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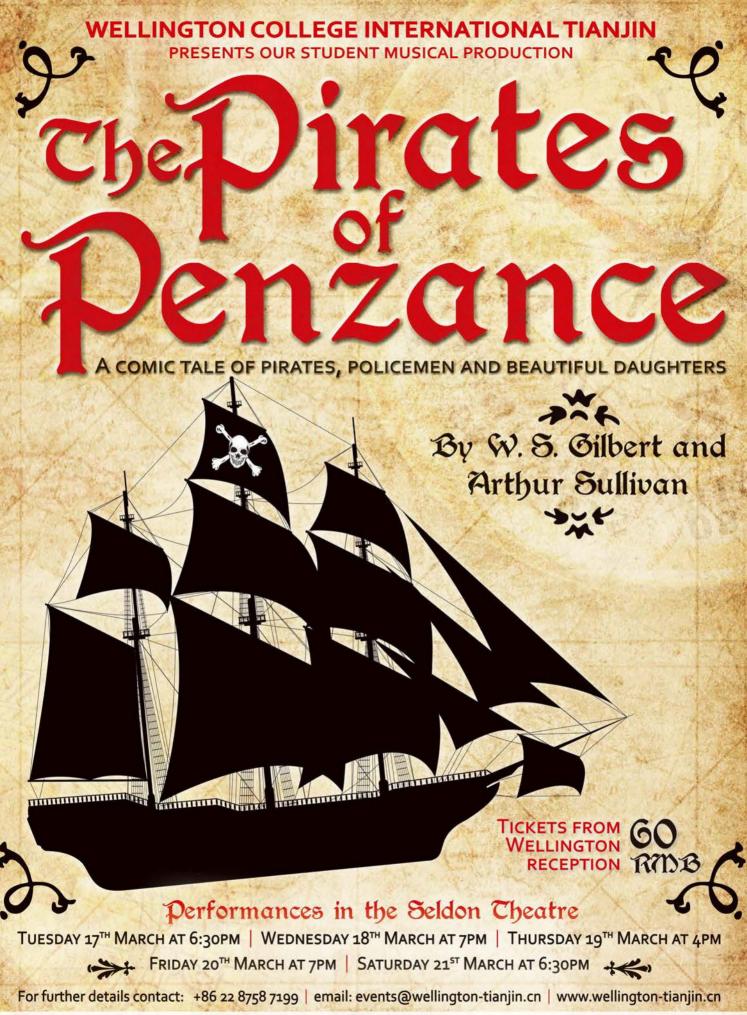












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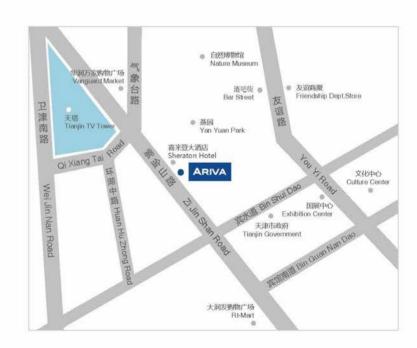




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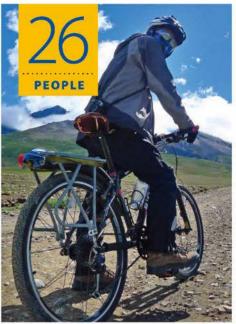


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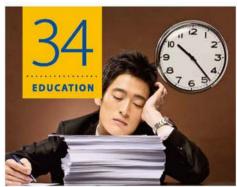






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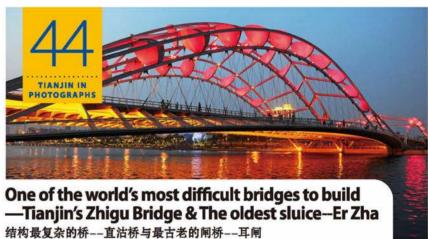


**Parenting Practices in China: Elimination Communication** and Co-Sleeping 如厕练习



### What's Love Got to Do with It?

婚姻与爱何干?



LIFESTYLE		TRAVEL	
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▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Ballet: Faust** 芭蕾舞剧《浮士德》

演出:蒙特卡洛芭蕾舞团

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 Tel: 83882000

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

......

French Chanson Night 法语香颂之夜

演出: 奥利维耶·约普莱勒、 杰罗姆·马尔达加

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 Tel: 83882000

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院 ...........

Modern Drama by Tianjin People's **Art Theatre** 话剧《红旗谱》

演出: 天津人民艺术剧院

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 Tel: 83882000

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Trio Concert by Voces Intimae** "亲密之声"意大利三重奏音乐会

演出: "亲密之声"三重奏乐团

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 Tel: 83882000

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Modern Drama: Reporter** 万方话剧《报警者》

演出: 龙马社 Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 : Tel: 83882000

.........

Western Shore Museum 西岸艺术馆

**Modern Drama: Intentional Injury** 烧脑话剧《故意伤害》 辉煌二十年纪念巡礼版

Time: 19:30

: ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi 河西区友谊北路3号 : Tel: 8622-23263505



03/05-15



Tianjin Bin Hu Theater 天津滨湖剧院

Stage Play by Mahua FunAge: Rotation 开心麻花爆笑舞台剧之《旋转卡门》第一轮

演出: 开心麻花 Time: 19:30

ADD: No.6 Huan Hu Zhong Lu, Hexi 天津河西区环湖中路6号





03/07



Chinese Theatre 天津中国大戏院

Fairy Tale Drama: Pinocchio 经典童话剧《木偶奇遇记》

演出: 天津市儿童艺术剧团

Time: 19:00

ADD: No.104 Harbin Road, Heping 天津和平区哈尔滨道104号





## 03/04



Tianjin Auditorium 天津大礼堂

#### **Folk Music Concert** 《欢聚一堂闹元宵》民族音乐会

演出: 天津歌舞剧院民族乐团

Time: 19:30

ADD: No.24 Youyi Lu, Hexi 天津河西区友谊路24号



### 03/08



Chinese Theatre 天津中国大戏院

#### Magic, Acrobatics, and Burlesque Show 魔术杂技滑稽专场

演出: 天津市杂技艺术有限公司

Time: 19:15

ADD: No.104 Harbin Road, Heping 天津和平区哈尔滨道104号



#### **Upcoming Movies** !

#### **Paddington** 帕丁頓熊

Release Date: March, 2015 (China) Genres: Comedy | Family Director: Paul King Cast: Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Julie

A young Peruvian bear travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he meets the kindly Brown family, who offer him a temporary haven.



#### Cinderella 灰姑娘

Release Date: 13 March 2015 (China) Genres: Adventure | Drama | Family Director: Kenneth Branagh Cast: Lily James, Hayley Atwell, Helena **Bonham Carter** 

A live-action retelling of the classic fairy tale about a servant step-daughter who wins the heart of a prince.









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#### Michael Hart

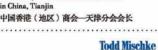
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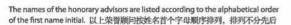
中国香港(地区)商会—天津分会会长





#### Wei Chaoyi (PH.D)

Chief Representative Melbourne Office Tianjin 墨尔本驻天津代表处首席代表



#### Ascott's Growth in China Gains Momentum With Three More Properties In Beijing And Hong Kong

#### 雅诗阁持续领跑行业,北京香港再添三项目

凯德集团旗下全球最大服务公寓业主及运营商——雅诗阁有限公司(以下简 称"雅诗阁")宣布在北京及香港新增三家管理物业,合计超300套服务公寓单位。 此举进一步稳固了雅诗阁在中国作为最大的国际服务公寓业主及运营商的领导地 位。目前、雅诗阁在华23 座城市经营管理着72 家服务公寓、逾12,900 套服务公

CapitaLand's wholly-owned serviced residence business unit, The Ascott Limited (Ascott), has secured contracts to manage three more properties with over 300 apartment units in Beijing and Hong Kong. The new properties will further reinforce Ascott's leadership position as the largest international serviced residence owner-operator in China, with over 12,900 apartment units in 72 properties across 23 cities.

Ascott is deepening its presence in Beijing by securing the 208-unit Citadines Fangshan Beijing and 70-unit Changyang World Serviced Residence Beijing through its strategic alliance formed with Vanke last year. Vanke is one of the largest property developers in China and the two properties in Beijing are slated to open in 2018. Ascott also plans to open its fifth property in Hong Kong - the 92-unit Hotel Pravo Hong Kong in March 2015. Source: The Ascott Limited

#### Chilean dairy cows shipped to Tianjin

#### 中国首批自智利进口奶牛运抵天津港

中国首批从智利进口的 7100 多头奶牛于近期海运抵达天津港。2014 年、中 国与智利两国政府签署活牛出口协议, 智利成为继澳大利亚、新西兰、乌拉圭、 罗马尼亚之后,全球第五个可以对华出口活牛的国家。据了解,本次运抵的 7100 多头幼年母牛属荷斯坦奶牛品种,体重在 200 到 300 公斤之间,按照协议, 是3万头奶牛进口项目中的第一批。

More than 7,100 dairy cows imported from Chile were shipped to north China's Tianiin recently, making the South American country the fifth to export dairy cows to China after Australia, New Zealand, Uruguay and Romania. The shipment of 30,000 cows was the first to be exported by Chile to China according to a bilateral agreement signed last year.

