ASIADDAILY AROUND GUANGZHOU

ATTRACTIONS

Temple of the Six Banyan Trees 六榕寺

This is a 1.450-year-old temple complex consisting of Flower Pagoda, Heavenly King Palace, Mile Palace, carved stone steles and Mavariva Palace, also known as the Temple of the Six Banyan Trees. The magnificent main tower, known as the Hua Ta Pagoda, or Flower Pagoda, was built in AD 537 and is 17 storeys' tall. The main hall of this temple also has three grand Buddha statues and numerous smaller halls for the worship of other Buddhist idols. Admission is 5 vuan.

Hours: 8:30 am-5 pm Address: 87 Liurong Lu, Yuexiu district

Cathedral of Sacred Heart of Jesus 圣心石室大教堂



The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most impressive Gothic churches in China. Its construction began in 1863 and was completed by 1888. Located across from the socalled "bar street" near the river, this cathedral has towers rising almost 60 meters into the sky. It offers a beautiful example of Gothic architecture, resembling the Notre Dame building in Paris, and it stands out in comparison to the neighboring buildings.

Hours: 7 am-10 am on Sundaus Address: 56 Jiu Bu Qian, Yide Lu, Yuexiu district Admission free

Guangzhou Lingnan Flower Market 广州岭南花卉市场

The flower industry thrived in the Fangcun region during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Now it has become one of the nation's biggest fresh-cut flower markets. The 80,000-square-meter market houses 800 shops and 1,500 booths. Every day, thousands of fresh roses, lilies, chrysanthemums, orchids and carnations from the Pearl River Delta region and Yunnan province are brought here to be dispersed to other Chinese cities, as well as Southeast Asia, the United States and Europe.

Address: 28 Fangcun Dadao Xi, Liwan

RESTAURANTS

Delhi Darbar Restaurant

德里宫餐厅

This pleasant upscale restaurant serves up great meals for a good price. Its location makes it the ideal pit stop to relax and refuel during a busy shopping trip. It serves standards like tandoori chicken, kebabs, and vegetarian options like puri bread and lentil curries. It's not the Indian food of highest quality you'll find in Guangzhou, but it's very good for the price.

Hours: 11 am-10 pm Address: 40-2 Guang Ya Li, Shangxiajiu Lu. Liwan district Tel: (020) 81390528

Transportation: Metro Line 1, Changshou Lu station

Rendezvous

Although the owners and the staff are not Vietnamese, Vietnamese dishes make up the larger part of the menu, including a few dishes that may be true fusions between French and Vietnamese. The staff's recommendation in the Vietnamese arena was the cold vermicelli, but other items on the menu actually look more interesting than this. Their recommendations in the French arena were the pastas, steaks and deserts.

Address: 272 Binjiang Zhong Lu, Haizhu district

Tel: (020) 89228169

Transportation: Take Metro Line 2 to Haizhu Sauare, Take Exit A, cross Haizhu bridge. The restaurant is on the corner of Binjiang Zhong Lu and Jiangnan Dadaobei, just to your left as you're crossing

1001 Arabian Nights

一千一夜餐厅

Just as Arabic culture is covered symbolically by a mysterious veil, 1001 Arabian Nights restaurant is low-profile, deep, serene and peaceful. Pushing open the door, the sight before your eyes can make you dizzy, as if you'd stepped into a time tunnel: a wide and quiet hall, golden walls, a gold painted ceiling and golden windows. It's as if you've stepped into a magnificent palace described in the Arabian tales. Tablecloths, dinner plates, tea sets and even water pipes are decorated with very graceful lacy curves. Each night from 7 pm to 2 am the next day, you can enjoy Arabian song and dance performances. Arabian coffee and rich varieties of hookahs are two features that you should not miss here. In addition, the irregularly-held barbecue nights are recommended.

Hours: 11 am-2 am Address: Jinzhou International Business Center, 899 Jiefang Bei Lu, Yuexiu district **Tel:** (020) 36182280/36182281

Il Forno 爱弗罗



This is one of Guangzhou's best Italian restaurants, serving up fresh seafood, steaks, oven-baked pizza, pasta, antipasti and soups. The dress code is smart casual, so it's wise to dress up a little before you swing by. The ambiance is pleasantly upscale, the staff is friendly and helpful, and there's a non-smoking section. The wine selection is quite

extensive, and the beef dishes come highly recommended. If you like good tenderloin, this is the place for you.

Hours: 6 pm-11 pm

Address: 2F, Shangri-La Guangzhou, 1 Huizhan Dong Lu, Haizhu district Tel: (020) 89176498

Transportation: Metro Line 2, Haizhu

WHAT'S ON

Magic of Yo-Yo Ma

马友友与广州交响乐团音乐会

Yo-Yo Ma will team with the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra to present the closing concert of the Canton Asian Music Festival. The program includes Dvorak's Symphony No 8 in G Major, Op 88 and Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op 104. Yu Long will take the baton. Ma was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began playing the cello at the age of four. After he moved to New York City with his family, he continued to pursue an artistic career at the Juilliard School. He graduated from Harvard University in 1976 and since then has received many music prizes, including 15 Grammy Awards.



