

Baisha (白沙古镇) Ancient Town, Lijiang, Yunan China

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Baisha Ancient Town (白沙古镇) is one of the oldest settlements in the Lijiang region of Yunnan Province. It sits beneath the spectacular Jade Dragon Snow Mountain (玉龙雪山). Historically, Baisha was the original political, economic, and cultural centre of the Naxi people, the predominant ethnic group of the area. Its famous Baisha Murals, combine Buddhist, Daoist, Tibetan, and Naxi artistic traditions and provide a unique record of life and religion in southwestern China. The town began developing during the Tang Dynasty (618-907). For over a thousand years, Lijiang was an important stop on the Tea Horse Road, a trade route linking China, Tibet, and parts of Southeast Asia. Merchants carried tea, horses, salt, and other goods through the region. Lijiang itself grew into a major trading centre on the Tea Horse Road and is now renowned worldwide for its UNESCO-listed old town, Naxi culture, traditional architecture, canals, and spectacular mountain setting.

On 30 September 2026, Peter Hall, who was travelling with Alex Manu, Erica and Penny, displayed an uncanny knack for spotting water meters, discovering several within the ancient town that are documented here.



Naxi Girl in
Baisha Village



Jade Dragon Mountain



Alex &
Peter -
speculating
what is in
the box
with
peering
eyes ?





Once opening the lid enclosure, a **Kaifeng Meter Co DN15 rotary piston Water Meter** fitted with an **IC-card intelligent control valve** is discovered. The lid bears Chinese markings including “IC 卡智能控制阀” (IC Card Intelligent Control Valve).



Peter, Penny & Erica in the ancient town.



Wise old Baisha men and local cuisine



Another example of this type of water meter was discovered by Peter in Baisha Ancient Town, near Lijiang, after noticing it while peering down an alleyway.