Dou Shulong, an animal guarantine official with the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, said the imported cows will be distributed to seven import companies in six Chinese provinces and municipalities after a guarantine period in Tianjin.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of China-Chile diplomatic relations.

Speaking at the delivery ceremony held at Tianjin Port, Chilean ambassador to China, Jorge Heine, said both countries were efficient in handling

Chinese dairy farmers and dairy companies are enthusiastic about investing in well-bred dairy cows as domestic supply cannot meet demand.

China's per capita milk product consumption is less than one-third of the world average. Affluent Chinese have a high demand for quality dairy products, and many opt for expensive foreign brands. The domestic industry was hit hard by a 2008 scandal over melamine-tainted baby formula and has been working to win back consumers' trust. Source: Xinhuanet

#### Chinese bun maker runs Australian coffee chains

#### 天津狗不理进军咖啡市场5年内开200家连锁店

拥有超过 150 年历史的中华老字号——天津狗不理集团近期宣布,成功获得澳大利亚最大的咖啡连 锁品牌高乐雅在中国的永久使用权。这意味着狗不理成为这个国际知名品牌在中国市场的"主人",成 为狗不理拓展中国本土餐饮市场的利器。

Goubuli, a renowned Chinese restaurant chain known for its steamed stuffed buns, announced they finalized a deal with Gloria Jean's Coffees to operate the Australian brand in China, According to the deal reached on Dec. 25, 2014, Tianjin Senyongtai Food and Beverage Co. Ltd., a subsidiary wholly-owned by the Goubuli Group, will hold an 80 percent majority stake in "Tianiin Glory", a new joint venture that will operate Gloria Jean's coffee brand in China, said Goubuli board chairman Zhang Yansen. The Australian firm will hold the remaining 20 percent of shares, he said. "Our negotiations began at the end of 2012 and lasted for almost two years," said Zhang, Gloria Jean's Coffees currently has 12 outlets in China, including branches in Tianjin, Shanghai and Chenadu. One of the shops is located next to a Goubuli buns outlet in downtown Tianjin's Nankai District. "Like other coffee shops, we sell coffee, soft drinks and pastries," said a Gloria Jean's coffee shop assistant. "We don't serve Goubuli buns here - the bun-and-coffee combination would sound too weird," he said. China's coffee consumption is growing at 15 percent annually, much faster than the international average growth rate of 2 percent a year, said Zhang Yansen. A market survey has found that China's coffee consumption in 2012 totaled 70 billion vuan (11.26 billion U.S. dollars). Zhang predicted the figure will climb to 150 billion yuan in five years. Gloria Jean's currently operates about 1,000 stores in 42 countries and regions worldwide. Zhang said the new deal will increase Gloria Jean's outlets in China to 200 in the coming five years. Goubuli, established in 1858 and headquartered in the northern port city of Tianiin, reported 1 billion yuan in business turnover last year. The food giant has also gained momentum in its overseas expansion in recent years, by forging a partnership with Singapore-based food manufacturer Tee Yih Jia in October 2013 to sell Goubuli products in over 50 cities in the Asia Pacific market. Source: Xinhuanet

#### Okay Airways first to operate Boeing 737s

#### 奥凯航空引进中国第一架波音737-900ER客机

近期、奥凯航空有限公司引进的中国第一架波音 737-900ER 客机抵达天津滨海国际机场。奥凯航空 成为该机型在中国的首家用户、奥凯航空此次引进波音 737-900ER 客机拥有 200 个座位、采用了先进的 机翼设计和波音 "天空内饰"装饰。加强机翼上部和机身的中段结构强度以及在后机身增加应急出口的 布局使得 737-900ER 的安全可靠性、乘机舒适性再获提升。据介绍、奥凯航空引进的全新 737-900ER 计划先期执飞天津——海口、天津——三亚等国内航线,为春运期间的旅客安全、便捷、舒适的行程提 供服务,后期将执飞国际航线。

Tianjin-based Okay Airways recently became the first carrier to operate the Boeing 737-900ER (extended range) aircraft in China, after it took the delivery from the US company. The aircraft will be part of the eight 737-900ER orders made by Okay Airways and the rest of the units will be supplied by Boeing before the end of next year. Boeing 737-900ER is the largest member of the 737 family and has better passenger capacity and range, when compared with other narrow-body airplanes. Okay Airways' new airplane is configured with 200 seats in a single-class layout and it will fly on popular tourist routes. "The 737-900ER will further strengthen Okay Airways' fleet of existing 737s by adding more range and capability," said Ihssane Mounir, senior vice-president of Boeing Commercial Airplanes' sales for Northeast Asia. With the new addition, Okay Airways' fleet size has gone up to 28, including 13 Boeing 737-800 passenger aircraft. The carrier plans to have 30 airplanes in operation by the end of this year. Okay Airways has a specific plan of aircraft purchases, as it has huge ambitions in the international market. Airplanes with a range of 7,000 kilometers and above will be introduced by the carrier in 2016 or 2017 to develop routes to Europe, although the carrier is yet to decide which type of aircraft it wants to use on these routes. Source: Xinhuanet



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## LETTER

#### FROM THE EDITOR

hope that everyone had a good Spring Festival holiday, whether you travelled on a vacation or just enjoyed a quiet family time in Tianjin. In any event, you should be well rested and ready to welcome the warmer days of spring.

For this issue, our feature is the topic of being a "Tiger Mom" which was a controversial subject several years ago when the Amy Chua book was published started a stir amongst the media. Since then it has been recognized that parenting has changed and there are still strong opinions of what is the best way to raise a child. We will look at various opinions and experiences of local and foreign parents.

Also a separate article will focus on parenting and communication. Another interesting article will reveal the art of reading out loud and how this will help with effective communication.

Continuing with exploring Tianjin suburbs, this month we will visit the He Bei District and also a separate article on Tianjin's airport. The travel feature will take us to Sanya for sunshine, ocean and clean air; with several direct flights from Tianjin, it is an easy destination. Our people column features a profile of Tianjin's biking enthusiast. With the warmer weather this will be a good alternative for exercise.

Finally our Parting Shot will look at service standards in China, why is it so different that back in your homes?

I hope you have a great month and get ready for spring and the coming flowers and cherry blossoms. Your comments and suggests are most welcome, just email me at: wangzy@jinmagazine.com.cn

忙忙碌碌的春节已经过去,无论大家以何种方式度过,我都真心祝福大家能有个愉快的假期。春天就要来了,希望所有人都能调整好自己,以最好的状态迎接未来每一天。三月的主题,我们讨论的是近些年来广为热议的"虎妈"话题。自"虎妈"蔡美儿的新书出版以来,教育话题就一直被媒体广泛关注。文章中,我们就中西方父母的不同经历来阐述他们的不同观念。本期还有很多有意思的文章,比如论朗诵的艺术以及它如何帮助人们提高交际能力。三月已是早春时节,我们的旅行目的地来到了美丽的三亚,这是一个充满阳光、空气、和水的城市,如果你有旅行计划,不妨考虑考虑这里。从天津到三亚每天有多次航班,出行非常方便。当然,如果你暂时没有出行的计划,也可以来看看我们关于天津骑行发烧友的采访,骑行可是个不错的选择。正值锻炼的好时机,千万不要辜负了这难得的好天气。好了,如果您对我们的杂志有任何意见,欢迎联系以下邮箱wangzy@jinmagazine.com.cn,我们在这里等您。

Monica Wang



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## SARATOGA

POINT COOK

—— 泛海豪庭

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# TIGER MOM'S TO BE EXTINCT?

by David Wong, Amy Dunn Moscoso, Carmen King

n 2011, the book: "Battle Hymn of Tiger Mother" written by Amy Chua 蔡美儿 Cai Mei Er was published and immediately created an international controversy and coined the term: "Tiger Mom".

What sparked the controversy was an article by the Wall Street Journal entitled: "Why Chinese Mothers are Superior". This article quoted sections of the Chua's book that described her memoirs in raising two daughters. Ms. Chua is born in the United States of Chinese parents who were raised in the Philippines and emigrated to the United States after World War II. Chua is a lawyer and graduate of Harvard and a law professor at Yale. She is married to Jed Rubenfeld who is also a law professor at Yale. Her two daughters speak Mandarin and were raised in the Jewish religion.

Although Amy Chua is of Chinese heritage, her background and culture is not atypical of a Chinese native. She has coined the phrase: "Tiger Mom" and her description of raising her children in a strict Chinese way of parenting. So why is Chinese parenting considered strict and disciplined? Terms such as authoritarian usually describe the strict approach whereas permissive or indulgent describe the other spectrum. The nature of society and the standard of living will dictate how the parenting will proceed.

The combination of the competitive nature of the Chinese economy and the one child policy means most parenting in China has been the Tiger Mom style, making sure that all parenting efforts are targeted. You can see examples of this by the pressure on

children to excel in the annual National University Entrance Exams. The pressure begins at grade school as parents and in turn kids compete for the best schools and teachers.

I know of Chinese friends in Shanghai that have moved 6 times in the past 10 years in order to be close to their son's school. He is now in Grade 12 and they just moved into an apartment directly across from the school. The mother is not happy about the apartment but their son will not have to waste time in commuting. He now has time to take extra tutoring classes in the evening and on weekends.

In fact the pressure and education system is so intense that these Chinese parents are now considering allowing their son to apply for university in North America. The costs will be ten times higher but they feel that their son will have more independence and have better alternatives to lifestyles in the future.