When: 8 pm. tonight Address: Xinghai Concert Hall, 33 Qingbo Lu. Ersha Island.

Tel: (020) 87353869/87352222, ext 886

The Punchline Comedy Club

Nick Wilty, Tom Rhodes and Brendan Riley come to Guangzhou for the Punchline Comedy Tour. Enjoy a buffet dinner at Vaastu during the show and prepare yourself for a night of sidesplitting humor.

When: 9 pm, tonight

Address: Vaastu, A Date With India, D2 Canton Place, Haiyue Lu, Pearl River New

Tel: (020) 38258181

Sensory Topology: Bodily Perception by Taiwanese Contemporary Artists 感官拓朴:台湾 当代艺术体感测

Held by the Guangdong Museum of Art in cooperation with the Taichung National Taiwan Art Museum, this exhibition displays works of art by 11 artists from Taiwan, who share with the audience their explorations of the human body.

When: 9 am-5 pm, closed on Mondays, until Nov 28

Address: Halls 10-12 and corridor on the 3/F, Guangdong Museum of Art, Ersha Island

Tel: (020) 87351468 Ticket: 15 yuan

Afternoon tea with Baroque music 情迷巴洛克

Chinese conductor Xu Zhong and violinist Zhang Yi invite you to have a



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EDITOR'S PICK >> AL FRESCO DINING

Guangzhou may not have the outdoor cafe culture of Europe or as many small streetside stalls as Southeast Asia has, but it does offer more than a few garden dining areas and rooftop sections to enjoy a quite meal.

This list of outdoor eateries in Guangzhou includes a few of the city's famous establishments along with a few you probably haven't heard of. It does not attempt to cover every zone of the city, and goes heavy on the riverside and the Shamian area.

1) Qi Lin Xuan Restaurant (琪林轩) is nestled in Guangzhou's Botanical Gardens, alongside a lake and surrounded by trees. It provides one of the nicest outdoor environments in Guangzhou and a reasonably priced menu as well. During peak hours, it's often packed. You're just a few minutes' walk away from the park's various gardens, including the lovely Medicinal Herb Garden and the Orchid Garden. Qi Lin Xuan serves mostly Cantonese food, with its most popular dishes including fish, chicken, goose, bean curd and beef ribs. Reservation needed.

Address: South China Botanical Garden, 1190 Tianunan Lu, Tianhe district Tel: (020) 85231931

2) Liuhua Congee House (流花粥城) boasts an expansive corridor and outdoor section, which is surrounded by two fish ponds, a multitude of plants and a view of the beautiful Liuhua Lake Park. The restaurant is well known for its dim sum and congee, and also impresses visitors with its sashimi, grilled items and Cantonese food. Expect variety here, especially in its dim sum and congee. Reservation needed.

Address: inside Liuhua Lake Park, 903 Renmin Bei Lu, Yuexiu district Tel: (020) 86680108

3) The Rose Garden Club (玫瑰园西餐厅) in Shamian Park has one of Guangzhou's best riverside views, and the quiet shade of the park's Banyan trees along with it. The restaurant boasts a mix of Chinese and international food such as steak, baked rice, seafood, spaghetti and curry. Reservation needed.

Address: Shamian Park. 3 Shamian Nan Jie. Liwan district Tel: (020) 81218008

Sunday afternoon tea party in appreciation of Baroque music. The program includes Bach's Brandenburg Concertos No 1, Vivaldi's Spring from The Four Seasons and Handel's Water Music.

When: 3 pm, Nov 21 Address: Xinghai Concert Hall, 33 Qingbo

Tel: (020) 87353869/87352222, ext 886

NIGHTLIFE

Tekkwun Livehouse 踢馆

Tekkwun attracts top-class acts from home and abroad. Since its opening, in August 2009, Tekkwun has fast become one of the city's most active venues in promoting Chinese non-mainstream music.

Not tied to one particular genre, you can catch anything from hard-core metal concerts to mellow Chinese folkrock gigs.

Address: 201 Huguoshan, Huanshi Zhong Lu, Yuexiu district Tel: (020) 86670302

Iron Age Space 黑铁时代

Iron Age Space is a strong contender in Guangzhou's live music scene. It's the only venue in Guangzhou University City that offers live music to its population of 180,000. Iron Age Space is a bar, an art-space and a live music venue all in one.

Address: 2/F, Xinjue Club, East Gate square, Suishi Village, Guangzhou Universitu Citu

Tel: (020) 28683060