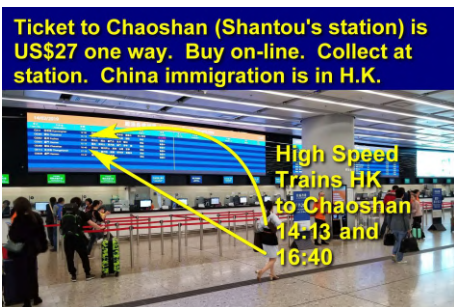




	China	USA
Area (Sq Mi)	3,704,000	3,718,000
Population (2017)	1,386,000,000	327,000,000
Highest Point	Everest 29,035'	Denali 20,322'
Average Age	32	36
Literacy	96%	99%
Provinces/States	23+5+4+2=34	50
Became a Country	221 BC	1776
National Holiday	October 1	July 4
President	Xi Jinping (since 2012)	Donald Trump (since 2017)



- China's High Speed Rail (HSR)**
- Longest HSR system in the world.
 - 18,000 miles (about two-thirds of all high speed rail in the world).
 - Speeds up to 217 mph (350 kph).
 - 2008: First passenger line. Beijing to Tianjin 75 miles.
 - 2011: Beijing-Shanghai 815 miles.
 - 2012: Beijing-Guangzhou 1,428 mi.
 - Now: Goes to remote western China.





"Starbucks" at Chaoshan RR Station

Intellectual property theft by China:
 National Bureau of Asian Research estimates "the annual cost to the U.S. economy continues to exceed \$225 billion in counterfeit goods, pirated software, and theft of trade secrets and could be as high as \$600 billion."

From RR Station we decided to take Shuttle Bus to Haiyi Hotel. We want Route 2 to Golden Gulf Hotel, across street from Haiyi.

Just ¥18 = US\$2.50.

We buy tickets, get on bus, BUT...

Route	Start	End	Station	Time
1	Shantou Central Coach Station	Shantou Railway Station	Shantou Central Coach Station	08:00-18:00
2	Shantou Central Coach Station	Golden Gulf Hotel	Shantou Central Coach Station	08:00-18:00
3	Shantou Central Coach Station	Golden Gulf Hotel	Shantou Central Coach Station	08:00-18:00
4	Shantou Central Coach Station	Golden Gulf Hotel	Shantou Central Coach Station	08:00-18:00
5	Shantou Central Coach Station	Golden Gulf Hotel	Shantou Central Coach Station	08:00-18:00

Bus was not crowded.
 Halfway there, driver asks aloud, in Chinese, where people want to get off. We were the only ones for "Golden Gulf Hotel" (last stop). Others want some other hotel 3 miles out of town.
 Driver announces his last stop will be this other hotel! We need to find a taxi!

Other hotel is in remote area. It's dark.
 No taxis! We wait and wait. Finally walk to a main road (with our luggage). Again, no taxis!
 After 10 minutes, a man stops his car, offers to drive us for money, we agree on a price (maybe US\$3).

Shantou (formerly Swatow)
 – Population 5,520,000 (2014 census)
 – Population 4,249,000 (2018 United Nations Estimate). *Why the discrepancy?*
 – Area 797 sq mi.
 – On the coast. Mouth of Han River .
 – 180 miles NE of Hong Kong.
 – 210 miles E of Provincial Capital of Guangzhou.

Languages
 – Home language of most residents is Teochew.
 – Most people also speak Mandarin (national language of China).
 – Many speak Cantonese (language of Guangdong Province and HK).
Tea Drinking
 According to China Daily, Shantou people "drink more tea than anyone else in China".

Emigration
 – Around 2.2 million overseas Chinese have roots in Shantou.
 – Teochew people are the majority of Thai and Cambodian Chinese.
 – The Malaysian city of Johor Bahru (abuts Singapore) is 'Little Swatow'.
 – Michael Chang (born in the USA), former professional tennis player, is Teochew.

