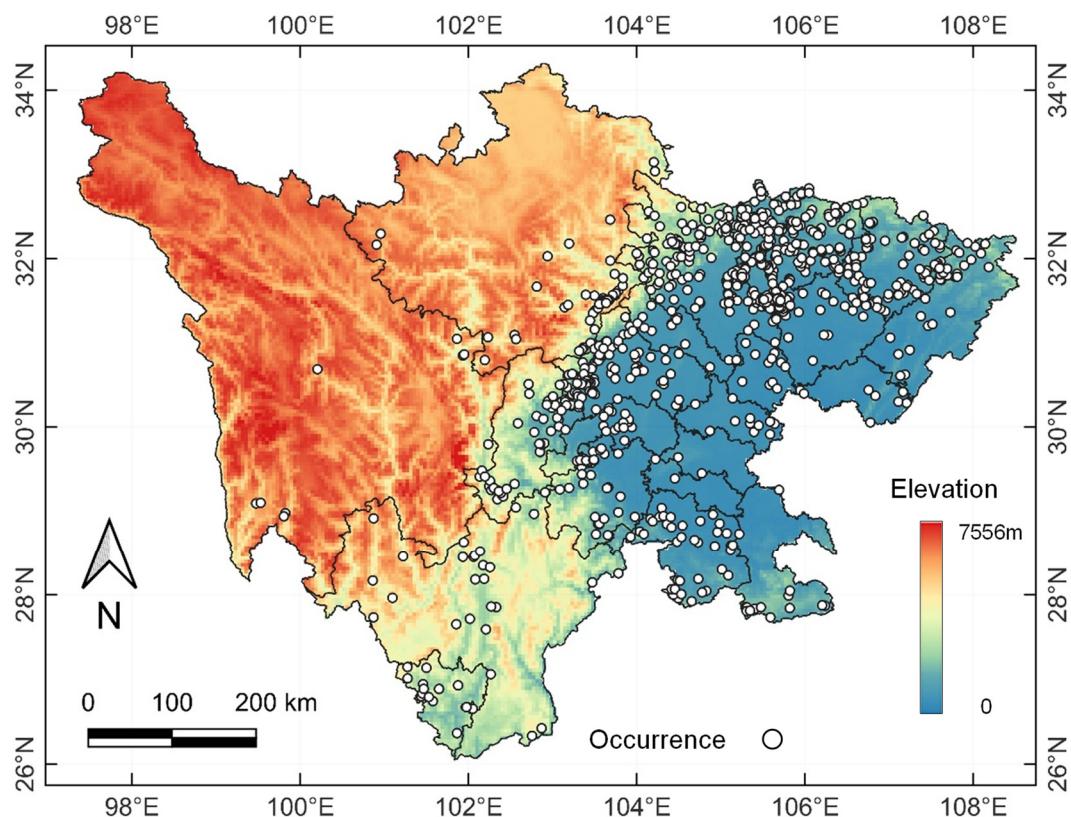


**Supplementary materials:**



**Figure S1.** The locations of occurrence records (shown by white dots) of venerable trees in relation to elevation in Sichuan Province, China.

**Table S1.** Nineteen environmental variables that may predict the geographical distribution of venerable trees in Sichuan.

Bioclimatic variable	Code	Unit	Bioclimatic variable	Code	Unit
Annual mean temperature	Bio 1	°C	Mean temperature of coldest quarter	Bio 11	°C
Mean diurnal range	Bio 2	°C	Annual precipitation	Bio 12	mm
Isothermality (Bio2/Bio7) ( $\times 100$ )	Bio 3	Index	Precipitation of wettest month	Bio 13	mm
Temperature seasonality	Bio 4	Index	Precipitation of driest month	Bio 14	mm
Max temperature of warmest month	Bio 5	°C	Precipitation seasonality	Bio 15	Index
Min temperature of coldest month	Bio 6	°C	Precipitation of wettest quarter	Bio 16	mm
Temperature annual range	Bio 7	°C	Precipitation of driest quarter	Bio 17	mm
Mean temperature of wettest quarter	Bio 8	°C	Precipitation of warmest quarter	Bio 18	mm
Mean temperature of driest quarter	Bio 9	°C	Precipitation of coldest quarter	Bio 19	mm
Mean temperature of warmest quarter	Bio 10	°C			

**Table S2.** Pearson correlation coefficient matrix of seven chosen environmental variables to predict the geographical distribution of venerable trees in Sichuan.

