

# 2024 Zigen Trip

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Heading north towards the Qing Long, Hebei  
south reaching the Yu Long, Yunnan



Dear friends,

We cordially invite you to join our 2024 Zigen Trip, visiting the sustainable development Green Eco Villages and Green Eco Schools in Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County, Hebei Province, and Yulong Naxi Autonomous County, Yunnan Province.

**Date: May 29th to June 5th, 2024 (8 days trip)**

**Cost: \$1,900 USD** (including short-term travel insurance, public transportation, meals, and coordination fees for Zigen personnel in China).

**Note:** The journey begins in Beijing and ends in Lijiang, Yunnan. Participants are responsible for covering their own domestic transportation costs to and from their respective countries.



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**Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County** is located in the northeastern part of Hebei Province, at the eastern foot of the Yanshan Mountains and at the foot of the ancient Great Wall. It is under the jurisdiction of Qinhuangdao City. Zigen China began its projects in Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County in 1990. As of the end of 2023, Zigen has cooperated with Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County to implement over 300 projects, covering 8 townships, 11 villages, and 40 schools.

Over the years, Zigen China has systematically promoted the establishment of Green Eco Schools in Qinglong County, promoting the development of sustainable development education. At the same time, it has actively supported schools in conducting labor education and the creation of green ecological civilization schools, including supporting teacher training, conducting environmental protection activities in schools, integrating local culture into the curriculum, and promoting interaction between families, schools, and villages. Moreover, Zigen China has also recommended four schools in Qinglong County (Qidaohe Primary School, Toudaogou Primary School, Shanshenmiao Primary School, and Gehetou Primary School) to participate in the UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development Experimental School selection activity, and all four schools have been awarded.



**Left:** Students from Liubozixixiaoxue School in the fields.  
**Right:** Crop yields from Toudaogou Xiaoxue School.



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**Yulong Naxi Autonomous County** is located on the southwestern border of China, in the northwest of Lijiang City, at the southern end of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. It is separated from Shangri-La County and Muli County in Sichuan Province by the Jinsha River to the north. The county is home to the main part of the "Three Parallel Rivers" World Natural Heritage Site and renowned landmarks such as the "original appearance of the Earth" Mount Laojun. The county is inhabited by over ten ethnic groups including the Naxi, Han, Bai, Lisu, Yi, Tibetan, and Pumi peoples, making it the only Naxi Autonomous County in China. The Naxi people have a long history and rich culture, and their famous Dongba hieroglyphs are regarded as a "living fossil" of hieroglyphs.

Since the introduction of Zigen projects in Yulong County in 2008, support has been provided for projects including scholarships for primary and secondary school students, Green Eco School projects, training for rural women and technical personnel, village cooperatives, and Green Eco Villages. Since 2016, Zigen China has been consistently supporting the Yulong County Education and Sports Bureau in organizing "Co-creation of Sustainable Development Rural Teacher Training" for all subject teachers.



Bringing Local Culture into the Classroom



The joy of a bountiful harvest in the school's fields

For many years, Zigen has been committed to promoting education for sustainable development in rural areas. We sincerely invite you to join us in witnessing the practices and achievements of Zigen's rural Green Eco Schools, engage in face-to-face discussions with teachers and students, and get closer to the real educational environment in rural schools. We also look forward to discussing with you how we can work together to enhance rural education and rural



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development, thereby more effectively promoting education for sustainable development in rural areas.

## (一) Trip Detail

Date	Place	Plan	Detail	Transportation
5/29	Beijing	Assemble Qinhuangdao City and head to Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County	Please gather in Beijing before 3:00 pm on May 29th (the specific location will be announced later)	Take the bus to Qinglong (about 3.5 hours)
5/30	Qing Long	Morning: Discussion at Qinglong office to understand the overall situation of Qinglong project Noon-Afternoon: Visit to Liubaozi Primary School	The origin of Qinglong Manchu Autonomous County development history Get an in-depth understanding of Liubaozi Primary School, understand the context of Liubaozi Primary School's creation of a green eco school, and visit the achievements of schools.	
5/31		Morning: Shanshen Miao Primary School Afternoon: Green Eco Village—Dasendian Village Tour	Visited two key green ecoschools. The history of Dasendian Primary School and how it stood out from the trend of withdrawing and merging schools and developed into a small and complete primary school; learn about Dasendian's road to rural revitalization (parents' canteen, women's group, parent and school)	
6/1		Green Eco Village—Dasendian Village Tour	Participate in the June 1 Children Day activity; Visit the Village History Museum of Dasendian Village.	
6/2		Qinglong-Tianjin; Tianjin-Yulong		Take a bus to Tianjin; take a flight from Tianjin to Lijiang.
6/3	Yulong	Morning: Communicate and exchange information with relevant staff members of the Education and Sports Bureau of Yulong County to understand the overall situation of the	Understanding the cooperation history between China Zigen and the Education and Sports Bureau of Yulong County since 2008; Understanding the project development of China Zigen in Taian Township, including achievements in environmental education,	