Shantou Economy
GDP 2018 ¥251 bn (\$36 bn)
Per capita GDP ¥44,672 (\$6,458)
Share of economy 2018:
 Mining, fishing, agriculture: 4%
 Manufacturing: 51%
 Finance and intangible goods and services: 45%

Data from HK Trade Development Council <https://www.hktcdc.com/>



Our Hotel
 Quality: Excellent.
 Name: English version Haiyi and Chinese version likely chosen to confuse with US Hyatt chain.

Haiyi Hotel
 Premier Deluxe Room.
 HK\$466 a night = US\$60.
 Including breakfast, wifi, taxes, service.

汕头君华海逸酒店
 SHANTOU JUNHUA HAIYI HOTEL

Well located. Can walk to some tourist sights. Many buses stop at front door to go to others. Taxis readily available.



Something not in US hotel rooms:
 Air Purifier. (Poor air quality in China.)
 But must pay by credit card!
 ¥40 (US\$3) an hour.
 ¥120 (US\$9) a day.



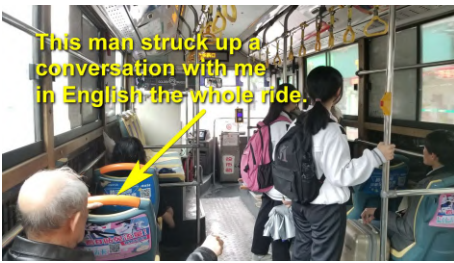
Excellent city bus system.
 Well signed.
 But NO English.



Shantou buses about US 30-cents.



My Guangzhou Metro card worked on Shantou buses. Cash ok too.



Shantou History - 1

- Settled for at least 1,000 years.
- Until 19th century, Shantou was only a small fishing village.
- 1858 Chaozhou (20 miles up the Han River) was designated a treaty port. This meant it was one of the few Chinese ports open to trading with foreign countries. *But Chaozhou had no port!*

Shantou History - 2

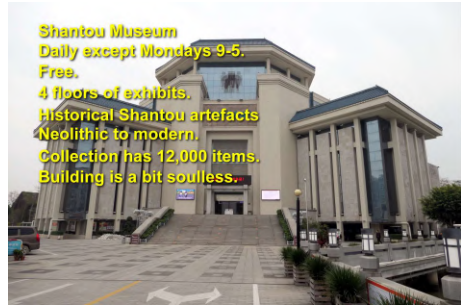
- 1861 Shantou became a treaty port.
- Because Shantou had a real port, it rapidly became major center of transportation and commerce.
 - Exports of sugar, fruit, canned goods, and marine products.
- Shantou was also one of the main ports for Chinese to emigrate.
 - 2.5 million 1880-1909.

Shantou History - 3

- 1906 Railroad to Chaozhou opened.
- 1922 Devastating typhoon killed 50,000 out of the 65,000 people then living in Shantou. "Swatow Typhoon".
- 1938 Japanese bombarded Shantou. Captured city in 1939.
- 1939-1945 Japanese occupied Shantou. Harsh treatment of Chinese.

Shantou History - 4

- Since 1949 very diversified range of production including:
 - Photochemistry, electronic products, toys, textiles, garments, processed foods, lithography.
- Links to Guangzhou, HK, elsewhere by railway and motorway.
- Shantou's ports today ship to more than 200 domestic & overseas ports.

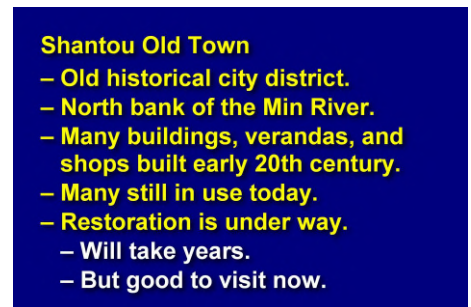


Nanhai One

- Chinese merchant ship.
- Song Dynasty (960-1279 AD).
- Sank off China coast btw 1127-1279.
- Accidentally discovered by joint British-China salvage team 1987.
- Looking for another ship.
- Ship still left in silt. Fragile.
- Hundreds of artefacts removed.
- Several museums incl. Shantou.

