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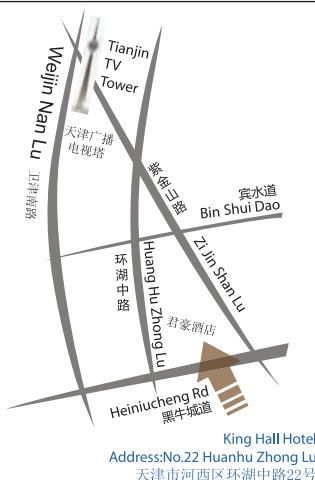
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11/01,02

Children's Play: The dog A Ba

儿童剧《小狗阿疤》  
演出：北京丑小鸭卡通艺术团  
10:30&15:30

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi  
Tel: 83882000  
天津大剧院 河西区平江道文化中心

11/01

Chamber Concert

贾赫蒂尼钢琴四重奏  
演出：贾赫蒂尼钢琴四重奏  
19:30

No.88, Jianshe Road, Heping  
Tel: 23320068  
和平区建设路88号

11/04

Public lecture: French Film

—吻巴黎—法国电影  
主讲人：天津法语联盟  
15:00

Western Shore Art Salon  
No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi  
Tel: 8622-23263505  
西岸艺术馆 河西区友谊北路3号



11/07

Dance Drama: The Rite of Spring

舞剧《十月·春之祭》  
演出：北京现代舞团  
19:30



Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi  
Tel: 83882000  
天津大剧院 河西区平江道文化中心

11/07

Kunqu Opera Concert

望江南·步步娇——西岸昆曲清唱会  
演出：天津市昆曲艺术研究会  
20:00

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Tel: 8622-23263505  
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11/09

Piano Solo Concert by

Peter Ritzen  
彼得·利兹钢琴独奏音乐会  
演奏：彼得·利兹  
19:30

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi  
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11/15,16

Ballet: Le Corsaire

芭蕾舞剧《海盗》  
演出：法国图卢兹芭蕾舞团  
10:30&15:30

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi  
Tel: 83882000  
天津大剧院 河西区平江道文化中心



11/15

Chinese and Foreign Classical

Chorus Works Concert  
蓝色多瑙河——中外经典合唱作品专场音乐会  
演出：北京春之声合唱艺术团  
19:30



Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi  
Tel: 83882000  
天津大剧院 河西区平江道文化中心

11/22

String Quartet Concert

佛罗伦萨的回忆——弦乐重奏音乐会  
演出：西岸新古典室内乐团·VIVACE组合  
20:00

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11/22

Piano Concert by Xie Yuan and Student

中国钢琴名师系列9  
·谢元师生钢琴音乐会  
演奏：谢元 等  
19:30

No.88, Jianshe Road, Heping  
Tel: 23320068  
和平区建设路88号

11/25

Public lecture: The Art of Vocal Music

中外艺术名曲——声乐艺术  
主讲人：薛跃林  
15:00

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11/11

Public lecture: Oriental Music

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主讲人: 张秀岭

15:00

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Tel: 8622-23263505  
西岸艺术馆 河西区友谊北路3号

11/14

Pipa Concert by Li Guangzu  
and Student

大珠小珠落玉盘

——李光祖师生琵琶音乐会

演奏: 李光祖 等

19:30



No.88, Jianshe Road, Heping  
Tel: 23320068  
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11/18

Public lecture: Classical Guitar

古典吉他——质伟讲堂

主讲人: 李质伟

15:00



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11/28,29

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开放——中国新诗100年诗歌音乐会

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17:30

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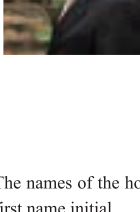
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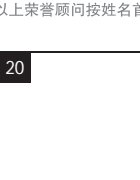
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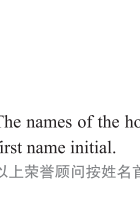
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## TIANJIN NEWS

### China approves expanded opening of Tianjin port

#### 中国批准天津港口岸新一轮扩大对外开放计划

国务院日前正式批准天津港口岸新一轮扩大对外开放计划,批准天津港口岸新增对外开放水域1120平方公里,新增码头岸线69.1公里,新建对外开放码头泊位71个。据介绍,此次国务院批准的天津港口岸开放水域从470平方公里扩大到1590平方公里,码头岸线总长从78.9公里扩大到148公里,批准新建的码头泊位从75个增至146个,开放程度大为增加。在此次扩大开放的区域内,天津港正在建设一个30平方公里的世界级人工港岛,目前正处于外围防波堤前期建设阶段。

China has approved a plan for expanded customs service and international trade in the northern major port of Tianjin, the world's fourth-largest harbor by cargo throughput. Under the plan, the water area of Tianjin Port open to the world will increase by 1,120 sq km to reach 1,590 sq km, said an official of the Port Service Office of the Tianjin municipal government recently. It also includes construction of 71 new berths, raising the total number of berths to 146. The expansion will serve Tianjin's goal of building an international port city. "To achieve effective and convenient opening up, coordination is needed between government departments and port authorities in customs services," the official said. The largest comprehensive port in north China, the Tianjin Port has established trade ties with more than 500 ports in 180 countries and regions around the world. The port's cargo throughput exceeded 500 million tonnes in 2013. Located on the coast of the Bohai Sea, the Tianjin Port is exceeded only by the Ningbo-Zhoushan Port and the Port of Shanghai in east China and the Port of Singapore in terms of cargo throughput volume.

### Peking University to support start-ups in Tianjin

#### 北京大学创新创业(天津)基地在滨海新区启动

由滨海新区与北京大学合作共建的北京大学创新创业(天津)基地近日正式揭牌。该基地将建设五个功能模块助力创业者,开展创业培训、企业孵化与加速等服务。预计到2016年,该基地将累计组织培训创业者1000人次以上,收集孵化项目500个以上,孵化项目100个以上,加速企业50个以上。

An innovation and entrepreneurship base, built by Tianjin's Binhai New Area and Peking University, was unveiled in North China's Tianjin city recently, according to the science and technology commission of the Binhai New Area. Built by Binhai New Area and Peking University, the base will help entrepreneurs by providing services such as training, a business incubator, and an accelerator for development. The entrepreneur incubator center will provide complete services primarily to early-stage companies with unique technologies. It is estimated by the base's director that more than 1,000 entrepreneurs will be trained in the base. Furthermore, above 500 projects will be collected for the incubator center, among which over 100 projects will be incubated. The technological cooperation among Beijing, Tianjin, and North China's Hebei province is being continuously developed. Recently, Beijing and Tianjin have signed an agreement on building the Binhai-Zhongguancun Science Park. With resources from both Beijing and Tianjin, the science park is expected to be a sustainable top-ranking global modeling project with innovative ideas.

The names of the honorary advisors are listed according to the alphabetical order of the first name initial.

以上荣誉顾问按姓名首字母顺序排列,排列不分先后。

## Major water project passes inspection

### ■ 南水北调中线一期工程通过全线通水验收

9月29日, 南水北调中线一期工程通过了由国务院南水北调办公室组织的全线通水验收, 具备通水条件。南水北调中线一期工程通水验收分为设计单元工程通水验收和全线通水验收两个阶段。该工程是我国南水北调工程的重要组成部分, 是缓解黄淮海平原水资源严重短缺、优化配置水资源的重大战略性基础设施, 是关系到受水区北京、天津、河北、河南等省市经济社会可持续发展的民生工程。中线一期工程从大坝加高扩容后的丹江口水库引水, 沿线开挖渠道, 采用自流输水, 总长1432公里(其中天津输水干线156公里), 布置各类建筑物包括渡槽、倒虹吸、隧洞等共计2000余座。工程自2003年开工以来, 经过10年的建设, 于2013年12月完成了主体工程, 计划2014年汛后正式通水。

The first phase of the central route of the South-to-North Water Diversion Project is ready to be put into full operation, with the project inspection passed on Sept 29 by the State Council's office of the diversion project commission.

The office said that the central route's full operation will begin after the flooding season this year, in October.

The first phase of the 1,432-km central route will play an important role in alleviating the severe water shortage in arid northern China, including Beijing and Tianjin municipalities, and Hebei and Henan provinces.

The main part of the construction, including more than 2,000 canals and tunnels, were completed in December.

In the severe drought that hit Pingdingshan, Henan province, this year, water authorities transferred more than 50 million cubic meters of water through the central route to the city, providing water to more than 1 million residents.

When the route's first phase begins operation, about 9.5 billion cum of water will be transferred a year from the Danjiangkou Reservoir in Hubei province through Henan to reach Hebei, Tianjin and Beijing.

## Tianjin to bring in tourism in international waters

### ■ 第九届中国邮轮产业发展大会成功在天津举办

由国家旅游局、天津市人民政府、中国交通运输协会主办, 中交协邮轮游艇分会、天津邮轮游艇协会等单位承办的2014第九届中国邮轮产业发展大会暨国际邮轮博览会成功在天津举办。本届会议展会旨在宣传各城市邮轮旅游资源, 带动旅游经济的发展; 宣传港口设施及服务、吸引邮轮挂靠航次, 带动港口经济发展; 宣传消费品、食品的特色, 增加邮轮供应的机会, 增加新的销售渠道、带动制造业新的经济增长; 宣传邮轮学校人才培养特色, 促进优秀学生进入邮轮公司, 拉动就业经济; 宣传大型船舶修造技术, 促进船舶修建的行业发展。

Four provinces and cities including North China's harbor city of Tianjin have become pilots for cruise shipping, according to an announcement from the ninth China Cruise Shipping and International Expo on Oct 15.

In order to develop tourism in international waters, Tianjin has started to establish an international cruise purchasing and distribution base, cultivate high-end cruise professionals, and increase the number of routes year by year.

This year, Tianjin's cruise industry is going to embrace new opportunities. These include becoming one of the pilots of China's cruise tourism approved by the National Tourism Administration, being the demonstration base of cruise shipping established by the Ministry of Transport, and building a more convenient customs clearance system.

For tourism in international waters, the cruise itself is a scenic spot and recreational place. Tourists can enjoy the relaxing and recreational facilities on board and experience activities such as watching the sunrise over the ocean.

Meanwhile, Tianjin will develop an international cruise supply system, which will be based on the establishment of the China International Cruise Purchasing Association in Tianjin, as well as a series of favorable policies, in which the city will attract more cruise companies to build a purchasing center.

Furthermore, Tianjin will improve training and education for cruise personnel, especially high-end professionals.

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# Letter from the Editor

As we enter into winter, we need to take care for our families to avoid the cold and flu season. Two of the articles in this month's issue provide you with tips on fighting the common cold and recipes for soothing the winter cough and sore throat. So prepare some sweet pear soup or ginger coke to ward off those winter blues.

Our feature article this month is about Chinese etiquette and what are some of the unique rules and cultural differences that expats should be aware of in order to avoid faux pas or misunderstandings and just generally fit in. It amazes how many expats are trying hard to adapt by learning the language and local customs.

Do you think the recent smoking bans have made life better for us non-smokers? It has been a few years now since the government has implemented no smoking in public areas and recognized that second hand smoke is as harmful to actual smokers. We look at some recent changing attitudes and mounting pressure to prevent smokers from affecting us with their habit. The government is considering further restrictions that hopefully will be implemented by the end of the year.

Our people article will look at Tianjin's music scene and one of our recent writers just arrived in Tianjin from living in Japan and compares the differences in living in these two different cultures.

With the October holiday behind us, there are no major holidays until Spring Festival next year, which happens February 19, 2015 the year of the lamb. Remember that most countries will reset their clocks for daylight savings times when their times are set back one hour. Canada and United States will make the change November 2 and most of the European countries October 26.

随着冬天的到来，天气也逐渐转凉，这个季节是感冒易发季，大家需要格外的注意。本期有专门介绍对抗流感的文章以及一篇舒缓冬季喉咙疼痛的配方，希望你对你有所帮助。11月的主题是中国礼仪，文章中会介绍一些中国特有的“老例儿”和文化差异，这或多或少能为外籍人士提供一些方便。你有没有觉得公共场所禁烟令实施以后我们周围的环境变得好了很多？政府的介入果然让越来越多的烟民意识到吸烟会对他人造成伤害。目前，国家正在讨论更进一步的限制政策，希望今年年底能看到它的实施。2014年的所有法定节假日都已过完，再过节就是2015年的元旦和2月19日的春节了。友情提醒所有有需要的外籍人，别忘了重置你们的时间，以免造成不必要的麻烦。

Monica Wang



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Tianjin International Culture Communication Association

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JIN MAGAZINE

## Legal Consultants

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Price ¥10



主办 今晚报社

承办 今日天津杂志社

总编 田毅林

副总编 张建

编辑 王宗元, 张晓丽

美编 孙骁, 张可, 王晓敏

广告独家代理 天津市风华广告有限公司

固定形式印刷品广告登记证号 120103200482505027

地址 天津市南开区南京路358号今晚传媒大厦8楼

电话 +86 22 2750 0877

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广告销售 杨颖, 陆惠卿, 李鹤, 范红蕾

发行 陈鹏宇

E-mail [service@jinmagazine.com.cn](mailto:service@jinmagazine.com.cn)

法律顾问 道名律师事务所

韩国广告代理 天津市多芸广告有限公司

2014年11月刊

国内统一刊号: CN12-1262/Z

国际标准刊号: ISSN1004-826X

价格: 10元



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# TIANJIN ETIQUETTE

by Carmen King, Amy Dunn Moscoso,  
Bryce Cristiano, and David Wong

## 礼仪之都

如果你看过最近大热的英剧《唐顿庄园》，你一定为上世纪英国上流社会优雅的生活方式所折服。而在倡导及时行乐的当代社会，剧中展现的繁杂礼节似乎已经离我们很遥远了。不同国家有着不同的礼节传统。外国人在中国生活就一定要适应这里的礼仪习惯，无论是在生意场上、学校里还是日常的人与人交往。

很多外国人来中国都出于工作原因，无论是自主创业还是公司派遣，他们每天都要和很多本地人接触。虽然职场上的礼节很多都根植于西方，但你要记住，来到天津以后，你也要对自己的固有观念做出一些调整。

在天津的商务圈里，商务礼节可以归纳为“尊重、专业和充分的准备”。“尊重”排在第一位是因为“己所不欲勿施于人”，如果我们渴望被尊重，我们首先要尊重别人。你要让对方感到你对其生意、产品的重视，同时你要表现出对天津的赞美和喜爱。如果你总是对自己的国家或公司夸夸其谈，是没有人会喜欢的。中文里有个词“崇洋媚外”，意思是只要不是中国产的就是好的。这在中文里是个贬义词，所以在介绍自己产品的时候要避免给对方这样的错觉，因为你的产品是外国产的，所以质量就好，技术就先进。那么，想要表现出尊重，一个重要的条件就是你的“专业”，它可以通过你的仪表、谈吐和行为体现出来。从着装上看，你要多准备几套西装和领单，女士要有套装和礼服。不要以为你在中国就可以穿着随意的休闲装出现在商务场合，这是很不专业的。

拜访客户前准备好名片和企业资料也会被看成是“专业”的表现。不要只准备发给老板的名片，会面的每个人都要发到，因为中国的老板通常会带着秘书或助手出席商务会议。

你携带的企业简介表示你对合作很有诚意，但不要刚一见面就急切地奉上。通常的步骤应该是：首先互相问候并交换名片，然后对自己和公司作简要介绍，之后表现出对中方老板的尊重和合作兴趣，询问是否有机会对其了解更多。这时，中方会开始介绍自己的公司。避免唱独角戏，对方讲话的时候要仔细耐心地聆听。

最后一点就是要做足准备工作。你需要准备的东西包括：服装、名片、企业资料和企业网站。除了网站，你还得申请一个微信号，这在日常的商务来往中非常重要。一些别出心裁的小礼品也时常会起到意想不到的好效果。这里并不是让你去行贿，而是建议你初次见面的时候准备一些来自本国的见面礼，略表心意。你每次回国也应该记得给重要的客户带些礼物，这是维护客户关系的良药。

“尊重”不但能帮助成年人适应工作环境，还能帮助孩子适应新的学习环境。

在中国的学校，学生和家长都要尊重老师的权威。很多学校都有这样的规定，家长要服从学校的规定。这对外国家长来说是个不小的挑战。据我了解，选择让孩子进入本地学校的都是和中国人结婚并有长期在华居住打算的外国人。但即便如此，他们还是无法适应和中国老师的沟通方式。在中国，如果家长对老师有意见，千万不要对其公开指责或回击，尤其是在网上。你最好单独和老师谈谈，让她知道你的想法。在西方或国际学校里，老师和家长的交流有官方的正式途径。而在中国，老师只要让学生回家捎话把家长请来就可以了。

在中国的学校里，学习成绩高于一切，所以这些外国孩子也要刻苦学习才能融入学校的环境。老师对学习好的孩子总会付出更多的精力，因为他们的绩效往往也和学生的成绩挂钩。为了提高学生成绩，老师会布置很多的家庭作业，每天给学生灌输学习的重要性。很多家长也不惜给老师送礼，以求让老师多关照自己的孩子。

中国的教育依然以考试为中心，一次高考可能决定学生一生的命运。只要记住这一点，你就能理解为什么学校在周末也要补课。中国学校的时间表并不像西方国家那样提前一年就制定好并发给全体师生。只要老师认为有需要，他可以随时加课延时。有个学校因为施工耽误了几天课，于是学校要求周末加课。这一举措遭到外籍教师和外籍家长的反对，但没有参加补课的学生事后都遭到批评。

一位在天津的国际学校工作的中国老师给出这样的建议，家长要提醒孩子现在是在中国，要遵守这里的规则、适应这样的环境。对于国际学校的学生来说，周围的同学来自不同国家，所以要懂得尊重其他国家的文化和背景。对新同学保持开放接纳的心态，在中国待久了之后，你的中国朋友很有可能邀请你到家里做客。把一个老外扔到那样的环境里是一件很冒险的事。当然，中国人肯定会以最高规格的礼遇来招待远道而来的客人。

主家通常会准备丰盛的菜肴来表现好客。其实世界上任何一个国家都有这样的传统，自己吃饭可以普普通通，但招待客人一定要准备最好的。

中国家庭内部的礼仪习惯也有所不同，有的严格遵循传统，有些则更加随意。随着中国社会的日益开放，后者越来越普遍。中国家庭里，父母对一切事物拥有绝对的控制权和话语权。

中国的家长可以决定子女的一切，包括找什么样的工作，怎样花钱，和什么样的人结婚。除非孩子十分叛逆，否则他们很难逃出父母为他们规划的人生。

中国讲究孝道是因为中国的父母为孩子倾注一生的心血，为他们交纳学费，托关系帮他们找工作。这种鞠躬尽瘁是中国父母的天性，同时也因为独生子女政策和当前不稳定的经济环境而变得更加严重。每个家庭成员都要竭尽所能帮助其他家人，互相照顾。

所以，如果去中国人家里做客，你最好给家里的长辈准备礼物，因为他们在家庭里的地位最高。但是送礼的禁忌你要知道，比如不可以送钟表、绿色的帽子、鞋和手绢。

不过主人收了你的礼物之后，会更加想要补偿你的情义，所以会拼命劝你多吃点，多喝点，所以你可要挺住啊！最后要记住，千万不要流露出傲慢的态度。中国人可以原谅你不懂中国的规矩，但无法容忍你以我独尊的傲慢态度。

在中国人的饭桌上也有很多规矩是你必须了解和遵守的。筷子是中餐的主要工具，千万别把它当玩具，当鼓槌，那你就出洋相了。筷子的摆放位置很有讲究。夹菜和用餐的间隙可以把筷子放在桌上，千万不要杵在饭碗里，那样很不吉利。现在饭桌上的礼仪在年轻一代的身上已经越来越淡了，因为他们从小被惯坏了。

中餐不像西餐一样是分餐制，若干个人都从同一个碟子里夹菜。不要用筷子在盘子里拨来拨去，这样不但不礼貌，也不卫生。有些餐厅为每位客人准备两副筷子，其中一副就是公筷。有了公筷就不用再把沾了你口水的筷子伸到盘子里去了。

在喝酒的时候不要自斟自饮，当你想喝的时候，你要转向旁边的人，抬起酒杯，表示敬酒。有时候桌子太大，和每个人碰杯并不现实，于是中国人发明了一个好方法，用酒杯在转桌上敲一下就代表和大家碰杯了。

如果别人把你不要吃的菜加给你，你把它放在盘子一边就好了，千万不要直接拒绝。如果你不能喝酒，最好提前告知主人，中途拒绝劝酒是很失礼的。商务宴请往往选择高档奢华的餐厅，点菜数量也要比实际需求多一些，往往造成浪费。但随着近来政府提倡的勤俭风气，这种情况有所好转。





Be prepared and professional in business meetings

**W**hat comes to mind when you hear Downton Abbey (a recent popular British series set in the early 1900's depicting proper English life.)? Perhaps it is the prim and proper way in which the nobles of old went about their daily life. That lifestyle of yesteryears when compared with the modern world of instant gratification may reveal etiquette is something we can all stand to brush up on a bit. Etiquette varies based on location and situation. Therefore let's discuss how expats etiquette should adapt when doing business, handling academic affairs, interacting with family and sharing a meal in Tianjin.

