

Shangri-La City, Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan -China

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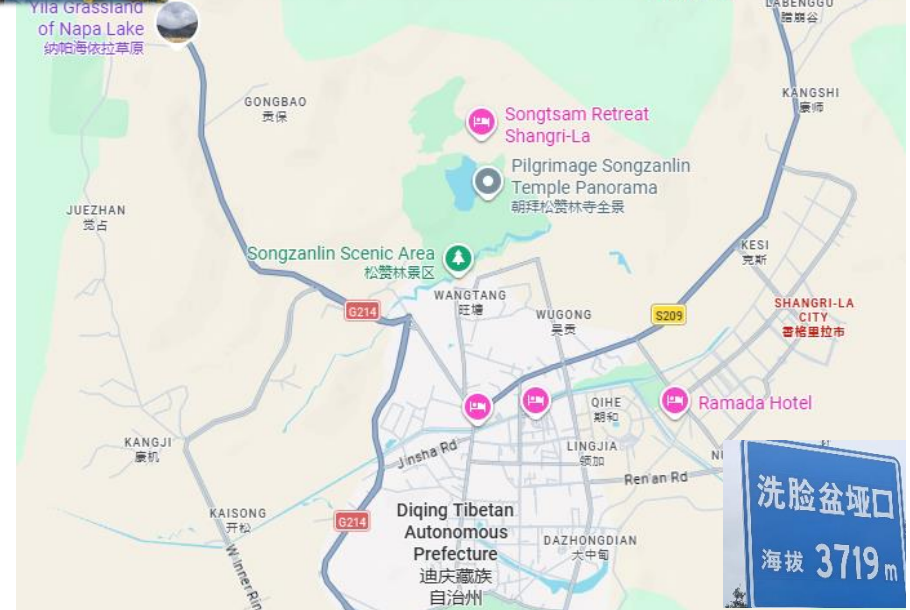
Shangri-La located at 3190 metres altitude is a highland Tibetan city in northwestern Yunnan, celebrated for its dramatic mountain scenery, ancient monasteries, and rich Tibetan culture. Renamed in 2001 after the legendary paradise of James Hilton's Lost Horizon, it offers visitors snow-capped peaks, alpine lakes, grasslands, and the historic Dukezong Ancient Town, making it one of China's most atmospheric and culturally distinctive destinations.

During their visit to Shangri-La in early October 2026, Alex and Erica from the Historic Water Meter Museum (HWMM) explored the city's historic streets and modern districts, documenting several water meters of varying ages, designs, and manufacturers. The high altitude did take its toll on our endurance one day where racked up 21K steps wandering the city discovering historic sites and the occasional water meter on the way.



Discovered in the old town was a DN20, Q3 = 4.0 m³/h, IP68, NB-IoT Ultrasonic Water Meter made 2025.02 by Kunming Municipal water meter company.

Due to the extreme cold winters, the pipes are wrapped with insulation.



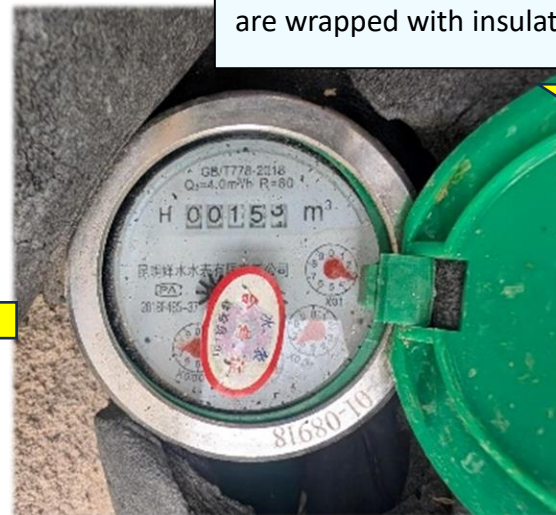


Deqen Culture Museum



Discovered in the old town was a **20mm Multi-jet water meter**, dry dial type, 4.0 m³/h made by the **Kunming City Investment Water Meter Co., Ltd.**

Due to the extreme cold winters, the meter and pipes are wrapped with insulation.





Baita Temple



All pictures taken by A.Manu during the visit to the magical & spiritual city and land of Shanqri-La



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While exploring several apartment complexes, two **100 mm flanged turbine (Woltmann) water meters** were discovered. The meters were identified as **Model LXL-100, with a flow rating of $Q_3 = 100 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$, and were manufactured by Ningbo Juting Water Meter & Valve Co., Ltd.**

Based in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, the company operates within one of China's principal centres for water meter manufacturing.

The meters were marked GB/T 778-2007, the Chinese national standard for cold potable water meters, broadly aligned with international metering standards.

As noted elsewhere during the survey, attempts had been made to insulate the associated pipework, presumably to provide protection against the region's cold winter temperatures. The meters themselves were in poor and dirty condition, with the registers barely readable. This raises the possibility that routine visual meter readings are no longer undertaken and that the properties may instead be serviced under an agreed volumetric charging arrangement or an alternative bulk-billing methodology.





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The Songzanlin Monastery Complex

The Napa Lake plains

Completing the trip with a YAK beer.



This **IoT-enabled flow monitoring device**, **made by TOPSAIL**, incorporates an **ultrasonic flow measurement system mounted on a large-diameter water pipe**. Such equipment allows utilities to remotely monitor flows and, in conjunction with automated valves, assist in the management of water distribution networks.