1987 recovered Song Dynasty items:

- 200 pieces of porcelain.
 - 300 pounds of silver bars.
 - Brass kettle.
 - Gold waist chain.
- 2007 the ship itself was raised.**
- Now preserved in an seawater tank at a research center about 300 miles west of Hong Kong.
- Many artefacts in Shantou museum.**





Old Town Shantou
Early 20th century
building



Old Town Shantou
Early 20th century
building



Old Town Shantou
Restored Teochew Opera Theatre



Live Teochew Opera Friday Nights
Opera Videos Other Times

Good place to try
Gong-fu (Kung-fu) Tea



Teochew Opera

Internet Photos



Shantou Open Port Culture
Exhibition Hall (History Museum)

Closed Mondays
Tues-Friday 9-11 and 3-5
Sat-Sun 9-30-5

The Chinese translates as "Shantou
Founding Museum"



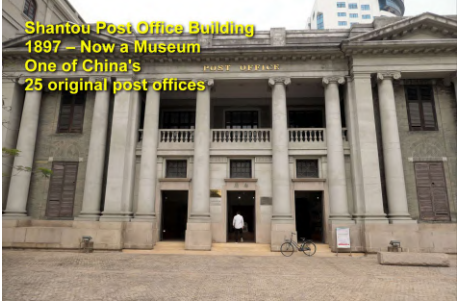
History of Shantou's years as a
free trade port (1861 to WW2)



Swatow port is the one, at least,
with a little commercial value" (1858)



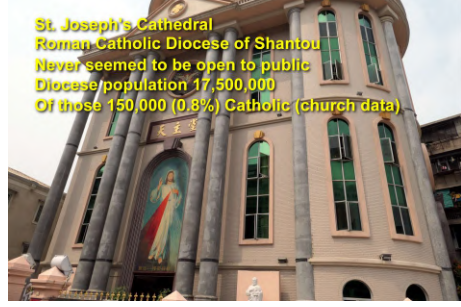
Shantou Open Port Museum
19th c artefacts



Shantou Post Office Building
1897 - Now a Museum
One of China's
25 original post offices



Shantou Post Office Building
1897 - Now a Museum
One of China's
25 original post offices

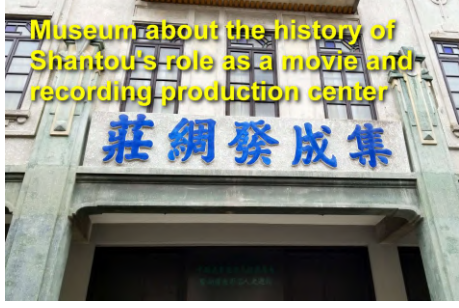


St. Joseph's Cathedral
Roman Catholic Diocese of Shantou
Never seemed to be open to public
Diocese population 17,500,000
Of these 150,000 (0.8%) Catholic (church data)



"Christian Church in Shantou West"
Protestant

Never seemed to be
open to the public.
All Christian churches
in China are regulated
by the government.
Many closed for
"illegal activities".



Museum about the history of
Shantou's role as a movie and
recording-production center

莊網發成集

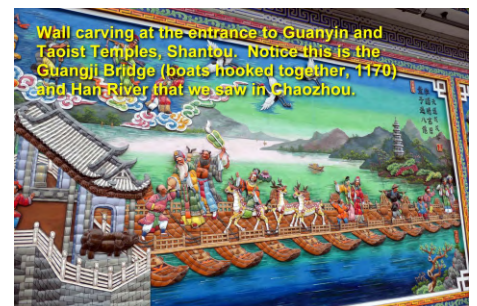
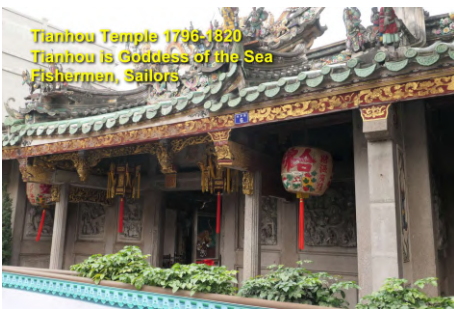
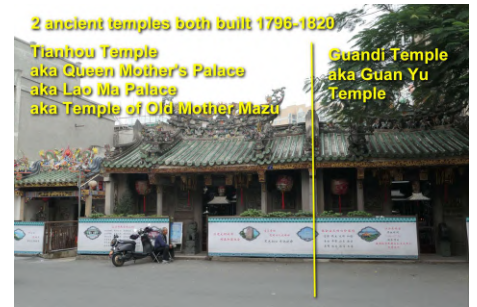


