



YUNNAN DAILY PRESS GROUP



BEAUTIFUL YUNNAN

## Why do these expats love Yunnan



International tourists visit the Tiger Leaping Gorge in Diqing, northwest Yunnan (Photo by Wang Huan)

“Yunnan's most distinguished feature is its diverse ecological environment and pleasant climate that provide an opportunity for sustainable green development.” On July 22, when Wyatt Gordon, who is from the United States, heard that Yunnan would be developed into the most beautiful province in China, he was totally in agreement with it. Gordon previously studied

at Beijing Foreign Language University and Yunnan Minzu University and now he teaches English in Kunming. He expressed his love for Yunnan by staying in the province and caring about local nature conservation. “I know quite a few examples of sustainable development,” he said. “The secret behind them in common is the reverence towards the nature by the local

people.” Gordon has been to the picturesque old towns of Shaxi and Heijing, where tourism is booming and where livable space is reserved for local ethnic groups. “Space is reasonably divided for production, living and ecology. In my opinion, these two old towns are models for developing eco-friendly tourism.” “So green!” said U Myo Thu Hein, a Myanmar News Agency reporter, who has visited Yunnan twice. “Green” is his deepest impression of Yunnan, since the characteristics that travellers see the most are its green mountains.” He and his colleagues pressed their camera shutters frequently and exclaimed from time to time at the sight of the beautiful scenery. “I had watched the movie *Ashima* five times before I came to Yunnan. My favorite place is Shilin,” said Sunil Kumar Saroha, an Indian student studying at Kunming University of Science and Technology. Every weekend, he would invite his friends from different countries to Dianchi Lake by riding public-sharing bikes or

taking the subway to the Western Hills to watch sunrise. “The real attraction of a city is its warm-hearted people and deep culture, which is exactly what I know in Yunnan,” added Shan Subi, a Cambodian student at Yunnan University, who has made no secret of his love for Yunnan. “I envy the Yunnan people. While enjoying beautiful scenery and a pleasant climate, they wear Han clothes, sing folk songs and practice ethnic dances in groups.” Shan Subi believes that such a city culture is simple, pure and warm, which is very touching. Souliyo Sengngam, a Vientiane Times correspondent, made his first trip to Yunnan in June. He visited Zheha Village Mangtuan Natural Village, Mengding Town, Gengma Dai and Wa Autonomous County. “Although there are only around 800 people in Mangtuan Village, they have passed on their traditional handmade papermaking skills from generation to generation for over 600 years. It is awesome.” (Yunnan Daily)

## Yunnan will have a 'tourism revolution'

After more than 40 years of hard work, Yunnan tourism has emerged as a provincial pillar industry from scratch. And tourism makes a beautiful signature of Yunnan. In recent years, however, Yunnan tourism has been marred by successive incidents involving attacks on tourists, delayed medical aid, and forced shopping. Tourist complaints in Yunnan accounted for more than 60 percent of the country's total, and the image of Yunnan has plummeted. **In the face of chaos, Yunnan introduced the 22 strictest possible measures last year to regulate the tourist market. As a result, market order improved, with complaints falling sharply. Unreasonable low-cost tours disappeared, and forced shopping has been basically eliminated. The “zero-yuan” tour packages still exist in some places, and compulsory shopping still occurs from time to time.** At present, Yunnan is more determined than ever before to initiate a tourism revolution. Yunnan will develop international, high-end, specialized and smart tourism, while focusing on market order,

service upgrades, product supplies and tourist management. Now is the time to have a revolution in the tourism market order. Yunnan will regulate its tourist market in an unwavering way, adhere to the “zero tolerance” attitude to the illegal deeds, and carry out timely and severe crackdowns on law-breakers. Now is the time to have a revolution in its quality upgrade. Yunnan will establish “Yunnan-standard” systems that cover all aspects of tourism development. Now is the time to have a revolution in its tourist product supplies. Yunnan will be market-oriented and adopt a holistic view to tourism development. Public-service facilities are to be improved, with smart tourism stepped up and the overall supply of tourist-related products enhanced. Now is the time to have a revolution in tourism administration. Yunnan will balance and make good use of the visible hand of policy makers and the invisible hand of the market. (Abridged from Yunnan Daily commentary)

INTERCONNECTIVITY

### Yunnan to add more air routes to South, SE Asia

Southwest China's Yunnan Province plans to add 25 new air routes to Southeast Asia and South Asia before 2020 as part of an initiative to develop Yunnan into a regional air hub, the province's development and reform commission said recently. Of the 25 new routes, 17 are passenger air routes, linking Kunming, the provincial capital, to cities including Islamabad, Jakarta, and Haiphong. The other eight cargo routes will connect Kunming with cities such as Calcutta, Yangon, and Ho Chi Minh City. (Yunnan Gateway)

HSR

### Yu-Mo Railway Datuanshan Tunnel breaks through

Recently, the China-Lao Yu-Mo Railway Dayuanshan Tunnel broke through successfully. The construction was implemented by Sinohydro Bureau 14 Co., Ltd. and this is the first tunnel of more than 2 km in length to break through. With the completion of the tunnel, over 40 percent of the investment in the Yu-Mo railway has been completed. Located in Jinghong city, Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, the Datuanshan tunnel is 2,105 meters long with a double line. The Yu-Mo Railway connects Yuxi in the north, and passes Puer City and Xishuangbanna in the south to the border port of Mohan to link with the Lao section of the China-Laos railway which is still under construction. The total length of the line is 508 kilometers, which is a national grade I electrified railway with a target train speed of 160 km per hour.