At the other spectrum are the indulgent or permissive parenting styles. Yes even in China, this is prevalent. It can be seen in the rural areas where parents are absent due to seeking jobs in the cities and leaving their child with the grandparents. The child goes to school and has little or no supervision. The child is left with little future and almost no hope of a university education. It is the exception, that rural children have access to secondary education due to rural education and lower standards.

The one child policy has also developed a permissive parenting style in the urban

setting as we see parents and grandparents doting over the one child that is referred to as "Little Emperors". You see them out of control at restaurants and airports, throwing temper tantrums until they get their way.

However on the whole, the Tiger Moms are ones that are in control and children are well disciplined and accomplishments are targeted at a high level. Being in the top ten of the class is O.K., but not acceptable. Being number one is the name of the game and there is no time for socializing.

Amy Chua identifies three big differences between the Chinese and Western parental styles. First, is Western parents extreme concern for their children's self-esteem. They worry about how their children will feel if they fail at something and tend to reassure them how good they are even if they have mediocre performance. Chinese parents will assume strength and regard frailty as a weakness. Praise only comes when the child makes top marks and public praise is seldom seen. The Chinese parent will react humbly in public and tend to play the achievements



Amy Chua and her two daughters

always indicating that there is room for improvement. Just like when they host a lavish dinner and say that there is tasteless ordinary food being offered, when in fact everything is over the top.

Second, Chinese parents believe that their kids owe them everything. The reason is probably the fact of traditional filial piety and the parents have likely sacrificed and done so much for their children. So they feel that children must show total obedience in return. By contrast, the Western view is kids don't choose to be born and don't owe anything to their parents. Their duty will be to their own kids. The sooner they become independent, the better.

Third, Chinese parents believe they know what is best for their children and therefore override all their children's own desires and preferences. It is not that Chinese parents don't care, but quite the opposite, they would give up everything for their children. An analogy is looking at real tigers and how they control their cubs until they are able to fend for themselves. The problem is in Chinese culture, the control may last a lifetime. The Western thinking is to give their children the space and freedom at an early age. It's not uncommon for most Western students to be on their own once they graduate from High School.

#### **Support for Amy**

As a Western mother of two boys, I can't say I support Amy's approach, especially in the context of my own country, Canada. I'm not alone. The release of Chua's book caused an

uproar, in part for poking at the very taboo topic in North America of comparing cultures and heritages and declaring some above others. After her book came out, Amy was called a racist, received hate mail and death threats and even endured calls for her arrest for child abuse.

Her theory has also been called into question. A study by Su Yeong Kim, an associate professor at the University of Texas, who studied 300 Chinese-American kids for 10 years found kids with 'Tiger moms' had lower grades, struggled with emotional problems more frequently and suffered more family estrangement. Another academic Chinese mom, Desiree Baolian Qin, an assistant professor at Michigan State University, published two papers finding that Chinese-American kids with 'Tiger-moms' were more likely to suffer from depression and anxiety.

Having grown up in a small but economically thriving city in northern Canada, with plentiful mining industry and government jobs that attracted immigrants from around the world as well as all parts of Canada, I have played with, studied alongside and worked with many kids raised by Tiger moms'. While some followed their parents plans and went on to be happy doctors, lawyers and scientists, many of the people I've gotten to know as a writer and communications professional rebelled at great cost. In university, as a creative writing graduate student, I met a fellow classmate who at age 35, was still telling her mother she

was in medical school. It wasn't until she published her first novel, and became an adjunct professor, that she shared her career with her mother, who didn't speak to her until the birth of her first son, three years later. My friend often expressed grief, remorse and fear, particularly around holidays and occasions such as birthdays and when celebrating professional accomplishments. Though her family has now reconciled there are still scars and she has deliberately chosen to raise her children differently, in a more Canadian style. Doubts linger, however, and she struggles with depression, which she attributes to her childhood and her inability to ever be good enough.

While children raised by 'Tiger moms' may be more successful, I also see independence, personal fulfillment and making mistakes as being part of the experience of growing up to be a healthy and fulfilled adult. I also see a far greater importance on social skills and learning to play with, get along and enjoy other children without the constant presence of mom hanging over a child. Sleepovers, in particular, were some of the best bonding experiences of my life as a child. Playdates are the social fabric of friendships between Canadian moms with young children and kids raised at home. I wonder about kids who lack these experiences-will they struggle to form close relationships later on?

However, there are benefits from all parenting and child-raising styles. In China, I see a lot of families raising kids differently, but with much devotion. With a greater emphasis on academics, I do see benefits of a more disciplined environment in China. This September, my son went into a joint Canadian/Chinese full day kindergarten program at age three and a half-if we were in Canada, he would be in a play-based daycare or a two to three hour a day preschool. Here, school is full-time and would compare more to a first grade class in our own country. At first, I was not sure how he would do, as the other children are older, just learning English and most were born in China, even if one parent comes from another country. While there are less opportunities for physical free play, such as recess, there is more academic learning. My son is learning to count and do math, subjects he would not learn until much later at home, as well as pre-reading skills in English and Mandarin. He is thriving in this environment, hungry for this knowledge and



eager to share what he's learned at the end of each day, with us and his two year old brother. I can't help but think that this will be a major benefit to him when we return to Canada.

While I don't support Amy's approach, particularly in the context of North America, where it seems extreme and almost cruel, I do admire her courage in revealing her child-rearing methods in the United States, and smashing a taboo topic open to look inside. I also see the benefit of such methods for Chinese living in China.

As Chinese and Western medicine have come to coincide, with benefits attributed to both sides of the world. I think education and child-rearing are the same.

Cultural context also has a role to play. As an expat in China, I know my son is eager to make friends, be praised by his teachers and learn. In the end, that's not so different than it is at home. And mothers, everywhere from every culture, want what's best for their children, however that is defined.

#### Are all Tigers Chinese?

Of course not, just as not all Chinese parents are Tiger Moms. Some Canadian friends are very strict and disciplined with their children. Some are professionals and want their children to succeed like them and have instilled a high work ethic with their kids. Other friends have a completely different background but also drive their children hard to succeed. The common thread is they are consistent with their rules and show a high degree of love and affection.

Chua does not claim that only Chinese moms can be Tiger moms. Her second book, co-authored with her husband, Jed Rubenfield, a fellow professor of law at Yale, called "The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America", identifies eight groups-of immigrants to the United States-who statistically score higher on test scores, achieve higher professions and more wealth. These cultural groups are Jewish, Indian, Chinese, Iranian, Lebanese-Americans, Nigerians, Cuban exiles and Mormons.

According to Chua and her husband, these groups excel when they immigrate to America as they possess a 'triple package' consisting of:

1. A superiority complex. Having a belief that one is ultimately better than others and entitled to more is often considered opposite a North American ideal perception of equality across groups.

2. Insecurity. Achieving perfection is a never ending task. Children can always do better to produce a more satisfactory state of being and there is always room to improve. This contrasts with an American model of fostering self-esteem, regardless of a child's performance and praising the effort versus the results.

3. Impulse control. Delaying gratification and having a long-term view of success breeds more successful people, according to Chua, rather than living for the moment.

Chua suggests the United States once had all three of these characteristics as a society, but has now given in to "instant-gratification disorder". The book also states that the success rate falls to meet the average American standard by the third generation. In a Chicago talk about her book, Chua suggests making more demands and placing higher expectations on children in the United States will help the entire society not fall behind other countries in the world-such as China-and other emerging nations.

While 'Tiger Moms' may seem alien and are often considered abusive through Western eyes, there are well-known cultural parallels: parents who push hard, pour their lives and attention into their children and demand results.

'Hockey Moms', called 'pitbulls with lipstick' by northern U.S. American politician Sarah Pallin, push their children, generally sons, hard to become extremely successful, professional hockey players. Having seen a Canadian aunt push a male cousin to do homework after practice until three in the morning instead of attending a sleepover, train with weights and go running over attending high

school prom, and eventually (unhappily) pursue a career as a doctor over being a teacher, suggests that a high degree of parental control is not just Asian. The 'hockey mom'phenomenon can also extend to any sport, from soccer to tennis.

A second Western style of a 'Tiger Parent' is a 'Stage Mom' (or dad). Melissa Francis, formerly a TV star on a popular series called "Little House on the Prairie", now host of a business talk show on American network Fox News, says she was raised by a Hollywood Tiger Mother. Her mother pushed hard for excellence and perfection but not all children respond well, Francis says in her book, "Diary

of a Stage Mother's Daughter". Francis has described her mother's behavior as physically and verbally abusive and her mother as domineering and excessively competitive. Though Francis starred in a baby shampoo commercial at six months old, went on to be a TV star, and studied at Harvard, she no longer has a relationship with a mother. Her sister also suffered from bipolar disorder and eventually passed away, with Francis ultimately coming to the conclusion that her mother did not love either of her daughters. Did a stage mother contribute to this sad end? That would require reading the book to find out.

While perhaps not exactly the daughter of a traditional 'Tiger Mom', Melissa Mayer, CEO of Yahoo, has claimed her experience with piano and ballet lessons helped her develop discipline and poise. Mayer is known for a 'superhuman' capacity for work and is now considered one of the most powerful businesswomen in the United States.