Early 20th c
movie producers
in Shantou



We visit four temples in Shantou: 3 Buddhist (Guanyin, Tin Hau, Guandi) and 1 Taoist

	Buddhism	Taoism
Origin	India 6 th c BC	China 6 th c BC
Focus	Community: How an individual can contribute to improving society.	Personal: How to achieve Tao - harmony in one's own life.
Life	Life is suffering. Meditate to find source of problems.	Life is goodness. Balance yin and yang.
Marriage	Not essential.	Essential. Woman = yin. Man = yang. Relationship = harmony.
Life after death	Yes. Soul transfers to another body.	Yes. Soul comes back in same body.





Guanyin is the Goddess of Mercy (Compassion). Probably the most beloved Buddhist god.

Guanyin is often depicted with many arms to help you.



People also pray to Guanyin for children (fertility goddess)

Guanyin is often depicted androgynously (gender neutral) as in this statue



Carving in Guanyin Temple, Shantou



Guanyin Temple, Shantou

Unusual female gate guardian

Exquisite Shantou wood carvings throughout



Taoist Temple Next door to Guanyin Temple



Taoist Temple Sign says "Da Feng Master"

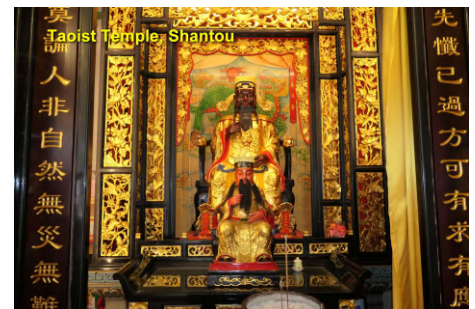


Da Feng holding a Ruyi Sceptre, Chinese symbol of authority

Ruyi



Incense holder - fire prevention



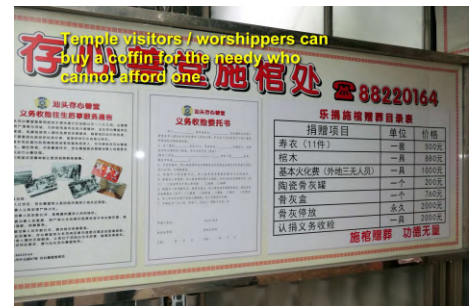
Taoist Temple, Shantou



Laozi - Taoist Grand Master of Heaven



Temple worshippers / visitors can buy a bag of rice for the poor



temple visitors / worshippers can buy a coffin for the needy who cannot afford one.

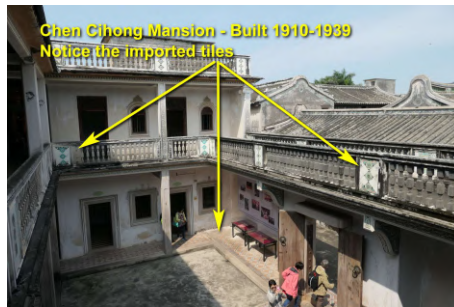
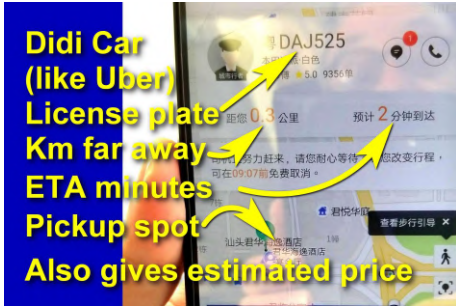
捐赠项目	单位	价格
寿衣 (1件)	一件	300元
棺木	一副	800元
基本火化费 (外地三无人)	一副	1000元
陶瓷骨灰罐	一个	200元
骨灰停放	点公	2000元
	一年	2000元

