

Sister City

A Brief Introduction of Lu'an Municipality

Lu'an city, located in the west of Anhui Province in China and at the northern foot of the Dabie Mountain, is usually called "Wanxi (West Anhui)". At present, Lu'an city governs three districts and four counties, including Jin'an District, Yu'an District, Yeji District, Huoqiu County, Jinzhai County, Huoshan County, Shucheng County, with Lu'an Economic and Technological Development Zone and Industrial Transfer Demonstration Zone under its jurisdiction. Lu'an has a land area of 15,451 square kilometers, with a population of 5.8 million. Among 29 ethnic groups, Han Nationality is the most populous, covering 99.3% of the total. In 2015, the municipal GDP and the financial revenue was 114.3 billion yuan and 15 billion yuan respectively.

Lu'an has a long history of more than 2000 years. As early as in the Neolithic Age there were human activities here. In ancient times, here was the place for settlement of Gao Yao -- the Originator of Justice -- and his tribe, so Lu'an is also named Gaocheng (The City of Gao). In 121 B.C., Emperor Wu of Han Dynasty set up Lu'an State, with the name implying everlasting peace and safety for the place, and the name Lu'an has been used ever since. In April of 1949, Lu'an Region Commissioner Office was established and in March of 2000, Lu'an became a city and has been directly under the jurisdiction of Anhui Provincial Government.

Lu'an is rich in natural resources. More than 50 mineral resources have been proved up, with molybdenum ore reserve in Jinzhai County ranking the first in China, and iron mine reserve in Huoqiu County ranking the fifth in China and the first in Eastern China. There are huge reserves of jade in Huoshan County and Jinzhai County. Lu'an is famous for green tea, white goose, down feather, bamboo and wood products, etc. As a distributing center of high-quality down, Lu'an has been the host city for China International Down Fair for five times. In 2007, former President Hu Jintao presented Lu'an Guapian Tea to Putin (Russian President) as a national gift during his official visit to Russia.

Rich in natural and cultural landscapes, Lu'an has broad prospects for developing tourism. There are scenic spots such as Tiantangzhai National Forest Park, Nanyue Mountain, Tongluozhai Mountain, Wanfo

Mountain, and Wanfo Lake. In 2009, an imperial tomb dating back to Han Dynasty was unearthed in Lu'an, which was listed as one of China's Top Ten Archaeological Excavations of the year. There are also many provincial cultural relics of revolution period under special protection. With 2 National 5A tourist attractions and 25 National 4A Scenic Spots, Lu'an is becoming a major tourist destination in East and Middle China.

Lu'an enjoys superior location and convenient transportation which links the east and the west part of China. Three national highways G312, G206, and G105, four railways including Shanghai-Wuhan-Chengdu railway, Nanjing-Xi'an railway, Hefei-Jiujiang railway, Fuyang-Lu'an railway, and six expressways including Shanghai-Shannxi expressway, Ji'nan-Guangzhou expressway, Hefei-Wuhan expressway, Hefei-Fuyang expressway and Hefei-Anqing, all pass through the whole city. By China High Speed Rail, it takes only 3.5 hours to get to Shanghai, and 1.5 hours to reach Nanjing and Wuhan respectively. Xinqiao International Airport is within 40 minutes' drive. Therefore, Lu'an is confirmed as a national road transportation hub city by Ministry of Communications.

Lu'an is devoted to the development of industries. A framework of a number of pillar industries such as metal mining and metallurgy, food processing, machinery manufacturing, clothing and light textile, energy and electricity, building materials has been formed. A regional commerce and logistics center around Dabie Mountain Area has taken its shape here.

Lu'an is a livable city with its beautiful environment. The central urban area covers 74.4square kilometers with a population of 662,000. The urban greening rate and the green space ratio is 41.73% and 37.8%. It has been awarded as "Provincial-level Garden City", "Outstanding Model City of Aquatic Environment Treatment", "China Living Environment Prize", "National Garden City" and "National Forest City".

At present, Lu'an has established sister-city relationship with Varkaus, Finland and Region Hannover, Germany, and established friendly cooperative relationship with Dangjin City, Republic of Korea and City of Mount Gambier, Australia.

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