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	<p>projects in Yulong County.</p> <p>Afternoon: Visit and inspect the Taian Township Central Primary School.</p>	<p>caring for left-behind children, health education for adolescent girls, inheritance of local culture, labor education, etc.</p>	
6/4	<p>Morning: Travel from Lijiang to the Shitou Township Central Primary School and inspect the school.</p> <p>Afternoon: Inspect the Taohua Primary School in Shitou Township, then return to Lijiang.</p>	<p>In-depth understanding of the progress and interim achievements of the China Zigen Green Eco School Creation Project implemented in Shitou Township Central Primary School and Taohua Primary School in Shitou Township.</p>	
6/5	<p>Morning: Inspect the Baisha Township Central Primary School in Yulong County.</p> <p>Afternoon: Free activities in the Baisha Ancient Town.</p>	<p>In-depth understanding of the progress and interim achievements of the China Zigen Green Ecological Civilization School Creation Project implemented in Baisha Township Central Primary School. Baisha Ancient Town with a rich cultural heritage</p>	
6/6	Return to Yulong (The Zigen Trip itinerary ends, and teachers can arrange their return journey or other activities in Lijiang).		
*	There may be slight adjustments to the schools/villages visited during the actual Zigen Trip, but the timing and locations (Hebei and Yulong) remain unchanged.		

## (二) Fee Description

The Zigen Trip is organized by the China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association. Friends who are interested in learning about Zigen and Zigen projects, as well as those concerned about rural China and rural education, are invited to participate. The expenses of this Zigen Trip are voluntarily borne by the participants. In addition to transportation and accommodation, the expenses include the management fees for coordinating this event by the China Zigen organization. Thank you for your support.

### A. The fees include the following:

- Unified transportation expenses for the itinerary (including transportation expenses for visits



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within Qinglong and Yulong counties, and transportation expenses from Qinglong to Yulong).

- All estimated meal expenses during the itinerary.
- Accommodation expenses for 8 nights, single occupancy.
- Short-term accident insurance for each person.
- Travel agency service fees.

## **B. The fees do not include the following:**

- Domestic (Beijing) airfare or train tickets for round-trip travel.
- Luggage storage, baggage check-in, handling, etc.
- Passport and visa fees.
- Meal expenses not included in the itinerary.
- Any expenses incurred due to natural disasters or other force majeure events.
- Expenses for purchasing local handicrafts or specialty products.

## **Registration and Notes:**

- The Zigen Trip requires a group of 6-10 people. If there are fewer than 6 registrants, the itinerary will be rearranged accordingly.
- Please inform in advance about your physical condition when participating in the Zigen Trip (as the places to be visited are mountainous areas, there will be hiking involved; Yulong is located at a higher altitude, it is advisable for person with hypertension or cardiovascular diseases to carefully consider registering).
- The registration deadline is April 25, 2024.
- Inquiries and Registration: Email: [info@zigenfund.org](mailto:info@zigenfund.org); Phone: 718-353-5700

**Health Reminder:** Participation in this Zigen Trip includes continuous train and car travel, with some rural roads being bumpy. The travel distance is long, so please prepare accordingly and decide whether to register based on your personal physical condition. If you have special needs, please explain them truthfully in advance. Please be sure to bring your personal medication and motion sickness medication.

**Important Reminder:** Please respect local ethnic groups and traditional cultures. During visits to schools and villages, please do not promise or donate money directly to students, schools, or local villagers. If you wish to make a donation, please contact the Zigen accompanying staff first before making a decision.

**Registration Method:** Please fill out the attached registration form and send it to



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[info@zigenfund.org](mailto:info@zigenfund.org).

## Payment Method:

1. check: mail the donation check to The Zigen Fund, 136-61 41st Avenue, #355, Flushing, NY 11355
2. Creditcard: [www.zigenfund.com/donate](http://www.zigenfund.com/donate)
3. Donate by PayPal: [www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1404796](http://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1404796)

\*Zigen Fund is a registered non-profit organization with Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.  
Your donation can be tax deductible.

