

SATCHET FUN DISCOVERY GUIDE

summer 2022

** flip to the other side to read about the history of scented sachets!*

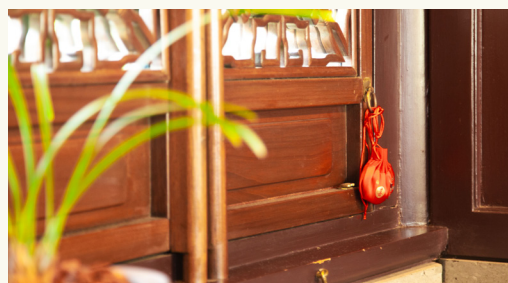
There are 8 sachets hanging around Lan Su for the summer. Can you find all of them?


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Friendly Reminder – There is no sachet to be found at our Teahouse. Thank you for your support in preserving our teahouse patrons' dining experience.

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**flip to the other side to begin your satchet finding adventure!*

The Dragon Boat Festival or, “duānwǔ” (端午), has been celebrated for over 2000 years! It falls on the 5th day of the 5th month of the Chinese Lunar Calendar. It is one of the biggest celebrations on the Chinese calendar along with Lunar New Year, Qingming, and Mid-Autumn. The festival marks the beginning of warmer weather of the year.

Did you know that the number 5 is considered inauspicious, or unlucky, in Chinese Culture? The 5th day of the 5th month marks the beginning of summer but is also considered a very inauspicious day because of the ‘double 5’. Because of this, there are many traditional Chinese customs during the summer to help ward off bad luck, repel insects, and stay refreshed in the summer heat.



Image source: www.dhgate.com



Image source: www.news.cgtn.com

One of the most popular traditions in the summer is wearing and hanging sachets, little pouches filled with herbs and dried flower petals. These sachets, or “xiāngbāo” (香包), can be filled with many medicinal herbs like wormwood, calamus, and realgar. These scents are said to ward off evil, and also give off a very nice smell. Traditionally, a scented sachet can be worn on the front of one’s robe, hung on a wall, or even placed under a pillow. Sometimes, people would sew their own sachets to give to their loved ones as tokens of love.

The early summer when the Dragon Boat Festival occurs usually marks the emergence of insects and pests. The sachets can keep insects away with their strong smell. Some parents have their children wear sachets to keep away disease carrying insects, just like modern bug repellent you wear for camping trips!