



Writing Sample

THE OLD SANLIN STREET

A Travel Diary

Behind tall modern condominium buildings and across the Huang Pu River is the starkly contrasting Old Sanlin Street, a historic walking area in Pudong Shanghai.

On the part of the street we visited, quaint two-floor buildings and small houses built in the early 1900s lined one side of the street. The street's beauty is in the details. Watching two vividly black, red and orange roosters eating grain on a stone-tiled patio with potted plants and simple wooden furniture is like looking at an old photograph in color. Simply dressed elderly men lounging in front of their neat and pretty homes look happy and content. The intricate wood carvings of the roof cap, eaves, and gables tell a long and glorious history. The wooden doors and patterned window muntin seem to block away the passing of time.

On the other side of the street is the edge of the river dotted with decorative trees, plants, benches, and overlooking structures that afford panoramic views of the river blending perfectly with natural landscapes evoking a serene, idyllic world.

The Old Sanlin Street features a fire station, a temple, an assortment of garments and food stores, and a lovely tea house where we drank fruit-flavored tea and ate sweet yellow fresh watermelon and salted watermelon seeds.

Some of the century-old homes were converted into mini museums that showcase antique weaving looms, well-preserved cloth woven with traditional colors and patterns, and exquisite hand embroidery.

And on this old street, you can also see beautiful young children - descendants of the original builders and owners – playing and running around and continuing a living history.

I can hang out all day on the Old Sanlin Street.

288 Words

