

France and I (3)

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In October 2003, I went to Nice to attend the 9th International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV). This is the biggest international conference on computer vision, my research domain, which is biannually held in various countries in the world in turn. This was originally scheduled to take place in Beijing, China. However, a new infectious disease called SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) spread in China in 2002, causing a lot of fear all over the world. For this reason, the site was changed to Nice, France, although the disease was brought down by October 2003. So, on afterthought, the conference would have been held in Beijing without any problem, but no one had been sure about that at the time.

Nice is a beautiful tourist resort city in Côte d'Azur, facing the Mediterranean Sea. Recently, it gained a global attention for the terrorist attack of July 2016 there. When I was there in October 2003, it was near the end of autumn with a very good weather. The seaside road called Promenade des Anglais, where the terrorist attack took place, is a nice place for strolling. We can see a nice view from an observatory on a hill in the east of the city. All tourist posters and picture postcards of Nice show views from there. Everyday, I went to the town with my colleagues to eat oysters, mussels, and other seafood. I also visited the Matisse Museum (Musée Matisse) and the Chagall Museum (Musée national Message Biblique Marc Chagall).

After the conference, I traveled to Monaco with a friend of mine by train. The beautiful seaport view from the palace is very familiar; it is well known as the opening scene of the Hitchcock movie "Rebecca" (Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine, 1940). I visited the palace (Palais Princier) and the adjacent history museum (Musée des Sourvenires Napoléoniens et des Archives Historique du Palais).



Nice



Monaco