

Suqian City, Jiangsu Province, China

Suqian, a prefecture-level city approved by the State Council in July, 1996, lying in the north of Jiangsu Province, and the north wing of Yangtze River Delta Region, consists of Shuyang County, Siyang County, Sihong County, Suyu District, Sucheng District, Suqian Economic and Technological Development Zone, Lakeside New District, Suzhou & Suqian Industrial Park, Suqian Software and Service Outsourcing Industrial Park and Yanghe New District under its jurisdiction. It covers an area of 8,555 square kilometers with a population of 5.7 million, which rank respectively the 4th and 6th in the whole province.

Suqian has a time-honored history and a rich cultural legacy left by numerous talents. This city boasts profound history, great people and abundant resources. Here, traditions have been carefully inherited and historic stories are numerous—that's why it holds the reputation of one of the headwaters of Chinese civilization, the root of Jiangsu civilization as well as the soul of Chu-Han cultures. Xiacaowan Ruins, excavated in this area, refracts the first sunlight of mankind origin. The city was called XiaXiang County in Qin Dynasty, Suyu County in Eastern Jin Dynasty, and was not renamed Suqian until Tang Dynasty. Over the long history, Suqian has cultivated innumerable historical figures, such as Xiang Yu, the overlord of West Chu Period and so on.

Suqian, with rich resources and plentiful products, is well known as “a land of fish and rice”, “the city of famous liquor”, “the city of poplar” and “the city of flowers and trees”. It is also the important national production and processing base for grain and agricultural products. Yanghe and Shuanggou have both won the title of National Famous Liquor and China Well-known Brands. The forest area in Suqian with poplar as the main tree type has a land coverage of 3 million mu (1 hectare=15 mu). In addition, it is one of the four largest flower & tree production areas in Jiangsu Province.

Suqian is the most livable city with ecological advantages. Located in the warm temperate zone, Suqian boasts a favorable monsoon climate and advantageous natural conditions, with an annual average temperature of 14.2°C and precipitation of 910 mm. Its air quality, which is the only city in Jiangsu Province that has no acid rain, ranks the very front among cities in East China. Suqian is also known as “a pure land in East China and an oxygen bar in Jiangsu Province”. In addition, it is a famous longevity town.

Suqian enjoys a unique location and convenient transportation. Suqian has convenient transportation. The Grand Canal runs through the city from south to north, with inland navigation mileage of 897 kilometers. 6 expressways run across this city. The City Proper is 40 minutes' ride away from Xuzhou Guanyin International Airport in the west, 60 minutes' ride away from Lianyungang Baitabu Airport

in the north, 70 minutes' ride away from Huai'an Airport in the south, 90 minutes' ride away from Lianyungang Port in the east. The advantages of air and sea transportation are very obvious.

Suqian is accelerating its economic development. In 2014, Suqian has registered a GDP reaching 193.07 billion RMB and the public fiscal budget income arrives at 21.01 billion RMB, ranking respectively 90th and 70th among more than 300 prefecture-level cities in China. Growth rate of major economic indicators takes the lead in Jiangsu Province, marking the emergence of Suqian as a charming city full of potential and bursting with “innovation in reform”, “youth and vigor” as well as “sound ecology suitable for livelihood”. In terms of industrial development, Suqian is dedicated to building up an industrial system of “Two News and One Characteristic” with efforts made in promoting the congregation development of four new-emerging industries including smart home electrical appliances, green building materials, functional materials and smart grid, the leapfrog development of four new-type industries including e-commerce, modern logistics, health care and old-age support and cultural tourism plus the innovative development of four characteristic industries including food and beverage, textile and garment, mechanical electrical equipment and home furnishings and manufacture. Steps have been accelerated in pushing forward the high-end advancement, the congregation and characteristic

construction of the industrial development.