Business is one of the major reasons expats may consider coming to Tianjin. Be it opening your own company or working for a firm, expats will come in contact with Tianjiners on a daily basis. While the rules of the road as it relates to business etiquette back home may be deeply engrained, keep in mind these may need to be readjusted upon arrival in Tianjin.

What are the basics of Tianjin business etiquette? Tianjin business etiquette can be summed up in three words: "respect, professionalism, preparation". These three aspects are both unique in themselves and interrelated.

Tianjin expats should be aware that above all else, "respect" is king when interacting with Tianjin executives. Respect in what sense?

Tianjin business owners must feel as though "you" (the expat) respect "them" (the local boss). This makes sense in application of the golden rule for human interaction. Namely doing unto others as you hope they do unto you. We as expats certainly hope to be "respected", so we should begin by "respecting" others. The "respect" Tianjin bosses are especially looking for is that of feeling as though you view them, their business, their product and Tianjin as "worthy"; worthy that is of your time, effort, and respect. Don't overly stress how "great" your home country, company, product or service is. Do convey a confidence in what you represent.

There is a Chinese phrase (崇洋媚外 chóng yáng mèi wài) which literally translates to: worship west fain foreign. This phrase carries a negative connotation, such as in describing a person who seems to "worship" anything and everything that is from the "west". Here the "west" represents anyplace outside of China. This "fain" for "foreign" is simply because the product, person, or thing isn't "Chinese", not necessarily because it is actually of higher quality or character. Expats need to be especially cautious so as to not give the feeling that they and their goods are more advanced, developed, and modern simply because they are foreign, or are representing an overseas company,

product or service.

A few steps Tianjin expats can take to make sure Tianjin professionals feel respected is to display true professionalism when interacting with them. Professionalism is the second key to Tianjin business etiquette. This professionalism should be seen, heard and felt via the dress, grooming, speech and actions of expats in Tianjin.

Business attire should make the packing list for expats coming to Tianjin with career aspirations. Yes, that means a suit and tie for men. Skirts, dresses, business slacks and blouses for women. This should be teamed up with a nice pair of dress shoes. Don't show up to business



occasions overly casual. Don't wear jeans and a t-shirt because you think you are in "China" and things are different here. Tianjin expats often are seen in very casual clothing. This is tragic if you are going to an interview or conducting business of some sort. Bottom line, this is a lack of professionalism and respect.

Tianjin bosses will also view expats as "professional" if you have business cards, some relative flyers or company material and or a website. Business cards are a minimum for expats wanting to do business in Tianjin as they are used extensively. Tianjin business etiquette requires a business card to be given to all those being met. This means bring more than a few cards to that next business function. Often Tianjin bosses may attend with a secretary or other staff as support. A card should first be given to the boss, then to the other members of their staff.

Business flyers are quite inexpensive yet will go a long way in letting the boss know you are serious about working together. Note, don't pass out these flyers immediately upon meeting. Rather, a typical first meeting might go as follows: first, initial greetings and exchange of business cards; second, a brief personal and business introduction; third, express interest and respect

for the Tianjin boss you are meeting with, asking for the opportunity to learn more about them. At this point, the Tianjin manager will begin introducing his business. Don't talk too much about you or your business. Do politely and patiently listen to the Tianjin executive.

Third on our list of Tianjin business etiquette is preparation. Things to prepare include your wardrobe, business cards, flyers and website. While at current a website is not mandatory, they are becoming more popular in the Tianjin business community. In addition, prepare a local cell phone number, local email address, and WeChat (微信 wēixìn) account for communications. You should also consider preparing a small but meaningful gift to be used for business purposes. Note, this is not to be confused with a bribe nor does it need to be overly expensive. Before coming to Tianjin, expats should prepare a collection of items to be given to bosses upon the initial meeting or after the relationship has progressed to the point of doing business together. Particularly items that reflect a bit of your home country or culture and that are not available for purchase locally will be appreciated. Each time expats go home to visit, you should have your "list" of bosses to get a little

gift for. Again, don't confuse this with bribing them or giving something ridiculously expensive. Instead, the goal is to convey "respect, professionalism, and preparation"; the three keys to Tianjin business etiquette.

## How to Help Kids Adjust to School in China

Respect not only helps adults adapt to new work conditions, but can also help kids ease into a new school, whether it's local or international. So can working hard, adjusting to floating schedules, and rolling with cultural expectations.

At local schools, respect for the teacher, from both students and their parents, is vital. Some schools actually have rules stating parents must always side with the teacher. This can be challenging for expats. Though every expat we spoke to with kids enrolled in local schools was married to a Chinese citizen and had long-term plans to live in China, there were still a wide gap between what they and their children's teachers viewed as proper communication.

Charlotte Edwards, a former American international schoolteacher, has a six year old son



Learning some tips about gifting is important

attending a Chinese first grade class of 46 students. Parent-teacher communication takes place through an online platform called QQ, China's ragingly popular instant messaging service. The teacher communicates with parents about scheduling, homework assignments and individual student performance. Both children and parents can be praised or criticized. If a parent gets angry over a comment about child and fires back online, it's problematic. Edwards recommends parents not disagree with the teacher directly or publically but instead tackle issues by making contact in person. While many Western and international schools have parent-teacher interviews and more formalized means of communication, "it's easier for parents to talk to teachers in a (Chinese) school", says a Chinese teacher at an international school in Tianjin. Parents can simply have their child pass on a request for an informal parent-teacher chit-chat.

To fit in, students need to work hard, and be perceived as being hardworking by their teachers. Model students become examples that are held up by the teacher and by the parents of other students. Teachers have good reason to be invested in successful students; their financial and career success may depend on them. Edwards says that when students are successful on tests, teachers may receive higher salaries and bonuses, while teachers without high-achieving pupils may be moved to less desirable locations. To ensure as many students as possible do well on exams, teachers often assign several hours of homework each night and lecture students about the importance of studying hard. Sometimes, parents lavish gifts on teachers to attract extra attention to their child. Edwards has heard of Chinese teachers on occasion being given gifts such as MacBooks and dinners out.

While many Western countries are moving away from tests as the sole measure of student success, China focuses on test-driven education. Students who learn to ace tests are considered successful. Children can secure or threaten their entire future—and the future of their parents—with the grade 12 national test. The Chinese international teacher in Tianjin said it is a student's "one chance" get into a good university and secure their career and can be loosely compared to diploma exams in other countries or the SAT in the United States. He remembers a childhood spent preparing to write the Chinese national test, finishing school at 4:00 p.m., having two hours of additional self-study, and then going home at 6:00 p.m. to complete homework. Study



Teachers are highly respected by students and parents in China.

**Edwards says that when students are successful on tests, teachers may receive higher salaries and bonuses, while teachers without high-achieving pupils may be moved to less desirable locations.**

time was all-important, even if it meant making up for missed school days on the weekend.

Accepting that sometimes school runs on the weekend and learning to roll with a loose schedule can help make family life less stressful and help students be more like their peers. At local schools, and some international ones, the schedule is not chiseled into stone and printed out one year in advance the way it is in other countries. Days can be lengthened and weeks extended. Edwards says that her son's school finishes around 3:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. However, teachers can keep children later and Edwards' son is sometimes in class until after 5:00 p.m. He is also attending school on Saturdays until November to make up for 10 days that were missed when construction delayed the school opening. Some international preschools and elementary schools ran classes for seven days prior to the national

holiday in October. While expat parents and international teachers objected, the schools remained open and classes were well attended. After the holiday, certain expat parents and children who chose not to attend school on the weekend were scolded.

One of the most important ways parents can help their kids better fit in at local or international schools in China is to "remind children where they are," said the Chinese Tianjin international teacher. That means adhering to school rules, adapting to Chinese culture, and respecting the background of students from diverse backgrounds. International schools in



Tianjin can have students from more than 25 countries. There may be just one single student from a country or a significant population.

A Canadian international high school teacher in Tianjin recommends parents and international school students learn a little about how they and their country are viewed by others. Being prepared for positive or negative impressions can help insulate students from stereotypes. As expats, many people have experienced delightfully positive and less than warm and fuzzy receptions from people of other countries. Students may find their peers in an alternate reality when it comes to history, geography and facts or they may have never heard of each other's countries.

The same Tianjin teacher recommends that parents and students avoid trying to guess where another student is from, but rather ask open-ended questions and have an open mind to new people. He actually finds that it can be much easier for students to stay more flexible than their parents, so perhaps it's worth listening to lessons learned on the playground.

While fitting into a new school can be challenging at home, it can be an even bigger adjustment in a new country facing language and cultural barriers. With a little effort, understanding, time and experience, students can end up fitting in faster than their parents.

### Family Etiquette

Even in family connections, it's wise to handle what should be a more casual setting (family meals) with tact and professionalism to be best of your ability. If someone stays in China long enough, chances are that they will get to know people who will invite you to family events or dinners as throwing a foreigner into the mix is quite the wild card. People can generally expect any Chinese family to treat guests with utmost respect since they wish to show off the respectfulness and manners of their family.

Discerning family dynamics can be as easy as looking into the behavior at the dinner table. For guests coming into a family, there's the necessity that instead of only eating one dish, they grace the table with a plethora of food. This abundance is to show the good hospitality of their family as well as that they have an excess for guests. Like most families around the world, it's commonplace to eat smaller meals while reserving feasts for guests. The same rings true in the Chinese dinner dynamics.

This hospitality is also expressed in that it's common for your hosts to drop portions for all of



the dishes into your bowl, making it quite feat in consumption. Even drinking can be easily over blown to drunkenness with all the toasts that occur during a meal to glasses of baijiu 白酒.

Taking the guest out of the equation leads to a slightly different experience. Family etiquette, much like in Western culture, can go from very traditional to extremely casual. Casual families aren't all too common in China right now, but their prevalence appears to be increasing over decades and should continue to do so as new worldviews insemminate into Chinese culture and the middle class grows. While the traditional behavior isn't based on religious ties, there can be a lot of control and force into the hands of the parents.

Parents hold a great deal of power over their children and have jurisdiction where their money goes, what kind of job they get, and who they need to marry. With the accelerated rise of Chinese capitalism, parents understand the necessity for proper education and marriage so it's uncommon to see leniency on those fronts. Unless a child can be exceptionally rebellious, they're doomed to a fate decided by their parents. They often conform to these roles because of the conditioning of school, which often times doesn't enable free thought and creativity (not a unique trait of Chinese education). It's usually all for the best of their child though, since the parents want to find security in their child's prosperity.

Parents in the family are to be treated with great respect by their child since they too pour a lot of effort into helping mold the future of their child. They strive to give back to their children, to

make money for tuition, to make the right connections for their future employment. It seems like the overbearing nature of Chinese parents is simply the care they have. A lot of this has to do with the traditional standards but it seems strengthened by both the one-child policy and the turbulent economics of China, which have seen feudalism, capitalism, "communism", and imperialistic capitalism over the course of a century. The uncertain outlook over the century has lead to an adoption of the mentality that families need to do everything in their ability to look out for one another and to accumulate a mass of extra income to strengthen their security. We see this reflected in the overbearing behavior of the new Chinese bourgeoisie, who spend extravagantly on adorning their brides in gold while behaving in a typically new money manner.

Regardless of their extravagantly daft spending decisions, the Chinese families have a strong underlying sense of tradition that really parallels all western systems. There's always parental dominance over the family based on age, so the grandparents hold most of the weight and respect within the family.

If a guest to a Chinese family wishes to show equal respect, it can be suggested to bring gifts or simply handle yourself in a mature manner. A good suggestion of gifts not to give would be; clocks, green hats, shoes, and handkerchiefs. All of those are quite strange gifts, so that shouldn't be a terribly hard task to avoid. Bear in mind that if a guest brings a gift for their host, they will leave on equal terms. Anything too expensive, and a guest may be so stuffed with so much food that they'll

burst as the host will want to make up for the costly gift.

Dress conservatively and presentable, as there's a chance your hosts may want to take pictures with you. Also, bear in mind that while it's polite to decline gifts of food and drink from a host, they must be declined several times before they surrender the gesture.

If you behave belligerently like some kind of imperialistic invader, you should not and will not be treated with respect. While it's understood that foreigners may not understand some of the manners within Chinese families, most families will be accepting if a foreign guest at least makes a recognizable effort in humility. While it's uncommon, there are instances of tourists and expats acting like they own everything and can treat individuals like jerks, please don't do this. If a family is kind enough to open their home to regardless of if it's in China, United States, of the 8th Circle of Hell; you treat them with respect. Judge the habits of your guests and see what kind of consumable gifts would be appropriate for them at future dates; i.e. coffees, teas, cigarettes, and alcohol. You can't go wrong with a decently priced wine or other alcohol.

## Eating Etiquette

Since eating is such an important part of Chinese life and culture, you need to learn some of the etiquette and manners when dining with local business partners and friends or most important if you are trying to impress prospective clients or future in-laws.

A good example of not understanding local customs is a scene from the 1992 movie *Mr. Baseball* with Tom Selleck where he is an American transferred to Japan to play baseball and trying to fit into the culture. He is invited to a Japanese home for dinner and the host's mother has prepared a beautiful meal and like the Chinese, she serves the dishes and humbly states that the dishes are not very good and probably has no taste. Selleck tastes and agrees and proceeds to pour soya sauce over the dishes. At this point the host almost faints.

If you are having noodle soup with Chinese friends, don't be surprised at the loud slurping of noodles. From the young to the old and ladies alike, it is a habit bred when they are children. With reference to children, there are separate standards for children. Years ago, children were expected to eat separately from adults but now with the one child policy most of the attention is now directed to these "Little Emperors" and sadly, most are being spoiled by the attention of parent

and two sets of grand parents. Etiquette ground rules for these young ones seem to be thrown out the window but there are some basic rules that we should abide and hopefully when these children grow up, they will also observe them.

Chopsticks *kuai zi*, 筷子 being the standard fare in Chinese eating, should not be played with and used as "drumsticks" while at the dinner table. You should also lay them down on the table in between bites and picking up the food. NEVER stick them into your bowl of rice and leave them resting upright in the bowl, this is a sign of death. I have seen people holding the chopsticks and bowl while using the other hand to use a spoon, quite a show of flexibility, but very poor manners. In a similar fashion, don't gesture with chopsticks in your hand while talking to others. If you really have problems using chopsticks, ask for a knife and fork, especially for those visitors that have little experience with them in the past.

Unlike Western eating, where individual

**Do not search and select food to find the perfect morsel of food that you want, not only is this poor etiquette, but unsanitary as you put your personal chopstick from your mouth to the public dish.**

servings are all on your own plate, Chinese meals are served on several dishes that dinner guests select. So it is important to observe some rules of engagement on the public course. Do not search and select but stirring the dish of food to find the perfect morsel of food that you want, not only is this poor etiquette, but unsanitary as you put your personal chopstick from your mouth to the public dish.

Although many restaurants now provide a common chopstick (*gong kuai zi* 公筷子) on the table of dishes and you should use these chopsticks to transfer food to your own plate, thereby avoiding the use of your saliva coated chopstick in the public dish. Some restaurants also provide two sets of chopsticks, usually in different colors, to every guest so they can use

one for selecting food and the other for eating. You should still pick the morsels that are closest to you rather than picking pieces on the other side of the plate.

With regards to drinking spirits, wine, beer and liquor, don't drink by yourself. When you want to have a drink, turn the guest on either side and offer a toast or raise your glass or clicking glasses; do not start eating or drinking before the host makes the first move. If there is a large table and clinking glasses with everyone for the group toast is not practical, the Chinese have invented the tradition of clinking the turntable and referring to this as "surfing the net". If someone pours you a drink, refills your glass or teacup, the common gesture is to tap the table near your glass or cup.

This tradition was developed from a story of Emperor Qianlong 乾隆 about 300 years ago when he travelling in battle, disguised as a commoner in order to avoid capture. During a meal with his troops, he was serving tea to his companions and they could not bow in respect and betray the Emperor so they used their fingers on the table as a form of Kowtow. This gesture has now been accepted a general form of thank you during the meal when someone pours you a drink. It is very convenient, especially if you are in a middle of a conversation.

