，七拐八弯，被誉为“小巷临渠”。

The water of the Old Town - the Yube River is divided into three streams: the Mid-stream, the West-stream and the East-stream at the entrance of the Old Town where there's a screen wall and the water wheel. These streams are divided into many branches, winding through the Old Town. The Mid-stream is the oldest natural water system. The water flows with the sweet smell of the flowers, the jade crystal clear water and the old homes bring the best out each other. All of these fully display a plateau water-town which is full of aesthetic charm. The West-stream was excavated in the Yuan Dynasty, gathering many beautiful sceneries such as "every household has flowing streams, dancing willows, fragrant flowers and singing birds". "Homes connect with one another by small bridges and flowing water", "the Venice of the East", and "Water flows through walls of every house". The East-stream is a man-built canal and was constructed in the Qing Dynasty. Winding through every household, it is praised as "the ditch along lanes".



水赋予古城以灵气，古城还河流以无限生机。作家李青着说：“跟着丽江古城的水走，你就牵住了丽江古城的手”。“那河畔的金柳/是夕阳中的新娘/波光里的艳影/在我的心头荡漾/软泥上的青荇/油油的在水底招摇/在康河的柔波里/我甘心做一条水草……”徐志摩的浪漫多情，把康桥的水描写得如此动人，丽江的水又何尝不是呢，流淌着无数的美梦，看似无情却胜过万语。

The water brings beauty to the Old Town, while the Old Town gives the river infinite life. Li Yuehan, a famous writer, said, "Following the streams in the Old Town, you take the hand of the Old Town." "The golden willows by the riverside Are young ladies in the setting sun. Their reflections on the shimmering waves Always linger in the depth of my heart. The floating heart growing in the shade Sways leisurely under the water. In the gentle waves of Cambridge I would be a water plant!" The romantic and passionate Xu Zhimo, a famous writer, described a vivid and touching Cambridge. The water of Lijiang is exactly the water under the pen of Mr. Xu, flowing with numerous dreams, without words but no more better.





