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"A Night of Fish and Dragon Dance," a lantern installation, at Shanghai's Yuyuan Garden Malls. — CFP



Yang Jian

SHANGHAI'S annual Yuyuan Garden lantern fair for the approaching Year of the Dragon will light up on the evening of January 21 and last for 40 days, the organizer announced last Sunday.

Various lantern displays are being constructed within the dining and shopping facilities — Yuyuan Garden Malls — near the old city garden. Residents and tourists can now get a glimpse of their general appearance.

At the iconic Zigzag Bridge, crowds of visitors were taking photos of the lantern displays over the weekend.

This year's lantern fair will continue the theme of the Year

Left: Shanghai's iconic Yuyuan Garden is getting ready for the city's annual lantern fair, which will begin on January 21. — IC of the Rabbit lantern festival with dragons and other mythical creatures from "Classic of Mountains and Seas."

After the official lighting ceremony, people will be able to admire the magical coexistence of the mythical dragon and the marine flora and fauna.

This year's lantern fair is being held simultaneously in Paris and Shanghai, marking the start of the Sino-France 2024 Chinese New Year celebrations.

Admission tickets are required for the local event between February 10 — Spring Festival — and February 25. Tickets cost 80 yuan (US\$11.2) for adults and 50 yuan for children.

During its 52-day run early last year, the Year of the Rabbit lantern fair drew over 4 million visitors.