When you are the host, it is customary for him or her to serve you the first piece of food. If the item is something you do not want to eat, just leave it on your plate but do not refuse it, as this would be rude and awkward. Same with drinking, if you do not drink, state so early. It is very difficult to just have a few, especially if there are many people at the table. You will likely offend someone if you only drink with a selected few.

In the past, especially business meals were very extravagant and much more food than could be eaten with much waste and leftovers due to the hospitality of the Chinese hosts. It would be shameful and bad form if the plates were empty at the end of the meal, because it would show that the host was not generous or guests were leaving hungry. This has changed with recent government policies to prevent waste.

As mentioned previously, the Chinese are very hospitable and treat guests with the utmost respect. So remember that whatever the foreign devil has done which is unwittingly an affront to Chinese etiquette, you will likely be forgiven that you are a foreigner and just not aware of what is proper Chinese etiquette. So relax and enjoy, just use common sense and show respect and you should be fine.

# The View from Nowhere

by Daniel McCool



## 超越自己看世界

美国哲学家托马斯·内格尔在他的著作《The View from Nowhere》中告诉我们应该超越自身的经验和兴趣来看这个世界。当你摆脱任何立足点来看世界，你就会发现自己处在最有利的位罝。

George Holloway来自英国，现在是天津音乐学院的音乐系教授。他这样描述其在中国的生活经历：“生活在陌生的环境，你可以退后一步重新审视自己以及自己的世界观，是非对错，以及关于社会行为和语言的基本观念。”George认为想要获得国际视野，你就必须走出自己熟悉的祖国，到外面看一看。在英国，George的音乐老师是一个不循规蹈矩的人。他喜欢打破一切传统的条条框框，自由发挥，创作自己喜欢的音乐。所以George也深受其影响，把这种授课方法融入到他自己的课程里。在一个研究生班里，他发现学生的创造力不足，他们的音乐作品总是和老师的风格十分相似。

George现在带两个班，一个是国际班，有斯里兰卡和印尼的学生，他们学习西方音乐理论。另一个班是中国的研究生班，学习20世纪音乐分析。除此之外，George还是天津音乐厅木兰合唱团的指挥，指导10-15岁的孩子唱圣诞颂歌。

和孩子打交道是George以前没有想过的，所以最初的课堂气氛会有些枯燥。在他不知所措的时候，他选择和孩子们一起站起来，做一些伸展运动，放松自己。神奇的是，他的头脑突然变得清醒了，也知道应该如何做孩子们的老师了。George现在已经积累了一些和孩子打交道的经验。他说：“一些简单的游戏总是会起到大作用。孩子们的思维没有逻辑性，所以很多事你要为他们着想。记住这些，我相信我会让他们享受创作音乐的乐趣。”

George在中国的经历对我们很有启发。他希望木兰合唱团今后能有机会和天津交响乐团合作演出，这对孩子来说将会是终生难忘的经历。在这之前，你可以在今年12月26日天津大剧院欣赏到木兰合唱团的演出。

Thomas Nagel in his book, 'The View from Nowhere', suggests that we 'can think about the world in terms that transcend our own experience or interest, and consider the world from a vantage point that is,' in Nagel's words, 'nowhere in particular.'

When I spoke to George Holloway, a music professor at the Tianjin Music Conservatory, this is how he described the result of his experience in China: living in a foreign environment has allowed him to take a step back to look at himself and his way of viewing the world, what is right and wrong, and general conceptions regarding social behavior and linguistics.

"In order to develop a global awareness," says George, "we must get out of our own country." He recounts the story of a Chinese friend who studied at university in Europe. She thought her professors were not 'honest' because they would praise student performance as 'very good' when, as she thought, they actually were not. The understanding that the teacher wanted to positively encourage the students was not to be semantically understood.

At university in England, George had an avant-garde professor of musical composition: the teacher was adamantly against the classical following of a strictly formulaic approach to composing. This is, perhaps, what sowed the seed that would emerge in George's own emerging approach to teaching. He teaches three classes at the conservatory.

George's harmony class has 30 students and an even gender ratio. The students study the theory of harmony: he provides them a melody and they write additional notes to create a harmony. The students, he found, had already studied the first half of the book (in order to pass the entrance exam). So he is now focusing on reviewing that first half before taking on the second.

George's post-graduate class studies analysis and 20th-century music. He developed a curriculum involving Bache interpretations of 20th-century pieces, but the students were unable to cope and engage with it. He had to return to basics. He has found that the students are just not capable of being creative, often producing pieces that were much like their teacher's own.

George's foreign-study class is composed of Sri Lankans and Indonesians. They study Western musical notation and theory. Again, he designs the curriculum himself. The material he created spans 1,000 years of history and analysis. He also practices ear training with them.

This has not been an easy journey for

George. Among many difficulties, the easiest to solve has been ascertaining his students' levels. He found that his students come from various different majors, having different needs for his class, and that they all have their own natural interests and skills towards music. Now, he adapts his material and tailors homework to suit the needs of his students.

Upon entering his employment, he was surprised at the lack of job training and

**He has found that the students are just not capable of being creative, often producing pieces that were much like their teacher's own.**

orientation: he was not told how to loan a book from the library, or where to find certain facilities, for example. The administration has hired many teachers before, so they must thoroughly know the procedure, but George has felt as if he has been on a need-to-know basis. He has also found that he needs to adapt to sudden, last-minute changes.

In addition to these classes, George tutors a children's choir pro-bono. A fellow conducting student from the Central Conservatory in Beijing, Lai Jiajing (whom George considers to be the best in China), teaches the lower two classes, Haydn and Mozart. George teaches the two upper classes, Schubert and Bruckner. Boys and girls and in equal proportion in the classes and are aged from 10-15. Primary study focus has been on singing by ear but is shifting more towards reading scores and sight-singing. They have their first performance on 26th December at the Tianjin Grand Theatre. George and Lai Jialing's groups will perform alongside the Tianjin Philharmonic Choir and separately. George's groups will be performing the Sussex Carol as well as a German medieval Christmas Carol, In Dulci Jubilo. He wants the audience to experience the flavor of the Anglican choral tradition.

**Is this what you expected you would be doing?**

"This has been totally out of my comfort zone. I'm an avant-garde classical composer! I

like weird-sounding, abstract, and intellectual (or at least emotionally extreme) abstruse music, which almost no one likes or understands, especially in China where Western classical music is even only just beginning to find a wider audience. Two years ago I never imagined I'd be working with children in singing Christmas carols! And I must admit, it has been for that reason both terrifying and, at least in preparing the music for the rehearsals, somewhat dry."

**Is being a conductor much like how you imagined?**

"I had a moment last Sunday when it came time to start the rehearsal when I paused for a few seconds and just didn't know how I could switch into 'happy children's choir conductor' mode. I froze! I just couldn't make anything come out. And then I just got them to stand up and start doing some stretches like I always do, and then got them to start waggling their fingers like worms, and then that was when something special happened: I saw the innocent and playful glee on their faces at the ridiculous idea of waggling their fingers like worms, and I suddenly found the energy to become that teacher/conductor they need!"

**What have you learned working with children?**

"I've learned that one has to do these things responsibly; one has to plan the rehearsals so carefully. I've learned that children, even young teenagers, really like silly games. How did I forget

that?! I've learned that I don't really know how to be strict with children: there are usually one or two Chinese women who assist on me with the rehearsals and, being Chinese, they know exactly what to say and what sort of discipline the children need. I've learnt that children are not logical and have no personal sense of responsibility, so you have to do all of that thinking for them – and how did I forget that, too?! I've learned that even I (who never before imagined what children would find fun) can make children enjoy making music, and what an amazing art music education in itself is."

Within his 3 years of studying, working, and living in China, George has come to understand a lot about himself, his journey into conductorship, and what it means to be culturally different. He has learned how to adapt to a variety of students and how to suit their needs. He has also learned how to operate within a professional environment when expectations are thwarted.

George's experience has been truly insightful, indeed, and it was my pleasure to have been able to sit down with him to explore his thoughtful perspective on and living in China. In the future, he hopes to hold a concert in conjunction with the Tianjin Philharmonic Orchestra, which he believes will be an absolutely life-changing experience for the children. There may also be two or three additional performances later in the year. Please do see his choir perform on 26th December at the Tianjin Grand Theatre.



George Holoway

## 咖啡师的养成

对大多数的天津人来说，咖啡和茶，他们的习惯更倾向于饮茶。然而随着新鲜文化的不断涌入，咖啡也逐渐的受到欢迎。而与此同时，一个新鲜的行业正在悄然兴起——咖啡学院。

DSBEAN是韩国崇实大学与天津外国语大学合作开办的一家咖啡培训机构，为咖啡爱好者以及渴望从事咖啡师或者咖啡培训师职业的人提供专业教育和培训。DS学院不仅为咖啡爱好者带来了福音，作为一个外籍人在津创办的企业，它的成立更值得我们仔细研究。

DS的创始人，赵中河先生说，他生来就具有咖啡的基因。他的祖母曾经创建了韩国最早的咖啡屋。那个年代，在韩国几乎没有人喝咖啡，更不用说开咖啡店。虽然他的祖母并没有把咖啡事业继续下去，但他将这份热情传递给了赵中河先生。通过学习，赵中河先生成为一名由欧洲精品咖啡协会认证的导师。然而创意爆棚的他，最终的选择却不是开一家咖啡店，而是创建一个培养咖啡师人才的学院。如今他来到了天津，并将这一文化带到了这座城市。

赵的成功靠的不是喜欢，而是专业，还有一个重要的因素就是他足够了解天津的市场。从赵的成功案例上我们也可以看出，单有好主意却不进行好计划，成功也绝不会找到你。咖啡师在天津是一个新兴职业。DS在有技巧的劳动力和专业知识之间找到了商机，从而确立了自己的位置，并最终为它带来了成功。

各种各样的咖啡店在天津越来越多，或许成为咖啡师的想法会是一个不错的选择。尤其是和空洞的大学知识相比，这一职业更具有研究的可行性。所以，与其把自己困在漫长的大学生活里，和那些缺乏实际经验的教授学习一些空洞的理论知识，倒不如去做一些更能培养自己能力的实际东西，也许转机就在下个路口等着你。

茶，在天津人的心中仍有不可撼动的地位；而咖啡也势必会成为未来的发展趋势。咖啡的种类有很多，所以想要成为一名合格的咖啡师，选择一个专业的培训机构是必不可少的。对于未来，无论你是想从事咖啡师的职业或是拥有自己的事业，掌握制作咖啡的技巧都将会是一个必要的条件。现在就是你学习这些技能的最佳时刻。希望热爱咖啡的你能凭借自己的能力和无限的商业头脑，最终成为一名成功的企业家。

Rather the goal is to try to fill in a gap in skilled labor or specialized knowledge as it relates to a specific service.

The DS Bean Academy now makes it possible for Tianjin locals and expats alike to become coffee baristas! At the academy, coffee enthusiasts can become coffee professionals. Being trained in everything from the basics of beans to the awesomeness of latte art. Graduates are ready to go to work in coffee shops around Tianjin.

Not just good news for coffee lovers looking to make a career out of the beverage they love to drink, DS Academy is a great case study for expats looking to do business in Tianjin. Following up on the expose of the onslaught of "blind business" in Tianjin, it was refreshing to see DS Academy doing some decent leg work before opening their doors.

Korean founder James Cho had coffee in his "genes" as his grandmother had founded one of the first coffee houses in Korea. At the time, it was commented that nearly no one in Korea was drinking coffee, let alone thinking about opening a coffee shop. Yet, as the years have passed, Korea has turned into one the biggest coffee drinking places in the world. The Korean born coffee chain conglomerate called Caffe Bene and their 1,585 coffee shops around the world proves this!

As the story goes however, grandmother did not continue in the coffee business. Had she done so, as the Cho family jokes, it might have been them running "Starbucks"! Nonetheless a passion for coffee was passed on, and although James went on to do other business ventures outside of the coffee industry the seeds had been sown. In time, Mr. Cho turned coffee beans into a profession.

James has obtained a collection of coffee related certifications. Some are issued by the Specialty Coffee Association of Europe. This makes him an authorized "SCAE Trainer". With the acquisition of such coffee expertise came the idea to found not a coffee shop, but a coffee academy! Taking his creative energies a step further and leveraging existing business contacts, the DS Bean Academy made its way from Seoul Korea to Tianjin! The academy is located in Hexi district within the Center of

# Barista in Tianjin

by Carmen King



Coffee or tea? In Tianjin for most locals the answer has been and continues to be tea! However, as the tides of change continue to crash on the shores of Tianjin, coffee is becoming more and more popular. All around Tianjin coffee shops await you. From the major brands of Caffe Bene, Costa, and Starbucks.

With all these coffee shops and coffee drinkers in Tianjin, so comes a business opportunity. No, not opening another coffee shop. Instead, ground breaking Korean expat James Cho and family have opened what they are aware is the first ever coffee academy in Tianjin!



International Exchange; which is located on the campus of the Tianjin Foreign Studies University.

From a foreign business owner starting a business in Tianjin, let's look at what James did right. First, he had real knowledge of a real profession. Instead of just "liking" coffee and thinking that was enough to start a business. Second, he took the time to acquire in-depth expertise in a specific area of knowledge. Add to that obtaining internationally recognized certifications. Third, he leveraged existing business contacts in Tianjin to make a warm transfer into the local market and obtain a solid on-campus location.

This type of planning and personal investment is critical for any expat wanting to open a business in Tianjin. Don't bring "good ideas" with no "good plan". Dreams need to meet reality by taking the time to acquire industry expertise and real hands on skills. We should not just "think" we are good at something. Instead Tianjin expats need a way to quantify these skills. In some cases certifications do this nicely.

Another aspect DS Bean Academy did well was to find a business opportunity that has not been played out. Training and certifying coffee baristas was certainly a new concept in Tianjin. Too many expats simply come to Tianjin and "duplicate" something that has long since been here. Expats need to examine what type of businesses are lacking. This doesn't mean "inventing" some new "product", as virtually everything from iPad's to ketchup has found its way to Tianjin. Rather the goal is to try to fill in a gap in skilled labor or specialized knowledge as it relates to a specific service. Avoid arriving as another jack of all trades, master of none. Try to do something other than just "teach English".

Let's flip the coin and look at becoming a barista in Tianjin from the other side. Instead of being the business owner, think of things from a career planning point of view. Barista training is offered at DS Bean Academy in English, Chinese



**Be it as a barista working as an employee or an actual owner of a coffee establishment, the key is to master those coffee making skills.**

and Korean. There are two types of certifications offered. One is an internationally recognized SCAE (Specialty Coffee Association of Europe) Certificate. The second are non-SCAE certificates, issued by the DS Bean Academy itself.

Which certificate is best? That depends on one's coffee career goals. Since China currently does not have a national standard or Chinese certificate issuing institution itself, for becoming a barista at a local coffee shop, perhaps a non-SCAE certificate from the DS Bean Academy will hit the spot. This allows the barista to get all the necessary skills from bean grinding, milk steaming, to actual drink making. If however the goal is to work abroad, or at an international chain coffee shop such as Caffe Bene, Costa, or Starbucks than acquiring the SCAE certificate may be a better option as it an internationally recognized institution. However the

SCAE certificate requires more monetary and time investment.

With so many coffee shops around Tianjin, becoming a barista isn't a half bad idea. Especially when compared to spending years at college only to graduate with the possibility of not having any tangible "trade" that can put food on the table. Too many colleges are focusing on "abstract", "theoretical" majors such as International Trading. Many majors are highly subjective. Professors all to often lack real-world experience and do little more than regurgitate text book theories. In contrast becoming a certified coffee barista may not only give expats and locals alike a solid foot in the door with local coffee shops, but perhaps even open up opportunities to join global firms.

Bottom line, tea in Tianjin is still living strong; however, coffee is also a major up and coming trend. Despite what many may think, not all coffee is created the same. Mr. James Cho, Authorized SCAE Trainer of DS Bean Academy will be happy to prove this too via his on-sight microscopes and other advanced coffee bean testing technology. As such, real hands on training is needed to become a barista in Tianjin. Learning from the experts at the DS Bean Academy is one option for doing so. Be it as a barista working as an employee or an actual owner of a coffee establishment, the key is to master those coffee making skills. Now is the time for tangible skills to meet market demand. Hard work and long-term practice often make the recipe for success when it comes to mastering a trade. Combine such specialized skills with business acumen and one goes from barista to entrepreneur.



## 漂泊在外，哪里是家？

每年这个时候，人们就开始规划年底回家的日程。上一次回家是什么时候？好像已经是很久远的事了，留存记忆只有手机里几张家庭合影。但是，什么才是家？你每年在中国生活11个月，对这里的一草一木早已烂熟于心，而老家的一切却已渐渐陌生。

我相信，你经商的方式会影响你对家的概念。几百年来，每个国家甚至每个大洲都有自己的经营和投资文化。如果你是个冒险家，不惜风险代价而求得最大利润空间，那你肯定会喜欢上中国，以中国为家。而如果你追求稳定，不喜欢承担风险，那么欧洲，尤其是英国和德国会更令你感到舒服一些。这个地区的经济相对稳定，很少会出现令人不知所措的情况。当然还会有一些处在这两个极端之间得国家和地区，比如在美国，你会有更多经济上的自由空间，但同时也要承担更大的风险，遵从一些你感到有些压力的政策。东盟国家的环境和中国类似，但没有中国的情况那么极端。

很多时候，人们把自己喜欢的地方叫做家。很多欧洲人在中国生活了很多年，以中国为家，因为他们受不了欧洲枯燥的生活。还有些外国人始终怀念自己的老家，因为中国的生活对他们来说压力很大。

中国人也是一样，他们在国外生活久了，有些会喜欢国外的生活，有些也恨不得马上回中国。希望你已经确定哪里才是你的家了！假期就快来了，你要赶在机票价格上涨之前作出决定了！

I believe that where and how you do business has a significant effect on where you call home.

exploration, and more for refined delicacies, you'd probably be more comfortable working and living in Western Europe, especially the UK and Germany. There you'd find the economic and financial stability that you're looking for along with less bewildering business scene. Between these extremes, you'd find many mixtures of risk and stability and different flavors of environments that might influence your decision on where to call home.

In the United States for example, you'd have more economic freedom than the EU but along comes more risk and regulation which might impose some stress on you personally and on your working culture and ethic. There are also the ASEAN countries of South Asia where you'd find a similar market to China but with less of the frontier tendencies of Mainland China.