阳光映窗，岁月静好。

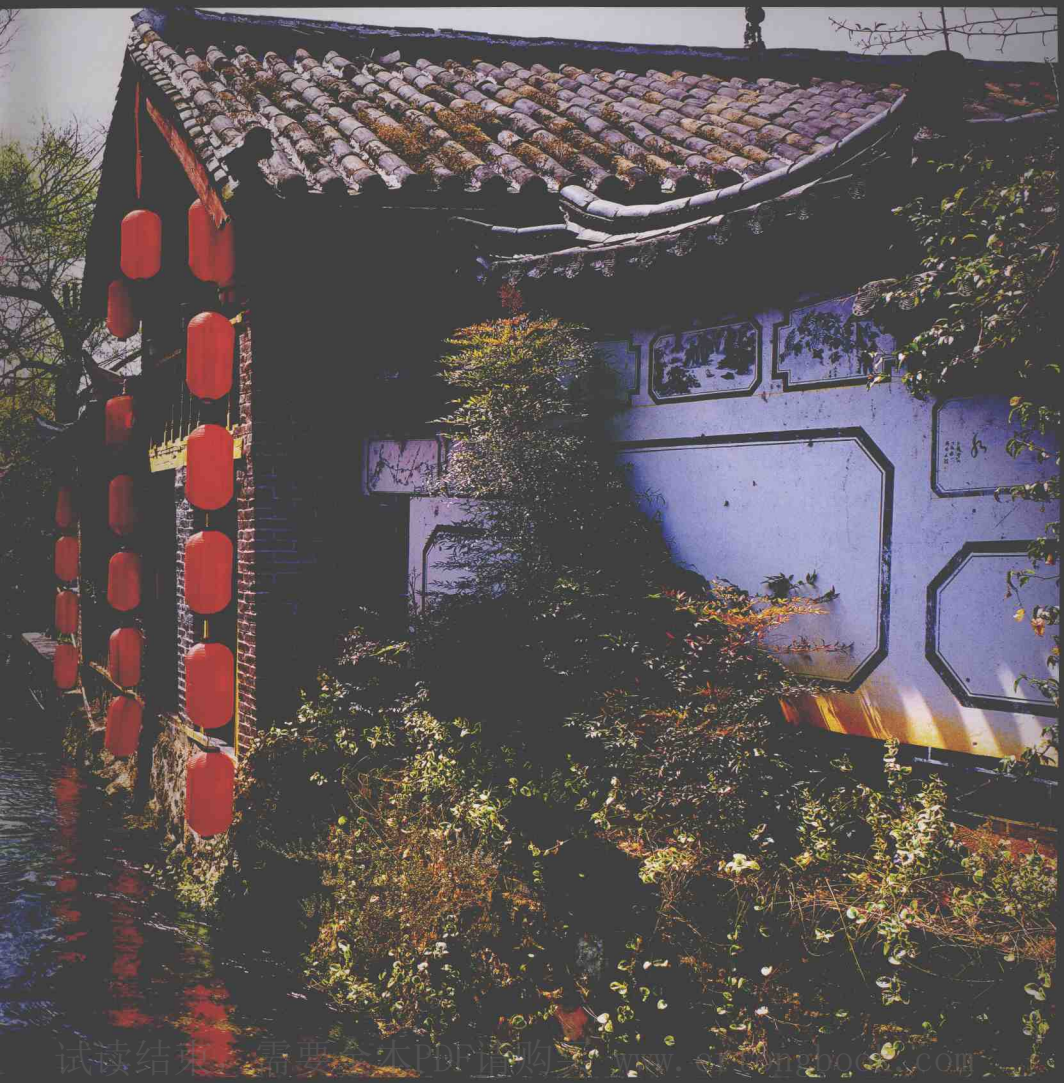
桃红柳绿春意闹，人行其间梦悠悠。情思潺潺，流水天天。

Under the clear sunshine, is a peaceful day.

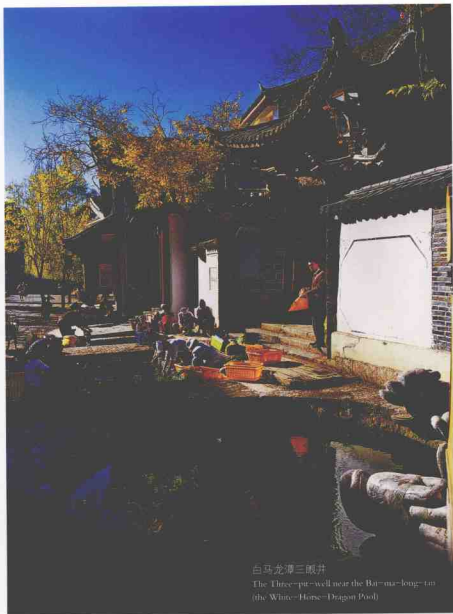
A merry spring is on the branches of the tree.

People taking for a walk lost in their feel of love.

The river is flowing far into the distance.







白马龙潭三眼井  
The Three-pit-well near the Ba-ma-long (in the White Horse Dragon Pool)



### 三眼井 THE THREE-PIT-WELL

三眼井是纳西人民合理利用水资源的典范杰作，上池饮用，中池洗菜，下池漂衣，古城内有多处利用涌泉修建的“三眼井”。

The Three-pit-well is an example of the masterpiece that the Naxi people make good use of water resources. The water from the well flows through three pits from high to low. Water in the first pit is drinkable, that in the second pit is used to wash vegetables, and that in the third pit is used to wash clothes. There are many three-pit-wells built on fountains in the Old Town.