Oprah Winfrey is another example of a successful woman who thrived in a highly disciplined and strict parenting environment. Despite surviving a deeply turbulent, abusive and troubled childhood, Winfrey excelled when she went to live with her father and his wife, who set up very disciplined tasks outside of school, such as reading and writing book reports, going on to debating challenges and even winning a beauty pageant before becoming one of the youngest African American female news anchors in her country. Oprah is now one of the wealthiest self-made millionaire in the United States.

What about other countries? Russian and Serbian parents living in Canada, who wished to remain anonymous, suggested European countries offer a more structured education than North American ones, though not as intense as in Asia. These parents push math, science, music and daily after-school activities in daycare and elementary to supplement public school education.

Another parent, raised jointly in Latin America, the United States and Canada, was raised by a mother who put education first, above sports activities such as soccer and music. His mother was far stricter than the mothers of the other children in his neighbourhood and common social bonding activities, such as sleepovers, were forbidden. However, as time passed, and the family adjusted to a new culture, the control eased. Though this man's mother wanted her

children to be doctors, they sought our careers in art, education and business.

One major difference was the value these parents put on socialization. Their children were highly encouraged to socialize and develop friendships, with social skills viewed as being just as important as academic achievements. Many North American studies suggest that having a higher Emotional Intelligence, or EQ, is far more important than having a high IQ. A person with a high EQ is aware of their feelings and the feelings-and motives of others and studies by the Carnegie Institute of Technology show that 85 per cent of financial success comes from skills in "human engineering". A high EQ is essential to form close, trusting and successful relationships with other people and can be something that the children of Tiger Moms' miss out on. When kids spend all of their time studying, missing out on cultural activities such as sleepovers, which Chua states her daughters were never allowed to attend, can lead to a loss of opportunities to build EQ and relationships.

Chua's daughters are now in Yale and Harvard. In time, perhaps they will share with the world what it was like to be raised by a Tiger Mom'.

#### **Future Tigers**

Are younger mom's looking to keep the tiger mom tradition going? Consider the comments of some women born in the 70's and 80's with young children of their own. Of the six women interviewed, pretty much all said they did not want to be the stereotypical tiger mom. More interesting was the fact that only one of them had any idea who Mrs. Chua (a.k.a. 蔡美儿) was, much less the book she wrote. This being a bit ironic when allegedly Mrs. Chua and her parenting style was said to represent those of Asian nationality. Note though, while these Asian women had zero idea who Mrs. Chua was as a person, the "Tiger Mom" concept was crystal clear.

The overwhelming consensus of these mothers was that they didn't want to be too strict, too overbearing, or too demanding on their children. Only a few had pretty hard and fast hopes as it related to their child's future life. One mom said her "tiger" nature only went as far as requiring her daughter to be active at a young age. Requiring the daughter to attend Taekwondo classes rain or shine, happy or sad. Outside of this, that same child, come

school vacation time, is given complete freedom to choose how she will spend her time. No requirements from the "tiger mom" to take some extracurricular class.

Another "anti-tiger mom" mom said she is having her child call her Jielie (Chinese for older sister). She says she wants to be her daughter's older friend not mom. So too a mother said her goal is to be a good "companion" to her daughter. None wanted to be the psycho militant mom who pushes their child away. One more mother has her son attending an international school in Tianjin to protect him from the academic burnout so common in Chinese schools. She said her son comes home with "no homework" and has plenty of time to play.

#### Conclusion

Based on these few comments, as well as a consideration of the topic as a whole, the truth is, the future of tiger mom's is likely the same as the dinosaurs which long preceded them. Being a control freak who manages a child's life as though they are an object versus a human has its risks. Tiger moms might be better titled tiger nannies. After all, they are doing little teaching, little parenting and little loving. Rather these tiger nannies spend most of their time doing little more than nanny like jobs of shopping, feeding, clothing and housing their children.

Another sobering thing to consider is that little evidence has been presented to state the effectiveness of being a tiger mom beyond citing academic and economic

## CHILDREN THRIVE ON LOVE AND ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY FROM THAT OF THEIR PARENTS.

accomplishments. As noted above, many of the so-called tiger mom "success" stories have amassed great wealth or obtained some snazzy title, however who are these children becoming as a person? What morals do they have? What are the guiding principles by which they live their life? These seem to be seldom mentioned when discussing the pros and cons of being a tiger mom.

What is said about a world where economic accolades are seemed to be the major basis for determining whether or not a parenting style is good or bad? Outside of the moral issues associated with tiger parenting, what about the physical ramifications? How do children of tiger mom's stack up in the health category? Do they get proper rest each night as all growing children need so badly? How about nutrition? Are tiger mom's ensuring that their precious little cubs are getting balanced meals with good nutrition as needed for proper growth and long-term health? Or have tiger moms swapped good health for good grades?

Oprah was cited above as the by-product of a tiger mom. How is her health? Sure she is rich beyond belief, but also openly admits to a life long battle with being



Photo by Jane Liu

overweight and out of shape. Melissa Francis, also cited above, achieved Hollywood stardom but lost the mental health that comes with having a loving relationship with her mother. The bottom line is simple, much more needs to be done by parents than simply putting food on the table, clothes on the back, and books in those bags. Children thrive on love and attention, especially from that of their parents. Tiger moms may be able to bring about some level of success in terms of academic accolades or financial achievement, but really at what cost?

History is irrefutable. Parents do well to stop and consider the global empires of old. These include Egypt, Babylon, Greece, and Rome. Two things all of them hold in common. One, they all fell from grace. Two, they fell not due to economic ruin but rather

#### A CHILD MIGHT BE A GENIUS, YET IF SOCIALLY AND MORALLY INEPT WILL ULTIMATELY FAIL.

due to social and moral decay. What's the lesson? True success that exists not temporarily but forever needs far more than just an economic foundation. Success simply cannot be measured by test scores and bank account balances. Acquisition of knowledge, facts and figures does little more than puff one up like a balloon. A child might be a genius, yet if socially and morally inept will ultimately fail.

Tiger moms teach to tighten the vice on children during developmental years to enable academic and financial success. Do these tactics set children up for social and moral success though? Anti-tiger moms might go to the opposite extreme, like the "hippies" of the sixties in America who set zero limits on themselves or their children. The "no spanking" generation left an indelible mark on human history. Such ideology is even getting a second wind with an Asian twist in the countless "little emperors" running around China. Therefore, balance is at the heart of parenting success. A child's book knowledge must be melded with real-world wisdom. Namely knowing how, when and where to use what one has learned. Parenting theories

like "Tiger Mom" and those who propagate them come and go like expats in Tianjin. Only true wisdom stands the test of time.

#### "虎妈"现象会绝迹吗?

2011年,由美国一位华裔母亲撰写的《严母战 歌》成为美国畅销书,并在子女教育问题上引起巨大 的争议和讨论。作者蔡美儿是两个女孩的母亲,也是 一名律师和耶鲁大学法学教授。她的丈夫是犹太人, 也是耶鲁大学的兼职教授。

虽然蔡美儿是华裔, 但是她的生长和文化背景 并不中式,她被贴上了"虎妈"的标签,她教育的方 式也被描述为严格的中式教育。

蔡美儿总结了东西方父母的三个不同。第一, 西方的父母非常关注孩子的自尊,总是用夸奖来保护 孩子的心灵,即使他们的表现非常一般。而中国父母 只有在孩子拿第一的时候才会稍作表扬, 在外人面前 更是显得十分谦虚。他们总是告诉孩子要坚强。

其次,中国父母总是认为孩子欠自己的。中国 的父母会为孩子牺牲一切, 所以孩子必须服从他们。 但在西方人看来, 孩子没有权利选择出生在怎样的家 庭, 所以他们不欠父母什么。

第三,中国父母认为自己做的一切都是为孩子 好, 而忽略孩子的需求和意愿。这不是说中国的父母 不爱孩子, 而是正好相反。就像真正的老虎总是在虎 宝宝有独立生存的能力之前全力保护它们,而中国父 母的这种保护有可能持续一生。西方的父母则会在孩 子很小的时候就给他们空间和自由。

作为一个有两个孩子的加拿大母亲, 我很难赞 同蔡美儿的做法。在加拿大,有很多人也都和我一 样。一位德克萨斯大学的教授Su Yeong Kim曾对300 名美籍华裔儿童做过一项调查,在为期10年的观察期 里,拥有严苛父母的孩子学习成绩比较低,被精神问 题困扰,与家人关系疏远。密西根州立大学一位副教 授,同时也是位华裔母亲的Desiree发表了两篇论文, 阐述了美国华裔儿童在"虎妈"的教育下更容易产生精 神抑郁和焦虑。

在大学的时候,我有位同学当时已经35岁了。 一直瞒着母亲,说她一直在读医科,而不是写作专 业。直到她发表了第一部小说,她才向母亲坦白,她 母亲便从此不与她来往。虽然她们现在已经和解了, 但是我朋友心里永远有个伤疤, 所以她对自己的孩子 采取了完全不同的教育方法。

美国有两位知名的电视明星, 财经主持人 Melissa Francis和脱口秀女王奥普拉都有一个"虎 妈"。Melissa 把她母亲描述为争强好胜,盛气凌 经常对子女进行言语侮辱和体罚。虽然Melissa成 功进入哈佛大学,也成为家喻户晓的明星,但是她与 母亲彻底决裂。她的姐姐也常年饱受心理疾病的困 扰,很早就讨世了。

奥普拉也生长在严格的家庭环境中。父亲和继 母为她制定了严格的课外学习计划, 比如阅读书籍并 写读书报告, 参加辩论比赛, 甚至选美比赛。最终她 成为美国最年轻的非洲裔新闻主播。

那么, 年轻一代父母是否还要继承这样的育儿 传统呢?我们采访了六位70后和80后母亲,她们都说 不希望成为典型的虎妈。她们大都不想对孩子过于严 格,给他们过多呵护,或要求过高。未来"虎妈"可能 会越来越少。

"虎妈"教育出的孩子除了学业和事业的成 功,其他方面又发展的如何?似乎很少证据能够体 现。人们经常用的孩子的经济成就来衡量父母是否合 格。但是孩子的身体状况呢?他们是否有常规的健康 检查? 平日营养摄入是否均衡? "虎妈" 们是否以牺 牲孩子健康为代价来换取好成绩?