In most cases, I found that people tend to call home the place where they feel more attached to, not just in terms of family and cultural ties, but more in terms of personal flairs and preferences. Many expats from the EU have been living in China for years and grew to call it home as they now feel that the EU is too boring for them. On the other hand, some expats feel that they still cannot call China home and feel much more attached to their countries back home because they feel that China is too stressful for them.

In fact there are Chinese nationals who reside in the west now and feel that they miss the anything-goes feeling they had when in China. Others on the other hand feel that they are now more settled in the US and the EU because they feel that life in China was just going too fast for their liking.

Hopefully you've made up your mind on where you'll call home as the holiday season is quickly coming up and you need to figure out where you're going to spend it before ticket prices spike too much.

Send your comments and questions to Moe via [moghareeb@gmail.com](mailto:moghareeb@gmail.com)

# Expats or Outcasts?!

By Moe ElGareeb



It's this time of the year when you start thinking about home and whether you're travelling this year or staying in China for the holiday season. Last year's holiday season seems so far behind you now yet you're hanging to those few memories of family and friends and occasionally flip through the several pictures you've taken on your phone while back home last time.

But hold on a second ... Where exactly IS home?! You spend 11 months per year in China and if you've been here for long then you know the streets and shops here more than you know the ones back home, first because you might have forgotten some of them and secondly you are not up-to-date on openings and closures going on within your city, neighborhood or even your street back in your country of origin.

What is home? Is it the place where you were born? Is it where you grew up? Or is it the country that issued your most used passports? Is

it where you got your first job? Or maybe where you met your significant other? Or where you had your children? Or even where you spent the past couple of years? Or is it just where you currently work and reside? For some of us each of these significant life experiences occurred in a different city, country or even continent.

I believe that where and how you do business has a significant effect on where you call home. As countries go, there are hugely different work and investment cultures from country to country and continent to continent. For example, if you're an outgoing risk-taker who likes working with large risk margins, with minimal safety nets and frontier-like environment with much potential for profit but also much potential for loss, then you'd probably like working in China and you might gradually start thinking of it as "home".

On the other end of the spectrum, if you're the quieter type with less appetite for risk and



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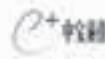
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《今日天津》杂志有幸采访到德国大众汽车租赁车队及租赁服务总监Dr. Frank Galas先生，他与我们分享了公司的业务发展和未来走向。

# Be An Expert in Car Leasing

In order to fulfill the needs of the Chinese customers, Volkswagen has launched the leasing business in China. Volkswagen leasing is part of Volkswagen Financial Services AG, the professional financial services provider of Volkswagen Group worldwide. The leasing division has a long-standing expertise and international knowledge in fleet business, and has become to the market leader in Europe with its great effort. Jin Magazine is honored to talk with Dr. Frank Galas, Director of Fleet & Leasing for Volkswagen Financial Services in China about their business and future perspectives.

#### 1. Could you briefly introduce your career path in Volkswagen?

I started my career at Volkswagen in Germany 1998. Before my assignment to China, I worked as Head of Fleet Business at Volkswagen Germany. I am dedicated to offer corporate customers in China state of the art Leasing and Mobility concepts.

#### 2. Comparing buying a Volkswagen car, how can leasing be a more money-efficient way for a company?

There is no doubt the importance of liquidity for a company. Leasing needs less money compare with buying cars, so it can save lots of money for the enterprises. The company can use the money for production or investment to get more profits and reach maximize asset allocation.

We all know that cars are consumables, new cars depreciate faster. So compare with buying a car, leasing can effectively avoid the asset depreciation caused by new car depreciation.

Maintenance is important. When we purchase a new car, we often purchase car maintenance and car insurance etc. to ensure we can enjoy a carefree journey, but we need to take care of them individually. However, if you choose Volkswagen Leasing, you only need to pay the rent, and we take care of the rest for you.

Besides, leased car does not belong to the company's fixed assets, so it is good for the



Dr. Frank Galas, Director of Fleet & Leasing, Volkswagen New Mobility Investment Co., Ltd.

**What's the competitive advantage of Volkswagen Leasing among others? Quite simply, we are professional.**

organizations optimize the capital structure and reasonable tax avoidance.

#### 3. For clients, if they choose your leasing company, their choice is only limited to Volkswagen cars. Why do they still choose your company if they can also rent Volkswagen cars from other leasing companies?

First of all, Volkswagen Leasing has access to all Volkswagen Group cars, such as FAW-VW, SVW, VW, Skoda, Audi, Porsche, Bentley etc., cover different segments of cars with different leased prices. We can effectively meet the needs of various enterprises.

Data shows that from January to November of 2013, German cars were sold out 3,106,400, account for 19.23% of total passenger car sales. Compared to 2012 the market share of 18.44%, 2013 German car market share further enhanced. Because of the excellent quality and good

reputation, German cars gained more and more recognition. Volkswagen cars occupy a significant share of the overall German car models.

Indeed, based on the market demands, some other car leasing companies also provide Volkswagen cars. What's the competitive advantage of Volkswagen Leasing among others? Quite simply, we are professional.

Because we understand the most, we are most professional. Relying on the Volkswagen Group, we are not only provide car leasing service for our clients, but the One-stop car leasing service, contains the Volkswagen Financial Services, Vehicle Delivery and Registration, Replacement car,

Insurance, Maintenance, Wear & Tear, Tire, 24h Hotline & Road-side Assistance, Fleet Monitoring, Remarketing, etc.

#### 4. What do you think of the perspective of the market in Tianjin?

According to statistics, the Tianjin market has about 1,000 leasing companies currently, vehicles scale over 10,000. But there are less than 15 enterprises which have more than 5 employees and over 50 vehicles scale. Even more, less than 5 companies have 5 offices all over China. With the development and improvement of the leasing market, consumers will care more about the brand, standard of service and risk-resisting ability when they make decisions. Brands with financial strength, good reputation and widely distribution network will ultimately win the market.

Although the car leasing market of Tianjin is limited at the moment, but we are confident to foresee that the leasing industry will continue developing because of official vehicles reform and other policies changes, the optimization of liquidity demand of SMEs, leasing recognition and preference etc. We can expect the explosive growth of the China's leasing market in next decade. And Tianjin as one of the new-first level cities of China, it will become the main car leasing market force following Beijing and Shanghai.



## I FOUND YOU... SWISS CHEESE FONDUE



Being a quintessential Swiss dish, cheese fondue conjures up images for us of alpine ski huts, deep snow and cold weather. Well, we don't get much snow or ski in Tianjin, but that doesn't mean we can't enjoy a good fondue party.

**RMB 258 net/person**

For enquiries and reservations, please contact Fire House at 5822 3150/3151.



## DISCOVERY THANKSGIVING DAY

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## Past Events

### AmCham China, Tianjin 2014 Annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament

10:00AM – 8:30PM, Saturday, September 27th – The King Key Golf Club

With tremendous support from our two main sponsors: Vantone Real Estate Tianjin and Boeing Tianjin Composites Co., Ltd., AmCham China Tianjin 2014 Fall Classic Golf Tournament The tournament was held at the King Key Golf Club on Sep. 27th. After an exciting day of golf, members and guests enjoyed an appetizing awards dinner at the Renaissance Lakeview Hotel. We also would like to thank all the hole sponsors: Jones Lang LaSalle, Taylor Printing, Northern Lights, Hyatt Regency Tianjin East, Renaissance Lakeview Hotel, Jixian Marriott Hotel, Hank's Sports Bar and Grill; and prizes sponsors: St. Regis Tianjin, The Astor Hotel, Hotel Nikko Tianjin, Tianjin Selen Science & Technology and GNG golf. All in all, it's all golfers and guests helped create such a successful night.



#### Winners:

1st place: Jeff Xue & Wang Zhengxiang

2nd Place: Azam Khan & Kjell Ring

3rd Place: Selen Tam & Joe Liu

Longest Drive: Jeff Xue

Straightest Drive: Steven Yau

Closest to Pin: Wang Youlun & Selen Tam

### What HR Departments Need to Know About Domestic Regulations for Expatriates in China

2:30PM – 5:00PM, Friday, Oct. 10th–Wellington College International Tianjin

On Oct.10th afternoon, almost 50 professional guests attended AmCham China Tianjin's HR event regarding "Domestic regulations for expatriates in China" at Wellington College International Tianjin. Ahead of the presentation, attendees shared professional information and questions that encountered at work within the fellow community. After the presentation, guests enjoyed the networking time while enjoying a complimentary light buffet which was sponsored by Wellington College International Tianjin. Attendees spoke highly of the event and appreciated a lot to the speaker and AmCham for giving them such a chance to learn systematically about China Domestic Laws.



## Upcoming Events

### Tianjin Monthly Executive Breakfast Briefing

7:15-9:00 AM, Thursday, Nov. 20 – (The Astor Hotel)

鼎泰豐

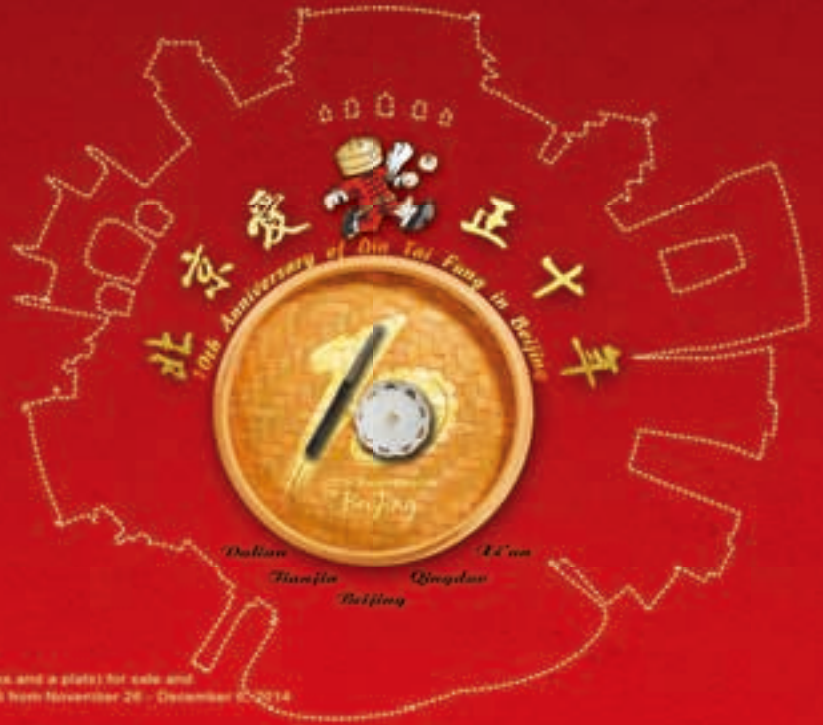
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10th Anniversary edition table ware (a pair of chopsticks and a plate) for sale and activities at Choyuen restaurant and Yuyang restaurant from November 26 - December 3, 2014

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More than 100 professional HR experts attended our first class of HR Practical Training Camp hold by HRCLUB in 2013, which has gain load of reputation. In 2014, we pull more resources together to compete the curriculum. We are intended to build a high end HR Management Training Camp in Tianjin, the brand curriculum of HRCLUB. The scheme of most courses is detailed in the following table.

#### Practical Class

Career Planning and Development	October 17	Pm, Friday
Training System Development and Effectiveness Evaluation	October 24	Am, Friday
Practical HR Communication Skills	October 24	Pm, Friday
Demission Management Techniques	October 31	Pm, Friday
Compensation Management Practice	October 31	Am, Friday

#### Master Class

Employment Policy and Employee Management	October 17	Pm, Friday
High Performance Team Building	October 24	Am, Friday
Development and Practice of Leadership	October 24	Pm, Friday
Demission Management Techniques	October 31	Pm, Friday
Organization Development and Talent Management	October 31	Am, Friday



In this month, besides training camp, we organized visiting program. This time we visited Tianjin Lishen Battery Joint-Stock Co.,Ltd.. Not only its development history and products, we also visited Lishen's second business department, factory and production line. We also tried their electric automobile and had a look at the power station.



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# EUROPEAN CHAMBER IN TIANJIN

## 2014 European Business Gala Dinner —Castle Night



The European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Tianjin Chapter hosted the 9th Annual Business Gala Dinner on 17th October, 2014 in The Ritz-Carlton Tianjin.

The Gala Dinner is the premier networking event of the year in Tianjin, with a night of appetizing European cuisine, tasty beverage and entertainment. The event was attended by both chamber-member companies and professionals from the Tianjin business community.

With the Castle theme this year, guests were greeted with a romantic cocktail reception and warmly welcomed by the Local Chair Dr. Christoph Schrempp. The selection of food was also specially designed to match the medieval atmosphere. Guests enjoyed the melodic songs and dancing party performed by the French jazz band, and actively participated in the European history quiz and lucky draw sections.

The elegant and welcoming atmosphere provided the guests with the perfect occasion to exchange information, share resources and build connections. We are extremely proud of the participation from our members and the support we received from our associates in organizing such a successful gala!

We also would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors for their great support and generous sponsorship: Airbus, Alliance Francaise, Asia Power Systems, Goglio, Heng An Standard Life, Ritz-Carlton, SIP, Vantone, Wago, Wellington.





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中国欧盟商会天津分会

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## Past Events

### 5th German Chamber Oktoberfest Tianjin

11.10.2014

On October 11 the German Chamber invited to the “5th German Chamber Oktoberfest Tianjin” at the 3 Kronen 1308 Brauhaus. After the traditional beer taping, more than 300 participants celebrated the Folk Festival with German beer, buffet, games and lucky draws. The German Festival band “Iggy Stone & Die Alpenrockler” entertained the crowd with Oktoberfest and party music throughout the evening, making the event a memorable night for all participants.



Salary Study

### Breakfast Seminar –Salary Developments 2015: Presentation of the 7th Wage and Salary Survey 16.10.2014

The 7th German Chamber Salary Study predicts the salary development in German companies in China and is an important benchmark for HR managers. The results of this survey were presented at the Breakfast Seminar at the Westin Hotel on October 16. The Economic Analyst of the German Chamber Max Zenglein explained the expected development as well as regional and sectorial differences of the salaries in 2015.

## Other Upcoming Events

November 5, 2014: Networking Dinner in TEDA, Delights Bar & Restaurant

November 7, 2014: “Mitgliederabend” – Members’ Networking Evening, Paulaner Tianjin

November 26, 2014: Kammerstammtisch Tianjin, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus Tianjin

November 27, 2014: Interchamber Breakfast Seminar – Industry 4.0, Pan Pacific Hotel

German Chamber Tianjin Office: Room 1502, Global Center, No. 309 Nanjing Road, Nankai District, Tianjin 300073

Tel./Fax: +86 22 8787 9249

Email: [tianjin@bj.china.ahk.de](mailto:tianjin@bj.china.ahk.de) Website: [www.china.ahk.de](http://www.china.ahk.de)



## Past Events

### 2nd German Chamber Soccer Cup Tianjin 2014

14.07.2014

On 19th October 2014 Tianjin's Sino-German business community came together for the 2nd German Chamber Soccer Cup Tianjin 2014 at the sports field of the International School of Tianjin. The event attracted more than 300 participants watching the 10 teams and 150 players competing for the title. After exciting group- and semifinal games, the team of Volkswagen turned out to be winner of the big final against the team of Siemens Mechanic United.

Besides the happening on the soccer field, Chinese and German visitors could enjoy the supporting program. Children played at the school playground with a bouncy castle while culinary specialties were served in the nearby picnic area. At the target shooting competition "Torwandschießen" every visitor could try his luck to win special prizes.

For pictures and more information, please visit our website at [www.deutscher-kammerpokal-tianjin.de](http://www.deutscher-kammerpokal-tianjin.de)



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## Hopeland International Kindergarten

—Happy life in the kindergarten

Fall and October are the times of year to harvest the year's great achievements. It is also the time our young children are studying happily in kindergarten. The children in our middle class have made great improvements in their English listening and expression skills. Due to our teachers' lively learning activities the students have developed a strong interest in the learning of English. So the classroom is indeed a very happy place at the moment. We want to share our happy moments in class with these photos. Please enjoy!



金秋十月，孩子们在幼儿园快乐的学习。升入中班的小朋友们在英文的听力与语言表达能力有了很大的进步。老师们通过有趣的游戏让孩子们更加积极主动的参与，孩子们对英文越来越有兴趣，学习效率也大大提高。下面请欣赏我们愉快的英文游戏照片吧！



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## The 3rd BEA Cup Badminton Competition of HKCCC Successfully Concluded



Before the summer heat had completely left us, the HKCCC 3rd BEA Cup Badminton Competition was held on at 9:00 on September 13 at the Badminton Hall of Tianjin Polytechnic University.

Participants included Hong Kong residents who work in Tianjin, employees and their families from Hong Kong companies and some amateurs who had played with HKCCC members. The competition offered awards for Club Champion, Runner-up, Second Runner-up and Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles. It took all day to decide all the winners.

During the competition intervals, the players exchanged badminton tip as well as their experiences in using badminton as a way of keeping fit. The event ended in a festive atmosphere and, despite all that running around on the court, no one felt tired.



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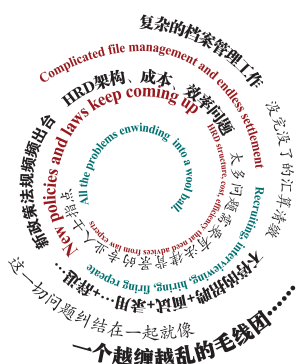
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学在天津

你有多少学习中文的理由，你就能找到多少学习汉语的地方。毫无疑问，北京、上海、台北，是学习中文的最好城市。但有一个我们说像家的地方，也是很多人都向往的留学城市，那就是天津。天津外国语学院发生过很多有趣的求学轶事，其中不乏一些专门来天津学习汉语的留学生的故事。他们不约而同的选择了天津，有的因为志向，有的因为家庭，还有的因为推荐，但不管怎样，他们最终都选择了同一个城市，同一个地点——天津。

学习汉语是很多人的兴趣所在，它不局限于某个特定的国家或城市。当然，在众多学习汉语的留学生中，日本和韩国占有很大的比例，他们选择中国，留在中国，并用中文工作和生活。事实证明，在找工作方面，会中文的确比会英文来的容易的多。所以不难猜出，学习汉语的其它国家留学生也是有很大比例的。

除了外语大学，天津的其它大学也能提供对外汉语课程，当然你也可以选择私立机构。只是，大学课程往往更注重结构教学并在结业的时候颁发证书；而私立学校提供的是更加灵活的时间表，它能让你在生活与学习之间得到更好的平衡。总的来说，在天津学汉语利大于弊。尤其当你考虑到北京上海拥挤的城市生活和高昂的物价费用的时候，你就会觉得其实天津也不赖，交通发达，物价合理，最重要的是生活舒适。另一方面，天津的方言没那么难懂。尽管天津话和普通话有一定的差距，但它不像吴侬软语，那么不易使人明白。如果你对方言感兴趣，上海或许是个不错的选择；而如果你只是想把汉语学的更实在点，那么天津的确会更方便些。

学习汉语是一项长期的投资。它不会一蹴而就，无论你学习多久，语言总是有新的东西要学。别把自己圈在固定的城市里，任何地方都有它独特的风景。天津，凭借它悠闲自在的“中产阶级”生活方式吸引了大量的外籍人士。而我相信，大多数人喜欢天津，或许就是看重了它既没有小城市的粗糙，也没有大城市的快节奏，无论怎样生活，都可以另人舒舒服服的吧。

The vast majority of those we spoke to feel Chinese would prove to be more useful in looking for a job than English.

