NEW YORK, NY – FEBRUARY 27, 2019 – Suzhou Tourism took to the red carpet over the weekend as a sponsor of GBK Productions’ Luxury Gifting Lounge in honor of the 91st annual Academy Awards. During the two-day gifting suite held February 22 – 23 at the opulent St. Supery by Chanel on Rodeo Drive, top Oscar nominees and winners including Spike Lee (3x Nominee and Best Adapted Screenplay Winner for “BlacKkKlansman”), Jimmy Chin (Best Feature Documentary Winner for “Free Solo”), Dimiter Marinov (Best Picture Winner for “Green Book”), and celebs like past Oscar winner Viola Davis, Anthony Anderson (“Blackish”), and Craig Robinson (“The Office,” “Brooklyn Nine-Nine”) stopped by to learn about Suzhou’s many tourism attractions and take home a coveted selection of destination-inspired gifts. GBK Productions’ luxury gifting lounges are an annual awards season tradition, providing Hollywood’s top talent exposure to a wide variety of luxury brands and experiences.

Paying homage to the city’s cultural heritage, Suzhou Tourism presented stars with intricate silk fans from the Suzhou-based artisans at Sheng Feng, samples of Suzhou’s famous Biluochun green tea provided by Tea Drunk, and certificates for a three-night stay at the luxurious Kempinski Hotel Suzhou on Jinji Lake.

Sheng Feng is a Suzhou-based fan production company led by Ms. Sheng Chun, an award-winning master of Chinese fan craftsmanship. The company has a proud heritage of fan making in Suzhou and produces more than 10 different styles which are beautifully decorated with lively paintings and calligraphy. Tea Drunk, purveyor of the world’s most prized teas, offers the highest quality teas from
China’s best terroir. Each spring, the Tea Drunk team heads to the deepest mountains in China to eat, sleep, and work alongside the heritage farmers to produce teas that adhere to rigorous quality standards. At Kempinski Hotel Suzhou, contemporary European flair meets traditional Suzhou style. Surrounded by the stunning natural scenery of Jinji Lake, Kempinski Hotel Suzhou is located in the modern Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP) area, offering close proximity to upscale dining, shopping, and entertainment options. The 458-room property also features more than 13,000 square feet of outdoor space facing the magnificent Dushu Lake.

The star-studded Oscars event was part of Suzhou Tourism’s current North American integrated marketing campaign which is designed to showcase the destination’s unique culture, heritage, and tourism experiences through social media activations, travel trade programs, public relations campaigns, and high profile direct-to-consumer events. Over the past year, Suzhou Tourism has been a featured destination at a star-studded New York Fashion Week party hosted by Celebrity Page TV; orchestrated online sweepstakes in partnership with brands like Rank and Style, Serious Eats, and She Knows; and hosted top travel agents and tour operators at exclusive events at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

**HIGH RESOLUTION CELEBRITY IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD HERE.**

Travelers can learn more about Suzhou by visiting the website [TravelToSuzhou.com](http://TravelToSuzhou.com) or following the destination’s official hashtag #TravelSuzhou, as well as [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com), and [Twitter](https://twitter.com) channels (@VisitSuzhou).

**About Suzhou**

Suzhou, the "Venice of China," is known for its elegant stone bridges, canals, flowing water, and noteworthy architecture. Located in the center of the Yangtze River Delta, approximately 60 miles west of Shanghai, Suzhou is one of the oldest cities in the Yangtze Basin dating back more than 2,500 years. The city boasts the beautifully manicured Classical Gardens of Suzhou, nine of which have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Each year, millions of tourists travel to Suzhou to experience the destination’s more than 400 attractions, ranging from pagodas and temples to historical districts and world-class museums. As the largest industrial city in China, Suzhou continues to develop, such as the Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), which boasts five-star hotels, the iconic Lake Jinji, and Asia’s largest overwater Ferris Wheel.

Travel to Suzhou is easily accessible via three convenient area airports with non-stop flights from North America: Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport (SHA) offers bullet train service to Suzhou, which is approximately a 50-mile, 30-minute trip; Pudong International Airport (PVG) is approximately 65 miles from Suzhou, an hour and half drive; and Sunan Shuofang International Airport (WUX) is approximately 14 miles from Suzhou, a 30 minute drive.

For more information on Suzhou, please visit [www.TravelToSuzhou.com](http://www.TravelToSuzhou.com).

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