Chen Cihong's Former Residence
 - In Qianmei Village.
 - 16 miles from Shantou.
 - Chen Cihong lived 1843-1921.
 - Wealthy overseas (Thailand) Chinese businessman.
 - Rice trader. General exporter.
 - Public benefactor in home town: built schools, bridges, and roads.

Chen Cihong's Residence
 - Constructed 1910 to 1939.
 - Built for self and family.
 - 505 rooms and halls.
 - Mix of Chinese and Western architecture.
 - Imported roof-wall-floor tiles.
 - Rooms connected like a maze.
 - About half restored - museum.



We took a Didi car to Chen Cihong Mansion, about 16 miles from Shantou (can take #103 bus also)





This was for sale



One of the ancestral halls at Chen Cihong Mansion



Chen Cihong Mansion Ancestral Hall
Unfortunately the English signage throughout the mansion is very limited.



Examples of the beautiful tile work at Chen Cihong Mansion



Chen Cihong Mansion



There are several rooms of calligraphy



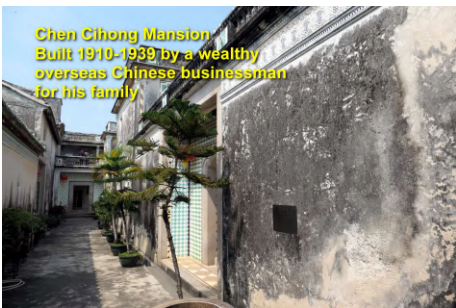
Chen Cihong Mansion - Built 1910-1939
Total of 506 rooms and halls



Servants' staircase



Chen Cihong Mansion is full of wood carving



Chen Cihong Mansion
Built 1910-1939 by a wealthy overseas Chinese businessman for his family



Chen Cihong Mansion
Qianmei - 16 miles from Shantou



Yam Pancakes
Local Delicacy
Shop at Chen Cihong Mansion



Red Bean Cakes
Local Delicacy
Shop at Chen Cihong Mansion



Even without much explanatory signage, the mansion is beautiful just to walk around.



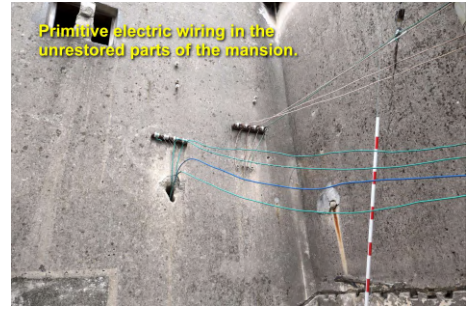
Chen Cihong Mansion is a maze of rooms and halls and staircases and terraces



Chen Cihong Mansion has many water wells



The Chen Cihong Mansion has 506 rooms and halls. Only some have been restored. The rest seem delapidated and are privately occupied.



Primitive electric wiring in the unrestored parts of the mansion.



Unrestored parts of the Chen Cihong Mansion Privately lived in



Unrestored parts of the Chen Cihong Mansion Privately lived in



Unrestored parts of Chen Cihong Mansion Now privately lived in



Unrestored parts of Chen Cihong Mansion Now privately lived in



Unrestored parts of Chen Cihong Mansion Now privately lived in



Shyly, these girls followed us on our one-mile walk to the bus stop

"Overseas visitors are not common in the rural areas around Shantou, and those of non Chinese ethnicity will definitely be an attraction to residents. Those unaccustomed to this may feel intimidated. However, this is a very friendly type of attention, and unless you really dislike interaction with people you don't know, this will almost certainly be a highlight of your trip. Do not be surprised if people want their picture taken with you, or if they yell to friends and family to come look at you as well." www.foreigner.cn.com



They led us to just about every shop in Qianmei village, where Cihong Mansion is located.