Many are the reasons to study Chinese. Equally numerous are the places where one might do so. A few that often top the list are: Beijing, Shanghai, and Taipei. Beijing being the capital of China, along with the political and cultural center of the nation. Shanghai is the commercial and financial hub of China. Taiwan tends to be a mix of traditional with trendy. Then there is the place we call home, Tianjin. Why Study Chinese in Tianjin? Below are seven stories from seven people who are currently studying Chinese in Tianjin at the Tianjin Foreign Studies University located in Hexi District.

Traveling from Tajikistan (塔吉克斯坦 tǎ jī)

# Why Study Chinese in Tianjin?

by Carmen King



Learning Chinese at University



kè sī tǔ n) is a young man who is studying Chinese in Tianjin with the goal of becoming a travel agent. Tajikistan is near China, and has lots of Chinese. Therefore he hopes to live in Tajikistan and use his Chinese skills to find a job related to travel. How did he end up in Tianjin? When applying to study Chinese he was given the option of picking three locations for study. First was Beijing, second was Shanghai and third was Tianjin. In the end, the agency arranged for his studies to be in was Tianjin.

A girl from Armenia (亚美尼亚 yà měi ní yà) is studying Chinese with the hope of becoming a translator. Having also studied Japanese previously, she found herself mesmerized by Asian languages. If translation doesn't work out, she would be pleased to use her Chinese skills as a travel agent. Long term she would like to work in China. Why study in Tianjin? Beijing is too big and according to her has bad air. Tianjin was "next door" and had a lot less people comparatively, so it became the top choice.

Born and raised in America (美国 měi guó), a young lady came to Tianjin on a whim after seeing an online job for teaching at Disney English. After a year of work she returned home to the States. Only to later want to visit China again for the purpose of studying Chinese. Having been here before, Tianjin was the place she "knew", so it was only natural for her to come back.

A girl from the Ukraine (乌克兰 wū kè lán) is in Tianjin studying Chinese as she believes this will help her find a job more easily. As to why she's studying in Tianjin, back in Ukraine a teacher she had was from Tianjin. It was that teacher that recommended her to study here.

A boy from Ukraine (乌克兰 wū kè lán) has a step father who does business with the Chinese. His step father recommended him to follow suit, and study Chinese. He feels learning Chinese will prove to be more valuable than English. He wants to open his own business in Ukraine that will leverage his Chinese skills. As to location, he hoped to study in Guangzhou, but didn't get his application in on time. Beijing was too big and busy, so next on the list was Tianjin as he had a friend living here.

A guy from Russia (俄罗斯 é luó sī) aims to master Chinese and become an interpreter. He sites strong relations between Russia and China spells big opportunities for those with Chinese language skills. His mothers friend had lived in Tianjin for 3 years, and recommended he study here.

Last but not least we have a female from Portugal (葡萄牙 pú táo yá). Chinese was her major back home. She won a Confucius

scholarship which let her pick anywhere in China to study for one year. Seeing that she felt Beijing was too big, and Shanghai was unfamiliar, she picked Tianjin. Her goal is to become a teacher, but is not sure whether she will look for work in China or back home.

Seven students, seven stories, one thing in common, they are all studying Chinese in Tianjin. As to the reasons why they are in Tianjin, we can see they vary. For some Tianjin wasn't their "first" pick. Yet, all seemed pleased with what Tianjin offered in terms of studying Chinese. Friend and family often played a big role in influencing where they studied Chinese. So too, some arrived in Tianjin seemingly by random due to a job or school placement, of which they had little control over.

One thing is clear. Studying Chinese is on a lot of peoples radar and this interest isn't limited to just one certain country or location. Korea and Japan tend to have some of the highest percentages of overseas students coming to China to work on their Chinese. The vast majority of those we spoke to feel Chinese would prove to be more useful in looking for a job than English. Not to mention students from America, England, Italy and Ireland are also studying Chinese at the

Chinese class schedules thus giving expats a better study life balance.

Tianjin in general has more pros than cons when it comes to being a home base for Chinese learning. When compared with the wall to wall people and high cost of living often found in Beijing and Shanghai, Tianjin isn't so bad. Also, it is situated close enough to Beijing, that anytime one gets the bug, a day trip or weekend get away to Beijing is more than doable. So too, a quick and usually low cost flight, or high speed train gets you to Shanghai easily enough. Cost of living, in terms of renting an apartment and school tuition are likewise typically much less in Tianjin when compared with Beijing and Shanghai. Not to mention getting around town is cheaper too, as cab rates are less expensive.

Another positive is that Tianjin gives good access to northern Chinese speech patterns. Although the local Tianjin dialect has some variations when compared with standard Mandarin, in the grand scheme of things, it isn't that different when compared with other local dialects, such as those in Shanghai. The Shanghai dialect has little to no overlap with standard Mandarin. It is pretty much like studying another language in itself. From this point of view, living in



Learn to write Chinese

Foreign Studies University.

In addition to the Foreign Studies University, expats can find Chinese study programs at several other local universities in Tianjin. Nankai University, Tianjin University, and Tianjin Normal University for example all have significant foreign student bodies. Expats also have the option of studying Chinese at one of the various private Chinese language schools throughout Tianjin. University programs tend to be more structured and result in some type of certification or degree. Whereas private schools may offer more flexible

Tianjin will be fairly convenient as the local language is not too terribly different.

Bottom line, learning Chinese is a long-term venture. It won't happen over night and no matter how long you've studied, there is always something left to learn. Don't get your heart set on any one city. There are pros and cons to pretty much every place. Tianjin has drawn a number of expats for its more "middle-class" lifestyle. Not nearly as rough as living in one of the smaller cities, yet not nearly as overwhelming as living in Beijing or Shanghai.

# Confucian to revolution —A brief hairstory of China

By Robert Watt

## “头”等大事

在国外剪头发就像看病一样令人闹心。如果你中文说得还不错，对头型又没有特别的要求，那整个过程应该会很顺利。但如果你希望头型有些设计感，你必须拿着一本时尚杂志向发型师说明你的想法，然后把自己的脑袋交给他。但结果往往令你沮丧万分。当然，一个人的发型并不止影响一个人的相貌，它也体现了这个人的精神信仰、生活方式和态度。在中国历史上，头型的变化也反映了时代和文化的变迁。

孔子曾曰：身体发肤，受之父母，不敢毁伤。所以，古时候人们很少剪头发，都是把长发在头顶挽成发髻。到了清代，男子的前额都要剃光，只在脑后编成一条长辮。留辮子代表对大清的忠诚，随意剪去长辮会惹来杀身之祸。但清朝最后一个皇帝溥仪亲手剪下了自己的辮子，打破了这个规矩。

女性的传统发型也有严格的规矩，通常是盘成各式各样的发髻。但选用的饰品能够体现其家庭的地位和财富。贫苦人家的妇女只用简单的木梳子或簪子固定头发，而大户人家可以选择黄金、玉或宝石打造的精美发饰。

上世纪20年代，受西方文化的影响，中国的男性开始留短发，女性开始流行烫发。当时的日历牌和广告海报上都印着发型摩登的女郎。直到上世纪70年代，中国几千年来在发型上都比较统一，所以发型师的职业并没有显得特别重要。中国改革开放以后，人们可以自由选择自己想要的发型，追求与众不同。但尽管如此，大街上还是很难见到过于奇异的发型。

在中国，能做头发的地方有很多，从街边的剃头师傅到国际连锁品牌，任何人的需求都能得到满足。街边的剃头匠是中国最古老的发型师。他们挑着担子，走街串巷，招揽生意。如今，他们主要的客户群是老年人。服务项目一直没有变，剃头加刮脸，甚至掏耳朵。一位马师傅从十年前退休后就开始在街边给人理发，他的生意不错，有几个排队的顾客。找他剪头只要4块钱。马师傅这样的剃头匠擅长的都是短发。如果你要的不止这些，你最好去一个像样的发廊。小区周边的发廊既经济实惠，也很方便，同时你也能帮助年轻的发型师巩固他们的事业。不过把自己的脑袋交给这些年轻人还真是很有风险的事情啊！在中国，发型师是一水儿的小男孩，他们的头发就像是一件自由表达的艺术品。

中国的文化总是很崇尚男子的阳刚气，而在西方，发型师被认为是女性化的职业，所以为什么中国的发型师都是男性呢？不过还好，他们本身并不“娘”。剪头发的过程还是极为相似的，洗头、按摩、剪发以及吹干。不同之处在于，在英国，发廊会提供免费的咖啡和饼干，而这里只有水。我和给我剪发的小刘聊了聊，我问他为什么中国的发型师都那么年轻。他说，他们每天要工作很长时间，一旦成立家庭，要么开自己的发廊，要么转行。最后的成品和我在英国剪得差不多，虽然还是不太像我带来的模特照片，不过我想这是脸型缘故吧。这个还说得过去的造型只花了25元，不算奢侈吧！

**G**etting your hair cut in a foreign country is almost as nerve wracking as receiving dental or medical treatment. If you can speak Chinese confidently, or if you just want a traditional short back and sides, then it's not going to be much of an ordeal. But if you're used to something more 'designer' and all you have for explanation is a picture ripped from a style magazine, then putting your latest look into the hands of a young boy can be quite daunting.

Of course, a hairstyle isn't just about looking good, a haircut can also be a political and social statement. Whether it's the shave of the skinhead, Mohican of a punk, dreadlocks of a Rastafarian or



It's interesting that in a culture where gender roles and attitudes towards masculinity are still quite traditional, what is stereotypically viewed as an effeminate profession in the west, is largely occupied by males.

just wearing it long like a hippy, your hairstyle is an indication of personal beliefs, lifestyle choices and attitudes. It's no different in China where the history of Chinese hairstyles very much reflects the changing culture of Chinese people.

Confucius wrote around 500BC. 'We are given our body, skin and hair from our parents; which we ought not to damage.' As a result, both men and women avoided cutting their hair and instead wound it into a bun or other various hairstyles. Then at the start of the Qing Dynasty in the 1600s it became compulsory for men to shave the front of the head and style the rest of their hair into a pony tail or plait. This style known as 'the queue' was associated with loyalty to the emperor and was literally a look to die for because failure to comply, was seen as treason, punishable by death. It's estimated that hundreds of thousands were executed before the practice was broken by the last emperor, as recently as 1922.

Traditional styles for women's hair were equally rigid. Their uncut tresses were coiled into various styles of buns fastened with a *ji* to keep it in place. Creating that individual expression was done by adding combs, hairpins and other ornamentation. These ranged from simple wood to gold or jade and encrusted with jewels. The number, craftsmanship and materials of these ornaments reflected their wealth, social status and their ethnic culture.

At the same time that men started cutting their hair short in the 1920s traditional styles for women also began to change. In the cities, the permanent wave and dyeing of different colours became fashionable. Calendars, bill boards and cigarette packets from the 20's and 30's show the preference for western fashions of Shanghai's 'golden age'. At the same time, there was a growing cultural movement against western influence and foreign privileges. Russian communist influences inspired intellectualist politics and with it short hair cuts. By the time of the cultural revolution in the 1960s the 'Liberation Hairstyle', as it was known, became a fashionable expression of revolutionary enthusiasm and the permanent wave was tabooed as bourgeois.

With neither both men nor women not cutting their hair, then the uniformity of the queue and later the short, practical styles of the liberation haircut, for most of China's history hairdressing skills hadn't been rather limited much in demand. Justifiably you might have concerns about the skills of barbers. However, since the late 1970s, as China has opened up, hairstyles have equally become as open to change and Chinese people are finally free to choose whatever style they want. Despite this freedom, you're still unlikely to see many of the



Street barber, an ancient job in China

extreme styles that you get in the west. Long hair for women is still very much the norm, although it will certainly be styled rather than left uncut. With this preference for long hair, it's not surprising that the Red Yao women, a minority ethnic group from Huangluo Yao Village in China, have the record for the longest hair in the world, with an average in the community of 5.5 feet.

There are a wide range of places you can go to get a haircut, from traditional street barbers to more expensive modern salons in department stores. Being close to Beijing, it's possible to visit branches of well known western salons such as Vidal Sassoon and Toni & Guy, as well as more specialist African hair Salons and even stylists to the stars such as Rossano Ferretti. In between these extremes is a fantastic range of inexpensive barbers' shops.

Street barbers are the oldest form of hairdressing in China. Once they travelled around from door to door, carrying their limited tools and a fold up chair balanced over their shoulders on opposite ends of a stick which they carried over a shoulder. Street barbers are still popular with older men today and they can be found in the quiet parts and suburbs of Tianjin. The tradition is largely unchanged, providing quick cheap cuts, a shave and even a clean out of your ears. Mr Ma is typical of this ancient tradition and has been cutting hair in the streets of Tianjin for over 10 years since he retired. Charging just 4RMB for a standard haircut he has a line of customer waiting. He tells me he cuts around 20 heads a day and was self taught. During my brief chat with him he completes two haircuts which are both smart and sharp.

A haircut from a street barber is limited to the typical short style. If you want to do more than express your enthusiasm for the revolution you will need to visit a salon. It's tempting to choose a well known establishment in a city centre, but a good local salon is much cheaper, more convenient and you will be supporting mostly young hairstylists just

starting out in their careers.

It's easy to be discouraged by these young teenage boys. Often they sport imaginative cuts and colours, heavily coiffured into individual expressions of their art. They are often accompanied by an endless loop of pop music playing from a straining loud speaker outside the door. Both are intended to attract the attention of customers and demonstrate the skill and flair available.

It is one of the most notable differences compared with hair dressers in the west. In China the profession is almost entirely men, in particular young boys. It's interesting that in a culture where gender roles and attitudes towards masculinity are still quite traditional, what is stereotypically viewed as an effeminate profession in the west, is largely occupied by males. It's clear that in China, being a male hairdresser isn't associated with being gay.

Despite the outward differences, the actual process is remarkably similar to getting a haircut anywhere. Starting with the hair wash and head massage before going to the stylists chair for the cutting and drying procedure. There are magazines to read (in Chinese) but sadly, unlike in the UK, no coffee and biscuits available, just water.

While my hair was being cut, the picture of what I wanted to look like sitting near the mirror, I spoke with Mr Lui about the profession. He told me he'd had over 1 year full time training plus continual training courses each year. He had just returned from a course in Korea. I asked him why many hairdressers were so young and he explained that the hours are very long. Once you start a family you have to either own your own barbers shop or change careers.

The cut in the end was as good as anywhere at home. Although I didn't look like the model in my picture this may have been more about the difference in our faces than the accuracy of the hairstyle. My style, while not revolutionary, at 25 RMB didn't feel too bourgeois either.



## 画说天津 一桥一景话“之最”（之二）

### 最具标志意义的老桥——解放桥

上世纪五六十年代，甚至到了七十年代，解放桥的图形都是天津的象征。那时，经常见到旅行包、手提包的右下角以解放桥精美的剪影为装饰，并配以毛体的“天津”二字，带着它即便走到天涯海角也能猜出你是从天津来的，外地人对天津的认识，也多是从那个印象深刻的标志开始的。以至于后来的日记本、练习本、信封、信纸都印上了过目难忘的解放桥图案。

解放桥建于1927年，是一座双叶立转式开启的钢结构大桥，桥身分为3孔，中孔为开户跨，桥长97.64米，桥面总宽19.5米，它不仅算得上当时最摩登的一座桥，而且也是海河上最昂贵的一座桥，原定工程费用在100万两白银以内，而开工后造价一涨再涨，仅主桥就增至152万两，加上拆除老龙头桥等费用，总计花了190万两白银。从1923年筹建到1927年建成，前后历时4年，北连老龙头火车站，南通紫竹林一带的多国租界地，因而被称为万国桥，同时由于该桥位于法租界入口处，又由法租界工部局主持建造，天津民众又管它叫法国桥。抗日战争胜利后，国民政府曾更名中正桥。1949年天津解放后此桥正式命名为解放桥并沿用至今。

Jie Fang Bridge in 2010

# Jie Fang Bridge

## The Most Significant Bridge by Zhang Jian

The Jie Fang Bridge was the symbol of Tianjin in the 1960s. At that time, you could see its outline printed on the handbags and travel bags of almost everyone in the city. If you saw someone with one of these bags anywhere in the country it was pretty obvious that they were from Tianjin. It was no exaggeration then to say that to truly understand the city of Tianjin you had to start with the Jie Fang Bridge. Not only was the bridge found on the side of bags on the street but it was also on diaries, exercise books, envelopes and writing paper.

Following recent repairs, the Jie Fang Bridge has at long last resumed its drawbridge function after 25 years of disuse. The 96.7-meter double-leaf bascule bridge can now be opened in three minutes to accommodate boating traffic on the Haihe River. The bridge, which was built in 1927, hasn't often been opened since 1973 due to a lack of structural maintenance and an outdated transmission system. Despite this, at its peak the bridge was the most fashionable and the most expensive bridge on the Haihe River.

The bridge's construction budget was



Reopening of Jie Fang Bridge in 1927

around 210 million yuan, but this soared to 399 million yuan by the time of its completion. Over the years, the bridge has also been known as the Universal Bridge due to its central geographical location and also as the French Bridge as it was built by the former French Industry Bureau. After the liberation of the country in 1949, the bridge was officially named the Jie Fang Bridge. In 2007, the bridge was rebuilt according to its original plans and restored to its unique appearance. It is now the only iron movable bridge in China.