以史为鉴,四大古国的衰败不是因为经济崩 而是社会与道德的沦陷。因此恒久的成功不是仅 仅是由经济基础决定的开始,也不能单纯用考试成绩 或银行存款来衡量。即便是个天才儿童,社交和道德 上的缺陷也会导致人生的失败。



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#### PEOPLE



have been dreaming of my summer holidays. A fortnight in the hot sun, perhaps relaxing on soft white sand, trying exotic food amongst colourful company. A dozen delightful destinations within a short flight from Tianjin spring to mind. But while the mental picture most of us imagine is strolling along the pristine beaches of South East Asia. Wang Hui, is thinking of a holiday cycling through Iran.

Wang Hui isn't a crazy, thrill seeking, adrenalin junky, nor an Indiana Jones type adventurer, but a normal, middle aged manager, a happily married family man living in the suburb of Dagang in the Binhai New Area. Other than his annual cycling holiday, he lives a perfectly normal life.

Hui had dreamed of cycling to Tibet when he was a student back in the late 1980's. At the time he thought it would remain just a dream, but 25 years later times had changed, he heard of others riding the route and finally in 2011 his dream became possible with his journey starting from Golmud to Lhasa, over 1100 kms further south.

Hui had little practice for his first journey.

He borrowed a bike from his nephew and cycled around the reservoir near his home, consequently he was ill prepared for the arduous climb onto 'the roof of the world' or the effect of it's altitude. Golmud is the last stop on the line from Beijing before the train enters into Tibet. At nearly 3000 meters above sea level, Hui was already onto the Tibetan plateau and immediately had problems with sleep and loss of appetite. Lying in bed that first night he could hear his heart beating wildly, it was the thinness of the air rather than the excitement of the journey before him.

The road out of Golmud climbs nearly 2000 meters higher up to the Kunlun pass. Travellers sitting in busses on this road are warned about the mountain sickness that'is typically experienced here. Although weak and dizzy Hui continued onwards. "The first few days" he explains "my muscles and joints were agony and I was incredibly tired and saddle sore. I thought of giving up or waving down a truck, but I'd boasted to my friends about the journey, so I had to keep going." Gradually his body adjusted and he was able to appreciate the natural scenery; the snow

## UNLIKE BEING INSIDE A BUS OR A TRAIN LOOKING AT THE WORLD OUTSIDE A WINDOW, ON A BIKE YOU'RE IMMERSED WITHIN IT.

covered peaks the vast steppe, lakes and huge open skies of one of the highest and most spectacular highways in the world.

It took Hui 12 days to complete the journey from Golmud, averaging around 100kms a day. With the train journey each way it left little time to sightsee in the city. But that's not the reason Hui came, for him the dream was making the journey. As the old Chinese saying says "the Journey is the reward." After accomplishing such a long held dream, one that he thought would never be realised, that had been so challenging to complete, he thought that it would be the end of his cycling. But rather than being the end, it was just the beginning. Hui tells me he became addicted to cycling and the second



year he took another 100-km trip continuing the journey from Lhasa, across 6 mountain passes, out of China and down the world's longest descent into Kathmandu.

In 2013 he started in the ancient Xinjiang city of Kashgar and travelled along the Karakoram highway to Islamabad in Pakistan. This road is described as the ultimate cycling challenge and pushed Hui even further than his first trip. The road rises to heights equalling Mont Blanc, the highest peak in Europe. Snow is always possible. In contrast, near Kashgar, on the edge of the Taklimakan desert, temperatures can reach 45degC.

Last year was the first year that his cycling trip didn't start from within Chinese borders. The journey from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf took him across the length of Iran. Hui was initially motivated by the challenge of these journey. As a young student in the 1980s the trip across Tibet seemed impossible. Later, the notoriety of the Karakoram highway provided the ultimate test, its extremes of environments pushing Hui to his physical limits. While cycling across Iran still has its physical challenges, it also presents the different difficulty of the alien culture. Looking through Hui's impressive collection of photographs you notice that he's as interested in the people he meets as in the spectacular views. "On a bike," he says, "you're always meeting people, you're in contact with the world around you." Unlike being inside a bus or a train looking at the world outside a window, on a bike you're immersed within it. As Hui says, "I feel close to the nature, the people and their culture."

He shows me some pictures of the people he met. "I met an old guy on the road in Iran," he says, pointing at a picture of 3

generations of an Iranian family. "He invited me to his house and I ended up staying there 3 days. Not only would he not take any money he bought my bus ticket to Teheran for my flight back." He pulls out two more pictures, one of him sitting with a group of surly Pakistan soldiers, another of a jeep full of Taliban, framed against rugged mountains and a brilliant blue sky. "Even in dangerous areas" he says, "they always mention the friendship between China and Pakistan." Of course like anywhere there are risks. Once, in the mountains in the south of Iran two young guys on a motorcycle wanted to take my mobile phone" he tells me. "pretended to not understand what they meant and although they looked very fierce, they didn't know how to deal with me and eventually gave up."

Generally, people are fascinated by a Chinese visitor and his bike. Rather than wanting to rob it, they offer to take care of it while he goes to see some view or to eat, Sometimes he lends his bike to local children to ride. They always return it.

Hui is more worried about the traffic and the terrain. Some of the passes are narrow, the roads uneven, steep and dark; it's easy to fall off a bike. "When I ride", he says, "I am very careful. I wear a reflective vest and maintain the bike so it's in good condition. I also take some medicines in case I'm sick or injured and have international travel insurance, so i can obtain professional rescue."

I ask him about his plans for the future and he tells me he hasn't decided where to go this year yet. He has a book being published of his travels soon and a popular website full of his impressive photographs and videos. They show a dramatic and colourful world, full of happy ordinary, friendly people. It's a

wonderful contrast to the images and stories on the news and a reminder that the world is more remarkable and more welcoming than we imagine. As Hui says "riding a bicycle makes you change the way of looking at the world and lets the world embrace the rider."

#### 骑行在路上

从现在起我就开始盘算我的暑假要去哪里过。 通常我会考虑到东南亚的海滩, 躺在白色的沙滩上 享受充足的日晒,品尝异域美食。但是我的一个中 国朋友王辉却在考虑骑行去伊朗。

王辉不是个冲动的毛头小子, 也不是印第安纳 琼斯那样的冒险家。他是一个再普通不过的中年人, 事业有成,家庭和睦。

上世纪 80 年代末, 王辉还是个学生, 那时候他 就梦想着骑车去西藏,但是那对他来说只是个梦而 已,直到 20 年后的 2011 年,他的梦终于实现了。 那一年,他从格尔木市出发,历经 1200 多公里一直 骑到拉萨。

第一次出发之前,王辉几乎没有怎么练过骑行。 车是从侄子那里借来的, 所谓的练习也只是围着家 门口的水库骑一圈。就这样,他就登上了世界屋脊。 在抵达海拔 2700 多米的格尔木市的时候, 王辉马上 开始了失眠、食欲减退等高原反应。第一天晚上他 躺在床上,能清晰地听到自己狂乱的心跳声。他说, 这不是因为兴奋, 而是缺氧反应。

从格尔木出发, 王辉骑行到昆仑山口, 海拔又 上升了两千多米。此时, 王辉已经感觉非常虚弱和 晕眩了,他说:"我感到肌肉和四肢的酸痛,非常疲 惫。"但既然已经向朋友们夸下海口了,他只能坚持。 过了一段时间, 他的身体渐渐适应了当地的海拔, 他也能够安心欣赏这一路的美景了。在辽阔的高原 上, 雪山被积雪覆盖, 湖泊和蓝天都那么宽广清澈, 这就是世界屋脊上最美的公路风景。

这次旅程历时十二天,平均每天骑行100多公里。 在开始那次骑行之前,王辉以为那应该是圆梦之旅, 骑完了就会死心了。但其实, 那只是个开始。之后 两年, 王辉又骑行了尼泊尔和巴基斯坦。

去年, 王辉第一次没有把起点设在国内。他从 里海骑到波斯湾,穿越了伊朗高原。之前的骑行不 断提升王辉的身体极限, 也让他有了更大的野心。 穿越伊朗的骑行带来的不仅是体能的挑战,还让他 获得了异域人文给予的巨大惊喜。翻看王辉的旅途 照片, 你会发现他对当地的人很感兴趣。他说: "一 路上你都在和人打交道,感觉你就属于那里感觉, 那么亲近。坐火车你只能透过车窗看风景, 但在自 行车上, 你就身在大自然之中, 真切地感受当地的 美景和人文。