Variable <sup>a</sup>	bio3	bio7	bio11	bio15	bio16	bio18	bio19
bio3	1.000						
bio7	-0.026	1.000					
bio11	-0.317**	-0.579**	1.000				
bio15	0.272**	-0.200**	0.118**	1.000			
bio16	-0.079**	-0.137**	0.154**	0.041	1.000		
bio18	-0.180**	-0.605**	0.425**	0.443**	0.105**	1.000	
bio19	-0.492**	-0.525**	0.440**	-0.381**	0.076**	0.577**	1.000

<sup>a</sup> The meanings of bioclimatic variables can be found in Table S1.

\*\* Denotes that the difference is significant at the 0.01 level.

**Table S3.** Species composition and importance values of venerable trees in Sichuan, ranked by importance values (IV).

Scientific name	Family	DBH	Count	RD <sup>a</sup>	RA <sup>a</sup>	IV
<i>Cupressus funebris</i>	Cupressaceae	2,665,828	9489	83.972	88.517	172.489
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgoaceae	98,418	211	3.100	1.968	5.068
<i>Ficus virens</i> var. <i>sublanceolata</i>	Moraceae	105,223	154	3.314	1.437	4.751
<i>Phoebe zhennan</i>	Lauraceae	54,531	169	1.718	1.576	3.294
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Anacardiaceae	35,169	95	1.108	0.886	1.994
<i>Keteleeria davidiana</i>	Pinaceae	22,987	50	0.724	0.466	1.190
<i>Platycladus orientalis</i>	Cupressaceae	14,364	37	0.452	0.345	0.798
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Lauraceae	11,098	29	0.350	0.271	0.620
<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> var. <i>chinensis</i>	Taxaceae	10,332	30	0.325	0.280	0.605
<i>Pterocarya stenoptera</i>	Juglandaceae	11,542	22	0.364	0.205	0.569
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Juglandaceae	10,822	19	0.341	0.177	0.518
<i>Gleditsia sinensis</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	6991	24	0.220	0.224	0.444
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Meliaceae	6017	23	0.190	0.215	0.404
<i>Ormosia hosiei</i>	Papilionaceae	5405	23	0.170	0.215	0.385
<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	Papilionaceae	7142	17	0.225	0.159	0.384
<i>Cyclobalanopsis glauca</i>	Fagaceae	6208	18	0.196	0.168	0.363
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	Hamamelidaceae	6113	16	0.193	0.149	0.342
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Oleaceae	4468	12	0.141	0.112	0.253
<i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	Podocarpaceae	3591	14	0.113	0.131	0.244
<i>Xylosma congesta</i>	Flacourtiaceae	3412	14	0.107	0.131	0.238
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Lythraceae	2568	12	0.081	0.112	0.193
<i>Litchi chinensis</i>	Sapindaceae	2829	10	0.089	0.093	0.182
<i>Emmenopterys henryi</i>	Rubiaceae	3866	5	0.122	0.047	0.168
<i>Osmanthus fragrans</i>	Oleaceae	1855	11	0.058	0.103	0.161
<i>Acer oblongum</i>	Aceraceae	2309	9	0.073	0.084	0.157
<i>Cycas revoluta</i>	Cycadaceae	2372	8	0.075	0.075	0.149
<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	Pinaceae	1942	8	0.061	0.075	0.136
<i>Pistacia weinmanniifolia</i>	Anacardiaceae	2081	7	0.066	0.065	0.131
<i>Keteleeria evelyniana</i>	Pinaceae	2290	5	0.072	0.047	0.119
<i>Choerospondias axillaris</i>	Anacardiaceae	2495	4	0.079	0.037	0.116
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	Taxodiaceae	1994	5	0.063	0.047	0.109
<i>Machilus nanmu</i>	Lauraceae	1570	6	0.049	0.056	0.105
<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Bombacaceae	2196	3	0.069	0.028	0.097
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	Theaceae	321	9	0.010	0.084	0.094
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	Cupressaceae	1463	5	0.046	0.047	0.093
<i>Meliosma veitchiorum</i>	Sabiaceae	2330	2	0.073	0.019	0.092
<i>Cupressus chengiana</i>	Cupressaceae	1568	4	0.049	0.037	0.087
<i>Michelia wilsonii</i>	Lauraceae	1557	4	0.049	0.037	0.086
<i>Populus davidiana</i>	Salicaceae	1547	4	0.049	0.037	0.086
<i>Tilia tuan</i>	Tiliaceae	2104	2	0.066	0.019	0.085
<i>Quercus semecarpifolia</i>	Fagaceae	1585	3	0.050	0.028	0.078
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Fagaceae	1282	4	0.040	0.037	0.078
<i>Lindera megaphylla</i>	Lauraceae	1387	3	0.044	0.028	0.072
<i>Picea asperata</i>	Pinaceae	1356	3	0.043	0.028	0.071
<i>Pinus bungeana</i>	Pinaceae	1020	4	0.032	0.037	0.069
<i>Diospyros nigro cortex</i>	Ebenaceae	1300	3	0.041	0.028	0.069
<i>Populus tomentosa</i>	Salicaceae	1350	2	0.043	0.019	0.061
<i>Castanopsis platyacantha</i>	Fagaceae	946	3	0.030	0.028	0.058