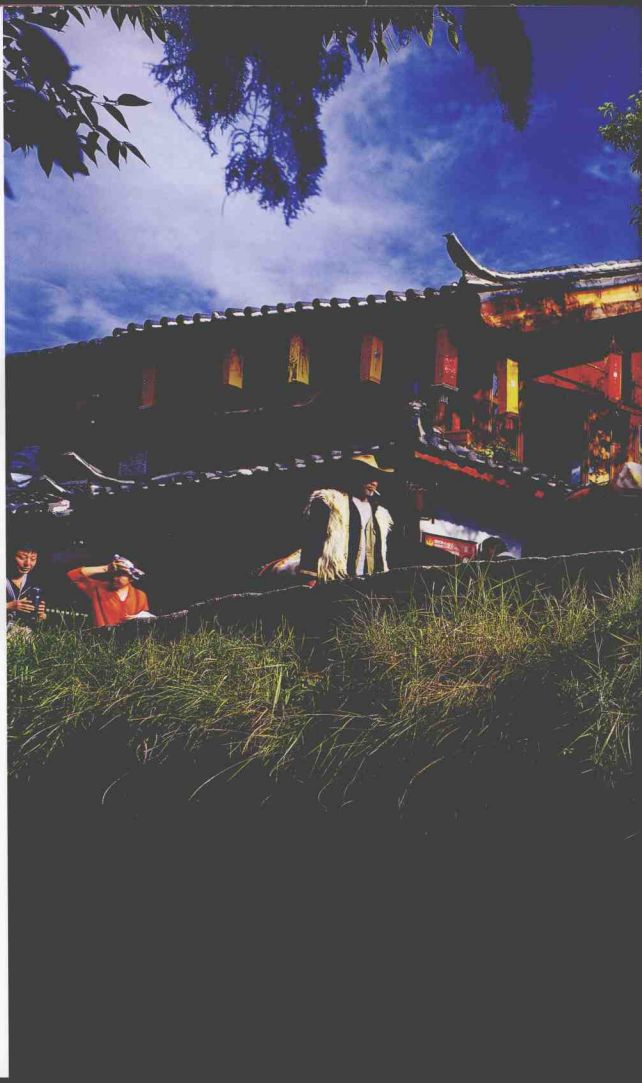
宽义北方胡同的三福街  
The Three-people in the  
Guangxi Lane of Guangxi Street



## 古城的关节——桥 BRIDGES - THE KEY POINTS OF THE OLD TOWN

丽江古城以桥多著称，小小古城竟有廊桥、石拱桥、石板桥、菜木桥等300多座，桥梁密度堪称中国古城之最。数百座横跨大河小溪的古老桥梁使丽江古城平添许多古朴雅秀之韵。在纳西人的心目中，古城的桥是有生命和灵魂的，过去古城民众有祭祀桥神之俗。古城的“桥市”是丽江独有的一景，纳西语称之为“笔芝”，特定的桥卖特定的货，如西河上的“卖鸡豆桥”，“卖鸭蛋桥”；而大石桥更是一个熙熙攘攘的桥市，过去远道而来的山民在此卖兽皮、草药等各种山货。

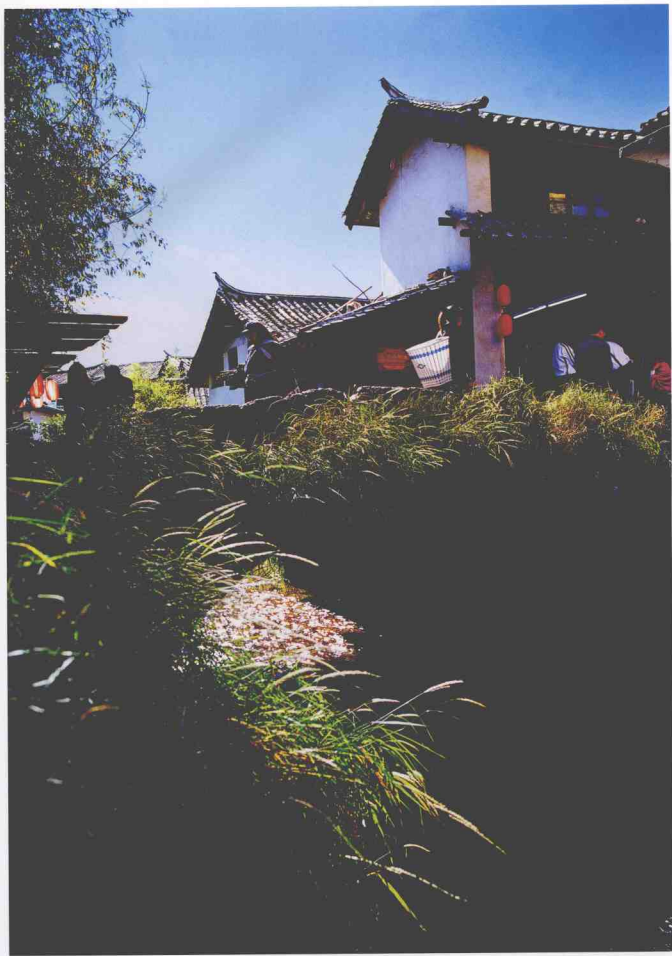
The Old Town of Lijiang is famous for the numbers of bridges. In such a small town, there are more than 300 covered bridges, stone arch bridges, stone slab bridges, and wooden bridges, which add simplicity and elegance to the Old Town of Lijiang. The density of the bridge rated as the highest among the old towns in China. In the Naxi people's mind, the bridges in the Old Town have life and soul. The Naxi people who lived in the town used to have the customs to worship the God of Bridge. "Bridge Market" in the Old Town is a unique scene in Lijiang. Specific goods sold at specific bridge, such as "ji Dou (X Click-you) Selling Bridge" and "Duck-egg Selling Bridge" over the West-stream. The Big Stone Bridge is a bustling bridge market, where the mountaineers from afar used to sell forest products such as hides and herbs.