他指着一张老少三代的照片说:"这位伊朗的老 爷爷非常热情,邀请我住在他家里,不但不收我的钱, 甚至还要给我钱。我推辞了, 但是他还是掏钱帮我 买了返回德黑兰的车票。"

当然,在国外骑行也会有风险。王辉曾碰到两 个小伙子骑着摩托车想要抢他的手机。他假装一脸 茫然, 那两个人也不知道该拿他怎么办, 就放弃了。

王辉说, 当地人大都对中国人比较友好, 很强 调与中国人的友谊。王辉更担心的是交通和地形。 王辉说"有些道路非常狭窄,坑洼不平,照明也不好。 般我都会穿着荧光背心, 保持良好车况。我还买 了国际旅行保险,有意外发生可以得到专业的救助"。

王辉不久会出版一本有关其骑行的书。用王辉 自己的话说,骑行改变了你对世界的看法。



## TIANJIN AIRPORT IS TAKING OFF

by Carmen King

TERMINAL 2 OF THE TIANJIN
AIRPORT IS NOW HANDLING
CHECK-IN AND SECURITY FOR
ALL DOMESTIC FLIGHTS, WHICH
ARE THOSE FLYING TO OR FROM
DESTINATIONS WITHIN CHINA.

irports are a unique place. They tend to be big, busy and open 24 hours a day. The Tianjin Binhai International Airport is open 24 hours as well and is getting busier as it gets bigger. Tianjin Binhai International airport is the main airport of Tianjin. We will call it Tianjin Airport for short herein. Anyone wanting to travel to or from Tianjin via plane typically will travel from this airport. Previously Terminal 1 was the main hub of activity both for international and regional flights at Tianjin Airport. As of August, 2014 though things changed, it was then that Tianjin Airport got bigger in the hopes of also getting busier.

Terminal 2 of the Tianjin Airport is now handling check-in and security for all domestic flights, which are those flying to or from destinations within China. Terminal 2 also made big news in Tianjin as it is linked to the subway system. This means that airport passengers can take metro line 2 from the Tianjin city center directly to the Tianjin airport without exiting the subway or getting a cab. Previously this was impossible as line 2 ended one stop short of the airport. Now, travelers arriving by metro line 2 will arrive underground

and take either the escalator, elevator or stairs up a level and voilà! you are at the airport. The walk from the metro stop to the actual ticketing counter and terminals is all indoors.

With metro line 2 now connected to the Tianjin Airport this means getting to and from Beijing is a lot easier. From the airport it is a 25 minute subway ride to the Tianiin Railway Station, which is a mere 3 RMB fare. The signs at the airport stop state the earliest train leaves at 6:00 am and the last train heads out at 10:05 pm. The subway is by far the easier and quickest option to get from the Tianjin Airport to the Tianiin Railway Station or Tianiin's city central for that matter. After arrival at the Tianiin Railway Station, tickets can be bought for the fast train to Beijing. Tickets are about 60 RMB depending on seat class. Second class is fine. It is about a 30 minute train ride from Tianjin to the Beijing South Station.

In addition to the new Tianjin Airport
Terminal 2 being connected to the subway, it
also has a bus service which runs from 8 am to
1 am which takes people to the Tianjin Railway
Station. Buses run every 30 minutes from 8 am
to 10 pm. After 10 pm they depart based on
passenger count, which means it could be

about every hour. A bus ticket costs 15 RMB and depending on traffic could be a 30-60 minute ride. Unfortunately there are no other bus services offered at the Tianjin Airport at current. That means no buses to Beijing or other cities near Tianjin. The counter for buying bus tickets is located on floor "1F" (the first underground level) in between "Meeting Point 2" and "Meeting Point 3".

In the same areas as the counter for booking a bus is a counter for booking a hotel room. The hotel is the Tianjin Binhai International Airport Hotel. It quoted a standard rate of 492 RMB per night, which could be discounted to 378 RMB. The hotel is about 12 kilometers from the airport. The hotel provides a free shuttle service from the airport to the hotel. The following day there are three free shuttles departing at 6, 7, and 8 am to bring travelers back to the airport. If one misses those shuttles then a cab could be taken to the airport for around 30 RMB. Travelers arriving late or without a friend to pick them up at the airport might consider this hotel.

Terminal two has three meetings points on its underground level. "Meeting Point 1" has a little convenience store with a very limited



selection of drinks, snacks and other items. Prices are high. A bottle of water was 6 RMB. Bottled Red or Green Tea was 5 RMB per bottle. This is about double what these same products would be sold for outside the airport. The ever famous cups of Chinese instant noodles are available for 8 RMB. The required hot water for brewing these noodles can be found at various water stations throughout the airport. Next door is a little book store. Again, selection very limited and pretty much everything is in Chinese. Some Chinese versions of popular magazines are there as well. Also in this underground level of Terminal 2 is a massage parlor.

"Meeting Point 2" is where domestic flights arrive and right nearby are the counters for getting a bus or hotel as described above. Anyone looking to pickup friends traveling in from another city within China will want to wait at "Meeting Point 2". There is a nice seating area there, so no need to stand around for hours. Not far away is "Meeting Point 3", which offers bathrooms, McDonald's, and an SF Express. The SF Express is particularly useful. Previously, travelers had attempted to call SF Express for pick of items which could not be taken on the plane. This didn't work though, as the pick-up man was unable to park near the terminal or get through security. Now domestic passengers who find certain items don't pass security don't have to worry. Before or after going through security an SF Express agent can give the passenger a quote to ship the item to a destination within China or even internationally. If the price is right, simply fill out a shipping form, make payment and the item will be shipped. No more losing precious items because they are overweight, oversized or

prohibited.

Head up a level to what is somehow being called "3F" and that is essentially ground level. There, one can exit the airport or walk via an indoor hallway to the old Terminal 1. Terminal 1 continues to handle inbound and outbound international flights. It is undergoing renovations, although the time of completion is yet to be announced. Terminal 1 is small and guiet now compared with the new Terminal 2. The Terminal 2"3F" area is where passengers who have yet to go through security can get something to eat and do a bit of shopping. Eating choices include KFC, Pizza Hut, a few noodle shops, and some others. Overall, eating options are not many. Shopping is available but is limited as well. For more info on shopping at the Tianjin Airport see the "Tianjin Malls" article in this magazine.

Overall the new Terminal 2 at Tianjin Airport is big news and takes Tianjin another step in the right direction. So too travelers can finally get to and from Tianjin Airport directly via metro line 2. Of course, the Tianjin International Airport still is microscopic when compared with other international airports such as Beijing and Shanghai. However, thanks to the Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei integration plan, more regional flights will be routed via Tianjin. Hopefully this means more flights can be taken from Tianjin instead of Beijing. So too prices for flights taking off from Tianjin may become more competitive as routes increase and new carriers are added.

#### 雄起的天津滨海国际机场

提及机场,人们的印象总会是宽广的大厅里,

穿梭着来来往往的人群。没错, 天津滨海国际机场 也正是如此。尤其自2014年8月, T2航站楼开通以 后,天津机场就变得更加繁忙了,T2航站楼开通以 前, T1航站楼负责机场的主要工作。而自T2航站楼 开通以后, T2就成为处理所有国内航班办理登机手 续和安检工作的重点场所。T2的有名还因其与地铁2 号线紧密联系有关。

市民乘坐地铁只需25分钟,就能从机场抵达天 津站,且票价仅为3元。最早的一班地铁是早上6 点,最后一班地铁是晚上10:05。目前来看,地铁 是通往城区或天津站的最快交通方式。有需要去往 北京的乘客, 可从天津站转乘动车, 天津到北京的 动车每30分钟一趟,票价在60元左右。除了地铁, 市民还可选择大巴来往于机场和火车站之间。通常 情况下,大巴在早晨8点至晚上10点之间是每30分钟 一趟,10点以后会根据具体情况而定,票价为15元 人民币。大巴售票点在地下一层的会合点2和会合点 3之间,同一区域,还设有天津滨海国际机场酒店的 预订柜台。酒店房间的价格是每晚492元,如享优 惠,费用大概在378元。酒店距离机场大约12公里, 可提供免费接送服务, 住店的旅客可乘坐转天清晨 的大巴返回机场。如果搭乘出租车,费用大概在30 元左右。有需要的旅客不妨考虑这家酒店。

T2航站楼有三个集合点,它们都设于地下位 置。会合点1附近有很多便利店,但可供选择的商品 非常有限且价格偏高,标价几乎是外面的两倍。它 的旁边是一家小型书店,大多数都是中文书籍,选 择也非常有限。会合点2是国内航班到达点,它的旁 边就是上面所提到过的大巴和酒店预订处, 所有等 待国内航班的接机人员均可在这里等候。会合点3附 近有卫生间、麦当劳、以及顺丰快递。快递点的设 立为乘客提供了巨大的帮助, 只需一通电话, 乘客 便可随时将自己不能带上飞机的物品进行打包快递 到国内的任何城市。再往上一层,是被称作"3F" 的一层,实际上它就是地面层。在这层,乘客可见 机场出口,或经由一条室内走廊去往老T1航站楼。 目前, T1航站楼依旧用来处理国际航班的出入境工 作。和热闹的T2航站楼相比, T1航站楼明显清静狭 小很多。T2航站楼的地面层有很多小吃店可供选 择, 但种类并不是很多。没有过安检的乘客, 如果 有需要,可自行选择。

T2航站楼和机场站的开通,为天津机场的未来 带来了无限可能。尽管它还无法和北京、上海的机 场规模相比, 但京津冀一体化的实现, 也终将为天 津机场带来更多的机遇。我们也希望, 在未来, 天 津机场可以有更多的直达航线, 并且在票价上能越 来越具有竞争力。



#### **Past Events**

#### The AmCham China Business Climate Survey Release Breakfast

February 12-The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin

The AmCham China Business Climate Survey is one of the most studied reports for governments to understand the concerns and challenges American and other foreign companies face when operating in China. On February 12, an official release breakfast hosted by Amcham China, Tianjin Chapter was held at the Astor Hotel, on which Mark Duval, President, AmCham China and Stephen Shih, Partner, Greater China, Bain & Company shared the report with the Tianjin members and the public.