# Liu Zhuang Floating Bridge

## The Earliest Cable Stayed Bridge



### 最早一座斜拉桥——刘庄桥

“刘庄浮桥”4个字，深深植根于老一辈天津人的心中，即便浮桥早已消失了几十年，可他们依然不愿改口，因为这座浮桥承载了太多的故事，又带走了太多的记忆。那时刘庄浮桥所连接的海河东西两岸，聚集了若干国营大中型企业，每天都有成千上万的产业工人要跨河谋生，于是刘庄浮桥便成了名副其实的“工人桥”，成为了家喻户晓的“民生桥”。刘庄浮桥的前身是刘庄渡口，由于过河人数的暴涨，1959年在此建成开启式木结构浮桥，即由8只木船编组而成，连通河东、河西两区，俗称刘庄浮桥。1976年改建为开启式钢丝网水泥船浮桥，长117.80米，由6条钢丝网水泥船上托钢梁和木桥面组成，仍可开启通航，桥宽17米。15年后的1991年，政府决定在原址改建跨越海河的永久性桥梁，由此海河上伫立起第一座新颖别致的独塔斜拉桥。这座桥的主塔高42米，塔柱为矩形实体，桥面采用栓焊钢板梁与预制混凝土板组成的叠合梁结构。桥长121.75米，3孔跨径分别为32米、71.85米和12.04米，贯通河西区琼州道与河东区大直沽五号路。如今，它好似一个遥远符号定格在了那里，由于这座桥的先天营养不良和超负荷的运转，现基本处于停滞状态，但“刘庄浮桥”好似那个人字形高塔依然挺立在那里。

The "Liu Zhuang Floating Bridge" – inside the quotation marks are only four simple words but their meaning is deeply etched in the hearts of the older generations of Tianjiners. This is the case even though the bridge disappeared many years ago. The floating bridge has so many stories for the older folk and though it is gone the memories of it still lingers. In days gone by, the Liu Zhuang Floating Bridge connected the east and west sides of the Haihe River, where there were gathered a number of state-owned large and

medium-sized enterprises. There used to be tens of thousands of workers who would cross the river daily to make their living. Thus the Liu Zhuang Floating Bridge could also be called the Workers' Bridge.

In the early days, the Liu Zhuang Floating Bridge was really a ferry but due to the soaring number of passengers it became a pontoon bridge. The floating bridge was made from eight boats, which connected the Hedong and Hexi districts. In 1976, the bridge was converted to a

movable bridge with the length of 117.80 meters. Fifteen years later, the government decided to make the bridge permanent. The result was the first cable stayed bridge erected over the Haihe River. The bridge now has a length of 121.75 meters and links the Qiongzhou Dao Hexi District to the Wu Hao Lu Hedong District. Unfortunately, due to the weight of modern transport the bridge is now unused. However, the bridge is still a vibrant reminder of what used to be there.

# iPHONE 6? —NOT NOW THANKS

by Paula Taylor

It was feared that around five million of the iPhones sold could end up in the Chinese black market where there was a potential resale value of triple the price.

## "苹果"热潮

我一向对物质生活要求不高，穿什么衣服，用什么手机，开什么车，都不是我生活中关注的焦点。我朋友总是嘲笑我，因为我的手机是最古老的型号，只能打电话和发短信。他们告诉我，你用这种手机太影响形象了，丢面子。但是我对这手机很满意，因为它非常实用。当然，如果所有人都像我一样，那么商场就要关门了。

苹果公司的iPhone6和iPhone6 plus手机刚刚上市，关于世界各地“果粉”彻夜排队购买最新手机的新闻就铺天盖地袭来。这些排队的人群中自然少不了华人的身影。以前，除非是食物紧缺，才会出现排队长队买面包的景象。

这些彻夜排队的华人不都是为了第一个用上最新款的手机，很多都是为了把新手机带到中国，卖给洗干净脖子等着被宰的中国“果粉”们。由于中国大陆地区并不是iPhone6首批上市的国家，所以一个巨大的iPhone黑市正在跃跃欲试。

恐怕将有5000万台走私iPhone手机运往大陆。除了倒卖手机，出让排队位置也能获利。在纽约，店外长队的一个好位置能卖到14,700元人民币！

但是，手机黄牛们的好日子并没有持续很久。在iPhone6上市不到一个月的时间，中国就宣布国行iPhone6将于10月17日正式上市，而非传说中的2014年年底。这给黄牛们来了一个措手不及，纷纷大幅度降价，避免货品积压。之前，iPhone6 plus在大陆的黑市售价已经达到一万元人民币。同时，政府加大了对手机走私的打击力度，加紧了各大口岸的检查力度，防止违法物品流入大陆市场。

虽然有些走私者还是成功地把最新的iPhone手机带进了大陆，但是目前市场上iPhone6手机的供应量已经超出了市场需求。黑市手机价格最高时，这些走私者每台手机能获利1000元，但此时他们的损失也是巨大的。“果粉”们只需等上个几星期就可以买到国行手机，不但有正规发票，售后和维修都能够得到保障，为什么他们还要花高价买走私货呢？

在人口庞大的中国，排队是司空见惯的事情。但是如果中国的消费者开始变得理性，那些黄牛们也不会再花费几天的时间去苹果店门口排队了。

这个让我“丢面子”的手机只花了150块钱，用了四年之后，现在也开始显现出即将报废的迹象。在英国我已经买不到这样的手机了，所以我不得不换成智能手机。但我肯定不会买苹果，更不会去排长队。

I have never seen the need to allow people to judge me on what I possess, or rather what I don't possess. Therefore the latest gadgets, the newest style of clothes, the latest car etc. do not interest me. Thankfully for the retailers not everyone is like me. I read an interesting comment in the newspaper here about the impact Chinese shoppers are having on the British economy. A spokesman at a designer shopping mall in London had this to say; "Chinese shoppers are different from other people. We offer a service whereby we look after their purchases for them whilst they continue to shop without having to tote their goods with them. However Chinese people won't take advantage of this service out of embarrassment and instead haul their bags around with them". This shopping mall has totally misunderstood the situation. Chinese people like to put their wealth on show. What is the point of being rich, if nobody knows about it? Hence they will carry their own designer shopping bags so that others can see they have the money to buy expensive purchases.

Having the latest phone is crucial to showing people that you are a person of

substance. Apparently. My friends were forever telling me that my phone gave a very bad impression to others, as it was so cheap and old, I could only make calls and send messages with it. No amount of protesting on my part that the



Chinese people in the long queue

It was feared that around five million of the iPhones sold could end up in the Chinese black market where there was a potential resale value of triple the price. In fact there were reports that suggested that the Gold iPhones were already being advertised in China shortly before the launch at hugely inflated prices. The iPhone 6 costs up to the 6,888rmb in the UK.

Even people who did not want to buy a phone for resale, were canny enough to earn money simply by being first in the queue and then selling the spot to someone else. Indeed one place in a queue in New York was sold for 14,700 rmb, nice work if you can get it.

However, this time surprisingly two things affected the expected sales figures. One, it was announced that the iPhone 6 would be launched on October the 17th instead of at the end of the year, and two, with the demand in the Chinese market slowing down, the dealers and scalpers found themselves out of pocket. Unlike other times, when any Apple product was highly desirable, this time not as many people were so desperate to get their hands on the iPhone 6 so smugglers who illegally shipped them to China had to slash their prices. Previously the iPhone 6 plus sold for over 10,000RMB in mainland China. Maybe users in China are now seeing the light, in that as soon as they buy one phone, another comes out, so it is an endless cycle. They maybe see the iPhone 6 as just another smartphone. Now it seems there is not so much kudos to owning this product.

The newspapers had reported that because the phones would go on sale in China weeks after everywhere else, they were being



Spot for sale

smuggled in in vast quantities, the smugglers keen to cash in the fact that customers wanted to be the first to show off with them. However, because of the early release, the poor Criminal gangs who queued up for days in the US and Hong Kong to get the phones and their associated products have sadly been forced to charge less than half of what they intended to. Adding to the smugglers' woes, is the fact that the Chinese government has taken a dim view of their activities and so the Police have been carrying out large scale raids on boats carrying iPhones before they land at the ports, thereby preventing them from delivering their illegal goods.

Many smugglers of course were successful in getting the devices into China, but there were so many of the phones, that the smugglers broke

the golden rule of business. Demand must outstrip supply, not the other way around. Sellers of the phones in China are reportedly saying that 'Stocks of the iPhone 6 are way too high right now'. Previously when prices were sky high, smugglers could expect to make around 1,000 rmb per phone, but now their losses will be sky high. As the black market price has fallen so drastically buyers might just as well have waited a few weeks and bought a legitimate phone. If it developed problems or faults, they could return to the shop where they bought it and get the issue resolved. Buying goods on the black market obviously negates this arrangement.

As I said queueing up for days to buy goods is not what floats my boat, but on the other hand, because of the sheer number of people in China, long queues are the norm, so maybe it wasn't so hard for the ones that did actually join the line along with tens of thousands of others around the globe. However the latest debacle shows that if Chinese consumers refuse to be drawn into the hype surrounding new products, smugglers may also give up queuing for unreasonable amounts of time alongside the tech-savvy young people who form the bulk of the queue and who are genuine in their desire to get their hands on what they see as the holy grail.

Meanwhile the phone that I brought back with me from China, and for which I paid the hefty price of 150rmb, is showing signs of wear and tear, not surprising as it is around four years old. I am now in the unfortunate position of having to consider replacing it. They don't make phones like this in England, so I will have no choice but to succumb to a new smart phone. I can tell you now it won't be the iPhone 6 and I won't be joining any queues.



Lucky guy!

## 禁烟之后

中国既是最大的烟草生产国，也是世界上烟民最多的国家。每年，这一垄断行业可以为国家带来7-10%的财政收入，所以即便颁布了公共场所的禁烟令，但落到实处，这一禁令并没有想象的那么严格。

中国的禁烟令始于它加入世界卫生组织和世界贸易组织之后，旨在减少中国的吸烟人群。但事实是，中国的青少年和女性吸烟者却在不断的增加。国家广电总局曾在2011年发布有关限制电影电视中出现的青少年吸烟的镜头，但效果并不尽如人意。1.3亿的青少年中有大约1500万的烟民。全国人大代表常务委员会一直都有关于修改广告法的讨论。一些委员建议取消所有形式的烟草广告，包括室内和室外。尽管我们都知道吸烟有害健康，但无奈吸烟的人数一直有增无减。

市政府早在2008年就颁布了有关公共场所禁止吸烟的条例，但6年过去了，我们收到的成效甚微。其实对于公共场所全面禁烟，这一说法一直都存在着一个巨大的漏洞。它的意思好像告诉人们对于私人场所你可以敞开了吸烟一样。如此一来，不抽烟的人的利益还是没有得到保障。公共场所禁烟令的实施是重点，执法更是关键。

听起来难以置信，但事实的确如此，卫生间简直就是吸烟者的天堂，尽管有着明显的禁止吸烟的标志，但厕所内的活动烟缸却着实为吸烟者提供了方便。大多数的烟民都有在室外抽烟的习惯，等车时，打车时，只要逮到机会，他们就会把烟点上，并无视别人的感受。据统计，每年因为吸烟而死去的人有超过100万。面对那些高昂的医疗费用，你真的可以忽略不计吗？我是一个戒了烟的老烟民，人们都说我们是烟民中最危险的一类人。其实我们只是更早的知道了放弃的意义，更早的认识到了吸烟对我们的亲人所带来的伤害。

禁烟令颁布以后我们的确看到了一些改善。比如，打车的时候，如果有乘客在车上抽烟，司机可能会要求他下车。多数的中国人都不会公开指责公共场所的吸烟者，但我相信，为了更好的空气质量，人们会逐渐意识到这一问题。或许先从下一个在你周围吸烟的人开始，对他说。禁烟话题，谈谈容易，实施不易，中国的禁烟道路更任重而道远。

China is the largest producer of tobacco and has the most smokers in the world, estimated at about 350 million. This monopolized industry is also the largest contributor to the nation's revenues, between 7-10% each year and is one of China's largest employers. Under this scenario, you can see why the government is not enforcing the smoking bans very strictly.

The smoking ban started with China signing the WHO World Health Organization and WTO World Trade Organization agreements to decrease the smoking in China. However, the smoking rate has continued to increase among the young and the female teenagers. This is very concerning since we all know the smoking habit is difficult to stop and becomes addictive. Especially in China, where a package of cigarette can cost less than 5rmb, less than a dollar. In North America, most cigarettes sell for over \$10 or 60rmb.

The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television issued an order in 2011 to limit scenes showing the use of tobacco in movies and TV series, but violations are common. Adolescents are highly susceptible to the influence of smoking scenes in films and TV series, particularly those starring their idols. China has more than 130 million adolescents, of whom 15 million smoke.

# China's Non-Smoking Bans —Are they working?

by David Wong



Despite being scientifically proved that smoking is harmful to people's health, the number of smokers has been increasing in the country, with young people accounting for 12 percent of the total number of about 300 million smokers.

Non-smoker was exposed to second-hand smoke





The standing Committee of the National People's Congress is debating whether the Advertisement Law should be amended to ban all cigarette ads. Although the existing law bans all forms of cigarette ads in the media, it is not all pervasive because placards and posters promoting cigarettes can be displayed in restaurants and other public places. Some NPC Standing Committee members have proposed that the law be amended to ban all forms of cigarette ads, both indoors and outdoors.

Despite being scientifically proved that smoking is harmful to people's health, the number of smokers has been increasing in the country, with young people accounting for 12 percent of the total number of about 300 million smokers. Worse, more than 70 percent of non-smokers are exposed to second-hand smoke, which means Chinese smokers are either ignorant of or indifferent to the harm they inflict on other people.

Banning all forms of cigarette ads will help make smokers aware of the harm their smoking causes indirectly to the health of other people and thus save more people from the harms of second-hand smoke. Better still, it will help create an atmosphere where non-smokers can tell smokers not to smoke anywhere near them.

Compared with a poorly implemented rule issued by the municipal government in 2008 to ban smoking in parts of indoor public places and on public transport, the highly anticipated draft law significantly expands smoke-free areas.

It bans smoking in all indoor public places, workplaces and public transport vehicles. It also bars smokers from open-air areas of kindergartens, schools, children's centers and historical sites. The draft proposes designating smoking areas in outdoor places of universities, stadiums, fitness centers, medical institutions, tourism sites and parks. However the latest revision has a loophole that allows smoking in private rooms. This means that venues can have a

makeshift area for smokers and with no rules for ventilation, the smoke gets poured out to nonsmokers. It is about as effective as designation one area of a swimming pool to be non-peeing.

People breaking the law would be fined 50rmb (about 8 U.S. dollars) and violators who refuse to stub out 200rmb. But the problem is enforcement. Who would make sure that offenders pay the fine? The most common public places for smoking violations are: train and bus stations, local hotels and restaurants, parks and stadium and believe it not: hospitals!

Train stations, walk by the washrooms and go to the train platforms and you will be exposed to second hand smoke. Many of the passengers will even smoke standing next to the open train door so they will not miss the train when it pulls out. Don't they realize that while they are smoking, the smoke enters the cabin and the smell on their body is penetrated with the offensive smoke smell?

Almost all the 5 star hotels and especially international chains have banned smoking in their lobbies and restaurants and they have non-smoking floors. However it is not fully regulated and gets worse as you stay in the smaller cities. In all cases, the public bathrooms will find smokers puffing while doing their business.

Unbelievable as it sounds, you can still find offenders in the hospitals. Again the bathrooms are home to the smokers even with prominent non-smoking signs prominently placed. In fact most toilets will have a make shift ashtray, almost encouraging the smoker to light up.

Once out in the open air, most smokers feel that they can smoke as they please. If they are in a taxi or bus line up, they will puff on a cigarette, even if the line up is very crowded and their smoke is blown into the faces of people standing right next to them. They are oblivious to others being exposed to their second hand smoke.

One needs to look at the burden of medical costs with over one million citizens dying each

year as a result of smoking. Surely this undercuts the revenue and employment generated by smokers.

Having vented my anger and disgust of violating smokers, you can no doubt guess that I am a reformed smoker and they say we are the most critical of existing smokers. Maybe because we know that quitting is an option and we are trying to make up for all the years that imposed our habit on others and the guilt we feel towards our loved ones that asked us countless times to quit and we cheated behind their back. The question is: "Have things improved?"

Yes, they have. If you look back just a few years, you will recall that many people openly smoked in public areas as mentioned. I recently asked a taxi driver if a passenger started to smoke in his car, would he ask him to stop, even though the driver was a smoker? He replied yes because, the next customer may complain. Even though the driver was a smoker, he smokes outside of his vehicle.

A few years ago, you would find smokers lighting up on the bus or on the train, now it is only in the bathrooms and if someone can find a way to stop the smoker while they are on the toilet and not violate their personal rights, this will go a long ways to stopping this form of smoking.

There are more TV ads promoting the stoppage of second hand smoke, the ad where a young man decides not to light up because he is next to a table of an elderly couple. Also public opinion is changing and more people are aware of the dangers and health implications of smoking. Most parents or grandparents will not smoke in the presence of their infant children.

The problem is most Chinese will not openly complain to smokers but again this is changing, as people become to value their quality of life. I believe it will still take some more time, but the air will become cleaner; so speak up next time a smoker lights up next to you. Now the next challenge is to curb the spitting.

## 塘沽新洋市场

从天津站出发，乘坐轻轨不到一个小时就能抵达一个理想的购物天堂——塘沽新洋市场。新洋市场是华北地区首家建立的专门进行进口货品交易的市场，由于经营品种多种多样，货品价位低廉又不乏“珍、奇、特”，因此被誉为沽上明珠、滨海商贸中心。任何人来这里，都能找到他的心中所好。吸引我来这里的，不仅仅是低廉的价格，当然，还有它宜人的公共设施和那琳琅满目的诱人小吃。准备好了？那就和我一起踏上新洋的奇幻之旅吧。

洋货市场有很多出入口，且指示牌上全部用双语标注。与其说这里是异国商品的购物天堂，不如说它是新奇特物品的小世界。我们在一个海产品的摊位前发现了鲨鱼的标本，悬在那里晃来晃去，还有各种各样的虫子标本。虽然有同样远道而来的外国朋友告诉我们说他们看到了海龟壳的相关产品，但我们自己并没有发现贩卖这种濒危物种商品的卖家。循着昏暗的灯光，我们穿过了铺满摊位的街道。除了各种各样的儿童玩具，这里还出售着军用产品，比如双筒望远镜，刀和手枪等。洋货市场里有一个很大的专门卖电子产品的室内商场。如果你有买手机的打算，请一定确保它能正常使用。我知道很多外籍人都曾在这里上当，所以决定之前，请一定三思而后行。洋货市场外面的步行街道上随处可见蓝色的购物亭，它们基本属于私人贩卖店，但多数都是高仿产品，价格也参差不齐。购买之前，一定记得在心里多盘算几遍，因为你花这个价钱买到的只是仿制品而已。一分钱一分货，在个体店买东西，你再小心都不为过。对于在中国购买仿制品并意欲带出国的朋友，你得注意了，如果你带到的是那些重视版权的国家，比如欧盟，北美等，一旦你的仿制品被查出来，你就很可能面临着没收或罚款的惩罚。逛了这么久，是不是有点饿了？说真的，塘沽的美味真的是太多了。从街边小吃到路旁餐馆，美食应有尽有。当然，如果你还不太能适应当地小吃，那么肯德基和德克士也很容易找到。

最后，别忘了和洋货市场上的标志性铜像合个影。我敢说，无论你收获了什么，这都会是一次难忘的旅行。

bags, there are items of interest for infants, seniors and those in between. Tourists, teachers, professionals and corporate executives can find budget-friendly options that work before or after payday.