Buddhist supplies

Groceries

Tea



Shop in Qianmei Village Cigarettes, some groceries, some alcohol.

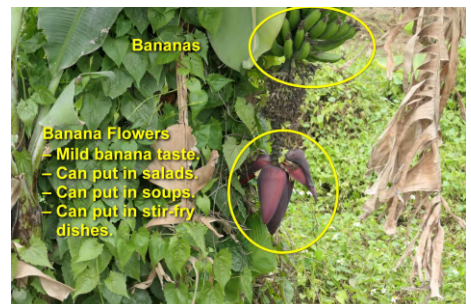


Bakery owned by the mother of one of the girls leading us around

Mother



Guavas are wrapped in plastic bags while still on the tree to prevent insect damage



Bananas

Banana Flowers
- Mild banana taste
- Can put in salads
- Can put in soups
- Can put in stir fry dishes.



The girls took us to a duck farm



Future Peking Duck?



Small farm in Qianmei Village
Vegetables and Ducks



Farm in Qianmei Village

Guavas

Guavas

Ducks?
Geese?



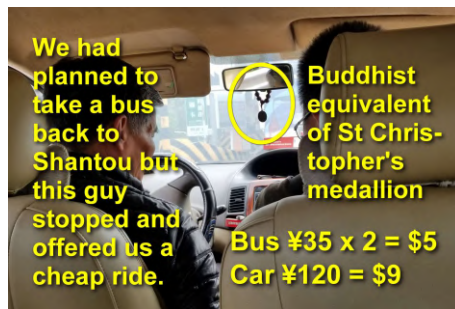
Restaurant in Qianmei Village



We arrive in Qianmei town.
The girls are wearing school uniforms.



We say our goodbyes



We had planned to take a bus back to Shantou but this guy stopped and offered us a cheap ride.

Buddhist equivalent of St Christopher's medallion

Bus ¥35 x 2 = \$5
Car ¥120 = \$9



To prevent license plate fraud, license number of trucks must also be painted directly on the truck.



To prevent license plate fraud, license number of commercial vehicles must also be painted directly on the vehicle.



Notice the model name


Auto production in China has been bigger than Europe, USA, or Japan since 2008.
2019 20.7 million cars.
Over 95% sold domestically.
On the road 2019:
 – 250 million cars.
 – 90 million other motor vehicles

Car Sales in China - 2019
Total 20.7 million (-7% from 2018)
Chinese Brands 39%
Japanese Brands 22%
German Brands 24%
American Brands 9%
Korean Brands 5%
French Brands 1%

2017 Top 10 Brands by Passenger Car Sales

Rank	Brand	Manufacturer	Sales in 2017
1	Volkswagen	FAW, SAIC	3,135,236
2	Honda	GAC, Dongfeng	1,405,021
3	Geely Auto	Geely	1,248,004
4	Buick	SAIC GM	1,223,429
5	Toyota	FAW, GAC	1,131,616
6	Nissan	Dongfeng	1,116,709
7	Chang'an	Chang'an	1,062,716
8	Baojun	SAIC-GM-Wuling	1,016,224
9	Haval	Great Wall	851,855
10	Ford	Chang'an	840,946

Trumpchi is an auto brand made by GAC since 2010. Said to mean "good fortune".
Sold in many countries.
At 2018 Detroit auto show, GAC cars were branded "Trumpchi".
But at 2019 Detroit auto show, GAC changed the brand name for overseas market (similarity with Pres. Trump).





- Core Values of Socialist People**
- Strong
 - Democratic
 - Civilized
 - Harmonious
 - Freedom
 - Equality
 - Fairness
 - Law Abiding
 - Patriotic
 - Responsible
 - Trustworthy
 - Kindness



- Cultural Revolution**
- Political movement 1966-1976.
 - Launched by Mao Zedong after failed "Great Leap Forward" of 1958-63.
 - Purge remnants of capitalism.
 - Eliminate rivals to Communist Party.
 - Tens of millions of people persecuted.
 - Estimated death toll up to 20 million.
 - Massacres throughout China.
 - Schools closed.
 - Nearly destroyed Chinese economy.