<i>Abies fabri</i>	Pinaceae	852	3	0.027	0.028	0.055
<i>Tsuga dumosa</i>	Pinaceae	1130	2	0.036	0.019	0.054
<i>Tsuga chinensis</i>	Pinaceae	818	3	0.026	0.028	0.054
<i>Lagerstroemia excelsa</i>	Lythraceae	767	3	0.024	0.028	0.052
<i>Kalopanax septemlobus</i>	Araliaceae	1002	2	0.032	0.019	0.050
<i>Litsea coreana</i> var. <i>lanuginosa</i>	Lauraceae	624	3	0.020	0.028	0.048
<i>Ehretia dicksonii</i>	Boraginaceae	885	2	0.028	0.019	0.047
<i>Camellia gymnogyna</i>	Theaceae	587	3	0.018	0.028	0.046
<i>Pseudotsuga sinensis</i>	Pinaceae	848	2	0.027	0.019	0.045
<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Moraceae	535	3	0.017	0.028	0.045
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> var. <i>spinosa</i>	Rhamnaceae	816	2	0.026	0.019	0.044
<i>Juniperus saltuaria</i>	Cupressaceae	785	2	0.025	0.019	0.043
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Ulmaceae	681	2	0.021	0.019	0.040
<i>Populus cathayana</i>	Salicaceae	950	1	0.030	0.009	0.039
<i>Cinnamomum longepaniculatum</i>	Lauraceae	625	2	0.020	0.019	0.038
<i>Acer pictum</i> subsp. <i>mono</i>	Aceraceae	614	2	0.019	0.019	0.038
<i>Quercus variabilis</i>	Fagaceae	603	2	0.019	0.019	0.038
<i>Cyclobalanopsis gracilis</i>	Fagaceae	288	3	0.009	0.028	0.037
<i>Vitex negundo</i>	Verbenaceae	554	2	0.017	0.019	0.036
<i>Radermachera microcalyx</i>	Bignoniaceae	541	2	0.017	0.019	0.036
<i>Cupressus duclouxiana</i>	Cupressaceae	540	2	0.017	0.019	0.036
<i>Quercus spinosa</i>	Fagaceae	512	2	0.016	0.019	0.035
<i>Engelhardia roxburghiana</i>	Juglandaceae	785	1	0.025	0.009	0.034
<i>Ormosia yaanensis</i>	Papilionaceae	785	1	0.025	0.009	0.034
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Aceraceae	487	2	0.015	0.019	0.034
<i>Morus australis</i>	Moraceae	760	1	0.024	0.009	0.033
<i>Lindera aggregata</i>	Lauraceae	442	2	0.014	0.019	0.033
<i>Cercis chinensis</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	439	2	0.014	0.019	0.032
<i>Meliosma alba</i>	Sabiaceae	637	1	0.020	0.009	0.029
<i>Acer flabellatum</i>	Aceraceae	584	1	0.018	0.009	0.028
<i>Juniperus squamata</i>	Cupressaceae	565	1	0.018	0.009	0.027
<i>Populus alba</i>	Salicaceae	540	1	0.017	0.009	0.026
<i>Bischofia polycarpa</i>	Euphorbiaceae	502	1	0.016	0.009	0.025
<i>Yulania liliiflora</i>	Magnoliaceae	495	1	0.016	0.009	0.025
<i>Ailanthes altissima</i>	Simaroubaceae	480	1	0.015	0.009	0.024
<i>Diospyros kaki</i>	Ebenaceae	480	1	0.015	0.009	0.024
<i>Sorbus pohuashanensis</i>	Rosaceae	480	1	0.015	0.009	0.024
<i>Photinia glomerata</i>	Rosaceae	452	1	0.014	0.009	0.024
<i>Laurocerasus zippelianus</i>	Rosaceae	408	1	0.013	0.009	0.022
<i>Lithocarpus confinis</i>	Fagaceae	408	1	0.013	0.009	0.022
<i>Aidia canthioides</i>	Rubiaceae	404	1	0.013	0.009	0.022
<i>Celtis biondii</i>	Ulmaceae	399	1	0.013	0.009	0.022
<i>Castanea mollissima</i>	Fagaceae	393	1	0.012	0.009	0.022
<i>Quercus acrodonta</i>	Fagaceae	380	1	0.012	0.009	0.021
<i>Albizia kalkora</i>	Mimosaceae	377	1	0.012	0.009	0.021
<i>Buxus sinica</i>	Buxaceae	377	1	0.012	0.009	0.021
<i>Dalbergia hupeana</i>	Papilionaceae	360	1	0.011	0.009	0.021
<i>Elaeocarpus japonicus</i>	Elaeocarpaceae	330	1	0.010	0.009	0.020
<i>Morus macroura</i>	Moraceae	316	1	0.010	0.009	0.019
<i>Rosa chinensis</i>	Rosaceae	308	1	0.010	0.009	0.019
<i>Beilschmiedia delicata</i>	Lauraceae	304	1	0.010	0.009	0.019
<i>Sloanea sinensis</i>	Elaeocarpaceae	301	1	0.009	0.009	0.019
<i>Yulania dawsoniana</i>	Magnoliaceae	298	1	0.009	0.009	0.019