Price isn't the only point of convenience about this market. There's a remarkably clean public toilet wafting eau de industrial cleaner versus the nose singing eau de urine (I vouch only for the day my family visited), delicious steamed buns, local restaurants and fast food outlets (with another bathroom option in KFC).

As a train passenger who doesn't speak much intelligible Mandarin, locating the market is easy. There's no need to worry about way-finding via awkward interpretive dance. Just get off at Tanggu Railway Station (sometimes spelled Tang Gu), cross the parking lot lined by large visible stores like Suning and KFC to Fu Shun Dao (if disoriented, see the street sign). Taking a taxi? Clearly communicate to the driver that you looking for the Tanggu Subway Station, or you may end up Beijing-bound at the High Speed Railway Station (as our family of four did on our first visit).

On arrival, behold. A marketing adventure awaits.

## Shopping

Window shoppers and serious buyers on a mission can comparison shop as many items have price tags, though that doesn't mean

# Fall Foraging in Tanggu

by Amy Dunn Moscoso

Searching for a pair of (gently) used brass knuckles, a Prada knock off, or something exotic, like a scorpion key chain?

How about piping hot and spicy street food, dried shrimp or KFC?

Less than an hour away from Tianjin Railway Station is Tanggu's Xinyang Market, an ideal place to while away a fall Saturday or Sunday. From curio items in the Market of Exotic to brand discount stores to fabulous faux watches and



Market Shot

bargaining won't sweeten the deal. There are several different places to find items including stalls in large indoor markets, individual storefronts, kiosks, open-air stands and parked cars filled with CDs and stereo equipment, booming Psy's Gangnam Style. Fur vendors also wander around pedalling vests and coats.

### Market of Exotic

This large market has several entrances that are clearly labeled in English and Mandarin. It's a bit more like a market of curious items rather than exotic and is fun to stroll through. Our exotic finds were limited to a stuffed shark dangling above a dried seafood stand across from the market itself, and key chains with tarantulas, scorpions and beetles inside. We didn't find animals or endangered species goods for sale, though a few fellow expats told us they'd come across sea turtle shells and products. What we did discover amidst the darkened interior aisles were all kinds of goods, from toys for children to electronics to fighter jet planes made from shell casings. Many stalls sold what appeared to be Chinese army surplus goods, such as binoculars, telescopes, knives and even pistols.

### Electronics/Antiques Market

There's nearly an entire indoor market dedicated to mobile phones and their paraphernalia. Buyer beware: test out anything to ensure it's in working condition. A few disgruntled expats were giving up on a failed mission to return damaged phones to vendors unwilling to take returns and offer refunds. It might be one of those situations mothers like to warn about: if the price for a new iPhone is too good to be true...

Above the phone gadget stalls is a second floor with shops selling bags, jade and antiques. While we couldn't squeeze our stroller into these cramped spaces, we did see some marine paraphernalia such as ship steering wheels, intricately carved jade fountains and pairs of lions.

### Individual Stores: His and Hers Knock Offs

Individual shops tend to specialize. There is an Apple store, clothing Brand Discount Store, and stores selling only faux high end fashion bags. What's the cost of a brand name knock off? Inside of a man bag store, we found a Jeep bag for 17,200 RMB, an outdoor kiosk selling an Armani purse for 1,180 RMB, and a watch kiosk offering Omega watches for 500 RMB. Kiosks aimed at ladies were selling Prada bags for 1,180 RMB and Calvin Klein watches for 350 RMB. One or two vendors joked about prices being in US

dollars, versus RMB but we did witness customers forking over local currency.

Compare those prices to the real cost of luxury goods. At the end of our adventure, back in TEDA, we popped into the legit brand stores outside of the Citizen Plaza Train Station. Before we were chased out, screaming toddler in tow, we did manage to glimpse the price of a man's Omega watch at 89,000 RMB.

### Counterfeit Goods: Should You or Shouldn't You?

Price isn't the only thing to consider when purchasing knock-offs. There may be other costs that have nothing to do with money. A quick online search on Chinese faux items brought up all manner of alarming articles and reports linking counterfeit goods to everything from the world economic recession to organized crime and ever terrorism. Trafficking counterfeit items is a \$250 billion USD a year industry, 2% of world trade, according to an April 2013 report released by the United National Office on Drugs and Crime. China manufactures 67% of counterfeit goods. Bringing knock offs purchased in China into a country that enforces copyright and trademarks, as many EU, North American, Asian and Oceanic countries do, can put the traveler at risk. Items may be seized, or in a dimmer scenario, the traveler may be seized or fined.

### Eating

There are plenty of things to taste in Tanggu. We bought a bag of 8 steamed buns for 8 RMB, a bag of twisted fried donuts from an open aired stall for 15 RMB and 6 RMB pancake-like snacks from a street stall. Fancy boxes of donuts were available at the Fried Dough Twist Head Shop (an accurate description of the donuts) and local restaurants boated spicy soups, chicken and vegetable dishes. There was even an outdoor seating area where people could enjoy their street food.

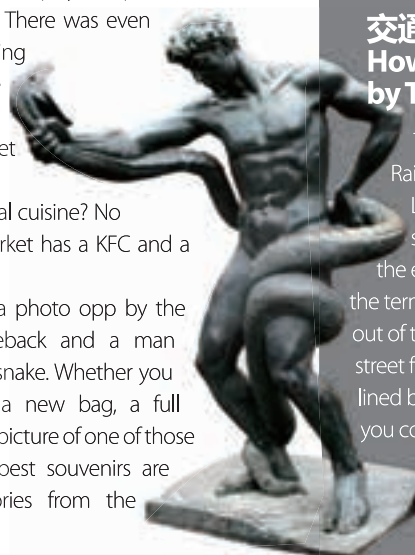
Not into local cuisine? No problem. The market has a KFC and a MacDonald's.

Don't miss a photo opp by the soldier on horseback and a man wrestling with a snake. Whether you go home with a new bag, a full stomach or just a picture of one of those key chains, the best souvenirs are likely to be stories from the adventure.



### 交通指南 How to Get There by Train

To get to Tanggu, go to Tianjin Railway Station and board a train on Line 9. Tanggu Station (sometimes spelled Tang Gu Station) is close to the end of the line and is 4 stops prior to the terminal station, Donghai Road. Coming out of the train station, make your way past street food vendors across the parking lot lined by stores like Sunning and KFC until you come to the road sign Fu Shun Dao. (Taking a taxi? Be clear that you are not going to the High Speed Rail station in Tanggu.)



TIPS

## 文化河西

一提到文化之旅，可能人们首先想到的是去北京，因为那里的紫禁城、长城和天安门都是世界闻名的。但其实你不必大费周章地坐动车去北京，在天津的家门口你也能感受独特的文化特色。

河西区汇聚了很多天津特色文化场所。如果你是特意来天津体验这些地方，你应该先订好酒店。河西区有一家很有历史的国际品牌酒店，喜来登大酒店早在1987年就开业了，是第一个进入天津的海外酒店品牌。最关键的一点，从喜来登到我们之后要介绍的景点都非常方便。

我们的第一站就是天塔。天塔建于1991年，高四百多米，登上顶层可俯视天津。围绕天塔的天塔湖也是非常美的景观，一年四季你都可以来此散步休闲。

然后你可以前往友谊路天津国展中心。马路的一边是国展中心、天津大礼堂和天津水晶宫饭店，另一边就是天津文化中心。天津文化中心是综合性的文化娱乐休闲设施。在这个区域内，包含了天津大剧院、天津博物馆和银河购物中心等。天津大剧院是天津规格最高的演出场所，每次承接国际知名演出团体的演出都会登上报纸的头条。

天津博物馆拥有20万件藏品，展示了天津的历史和文化。银河购物中心与天津博物馆和天津大剧院毗邻而居，代表了天津时尚和摩登的一面。这不仅仅是一个集购物、餐饮和休闲为一体的商场，作为天津文化中心的一部分，它还起着连接历史与现代的作用，让游客在方寸之间就能体会天津传统与现代的双重魅力。

除此之外，天津市政府也选址河西区，所以这一区域内的公共交通建设也正在紧锣密鼓地进行。地铁5、6号线都覆盖了河西区，竣工开通后，你会发现文化中心也会是一个便利的交通枢纽站。河西区是一个繁荣且平衡发展的行政区，非常适合外籍人士居住。哪怕你只是匆匆过客，也一定要在河西区安排游览行程。

Tianjin are all in Hexi District. If living in Tianjin, than a place to stay during your discovery of Hexi district won't be a problem. However, for expats passing through Tianjin and wanting to see the main sites in Hexi, you'll likely need a "home base" to stay at, as there are a number of sites to see. It would be a real stretch to try to get it all in, in one day. So instead it might be recommended to read up on a few of the main sites and then plan out a few days of activity.

Out of town expats might consider the Sheraton Hotel (喜来登大酒店 xǐlái dēng dàjiǔ diàn) as their discovering Hexi "home base". The Sheraton is a good choice for a few reasons. One, it is an international standard hotel. Second, it is in itself a bit of a Tianjin cultural point. The Tianjin Sheraton was one of the earlier overseas hospitality brands to enter Tianjin. Baidu states the Tianjin Sheraton opened for business in 1987 and was remodeled in 2008. Third, room rates are relatively reasonable. The official Tianjin Sheraton Hotel website was advertising around 700 RMB/night. Fourth, the Sheraton puts you within walking distance of several Hexi district cultural sites.

The first stop on our Hexi district tour of the Tianjin cultural spots is the Tianjin T.V. Tower (天塔 tiān tǎ). The T.V. Tower towers at about 400 plus meters tall. For a fee you can head on up to

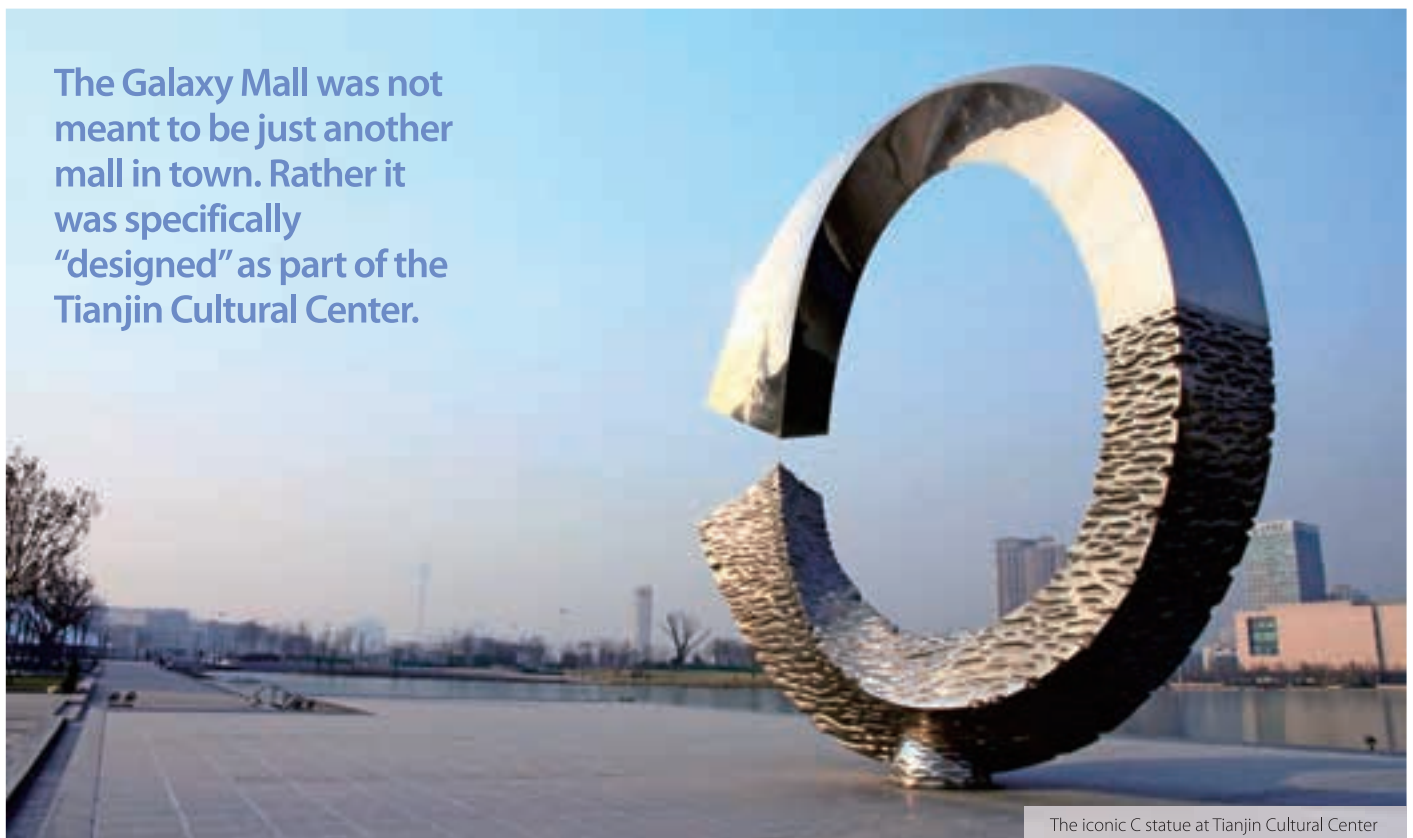
# Collection of Culture in Hexi

by Carmen King

**W**hen one thinks of brushing up on Chinese culture, perhaps they would take a trip to Beijing. While a visit to the Forbidden City, Great Wall, and Tiananmen won't

hurt, expats living in Tianjin may not need to buy that fast train ticket just yet. Tianjin has a cultural center of its own, and that's Hexi District.

Several main cultural sites as it relates to



The Galaxy Mall was not meant to be just another mall in town. Rather it was specifically "designed" as part of the Tianjin Cultural Center.

The iconic C statue at Tianjin Cultural Center

the top of the tower. There is also a “top of the tower” restaurant. Baidu puts the Tianjin T.V. Tower being built in 1991. The area around the tower makes for a decent walk. It’s got an open area concrete plaza which is next to a lake. In the summer the T.V. Tower lake has fishing and rents foot-powered paddle boats. In the winter, as the water turns to ice, ice skating and hockey activities can be found there.

the public. In 2008 it was given the “First Class” ranking by the Chinese Government as it relates to museums. With a reported 200,000 items on display, there is likely something that will catch each and everyone’s eye. In 2012 the museum was completely “rebuilt”. It now has five above ground stories and one underground. In total the museums overall structure spans a massive 64,000 plus square meters. It represents the

mall in town. Rather it was specifically “designed” as part of the Tianjin Cultural Center. Thus balancing the past with the present and ensuring all visitors can enjoy a “one-stop” experience. Families can not only catch up on the arts and history, but also enjoy extravagant shopping at the nearby Galaxy Mall.

These five stops are but a few of the cultural highlights to be found within the borders of Tianjin’s Hexi district. The city government also calls Hexi home. Therefore as Heping district is the financial center of the city, Hexi indeed is the cultural hub of Tianjin. Expats will need at least a few days to see all the sites. Not to mention Hexi also has several parks worth visiting as well. Hexi is seeing major upgrades in relation to transportation infrastructure. The new Tianjin Metro lines 5 and 6 will have several stops each within Hexi. Metro line 1 also runs through Hexi. As the subway construction completes, expats will find Hexi not only to be a cultural center, but a transportation hub as well.

Tianjin as a whole is growing up. With the Central government spearheading major development through the city, the upgrades within Hexi are but a small representation. Each of the six major districts inside of Tianjin represents something a little different. Hexi has long since taken its place as the cultural leader. Expats may well consider not only visiting Hexi for the reasons listed above, but could easily consider calling Hexi home. With every area of life being covered, from recreation, entertainment, shopping, lodging, and more. Hexi offers expats a well-developed, relatively balanced environment. Real estate rates are on par with Heping and Nankai, thereby making it a valid choice when and if considering living in neighboring districts. Be it to visit or stay longer, put Hexi district and its many cultural hot spots on your list of places to go and see.



Historic relic exhibits in the Tianjin Museum

Stop number two is INTEX Tianjin (天津国展中心 tiānjīn guózhǎn zhōngxīn) located in Hexi district at 32 Youyi Road (友谊路 yǒuyì lù). The INTEX Tianjin is situated in the vicinity of several other major cultural spots, which includes the Crystal Palace Hotel (天津水晶宫饭店), Tianjin Grand Hotel (天津宾馆), Tianjin Grand Auditorium (天津大礼堂), Tianjin Grand Theater (天津大剧院), Tianjin Museum (天津博物馆), and the Galaxy Mall (天津银河国际购物中心). In the past half century INTEX has held nearly 1,000 expositions. This has resulted in millions of attendees having visited INTEX. Events have included everything from building products, chemical products, ice cream products, and medical products.

largest free-to-the-public collection of cultural artifacts in all of Tianjin. The Tianjin Museum has exhibits detailing the past and present of Tianjin. Thus, for any expat looking to brush up on the history and culture of Tianjin, this is the place to go.

The fifth stop is the Galaxy Mall (天津银河国际购物中心). What would the “old” be without the “new”. Nestled in the heart of all the rich history of ancient artifacts as contained within the walls of the museum is the glitz and glam of modern day mega malls. The Galaxy Mall is within walking distance of the museum and gives expats everything they could imagine in terms of eating, shopping and relaxing. The Galaxy Mall was not meant to be just another

The third stop is the Tianjin Grand Theater (天津大剧院). The Grand Theater is the perfect place for expats to get their dose of culture. Theater shows include ballet, musicals, and symphonies. The theater made headlines when it hosted the ever famous Swan Lake. This event drew folks from all over China as well as those from abroad to Tianjin. So too many famous orchestras and symphonies along with visiting internationally acclaimed musical directors have taken stage at the Tianjin Grand Theater.