**In 2024,**  
**we invite you to become an essential member of our journey,**  
**To seek the footsteps of the Zigen predecessors,**  
**witnessing the development and future of the Zigen project sites!**

## Additional Information:

## Q&A

### Background of the Zigen Trip

Since 1990, the Zigen Trip has organized over 100 meaningful journeys taking different routes, allowing participants to further understand the challenges and opportunities facing rural China. The Zigen team designs visiting routes so that participants of the Zigen Trip can consider the positive impact we hope to bring in education, environment, culture, and economy. Typically, after the Zigen Trip, participants become friends of Zigen and may volunteer to support local projects implemented by Zigen, thereby jointly promoting education for sustainable development.



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## Goals of the Zigen Trip:

- To promote sustainable ecotourism by providing unique and meaningful travel experiences, while also enhancing the capabilities of local talents and businesses.
- To promote, advocate for, and raise funds for education for sustainable development by showcasing the cases of "Green Ecological Civilization Schools" and "Green Ecological Civilization Villages" promoted by Zigen in China.
- To increase income and profits for local communities.

## Why is the Zigen Trip expensive than other tour groups?

Because the Zigen Trip is not a typical tour group that visits commercial tourist attractions; it is a privately customized trip planned and arranged by us. For example, we only offer small tour groups of 6-10 people, and a portion of the travel expenses will be used to support the charitable work of Zigen in China.

## Travel Reminders:

Each person can bring up to 20 kilograms of checked baggage free of charge during domestic flights in China. You can also carry one piece of hand luggage. The weather during the day is relatively good (pants are recommended), but it gets cooler at night (jackets, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, sun hats, etc.).

## Essential items to bring:

- A valid passport with a validity period of more than six months and a valid Chinese tourist visa. Please prepare photocopies of your passport and Chinese tourist visa in advance.
- Comfortable, lightweight, quick-drying clothes. Rain gear.
- A set of pajamas, as well as socks and slippers for warmth at night (there is a large temperature difference between morning and evening).
- Hiking shoes (with good grip).
- Lightweight personal toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.).
- If you wear glasses, you may bring an extra pair.
- Flashlight.
- If you are not accustomed to Chinese breakfast (such as boiled eggs and noodles), bring granola bars, oatmeal, cereal porridge, coffee, tea, or other breakfast items you may prefer.
- If you are not proficient with chopsticks, you can bring a set of knife, fork, and spoon in a sealed bag.
- Please bring your own water bottle to fill up with hot water anytime, anywhere.
- It is recommended to temporarily leave electronic devices behind, as some areas may have poor network signals.
- Shopping - There will be opportunities to purchase local handicrafts as souvenirs. Please exchange





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enough Chinese currency in advance, as there will be no currency exchange opportunities in rural areas.

- If you are accustomed to taking preventive medications for diarrhea (optional).
- Don't forget the restrictions on liquids/gels on the plane: a single bottle of liquid cannot exceed 100 milliliters, but you can bring multiple bottles as long as the total volume does not exceed 100 milliliters (note that even if a single bottle does not exceed 100 milliliters, if the scale on the bottle exceeds 100 milliliters, it is not allowed).
- A small backpack: a. Insect repellent. b. Sunglasses/sunscreen/hats. c. Personal journal/pen. d. Camera (optional). e. International roaming phone (optional). f. Hand sanitizer. g. Tissues (for the toilet). h. Plastic bags (used as garbage bags). i. Snacks. j. Water bottle. k. Photocopies of passport/visa. l. Cash.

**Medical:** The travel agency will provide certain medical services. However, it is best to prepare your own medical kit according to personal needs and experiences. Vaccinations should be up-to-date. It is strongly recommended to purchase additional travel insurance. Please ensure that the insurance includes evacuation/repatriation in case of serious accidents or acute illnesses.



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## Registration form

2024 Zigen Trip Form			
姓名 Name		手机 Mobile	
性别 Gender		中国境内联系电话 Phone in China	
出生年月日 Birthday		电子邮箱 Email	
国籍 Nationality		证件类型及号码 ID type Passport No.	( ) 身份证 ( ) 台胞证 ( ) 护 照
紧急联络人 Emergency contact person		紧急联络人电话 Phone of emergency contact person	
特殊需求及备注（如重大疾病史、药物过敏、食物过敏信息等，请如实填写） Special requirements			
往返中国的航班信息 Flight info (Arrive & Depart Beijing)			

Please send the completed registration form to [info@zigenfund.org](mailto:info@zigenfund.org). The deadline for registration is April 25, 2024 .

If you need further assistance or have any other questions, please feel free to let us know.



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