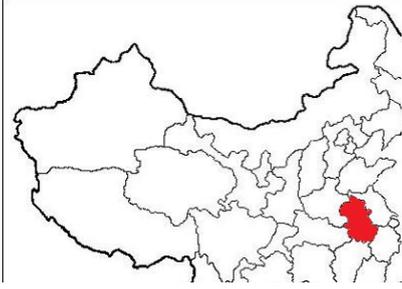


To Me, China Is Diverse

By: Joyce (Yujiao Ouyang)



It is known that China has a large area, and different places have different scenery and special foods. I come from **Chaohu, Anhui Province**, the east-central part of China, and I need to say, maybe it is less famous than Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and other big cities. They do represent China, but China doesn't only have these big cities. Haha!

The red one is where I come from!

I have lived in Chaohu for almost 17 years, and now Hefei (the capital of Anhui province) for about three years. Actually, these two cities are quite close. Usually, I can go home from my university in less than two hours. (Haha, one of the most convenient things is that you can often go back home if your university is near your hometown.) Maybe you are a little confused about my hometown's name: Chaohu. What does it mean? Actually, "hu" in English means lake. My hometown is famous for its lake, as it is **one of the five largest freshwater lakes in China**.



I am really proud of it!

Scenery

One of the most attractive places in Chaohu is **the Tulip Highlands**. There are many different types and colors of tulips. From a distance, it is really like a sea of flowers. The purple ones and white ones impressed me most. For me, the purple tulips were

like mature, proper noble ladies; however, the white ones were the opposite, more like carefree delightful young girls. I am not sure whether boys would love the flowers too, but maybe girls will find this scene more appealing. Therefore, for girls, if your boyfriends are not willing to go to this place with you, you can go with your female friends together. Haha! I highly recommend you to go in April when the flowers are in full bloom. The flowering time of the tulips is usually short, so don't miss the chance! It is really a good place for taking beautiful photos.



I really love the purple ones. They look so special!

Parents usually take their children to fly kites in the Tulip Highlands. Last weekend, my parents and I went there, and we also flew a kite. We haven't done this activity for a long time. It was a little difficult for me to do that, but my mom seemed very skillful. She was even more excited than me when the kite flew into the sky. Maybe she missed her childhood too.

Food

When talking about food, [Zhegao breakfast](#) is the one you really need to try. So, here is a question: What is Zhegao? Actually, Zhegao is a town in Chaohu. It technically belongs to Chaohu and Chaohu belongs to Hefei. (Oh! Too many location names, quite annoying, ha?)

Zhegao breakfast is quite well-known and even appeared on *A Bite of China*, a popular TV documentary series. People from other areas usually go to Zhegao to have breakfast, and so it is very crowded in the restaurant. If you want to try it, you need to

get up early.

The four most famous dishes are

- Fried dumplings with eggs (P1)
- Stir-fried dough (P2)
- Bean curd noodles & celery salad (P3)
- Sizzling seafood rice soup (P4)

I haven't tried the last one yet, but I am positive the other three are really delicious. Every time I eat Zhegao breakfast, I will order those three.



My hometown is quite small and not very famous, but I love it. I was born there, lived there, and I am proud of it. I love its scenery and miss the food. I know it has already become a part of my life. So, to me, China is diverse, and most importantly, it is my home!