

Shiguzhen Town 石鼓镇 Yulong Naxi, Yunnan China

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Shiguzhen lies approximately 50-60 kilometres northwest of Lijiang in the Yulong Naxi Autonomous County, occupying a commanding position on the upper reaches of the Jinsha River, the name given to the Yangtze River in this part of China. The town is best known for the famous "First Bend of the Yangtze River", where the river, after flowing southward from the Tibetan Plateau, makes a dramatic turn toward the northeast. This remarkable geographical feature has made Shigu an important crossing point for centuries.

Throughout history, Shigu was a strategic military and trading settlement. Tradition holds that the celebrated Three Kingdoms strategist Zhuge Liang crossed the river in this region during his southern campaigns. In 1253, Kublai Khan's forces also crossed the Jinsha River here during their conquest of the Kingdom of Dali. Centuries later, in 1936, units of the Chinese Red Army crossed at Shigu during the Long March, an event commemorated today by memorials in the town.

While exploring Shigu Town on the 1st October 2026, Alex from the HWMM and his travelling companions soaked up the area's fascinating history and managed to locate several water meters within the local markets, which are documented here.

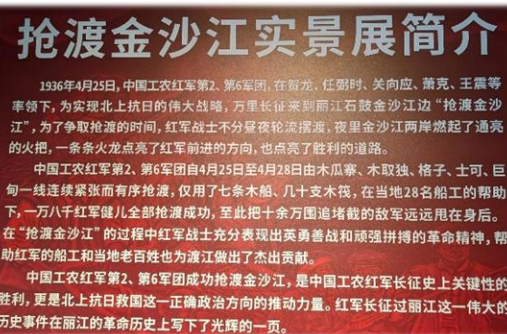


Pictured at the markets, salute to hero's and memorial spot of Red Army River crossing.



The 1st Water Meter found was part-covered in concrete with the register barely readable, which begs the question are they still used ? In any case the meter is a **15mm Multi-jet type**.





Shigu Town is renowned as the location where approximately 18,000 Red Army troops crossed the Jinsha River in April 1936 during the Long March. The operation is commemorated today by memorials and exhibitions that remain an important part of the town's historical identity. Reminders of the revolutionary era can be seen throughout the town.



Alex pauses with a local shopkeeper in Shigu Town.

The 2nd Water Meter is again by an unknown Chinese manufacturer (not visible). But what was determined - Model: LXS-15E Mechanical multi-jet (rotary vane) water meter - Size: 15mm.