The fourth stop is the Tianjin Museum (天津博物馆). The museum is not only a cultural hot spot in Tianjin but one of the earliest established museums in all of China. In 2007 the museum became completely free to



A modern art exhibition in the Tianjin Museum

## Hanjin Group Chairman Cho Yang-ho receives appreciation plaque AIPS

ChoYang-ho, Chairman of Hanjin Group, was recognized for his contribution to the development of sports worldwide by the International Sports Press Association (AIPS).

Cho received an appreciation plaque from AIPS President Gianni Merlo during the Incheon Asiad on Sept. 22.

Founded in 1924, AIPS is the world's largest organization of sports journalists. With its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, the association has maintained close relationships with such major international sports organizations as the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Federation of Football Association (FIFA), and the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

Chairman Cho was inaugurated as chairman of the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Games Bid Committee in September 2009, and helped Korea to win the bid to host the Winter Games with his excellent business leadership and the global mindset that he has cultivated while



managing the Hanjin Group.

He was also inaugurated as head of the Organizing Committee for the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic Games in August and is making diverse efforts to ensure that the Games are a success.

Cho serves many other positions in sports organizations and is working for the promotion of sports in and outside Korea. He is currently president of the Korea Table Tennis Association and vice president of the Korean Olympic Committee and the Asian

Table Tennis Union.

Chairman Cho has also contributed much to the promotion of world peace through sports. He worked as an ambassador of "Peace and Sports," an international organization for the promotion of world peace, and renders various support for the Youth Leadership Camp of the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP), whose goal is to deliver hope to youth in less developed countries through sport.

## Hanjin Group selects InterContinental hotel brand for the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles

The Wilshire Grand Hotel, which is to be revived as a landmark in Los Angeles, joined hands with InterContinental Hotels & Resorts for its US \$1.2 billion reconstruction project.

Hanjin Group, owner of the Wilshire Grand Hotel, signed a franchise and management contract with Inter-Continental on the construction site, located between Wilshire Boulevard and Figueroa Street in LA, on Sept. 23 (local time). Attending the signing ceremony were Heather Cho, CEO of KAL Hotel Network and Executive Vice President of Korean Air, and Joel Eisemann, Chief Development Officer, Americas, InterContinental Hotels Group.



The Group said it has chosen the InterContinental hotel brand because they believe the hotel brand will help to achieve its goal of making the new Wilshire Grand Hotel a world's top hotel.

In particular, as InterContinental is the world's top luxury hotel brand that has won international reputation, it is believed that the hotel will be able to satisfy the everincreasing needs of the customers, a Hanjin Group representative said.

"It would be great to witness the flag of the InterContinental flying over such a prestigious hotel as the Wilshire Grand," said Cho during the ceremony. "InterContinental is well-recognized by customers around the world and is going to present the high-quality services provided by the Wilshire Grand to the global customers."

Set to open in 2017, the new Wilshire Grand Hotel will be a 73- storey tower consisting of hotel rooms on the upper floors as well as retail and office space on the lower floors.

The hotel lobby will be located on the 70th floor, providing guests with a unique checking in experience while overseeing the skyline of the financial district of downtown LA and its beautiful night scenery.

The luxury Wilshire Grand will feature 900 guestrooms located on floors 31 through 69. The lower seven stories of the building will house business and convention facilities, including 37,000-square meters of office space with state-of-the-art facilities.

The Wilshire Grand will also have tailor-made facilities to offer a special experience for its guests. The upper part of the building will be a dome, inspired by the shape of an airplane, and the banquet room will feature glass doors for guests to overlook the panoramic view of the garden. Moreover, windows in the guest rooms can be opened to allow customers to fully enjoy the pleasant weather of LA.

## SkyTeam Cargo signs MOU with Garuda Indonesia for business cooperation

SkyTeam Cargo, a global cargo alliance, has joined hands with Garuda Indonesia, the Indonesian flag-carrier, to expand its cargo network in Southeast Asia.

The two sides exchanged an MOU on Garuda joining SkyTeam Cargo during the 2014 Air Cargo Forum and Exposition held by the International Air Cargo Association at COEX in Seoul on Oct. 8.

The signing ceremony was attended by Eom Jae-dong, Vice President of Cargo Marketing Department of Korean Air, and Batara Silaban, Executive

Vice President of Maintenance and Fleet of Garuda, as well as representatives of 12 SkyTeam Cargo members.

Garuda Indonesia is expected to become a SkyTeam Cargo member in 2015 after necessary formal procedures.

Founded in September 2000, SkyTeam Cargo is the first and largest global cargo alliance. Its 12 members, including Korean Air Cargo, Delta Air Logistics and Air France Cargo, handle an annual 6 million tons of cargo in 904 cities in 177 countries.

## Korean Air continues planing trees in the Kubuqi Desert, China



During Sept. 22-24, Korean Air planted trees again in the Kubuqi Desert, Inner Mongolia, which is the major origin of the yellow dust blown to Northeast Asia. The airline has started planting trees in the Kubuqi Desert since 2007 as part of its "Global Planting Project."

About 120 people, including 70 employees of Korean Air and 50 Chinese university students, participated in the tree planting activities in the Kubuqi Desert this year. The selected tree species are those that can grow well in the desert, such as desert willows and poplars.

Korean Air has been cultivating the "Korean Air Green Ecological Forest" in Inner Mongolia as part of a project to form a large forestation area jointly

undertaken by Korea (Future Forest) and China (China National Youth Association).

The project aims to plant 1.37 million trees in a forest spreading over 4.5 million square meters by 2016.

So far, a total of 1.2 million trees have been planted on a site of 4.01 million square meters.

The Kubuqi Desert is the seventh largest desert in China and the ninth largest desert in the world. Deforestation and rapid industrialization results in further desertification in the area. The desert is expanding at a scale of five times the size of Seoul annually, making the desert the origin of more than 40 percent of yellow dust blowing from China to Northeast Asia, including the Korean Peninsula. Korean Air hopes its "Green Ecological Forest" project will help to ease the situation of desertification and will greatly improve the environment throughout the whole Northeast Asia.

## Grand Hyatt Incheon presents 'Discover Korea' promotion

Restaurant 8, located on the ground floor of the Grand Hyatt Incheon East Tower, has launched the 'Discover Korea' signature menu, which takes its guests on a journey to discover the culinary delights of Korea. Two different menus are available for lunch and dinner until Oct. 31. Vegetarian choices are also prepared.

The menus are especially crafted to deliver real Korean flavors. Meals start with pancake rolls, seasonal green salad and snow crab meat salad, followed by yuja dressing, Korean beef tartare, sweet pumpkin porridge, assorted Korean pancakes, and Jedong beef stew. For dessert, seasonal fruits, rice punch, Korean crackers and rice cake are served.

The vegetarian option includes yam mountain salad with citron dressing, mung bean salad and pancake rolls as appetizers, followed by sweet pumpkin porridge with beans and assorted Korean pancakes.

Steamed eggplant and tofu with wild sesame sauce are served as the main course with vegetable bibimbap and taro soup, followed by assorted traditional desserts.



Fresh ingredients grown in the mountains and fields of the Korean peninsula are carefully prepared without artificial seasoning to highlight the natural flavors of Korean cuisine. Lunch is available at KRW 66,000 per person and dinner at KRW 88,000. The vegetarian lunch is KRW 55,000 and dinner is KRW 66,000 (inclusive of 10% VAT).

For more information, visit [incheon.grand.hyattrestaurants.kr](http://incheon.grand.hyattrestaurants.kr) or call +82 32 745 1234.

## Tianjin Networking Club Event at Shangri-La Hotel, Tianjin



On October 21, TNC event was held at the wonderful Lounge Bar of the newly opened Shangri-La Hotel, Tianjin. A lot of professionals and entrepreneurs attended the event. The event is organized by Jin Magazine, and co-organized by American Chamber of Commerce, European Chamber of Commerce, German Chamber of Commerce, Singapore Chamber of Commerce and Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce.

Hakan Ozel, General Manager of Shangri-La Hote, Tianjin made a welcome speech to the guests and hosted the lucky draw session. We're also grateful for Mr. Li Wenzhong from YY Beer House for the special wine and craftbeer.

The event proved to be another great success. TNC social event has become the most important and influential business event in Tianjin and we look forward to seeing you in the next event.

For more information, please email: [tnc@jinmagazine.com.cn](mailto:tnc@jinmagazine.com.cn)



## Mirror Fashion and Makeup Show

On the evening of October 1st, a fashion and makeup show was held at Riverside 66. The event was co-organized by Riverside 66 shopping mall and Elegancy magazine. The event attracted many ladies and gentlemen particularly those who are into fashion as a lifestyle.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Mirror theme show, where mirror decorations in various shapes created magical special effects with their dazzling reflections.

The catwalk featured work of the designer Christopher Bu who was a stylist and worked for Fan Bingbing - an A grade Chinese movie star. Liu Qingyang, a makeup artist, also hosted a creative makeup show in which a model was transformed with a stunning new look in only five minutes.



## "2014 WTA Tianjin Open Players Welcome Party" held in Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangan Hotel

October 7, 2014, "2014 WTA Tianjin Open Players Welcome Party" held at Meijiang grand ballroom of Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangan, which as the co-sponsor gave "WTA Tianjin Open" strong support, and obtained the co-sponsor certificate of honor in the "WTA Tianjin open official press conference".



## Bloody Mary's 80th Anniversary Celebration at St. Regis



On October 11, St. Regis Tianjin along with all St. Regis hotels and resorts around the world, celebrated the 80th anniversary of the invention of the Bloody Mary cocktail by holding a Bloody Mary brunch. The Red Snapper, the original name of the Bloody Mary was born in the St. Regis Hotel in New York.

For the brunch, the hotel prepared six original versions of the Bloody Mary created by the six St. Regis hotels in China. Guests had the chance to taste each of them and learn the story of the recipe and some background stories.

## Pacific Links Golf Membership Celebration Banquet



On October 22, the Pacific Links International Golf Membership Celebration Banquet was held at the Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel. Almost 600 amateur golfers were invited to the event where Mr. Du Sha, an investor in Pacific Links, delivered an interesting speech about the achievements of the organization during the past year as well as his future strategies.

Greg Norman, a professional golfer and entrepreneur who spent 331 weeks as the world's Number 1 ranked golfer in the 1980s and 1990s was invited to speak about his career and his support for Pacific Links.

Pacific Links International provides golfers with a premium golf experience through an innovative membership structure that offers access to the finest collection of affiliated golf clubs from around the world.



**THE FLAVORS OF SPAIN**  
**Spanish Food Festival @Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel**

Spain, a melting pot of cultures and a crossroads where peoples and races meet, is a place whose gastronomy constitutes one of the richest manifestations of its historical legacy. Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel has invited the famous chef Jordi Villegas Serra from Spain to work with our culinary team lead by Chef Humphrey on the opening of our Spanish Food Festival on the 12th of October, which is also the National Day of Spain.



**Tangla Hotel Tianjin won the "Best Business Hotel 2014" by City Traveler**

2014 City Traveler Magazine Annual Awards Ceremony was held recently in Shanghai, one of China's most recognized tourism publications. Tangla Hotel Tianjin has been awarded as the "Best Business Hotel of the Year 2014", winning another new industrial authoritative award.

As the flagship of TANGLA, the high-end hotel brand of HNA Hospitality Group, Tangla Hotel Tianjin carries out Tangla brand core values of "Harmony, Elegance, Excellence and Serenity", and successfully launched the uniquely personalized Tangla Ambassador service. By delivering the oriental hospitality, Tangla Hotel Tianjin got an excellent score in City Traveler Consumer Survey 2014, and won "Best Business Hotel 2014".



**Pan Pacific Hotels Group extends China footprint with the opening of Pan Pacific Tianjin**



Pan Pacific Hotels Group has announced the opening of the 319-unit Pan Pacific Tianjin in China. This is the fifth "Pan Pacific" in China after four other "Pan Pacific" hotels and serviced suites in Xiamen, Suzhou and Ningbo, marking the extension of the brand

footprint along the east coast and into the northern region.

Part of mixed-use development, The Esplanade, Pan Pacific Tianjin is situated along the scenic Haihe River and at the intersection of the key commercial districts of Hongqiao, Nankai and Hebei. It is a 40-minute drive from Tianjin Binhai International Airport and 10 minutes away from Tianjin Railway Station. Blending history and traditions of the East with luxury and modernity of the West, the new property promises to deliver the distinctive "Pan Pacific" brand of hospitality through a wide range of elegant accommodation choices, diverse culinary delights, versatile event spaces and discreet, personalised service that have incorporated elements of the vibrant local culture.

Perfectly meeting the needs of both short-term and extended-stay travellers, Pan Pacific Tianjin features 289 exquisitely furnished guestrooms with either a city or river view, and 30 well-appointed serviced suites with full kitchenette and laundry facilities.

**Charity Run to Help Biliary Atresia Infant**

A Charity Run organized by a group of 5 hotels in Tianjin, including the St. Regis Tianjin, the Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin, the Westin Tianjin, Sheraton Tianjin Hotel and Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel was held on October 12, 2014. The Charity Run attracted around 200 running enthusiasts and philanthropists from the city of Tianjin. This event aimed to help people to learn more about Biliary Atresia and draw more attention and care to the Biliary Atresia infants. Funds raised through the Charity Run in Tianjin will go towards Biliary Atresia patients' medical account for further treatment.



**Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City Appointed Xin Zhang As DOSM**

Mr. Xin Zhang was promoted as Director of Sales and Marketing recently by Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City. He will oversee the daily operations of the Sales, Marketing and Communications, Revenue and Catering departments.

Mr. Zhang was Director of Sales at Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City. Prior to that, he was the Assistant Sales Director at The St. Regis Tianjin. With his remarkable leadership, Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City won the IHG Greater China 2014 Summer MICE Campaign.



**Warner "Poland Cup" The 3rd International Friends Invitational Tournament**

As part of the 16th anniversary celebration of the Warner International Golf Club Tianjin, the Warner "Poland Cup" and the 3rd International Friends Invitational Tournament were held on September 20, 2014. Almost 80 players from the local business elite and others from Poland, Moldova, Kazakhstan, China, the Philippines, Holland, South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Canada, South Africa, USA, Bulgaria, Pakistan and another 14 countries were in attendance. After the game, guests gathered in the Warner springs garden to attend the awards dinner. There they enjoyed great food and wine and shared achievements in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere. It was also the International Day of Peace and the guests expressed their ardent desire and best wishes towards world peace.

从日本乡村到中国城市

无论你到哪个国家，那个国家的人民都会认为自己的国家是世界上最好的国家。虽然不同的国家和文化无从比较，但在日本乡村和中国的城市分别生活过一段时间之后，我情不自禁地要比较一下这两种生活以及两个地方的人。我现在住在天津泰达，这和我之前生活的日本冈山县大不相同，那个城市只有100万人口。在市民的礼貌和好客方面，日本人的彬彬有礼是令全世界叹服的。哪怕喝多的醉鬼也能保持基本的礼仪。但是，日本人有些过于拘谨，我在日本的邻居两年来都对我“视而不见”。但在中国，我的邻居每天都微笑着和我打招呼，说着我听不懂的话。即便如此，我还是更喜欢我的中国邻居。

在吃上，中国和日本都有一些在我看来非常奇怪但美味的食物。在日本，我从不需要为食品安全担心，生鱼生肉我都敢吃。但刚来中国的时候，我每周都要生病。作为两个孩子的母亲，我不得不对食品安全十分小心，所以在在这方面，我要把票投给日本。

在日本这个弹丸之国，寸土寸金，每一寸空间都要充分利用起来。所以即使在四面环山的乡间，我也觉得十分局促。有一次，我因为肢体语言过于丰富把一个骑车人从自行车上打了下来。而在中国，虽然人口众多，但我从没感到拥挤。以我居住的泰达地区为例，周围有很多绿化景观和广场，可供人们休闲散步。但你要时刻小心突如其来

# Expatriate Life Compared: Rural Japan Versus Urban China

By Amy Dunn Moscoso

Have you ever been to a country where people didn't think that their country was the best nation on Earth?

I haven't. But after spending some time outside of my own country of Canada, I can no longer make that claim. Really, you can't compare countries and cultures.

However, having lived abroad for two years in rural Japan, and now on a two year overseas assignment in China, it's impossible for me not to compare almost every part of life between China and Japan. Unfair? Maybe. But also human.

My new life in uber urban TEDA, Tianjin is very different from my time in the Japanese boonies of Okayama City, a city of "just" one

million people, little more than a shinkansen (high speed rail) stop by travelers on the route between Osaka and Hiroshima.

Does one country come out better? For me, yes.

### Politeness Versus Friendliness

Japanese are famous for being unfailingly polite. People line up (the glory!) and I was never once shoved out of a grocery store line up, displaced at Starbucks or knocked over trying exit a train by a businessman or feisty granny. No one horked luggage on the floor of a restaurant or screamed at each other after a fender bender. Even people skunk-drunk on saki beneath the

spring-time cherry blossoms remained mild mannered. I once lost my wallet with the equivalent of 1,500 Yuan in it. It was returned, intact, to me personally by the police.

There's a world of difference between being polite and being friendly, though. My neighbours in China appear pleased to see me and wave, smile and chat, though a few months into my stay I have no idea what they are saying. If someone has a little English they string it together. People help me carry my groceries as I haul my toddler up the stairs in his stroller. In Japan, some of my neighbours didn't "see" me, for the better part of two years. In China, everyone sees me and smiles usually accompany stares. **Score: China**

### Food (and Food Safety)

Both Japan and China have a lot of food that is weird and wonderful to a Canadian. In Japan, I never worried about food safety. I ate raw fish, horsemeat and beef without concern about food poisoning. Once, I even went to an all you can eat raw chicken restaurant. While I found myself at the very edge of my cultural limit, I didn't avoid chicken for days or lose my appetite.

In China, I've been sick a few times a week, almost since arriving. The entire nearby grocery store carried food that is expired—from yogurt to chicken to dumplings—by the least two weeks and at most two years. This is far more of a concern to me in my life in China, as the mother of two small boys, versus the married but childless me who so enjoyed Japanese all you can eat and drink buffets. **Score: Japan**

### Physical Space

In Japan, every bit of useable space was claimed. There was either a rice paddy or a building squeezed into every possible square foot. Even though Okayama was surrounded by green mountains, it always felt crowded to me. I once knocked a man off his bike while telling a story involving a few hand motions.

China, one of the most populated countries on the planet, always strikes me as spacious. Not only in TEDA, surrounded by green fields and factory wastelands but also in (parts of) Beijing. Trees, courtyards and public squares make wandering around a joy, though it's best to keep eyes on your surroundings lest someone fill that space with a scooter joy ride. **Score: China**

So which is better, rural Japan or urban China? It depends on what you value. For me, I feel a lot happier amidst the smiles, questionable food stalls and spacious squares of the Middle Kingdom.



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