



Yunong Manor in Jiading welcomed a large number of visitors during the Spring Festival holidays.
— Dai Yixin

Celebrating Spring Festival with cultural, tourism events

Dai Yixin and Ye Fengting

DURING the recent Spring Festival holiday, Jiading launched a series of cultural and tourism events, with popular attractions drawing large crowds.

Statistics show that the nine major scenic spots and Jiabei Country Park in the suburban district welcomed 455,000 visitors, with ticket sales reaching more than 940,000 yuan (US\$129,547).

Nanxiang Old Street held a Snake Year-themed lantern display, featuring lanterns shaped like cute snakes, vibrant carp, and iconic Nanxiang Xiaolongbao.

Additionally, over 10 unique light installations and nearly 1,000 lanterns inspired by traditional culture

lit up Guyi Garden. Several exhibitions of intangible cultural heritage were also showcased.

To enrich visitors' experience, Zhuqiao Scenic Area and Jiading Bamboo Carving Museum held various hands-on activities and set up photo spots.

The district hosted 97 online events and 383 in-person events during the holiday, attracting a total of 83,710 visitors.

A range of cultural tourism products was introduced, including a two-day tour that combines automotive culture with local crafts such as *yaoban* (blue-and-white) cloth and futuristic elements like the metaverse.

Parent-child and study tours, as well as car enthusiast experiences

were the most popular, featuring activities such as countryside sightseeing, camping, barbecuing and fruit picking.

At the Chinese New Year Flower Market in Jiabei Country Park, visitors took family photos, ate *tangyuan* (glutinous rice dumplings) and purchased festive flowers.

Yunong Manor was decked up with festive decorations and collaborated with Maoqiao Workshop to host joint activities, ensuring its guesthouses were in high demand.

Shopping and indulging in delicious food were also favored choices.

Nanxiang Incity Mega and Life Hub@Anting hosted New Year's markets, Spring Festival performances, and themed light shows.

Passenger vehicle test track opens in Anting

Hu Xindong and Ye Fengting

THE Anting Test Track, China's first comprehensive passenger vehicle testing facility designed to international standards, has recently begun operations, the Shanghai Motor Vehicle Inspection Certification & Tech Innovation Center confirmed.

The facility is in Xinjing Village, Anting Town, and covers around 2,000 *mu* (about 133.33 hectares).

Inspired by Volkswagen's Ehra-Lessien Test Track in Germany, it includes a variety of road surfaces such as high-speed circuits, dynamic squares, brake test roads, and durability and performance test roads.

Anting Town, SAIC Volkswagen and SMVIC collaborated to establish the test track, which is expected to help China's automobile sector flourish.

The Anting track will collaborate with SMVIC Guangde Test Track and Liyang Test Track to establish a diverse network of functional and specialized research and certification facilities.

The SMVIC Integrated Comprehensive Test Base was launched in Anting in September 2024. It was completed in three months, setting a new regional record for project completion speed.

With the growth of the auto sector in Anting, SMVIC, founded in 2003, has grown from a traditional, single-function test facility to a national-level third-party vehicle product quality inspection and technology service firm.

It has achieved substantial improvements in new-energy vehicles, intelligent connected vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, and automotive semiconductors, resulting in double-digit revenue growth for eight years running.



The Anting Test Track features various road surfaces for different testing purposes. — Hu Xindong

Studio's role in 'Ne Zha 2' success

Yu Junli and Ye Fengting

THE Chinese animation film, "Ne Zha: Demon Child Conquers the Sea," or "Ne Zha 2," smashed box office records in China, becoming the highest-grossing movie of all time.

A quarter of the sequel was produced by Hongli Animation Studios, a Jiading-based company that also worked on the first Ne Zha movie.

Starting with characters and scene assets, the company handled the early exploration stage's previz, as well as the production of animation,

simulation, effects and lighting compositing, according to Yu Zhixin, project manager of Hongli Animation.

"Two key scenes feature expansive mountain landscapes and flocks of birds, and the special effects and rendering of the clouds alone took over a year and a half," Yu said. "The nebula effects are another highlight."

Yu hopes that "Ne Zha 2" will boost confidence in Chinese animated films and promote Chinese stories on the global stage.

Founded in 2017, Hong Li Animation specializes in animated films, TV series and original comics.

Zhou Songhua, deputy head of Nanxiang Town, said that the gaming and animation sector is a key part of the town's industrial plan.

The Global Animation, Comics and Games Industry Base in Nanxiang supports animation and gaming companies with policies, talent and supply chain services as the town strives to become a hub for animation talent, technology and businesses.