古城里古老的石拱桥——大石桥

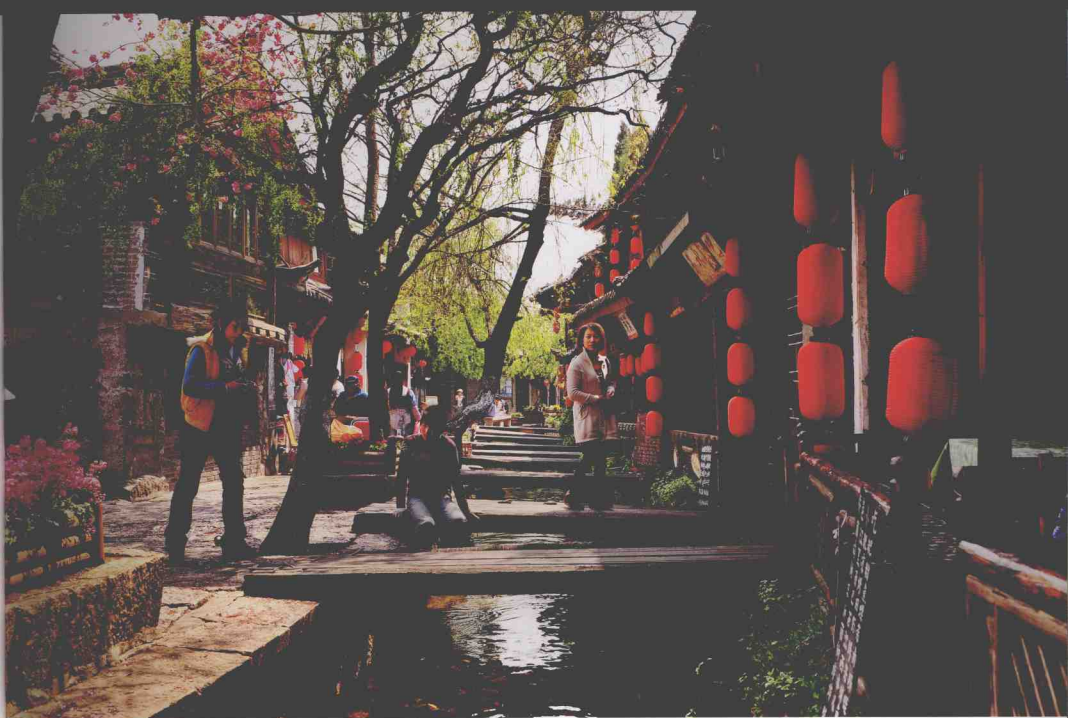
The Big Stone Bridge — the oldest stone arch bridge in the Old Town.



寓意多子多孙的万子桥，恣意生长的杂草像是它凌乱的发线。年轻的情人们，常常到这里，不言语，但是我猜他们一定想到了执子之手、与子偕老的幸福光景。

On the Ten-thousand-son Bridge, which implies the more sons, the more blessings, the growing weeds are just like its messy hair. Young lovers always visit the bridge. They sit there silently, imagining their happy old age life together with many children.





中河和西河上，至今仍留存着多座古栗木板桥，它们也是古城最古老的桥，这些栗木板桥耐腐强韧，取材容易、建造便捷，历经岁月风雨的剥蚀，至今仍坚实牢固。

Over the Mid-stream and the West-stream, there are still lots of wooden bridges which are also the oldest bridges in the Old Town. It's easy to get the wood and it's convenient to build such wooden bridges, which are strong and anti-corrosion. After many years of wind and rain, these bridges are still firm and solid.