

Striving Towards a Modern Coastal Metropolis

Celebrating One-Year Countdown to the 19th Asian Games

By Xu Zhuowei

On September 23rd, "One-Year Countdown to the 19th Asian Games Salon"—expats in Ningbo talk about the Asian Games" was held in the Wanboo Fish Resort, Beilun District, Ningbo (a co-host city of the Hangzhou Asian Games).

A total of 13 expats from 9 countries, including France, Russia, the U.S., Ghana, South Africa, among others, were invited to celebrate the one-year countdown to the upcoming 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022. They shared views on the Games and participated in water sports, including sailing and kayaking. The event provided a unique window for Ningbo expats and local citizens to get further insights into the Hangzhou Asian Games.

Experience Exciting Water Sports

"Do you know what events will be held in Ningbo?" "Where is the branch venue in Ningbo for the Asian Games?"... The activity started with the warm-up questions related to the 19th Hangzhou Asian Games, such as the opening date, mascot, location, slogan and so on, which sparked the interest of the attendees.

The expats shared their views on sports and expectations for the Games. Belleri, an Italian, is a water sports enthusiast. He said that he finds a good balance between work and living in Ningbo. "I am very busy at work, but I can have peace and leisure time in the seaside of Chunxiao, Beilun, and I watched and participated in many water games in Chunxiao, such as swimming, kayaking, stand-up paddling, sailing."

Then it came to training and experiencing session, Mr. Wang, a kayaking coach, presented a detailed training course for all the participants. He displayed and introduced how to drive a double kayak, also known as a tandem kayak.



Visitors from home and abroad learn about canoeing and kayaking at an activity held in Beilun.

[Photo by Ningbo Focus]

Jeswin, a Ghanaian expat engaged in international trade, tried kayaking for the first time. "It was difficult at the beginning. Then I got the hang of it and things went much easier. It was so exciting."

Suggestion to Develop Water Sports

Christian Fardel, a French educator with more than 50 years of teaching in the field of sailing and aviation and one of the participants, shared his sailing experiences and insights with the correspondents.

Christian has been in China since 2017, studying Chinese for some time at Zhejiang University. He is dedicated and successful in sailing coaching and promotion with the aim of encouraging more people to get involved in sailing. "I was shocked by the rich shipbuilding history of Ancient China when I first read a fascinating book about

ancient ships and the shipping industry in ancient maritime silk road in China. However, nowadays in China, sailing as a leisure outdoor activity is not yet as developed as it is in the West," said Christian.

Christian pointed out that sailing might be relatively new to Ningbo locals, but increased opportunities should be provided to encourage young people to embrace the sport. "As a coastal city, Ningbo has advantages to develop water sports," said Christian, "sailing clubs and related coaching schools can be established to facilitate sailing enthusiasts and young talents, more sports centres like the Wanboo Fish Resort can be proposed, so that sailing can become cheaper than it is now and everybody can join in."

Last year, he participated in a sailing competition where his team of young students took the bronze. For the big event, the 19th Hangzhou Asian Games,

Christian will apply as a volunteer. He also helped to set up a sailing school in Qingtian, Zhejiang.

One-Year Countdown to the 19th Asian Games

"365 days, 00 hours, 00 minutes, and 00 seconds from the opening of the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou in 2022", at 8PM on September 23, the countdown board in front of Ningbo City Exhibition Hall was officially launched.

On September 23, 2023, the 19th Hangzhou Asian Games will be held. Ningbo is also one of the co-host cities of this Asian Games and will host two major events: sailing & windsurfing and beach volleyball. The Asian Sailing Centre and the Beach Volleyball Base are ready to welcome the guests.

The Asian Sailing Centre is in the Changzuitou area of Songlan Mountain, Xiangshan. The

land area covers an area of 15.3 hectares and the sea area is 47 hectares. The project has already been completed and passed the acceptance inspection, and events such as the 14th National Games Regatta have been held here.

The beach volleyball base is in Banbianshan Tourist Resort, Xiangshan East Sea. The main stadium is a C-shaped semi-open sports stadium, which can accommodate 2,000 spectators. Asian Games test matches and other events have been held in the beach volleyball base before.