ERADICATE POVERTY AND ACHIEVE COMMON PROSPERITY

### Farmers increase income by planting almond mushrooms

BY LI SHUFEN

In Mengzi County, Yunnan Province, the mountain village of Shitouzhai contains 54 households. Here, the per capita arable land is just 0.33 hectares. In the past, villagers planted ginger, ginseng and cabbage in an attempt to develop a sustainable agricultural economy. But as other places began to grow cabbage in greenhouses, the village lost its market advantages and never recovered from the setback. After learning that the market has a great demand for almond mushrooms, the village Party secretary, Wan Yuanhua, took a group of locals to visit the Fuyuan Edible Fungus Company for a field survey. “With one greenhouse, you can harvest six crops in a year. The output will be no less than six tonnes, and the income will be no less than 50,000 yuan. It is really cost-effective.” The introduction of the Fuyuan company made Wan Yuanhua excited. “Our company provides technical



Farmer shows mushrooms to the visitors in Mengzi County, southeast Yunnan (File Photo)

assistance. And we also provide financial support to cover part of the cost of building new greenhouses. We will purchase almond mushrooms from the villagers for at least eight yuan per kilogram,” You Wanteng, general manager of Fuyuan Edible Fungus Company, told Wan

Yuanhua. Soon, a model of “Party branch + company + production base + farmers + financial support” was established in Shitouzhai Village. Each poor household received an interest-free loan of 50,000 yuan. The company invested in the greenhouses.

BELT AND ROAD

### Thailand pushes ahead with construction of submarine cable

Pichet Durongkaverote, the Minister of Thailand's Digital Economy and Society Ministry, said that Thailand is pushing ahead with the construction of a new submarine cable to link Thailand with Hong Kong of China. On the same day while attending the ASEAN Digital Economy Forum, jointly organized by the Innovation Cooperation Center of the Chinese Academy of Sciences at Bangkok, the Tai-China Press Association and China News Agency, Pichet said that Thailand is making every effort to promote the development of the digital economy. It is of great significance to build digital infrastructure connectivity between China and Thailand.

He added that Thailand is pushing for a new marine cable link between Thailand and Hong Kong of China in a bid to expand the country's communications network and bring broadband connections to China and Thailand. He believes that building a digital economy is the way to better connect Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor program with China's Belt and Road Initiative. An official from Thailand's Ministry of Digital Economy and Society said the digital economy in Thailand has been developing continuously, and the demand for infrastructure is also increasing. The existing submarine cable linking Thailand and Hong Kong of China, can no longer meet this

demand. He said that Thailand encourages Chinese enterprises and enterprises from countries with access to undersea optical cable infrastructure to invest in the installation of new optical cable construction and promotes the signing of a memorandum of cooperation between Thailand and investors within this year. It is reported that in 2017, Thailand completed installation of high-speed networks in nearly 75,000 villages in the country. The network will be set up for public units such as schools, hospitals and government agencies in the next stage, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2018. (Xinhua)

## National Geographic to hold Yunnan-themed photography exhibition

BY LI XING QUAN

The National Geographic Colorful Yunnan Classic Photography Exhibition will be held in southwest China's Kunming city from August to October. Themed “Yesterday's World, Tomorrow's Vision”, the exhibition will showcase more than 100 classic works of National Geographic.

Yunnan has always been a focus of National Geographic photographers over the past 100 years. Some of their photos record the wonders of this land and will be a highlight of this exhibition. In addition, four precious pieces of time-honored bronze ware from Yunnan will be exhibited, presenting the life of Yunnan in ancient times.

## Car exhibition shows Yunnan's green energy drive



The exhibition attracted a large number of visitors very day in Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province (Photo by Yang Zheng). On August 5, the 3<sup>rd</sup> China (Kunming) Electric & New Energy Vehicles Exhibition was closed in Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province. The exhibition saw the participation of 300 Chinese entrepreneurs and attracted more than 18,000 visitors. With its focus on new energy vehicles, it displayed passenger vehicles, special vehicles, commercial vehicles, logistics vehicles, new artificial intelligence applications, etc. Many of the products feature high horsepower, moderate energy consumption and large size vehicles, showing their producers' understanding of Yunnan's geographic conditions. Earlier this year, Yunnan provincial government proposed the development of a world-class green energy industry. The exhibition showcased the province's efforts to develop the industry. (Yunnan Daily)