<i>Pinus yunnanensis</i>	Pinaceae	289	1	0.009	0.009	0.018
<i>Pyrus betulifolia</i>	Rosaceae	260	1	0.008	0.009	0.018
<i>Quercus mongolica</i>	Fagaceae	242	1	0.008	0.009	0.017
<i>Crataegus pinnatifida</i>	Rosaceae	229	1	0.007	0.009	0.017
<i>Michelia martini</i>	Magnoliaceae	226	1	0.007	0.009	0.016
<i>Morus alba</i>	Moraceae	220	1	0.007	0.009	0.016
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Ulmaceae	207	1	0.007	0.009	0.016
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Papilionaceae	206	1	0.006	0.009	0.016
<i>Quercus aquifolioides</i>	Fagaceae	204	1	0.006	0.009	0.016
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Rhamnaceae	200	1	0.006	0.009	0.016
<i>Idesia polycarpa</i> var. <i>vestita</i>	Flacourtiaceae	165	1	0.005	0.009	0.015
<i>Cinnamomum japonicum</i>	Lauraceae	160	1	0.005	0.009	0.014
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Cercidiphyllaceae	143	1	0.005	0.009	0.014
<i>Castanea henryi</i>	Fagaceae	138	1	0.004	0.009	0.014
<i>Myrica rubra</i>	Myricaceae	138	1	0.004	0.009	0.014
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Theaceae	110	1	0.003	0.009	0.013
<i>Diospyros oleifera</i>	Ebenaceae	102	1	0.003	0.009	0.013
<i>Armeniaca mume</i>	Rosaceae	100	1	0.003	0.009	0.012
<i>Amygdalus persica</i>	Rosaceae	95	1	0.003	0.009	0.012
<i>Morus mongolica</i>	Moraceae	88	1	0.003	0.009	0.012
<i>Diospyros armata</i>	Ebenaceae	79	1	0.002	0.009	0.012
<i>Koilodepas hainanense</i>	Euphorbiaceae	65	1	0.002	0.009	0.011
Total		3,174,644	10,720	100.000	100.000	200.000

<sup>a</sup> RD denotes relative dominance, and RA relative abundance.

**Table S4.** Predicted suitable habitats for venerable trees in Sichuan under current and future climate scenarios.

Suitability category	Predicted area (x 10 <sup>4</sup> km <sup>2</sup> )		Area change (x 10 <sup>4</sup> km <sup>2</sup> )	Change ratio (%)
	Current	Future		
<b>Excellent</b>		12,579	18	0.15
Very high	57,398	67,856	10,458	18.22
High	74,495	78,184	3689	4.95
Medium	52,455	51,865	-590	-1.13
Low	130,750	117,618	-13,132	-10.04
Not suitable	158,342	157,899	-443	-0.28