- Guiyu**
- 15 miles west of Shantou.
 - Population 150,000.
 - 20 sq miles (Naples 14 sq mi).
 - The biggest electronic waste site on earth.
 - Computers, cell phones, other tech, refrigerators.
 - Most from developed countries.

- Until 2017, 5,000 unlicensed, primitive recycling "workshops":
- 60,000 e-waste workers.
 - 100 truckloads e-waste a day.
 - Harmful and toxic environment, working and living conditions.**
 - Parts stripped with bare hands.
 - Circuit boards cooked to get chips and solders.
 - Wires, plastics burned to get metals.
 - Corrosive and dangerous acids used.

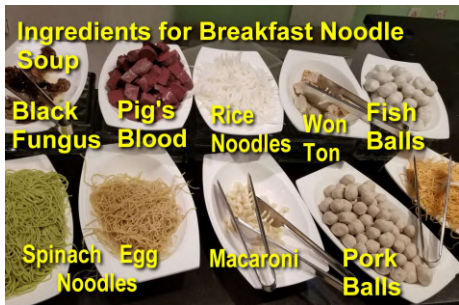
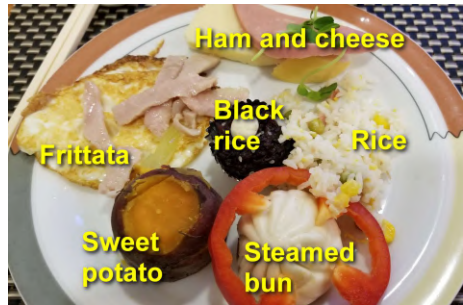


But many areas of Guiyu are still contaminated from the remnants of E-waste processing and have not been cleaned up.

Many Guiyu residents still suffer from long-term health issues like lead poisoning.

- Soil surrounding recycling factories is saturated with lead, chromium, tin, and other heavy metals.
- Pollution has made Guiyu unable to produce crops for food.
- Water in local river is undrinkable.
- 80% of children suffer from lead poisoning.
- High levels of dioxin contamination.
- Above-average miscarriage rates.

MEALS IN SHANTOU (Teochew Cuisine)



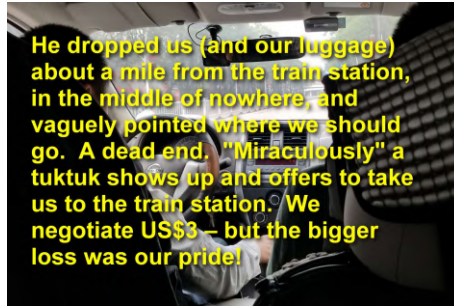


We called a Didi car to take us to the train station.

Remember the bus scam when we arrived in Shantou? Something similar happened again!



He dropped us (and our luggage) about a mile from the train station, in the middle of nowhere, and vaguely pointed where we should go. A dead end. "Miraculously" a tuktuk shows up and offers to take us to the train station. We negotiate US\$3 – but the bigger loss was our pride!



Our tuktuk to the train station for the trip back to Hong Kong.



Little "setbacks" like these just add to the overall experience of the trip!

Coming Up:

China/HK: Thurs, Jan 16, 2-3:30p, Golden Gate.

Gibraltar: Tues Jan 21, 3-4:30p, Downtown.

Shenyang: Wed Jan 22, 2-3:30p, Lely.

Nagasaki: Tues Jan 28, 3-4:30p, Downtown.

Xinjiang/Gansu: Wed Jan 29, 2-3:30p, Lely.

Gyeongju: Tues Feb 4, 3-4:30p, Downtown.

Guam: Wed Feb 12, 2-3:30p, Lely.

THE END
of our visit to Shantou
Guangdong, China

ppacter@gmail.com

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