Suzhou’s Silk Industry

Suzhou is renowned for high quality silk production, first serving as center of the silk industry during the Tang (618 – 907) and Song Dynasties (960 – 1279). Today, visitors to Suzhou can create their own silk road by visiting iconic locations across the city that provide an authentic look into the important fiber that has been woven into China’s history for centuries.

Must-visit attractions include the Suzhou Silk Museum, which traces the path of silk from its discovery to present day. Visitors to the museum’s Silk Weaving Workshop can view ancient human-powered looms that demonstrate traditional silk-weaving methods.

At the No.1 Silk Factory, travelers gain insight on how established practices of harvesting silk have blended with modern methods. Workers still unravel the cocoons by hand as delicately as they did 1,000 years ago.

Suzhou silk is used in the celebrated Su embroidery, which can be identified by its vibrant depictions of animals, landscapes, and flowers. The Suzhou Embroidery Art Museum provides visitors with understanding of how Su embroidery has developed over time while showcasing craftsmanship through live demonstrations.

Suzhou’s silk is the most important element of the city’s wedding dress industry. Suzhou is home to more than 1,000 wedding-related stores, and nearly 80 percent of the world’s wedding dresses are produced in the city. Brides-to-be can shop in Suzhou for wholesale prices, with gowns starting as low as $75US.

For more information on Suzhou please visit www.TravelToSuzhou.com or follow Suzhou Tourism on social media at Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook at @VisitSuzhou.

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