

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Yunnan tourism market recovering quickly

The past few months saw an increasing tourist flow in the Lijiang ancient town of southwest China's Yunnan province. After registering an instantaneous tourist flow of more than 30,000 on June 18, this tourist resort soon shattered the record by 10,000 on July 2.

The Lijiang ancient town is tucked away in the northwest of Yunnan province. Since it was inscribed on the World Cultural Heritage List in 1996, it has become a tourist destination known at home and abroad. The soaring number of tourists here indicates a strong recovery of Yunnan's tourism industry.

With the newly resumed growth of Yunnan's tourism market, coachloads of tourists are swarming in from all directions. At the entrance of the Yulong Snow Mountain scenic area in Lijiang, the long-absent sight of tourists waiting in long queues to be admitted is seen again. In Dali Bai autonomous prefecture of western Yunnan, all scenic

spots by the Erhai Lake are packed with tourists posing for pictures. In Xishuangbanna Dai autonomous prefecture of southern Yunnan, a growing number of tourists arrive at popular scenic spots such as Shuangjing of Gaozhuangxi and the Wild Elephant Valley only to find that all hotels and guesthouses are fully booked.

According to a principal official of the Yunnan Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism (YPDCT), the tourists in Yunnan had been mostly limited to people touring within the province for a period of time, but group tourists from other regions of the country are rapidly revitalizing the local tourism market since June.

The July 28 YPDCT data show that Yunnan achieved a total tourism revenue of 395.1 billion yuan from 359 million visits in the first half of the year, bringing these two indicators back to 75.5 percent and 89.8 percent respectively of the levels in the same period in

2019. Specifically, Honghe Hani and Yi autonomous prefecture of southeastern Yunnan reaped a tourism income of 27.51 billion yuan from 28.67 million domestic and foreign tourists, and Baoshan city of western Yunnan earned a tourism income of 22.587 billion yuan from 16.6965 million tourists. Since July, the daily visits to key scenic spots such as Tengchong hot springs and Heshun ancient town have increased by more than five folds year on year.

It is noteworthy that after the China-Laos Railway and the Dali-Baoshan section of the Dali-Ruilu Railway went into operation, it has become a new trend to "tour Yunnan by train." From July 1 to 28, Yunnan railways have cumulatively completed 7.05 million rides, an average of 252,000 rides per day and a year-on-year increase of 31.4 percent.

(Compiled according to reports by Xinhua and Yunnan Daily)

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Fourth volume of Xi Jinping: The Governance of China published in both Chinese and English

The fourth volume of Xi Jinping: The Governance of China has been released by the Foreign Languages Press (FLP) in both Chinese and English. The book is now available at home and abroad.

The latest volume contains a compilation of 109 pieces of spoken and written works of

Chinese President Xi Jinping from February 3, 2020 to May 10, 2022, along with 45 photographs taken since January 2020. It is divided into twenty-one sections by topic. Notations are provided as necessary for the convenience of readers.

(Xinhua)

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"To understand today's China, one must understand the CPC"

"I pay high tribute to the Communist Party of China for all that it has done for the Chinese people as well as its great achievements," said Argentine President Alberto Fernandez after visiting the CPC History Exhibition Hall.

In February 2022, President Fernandez visited China and attended the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics. Amazed by what the CPC has led the people to achieve, he requested a visit to the CPC History Exhibition Hall.

"The people yearn for a better life, and our goal is to help them achieve it," Chinese President Xi Jinping declared to the world on November 15, 2012. Over the past decade, the CPC has lived up to this solemn commitment: China has achieved an economic aggregate of more than one billion yuan and a per capita GDP of over 12,000 US dollars. It has historically solved the problem of absolute poverty, lifting nearly 100 million rural people out of poverty and increasing the per capita disposable income of residents by 80 percent.

China's achievements in the

past ten years have brought the international community to a stronger consensus: To understand today's China, one must understand the CPC.

"The CPC is the leading force that has shaped today's China as the world knows it. One must first understand the CPC to be able to understand China's development, values, and vision," observed Cavince Adhere, a Kenyan scholar of international relations.

"If asked to choose an aspect of the CPC's experience in exercising state power to introduce to my own country, I think it will be its governance capacity," said an African scholar at the ninth World Forum on China Studies in Shanghai in October 2021.

"Now China is more united than it has ever been in the past 200 years. To achieve this requires a new way of governance and the ability to think strategically. A country must be historically rooted and inclusive. It must be able to mobilize its people and make things happen," said British scholar Martin Jacques.

(Xinhua)

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"Real friendship between people"

After seven years' study at School of Medicine, Shandong University, where he obtained his master's degree and doctorate degree, Misbahul Ferdous from Bangladesh has become a cardiologist at Fuwai Hospital in Beijing.

Recalling his experience when he first came to China, Ferdous still remembers how he got to Shandong University from the airport with the help of a young Chinese fellow. "He first took me onto a bus. Then he hailed a taxi for me. My first impression of China is that the Chinese people are friendly and helpful," said Ferdous.

As he accumulated experience of living in China, Ferdous became even more deeply attached to this country. Today, he is already well acquainted with various online shopping platforms and greatly enjoys the convenience of e-payment. "E-payment is quick and easy whether you're shopping or paying for public transportation. I've been to

many countries, and I think China is the most developed in this area," he said.

"In China, I'm most impressed by the real friendship between people," Ferdous more than once expressed his gratitude to China during the interview. "The China Scholarship Council (CSC) has funded my university studies, and many Chinese teachers, classmates, and friends have helped and supported me without asking for anything in return." After the COVID-19 outbreak, Ferdous resolutely returned to China and did all he could to help combat the pandemic.

When China was at the height of its battle with the pandemic, Ferdous raised about 60,000 masks and donated all of them to Wuhan, Shanghai, and other Chinese cities. In 2020, Ferdous won the "Belt and Road" Friendship Award jointly issued by the China Cardiovascular Health Alliance (CCHA) and other institutions.

In recent years, as vice president of the Asian Society of Cardiology (ASC), Ferdous has participated in organizing many relevant events and paid close attention to the cardiovascular- and cerebrovascular-related health problems under the framework of the joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). "These events have helped many young doctors understand the latest developments in medical technology, which I believe will benefit more patients. The BRI construction has opened the door to mutual learning," he said.

When asked about his vision for the future, Ferdous said emotionally, "The construction of the BRI has promoted people-to-people exchanges all over the world. I hope advanced technologies and surgical methods can be extended to more hospitals. In this way, everyone will be able to stay away from heart disease and live a healthy life."

(People's Daily)

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Elephant Channel takes viewers on a tour of Yunnan

To mark the convening of the first Elephant International Communication Forum in Mile city of Yunnan province's Honghe Hani and Yi autonomous prefecture on August 8, the Elephant Channel website officially went online.

The website focuses on the achievements of biodiversity conservation in Yunnan. It currently consists of five columns, namely Elephant Facts, Elephant Focus, Elephant Celebrities, Elephant Gallery, and Touring Yunnan with Elephants.

As the only remaining habitat for China's wild Asian elephants, Yunnan province has intensified efforts to protect wild Asian elephants in recent years. As of late 2021, according to the Yunnan Provincial Bureau of Forestry and Grassland, the population of wild Asian elephants in the province has increased to about 360 from 293 in 2018.

(Zhang Ruogu)