In addition to the preparation of the venues, Ningbo has also launched a variety of cultural and sports activities to welcome the Asian Games, holding a series of brand activities such as the Asian Games Community Games, the Coastal Carnival, as well as individual events such as gate ball, football and bridge, with a total participation of more than 150,000 people.

SPOTLIGHT

Ningbo Invests over Ten Billion RMB into Seventeen Energy Projects

By Dong Na

This year, a total of 17 construction projects in Ningbo are included in the clean energy investment plan of Zhejiang Province, with an annual planned investment of 11.15 billion yuan.

As an important energy and raw material base in East China, Ningbo boasts the advantages of a deep-water port and assumes the important role of importing and processing external energy in China. In the first eight months of this year, Ningbo was the first in the province to invest in the construction of major energy projects, with a 100% project start rate, 849,000 kilowatts of new photovoltaic energy connected to the grid, and 1,970 new public (dedicated) charging pile. The city is completing the annual tasks assigned by the province all ahead of schedule.

Energy projects are important support to promote green and low-carbon development.

Next, Ningbo will focus on key areas, such as power supply, oil and gas, new energy, and its storage, and go all out to promote the commissioning of major energy projects.

Among the 17 projects, the Zhenhai Power Plant Natural Gas Unit Relocation Project, which has already started construction, will be completed and put into operation by the end of June 2024; the third phase of the Zhejiang LNG Receiving Station has also started and will be completed and put into operation by the end of 2025, forming an annual receiving capacity of 6 million tons. Projects under construction also include the Ninghai Pumped Storage Power Station and the Xiangshan #1 Offshore Wind Farm (Phase II).

It is also worth mentioning that photovoltaic projects are key to the new energy category. According to the plan, Ningbo will strive to add 1 million kilowatts of power supply this year.

By 2025, Ningbo will have its power supply increased by more than 5 million kilowatts with a total capacity of 27.7 million kilowatts, including more than 8.2 million from renewables; a new LNG receiving capacity of 6 million tons per year will be added, making the total to reach 12 million tons per year.

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双语汇 Different Tongues

五龙潭：溪谷幽深，水清潭碧

By Jin Lu

The Wulongtan Scenic Resort, an eco-tourism spot, is located in Longguan Town, Haishu District, Ningbo.

宁波五龙潭风景名胜区位于海曙区龙观乡。

Boasting magnificent natural scenery of streams, cascades, rocks, and steep hills, the scenic resort showcases Chinese Dragon culture, unique characteristics of mountainous areas in east Zhejiang, as well as the local customs.

该风景区以自然风光为依托，中华龙文化、浙东山乡风情、民俗民风为文化内涵，以溪流飞瀑、奇石险峰为特色。

Since it was opened in 2000, it has enjoyed great fame in the public and been given honors, such as the na-

tional 4A tourist attraction, the provincial-level scenic resort, and the eco-friendly tourist attraction of Ningbo.

自2000年开发以来，五龙潭在公众中享有盛誉，荣获国家AAAA级旅游景区、省级风景名胜区等荣誉。

Wulongtan is surrounded by high mountains, cliffs, ravines among other kinds of landforms. Renowned for a captivating landscape and distinctive local features, it meets various needs of tourists who dream of returning to nature, appreciating the rural scenery, and understanding the local culture of east Zhejiang, through its offering of different tourist experiences such as sightseeing, vacations, religious worshipping, and mountain climbing.



Wulongtan Scenic Resort. /五龙潭风景名胜区。

[Photo by Tang Yan] 唐严 摄

五龙潭风景名胜区属山地型旅游区，区内群山环抱，峰峦挺拔，悬崖耸立，溪谷幽深，地形变化丰富。以山奇水秀谷幽、山乡风情浓郁为特色，集游览观光、休闲度假、礼佛朝圣、山地健身功能于一体，可满足游客回归自然山水、品味山村风光，

感知浙东地方文化，享受休闲世界的需求。

Besides, featuring Chinese folk culture of Chinese Dragon worshipping, it intends to carry forward this tradition by giving visitors opportunities to wor-

ship the totem while visiting Wulongtan (the Five Dragon Pool).

景区具有浓烈的华夏“龙崇拜”民俗文化特色，欲在国内树立“龙的传人”游龙潭、观龙俗、祭龙祖的品牌形象。