With the development of Tianjin's very own Free Trade Zone under quick development after being put on hold, everyone in the business community is waiting with bated anticipation as to the future prosperity it can bring to the local economy. Having the preliminary data collected from the preexisting Shanghai FTZ, it's Tianjin's ambition to stand on the shoulders of giants and make substantial progression. AmCham China, the American Chamber of Commerce, has been working on advising the local Tianjin government on ways to effectively establish the FTZ to create the most appealing atmosphere for trade. While the recent slowdown of the Chinese economy has been a minor deterrent for some foreign investors, AmCham is confident that the introduction of FTZ as an economic experiment in China will both showcase to the Chinese government the effectiveness of less confined trade but also herald in reforms which appeal greatly to foreign companies.





Martin Winchell, Chairman of AmCham Tianjin Executive Committee and Mark Duval of AmCham China noted that the current economic phase of China is about small incremental growths rather than a huge flood of investment into the country like we saw in the past. Most of the major players are already here in China and well established but if the central government hopes to see a second wave of foreign investment it's going to require the measures of the FTZ becoming unconfined from their established areas. While the Tianjin FTZ is going to be a breath of fresh air and an attractive prospect for Northern China as the largest FTZ in the region, hopefully it can prove its successfulness to the Chinese government and allow for policies to change across the country. AmCham is leading the way in helping inform the Chinese government of how to take advantage of such a monumental opportunity.

#### Women's Professional Committee (WPC) Executive Lunch

January 29 - Hyatt Regency Tianjin East





AmCham China Tianjin held its first Women's Professional Committee (WPC) lunch of 2015 on January 27 at Hyatt Regency Tianjin East.

During the event, Brenda Tea, co-chair of the International Committee for Chinese Orphans (ICCO)introduced this volunteer organization comprised of foreigners living in China and explained how we could get involved in this charitable organization in many ways.

Ladies enjoyed the fantastic buffet lunch provided by Hyatt as well as the opportunity to network with old and new friends! Many of them has expressed their interests in supporting this charitable organization by fund raising and other methods.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Women Professional Committee (WPC) Lunch Date and time: 12:00—14:00pM, March 12 Venue: TBD

Monthly Executive Breakfast Briefing Date and time: 7:15—9:00AM, March 19 Venue: The Astor Hotel Information and Communications Technology (ICT) forum Luncheon

Date and time: 12:00—14:00PM, March 24

Venue: TBD

Inter Chamber Networking Night
Date and time: 7:00—10:00PM, March 24

Venue: The Westin Tianjin

Address: Room2918,Exchange Tower 2, No. 189 Nanjing Rd, Heping District, Tianjin 300051
TEL: 86-22-23185075 Contact person: Amanda He amandahe@amchamchina.org Website: www.amchamchina.org





#### **Past events**

### **German Chamber New Year's Reception in Tianjin** 03.02.2014

The German Chamber of Commerce cordially invited its members in Tianjin to an exclusive New Year's Reception on February 3. The welcoming speeches were held by Ms. Alexandra Voss, Executive Director of the German Chamber of Commerce - North China, and Mr. Christoph Kaiser, Member of the Board of Directors North China and the Advisory Council Tianjin. Both reviewed the successful work of the German





Chamber in the past year, having organized more than 180 events with over 6500 participants in North China, and presented an outlook on the projects and activities in 2015. Especially Tianjin developed successfully with a member increase of 30% last year.

The well attended Reception was the first high-level get-together of the year along with dinner buffet, drinks, live music, and networking opportunities.









### Special Event – GEA Company Visit and Factory Tour 29.01.2014

On January 29, the German Chamber invited its members and friends to a tour to GEA Mechanical Equipment (Tianjin) Co., Ltd. After a presentation by GEA's COO, Mr. Kai-Michael Wolters, participants were guided through the factory. The company visit brought insights into one of Tianjin's newest and most modern production plants





and also provided a great opportunity to discuss questions directly with representatives from GEA in Tianjin.

GEA Mechanical Equipment (Tianjin) Co., Ltd. is located in the UDA development zone in Wuqing. This new plant started operation in July 2013. On a total premises size of 80.000 m² and a covered area of 29.000 m², GEA provides a world-class environment for production, sales and service of separators, decanters, homogenizers and turnkey solutions serving a broad variety of applications such as food, marine and offshore.

#### **Upcoming Events**

February 25,2015, 7pm: Kammerstammtisch Tianjin, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus Tianjin

March 4, 2015, 5.30pm: TEDA Networking Dinner, Delights Bar & Restaurant

March 11, 2015, 7.30am: Interchamber Breakfast Seminar – HR Developments 2015, Hotel Indigo Tianjin

March 25, 2015, 7pm: Kammerstammtisch Tianjin, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus Tianjin

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 Website: www.china.ahk.de



### Melbourne

#### Cultural, sporting and events capital of Australia

Melbourne is the capital and most populous city in the state of Victoria, and the second largest city in Australia. It is an international cultural centre, with cultural endeavors spanning major events and festivals, comedy, music, architecture, literature and film. As of 2013, Melbourne is home to at least 460 music venues, and its live music industry contributes \$782 million per annum to the Victorian economy.

The City of Melbourne, also known as the sports capital of Australia, values sports activities and sportsmanship. Not only was Melbourne the host city of the 1956 Olympics, it also hosts other major sports events including the Australian Open, Formula One Australian Grand Prix and the Melbourne Cup.

The events industry in Melbourne contributes \$2.4 billion to the local economy each year through more than 8,000 events such as festivals, sporting events, business events and exhibitions held in the city, positioning Melbourne as the events capital of Australia.

Melbourne is also home to the finest event facilities in the world. Whether it is a major event for 500,000 people spread over a 10 day period, a 3-day international convention for 5,000 delegates, or a small meeting for 20, Melbourne offers world-class venues to host events of all shapes and sizes, all in close proximity to the city centre and easily accessible by public transport.

From modern facilities with the latest technology, to historic hotels and venues with character, Melbourne has it all:

#### **AAMI Park**

(Melbourne's premier football and rugby stadium and one of the world's finest rectangular pitch venues)

#### **Etihad Stadium**

(A multi-purpose facility with 55,000 seats designed to cater for major sporting and entertainment events, as well as social, business and private functions)

#### Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

(6 green-star-energy rated, Australia's most versatile convention and exhibition facility and the largest convention and exhibition venue in the southern hemisphere)

#### Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG)

(The 11th largest stadium in the world, the largest in Australia, the largest stadium for playing cricket and has the highest light towers at any sporting venue.

#### Melbourne and Olympic Parks

(Melbourne Park and Olympic Park has hosted an extensive range of events such as Australian Open tennis Grand Slam, national and international rugby, football, as well as high profile music concerts and family shows. It is also the administrative and training home to various sporting organisations and professional clubs)

#### Sidney Myer Music Bowl

(It is a historical outdoor performance venue in Melbourne which is listed on the Victorian heritage register and close to the Southbank entertainment precinct)

#### The Arts Centre

(It is the flagship of the performing arts in Victoria and the focal point of Melbourne's cultural precinct) In 2009 Melbourne was voted Best Sports City at the SportBusiness Sports Event Management Awards demonstrating Melbourne's strength as an events city. Melbourne has proven expertise in staging major events such as the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, which saw the city's infrastructure and event venues at full capacity. Melbourne International Airport is open 24 hours, is curfew free and currently has 450 direct international flights per week to and from major destinations.

Melbourne hosts a number of internationally acclaimed sporting, arts, cultural and trade events every year include:

- \* Australian Open (tennis)
- ★ Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix
- ★ Melbourne Food and Wine Festival
- ★ Melbourne Fashion Festival
- ★ Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show
- ★ Melbourne International Comedy Festival
- \* Australian Rules Football Grand Final
- ★ Melbourne Cup Carnival
- ★ Boxing Day Test (cricket)

The City of Melbourne successfully organized AIDS 2014, which brought 15,000 people from the world to Melbourne. It's going to host several global conferences in the near future including World Congress on Public Health (2017), World Congress of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (2019), World Engineers' Convention (2019) and International Congress on Dermatology (2021). A whole world of events awaits people in Melbourne, whatever the season, the city draws guests from across Australia and around the globe, Melbourne's busy events calendar is sure to excite.



