



The "Invisible" Banyan Trees

A Cultural Map of Gulangyu's Bayan

JUANZONG BOOKS (Wallpaper China)

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- Offers a unique cultural lens by treating Gulangyu's banyan trees as the island's "invisible narrators," uncovering hidden layers of memory and place
- Employs a multidisciplinary method, weaving together botanical science, landscape studies, site-specific analysis, and oral history
- Functions as both a deep cultural study and an evocative walking guide, mapping the profound symbiosis between nature and urban life

This book offers a unique journey into the heart of Gulangyu Island through its most iconic yet overlooked narrators—the banyan trees. More than just botanical features, these trees are the living breath and hidden storytellers of the island, their roots entwined with the very fabric of its urban space, memory, and culture. This book unfolds in four parts: an insightful scientific profile of the banyan tree itself; an exploration of its profound, symbiotic relationship with human life and the city; a detailed presentation of 15 specific banyan sites on Gulangyu, enriched with photographs and drawings; and a compelling oral history section that captures the vibrant, “invisible” life force these trees embody. It is not merely a guide but a cultural map, inviting readers to rediscover the island’s layered narrative and the deep, poetic dialogue between nature, architecture, and human history.

Text in English and Mandarin.