

# The City of Yueyang

Yueyang is a historic City of just under five million people in central southern China overlooking China's second largest lake, Lake Dongting. With a climate similar to Brisbane's humid and sub-tropical, it is the only inland port on the Yangtze River in the Province of Hunan.



*Dongting bridge*

The famous Yueyang tower ramparts has stood on the lake's shore for over 1000 years. Junshun Island can be seen across the lake and is a popular tourist destination. This island is famous for growing the delicacy 'silver needle tea'.



*Yueyang tower*

Modern Yueyang is a burgeoning industrial city with the biggest base for petroleum and chemical industries in the central-southern area of China. The City also boasts paper-making, textiles and the machine making industries.

# Yueyang section of Spearwood Avenue

Previously occupied by a number of industrial units, the Yueyang section of Friendship Way (the unofficial name for Spearwood Avenue) is a newly constructed road.

In honour of the cultural importance of Yueyang, this section of the road consists for the following elements:

**Welcome wall** is decorated with the word 'Welcome' in Mandarin. In addition there are five murals depicting many of the cultural aspects of Yueyang. The mural tributes the international dragon boat festival, the Yueyang tower, Dongting Lake and Junshan island.



*Welcome wall and murals*

**Gateways** seal the cultural importance of the City's relationship with Yueyang. Male and female lions are placed similarly to traditional entrances to temples in Yueyang. The male lion is shown with its paw on a model of the globe as an expression of might and the female is shown with its paw protecting a cub as an expression of nurturing. The lions are placed in a bed of gardenias, the official flower of Yueyang, and frames by giant bamboos and hibiscus bushes.



*One of the traditional lions being installed on Friendship Way*

**Side verges** are lined with formal avenues of decorative Catalpa trees that are grown locally in Yueyang. This tree is highly prized for its timber presumably for its use in musical instruments and in fine furniture made from this fragrant timber. The embankments that form the verges are filled with native vegetation to provide genetic diversity and create a habitat for the City's wildlife.

**Median strip** in the centre of much of the Yueyang section of Friendship way is 6 meters wide of 'red carpet' dwarf oleander flowers. The red colour emphasises the width of the two carriageways and recalls the grandeur of Yueyang.