## Austar墨尔本澳星

## Melbourne's largest business investment immigration company 墨尔本最大的商业投资移民公司



Melbourne's Austar immigration company was founded in 2004 and is the largest business immigration company in Melbourne. With more than ten years experience, Austar has a 100% success rate and has successfully helped thousands of families obtain permanent residency in Australia. Austar is committed to satisfy every client.

墨尔本澳星移民公司成立于 2004 年,为墨尔本当地最大商业移民公司,专注澳洲商业投资移民 10 年,已成功帮助上千个家庭拿到澳洲永居身份,几乎 100% 的成功率,让所有澳星商业移民客户为选择墨尔本澳星而感到放心,骄傲。

#### 澳星地产——诚信地产

澳星地产是墨尔本当地的房产公司,隶属于澳星集团,总部位于澳大利亚墨尔本 CBD 中心,是墨尔本倍受客户信赖的地产销售公司。公司自成立以来一直乘持严谨、守信的传统,致力于为海内外投资及当地自住客户提供买房,FIRB 申请,贷款,法律过户,转楼花,投资房出租等一条龙服务。

如果您想近距离的咨询澳洲移民及房产事宜, 请您莅临北京 2015年3月13日到15日举办的第四届北京海外置业、投资移 民及高端生活展。

会展日期: 10:30-4:30 澳星展位号: B25 展馆地址: B6 馆, 国家会议中心(APEC 场地)北京



地址: suite 406, 2 Queen Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia 电话: 03-9621-1688 移民咨询总监: 梅一舟 电话 +61 430 911 678 微信: austarjoe 地产销售经理: 李伟楠 电话 +61 450 906 886 微信: lwn\_wayne





HRCLUB First Labor Law Lecture on the topic of
[Interview Techniques of Retired Staff and Emotion Management of Separated Staff]
was successfully held in 2015.

HR CLUB First Labor Law Lecture on the topic of Interview Techniques of Retired Staff and Emotion Management of Separated Staff was successfully held on February 6th, 2015 at the second teaching building of University of Finance and Economics, during which, all seats were occupied.

The lecture was given by Hua Feng, chief attorney of Human Resources and Labor Law Sales
Department, Winners Law Firm. By combining with case studies, Attorney Hua made detailed explanations
towards legal channels of different retired staff, the interview techniques thereof, solutions to staff who
disagree with the separation scheme and the emotion management thereof. Here, we want to say thank you to
Attorney Hua for his wonderful share.

#### Topic Preview of 2015 HRCLUB Labor Law Lecture

February [Interview Techniques of Retired Staff and Emotion Management of Separated Staff]

larch [Labor (Service) Relation Treatment of Foreign Staff, Staff of Macao and Taiwan, Interns and Management Trainee and the Key Points of Legal Documents]

May [Advantages & Disadvantages Analysis of the Employee Handbook's Five Risks and Seven Institutions]

June [Whole Course Legal Risk Management and Control for Terminating Labor Contract]

July [Common Law Misunderstandings and Risk Prevention regarding the Management of Women Workers of Three Periods (Pregnancy, Child-Bearing and Lactation), Interns, Re-employed Workers and Labor Workers

October [Problem Analysis as well as Law and Management Risk Practice of Monthly Labor Dispatching and Service Outsourcing]

November [Occupational Disease Management and the Management Key Points and Risks of Occupational Disease Staff]

December [Handling of Incompetent Employee and Perfection of Company System]

Prior enrollments of the above courses are now accepted and please contact us at the phone number of: Annie 24239636



Club wechat:





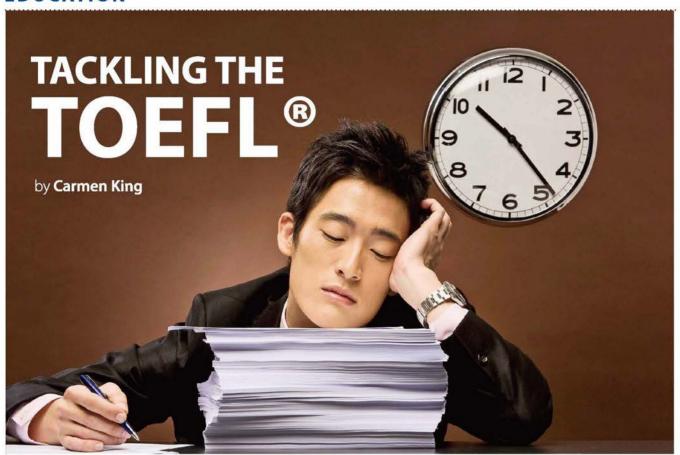


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Don't get discouraged or put too much pressure on yourself when preparing for the TOFEL

hile many may know the test TOEFL® (托福 tuōfú) the organization behind the test may be less familiar. The non-profit entity known as ETS was founded over 60 years ago. It is an independent firm dedicated to research and production of tests among other things. Based on statements from their company website at www.ets.org it appears the core concept was to separate the teaching institution from the testing institution. Separating the development of tests would allow for advancement in quality and fairness.

If a test is provided by the academic organization itself, there is a significant workload as it relates to creation and maintenance. First there is the matter of researching data on which the test will be written. Next, as the scene of the world is constantly changing there is also the ongoing task of updating the content of the test to ensure it stays in sync with modern society. Neither of these is a small job. So too the work of administering, grading and issuing related results is inherent. Giving all these jobs to an educational institution which wants to spend most of its time teaching versus testing becomes a challenge. Thus the concept of

ETS was born, the organization was established and not just one but several world-class tests emerged.

The vast majority of students only need to know of the tests ETS provides. The idea of ETS is quite novel. When one considers the many academic professionals who make up ETS it gets the wheels turning. Instead of simply taking one of the tests ETS offers, why not join them? The idea of working for the company that actually makes the test instead of takes the test is interesting. It would be imagined though, no small amount of tests would need to be taken before one would ever find themselves on the developing side of the test versus the taking side.

One of the more well-known ETS tests is

THEREFORE TOEFL® TESTERS WILL BE INTERESTED IN NOT ONLY TAKING CLASSES OR GETTING A TUTOR TO HELP THEM PASS THE TEST, BUT ALSO TO TEACH THEM ENGLISH RELATED TO DAILY LIFE. the TOEFL®. More information about TOEFL® can be found at the http://www.ets.org/toefl/ website. What is the TOEFL® all about? In short it is a test used to determine an individual's English language level. Seeing that ETS is an American based organization, it is not surprising that a number of US colleges consider a student's TOEFL® test score during the admission process. This isn't to say that only students going to America will take the TOEFL®. It is possible that a university outside the States would also accept TOEFL® scores as proof of one's English competency. However, it should be noted, English evaluation tests are numerous. So too which schools accept which tests varies. Therefore, students should confirm with each school directly if TOEFL® results are acceptable or not as it relates to admissions.

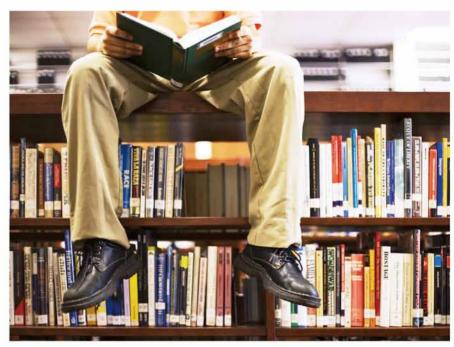
TOEFL® is like any other test in that it takes significant time and effort to prepare for. Therefore while the test itself may not be that expensive to take, (around a few hundred US dollars) what it takes to prepare for testing could be anything but. A number of companies are dedicated to selling "classes" or "training" which helps students prepare for taking the TOEFL®. These often are not cheap. They include mock testing, vocabulary review

and lots of tips on test taking techniques. While ETS, the administer of the TOEFL®, states there is no requirement to go to any of these third-party classes, the reality is, it will likely be quite difficult for a student completely on their own to prepare for the TOEFL®. At a minimum even if group classes are not taken, a personal tutor will be hired to help get ready for the TOEFL®.

TOEFL® includes testing of core English vocabulary and grammar. It has parts designed to test reading and writing skills, as well as listening and speaking levels. To handle the reading section, students need to be able to read English content at a good speed with a good understanding of what was read. The listening portion forces students to push beyond just being able to read and write English. This is the most common epidemic in Tianjin. An English students reading comprehension may actually be quite good. Yet, understanding even the simplest statement by a native English speaker is next to impossible. Speaking skills are also tested, which is again, a huge weak spot for Tianjiner's. Writing is normally not a huge problem. After having been required to write countless complex Chinese characters over and over again during elementary school years, learning to write English is relatively easy for Tianiiner's.

TOEFL® tends to reveal some of the fundamental differences between non-native students of Chinese and non-native English students. Expats studying Chinese tend to learn to speak first, understand or listen second, read third and last or maybe never write. Tianjiner's studying English on the other hand are almost the exact opposite. They can often early on read English, even write English, but rarely can they speak or understand spoken English. Even though many Tianjiner's like to watch overseas TV and movies which feature English, the problem is there is almost always Chinese sub-titles. Therefore they spend little to no time listening to the English, and all the time reading the sub-titles. In the end, the English goes in one ear and out the other.

In talking with students who have successfully passed the various English placement tests, such as TOEFL\*, it seems they have a few things in common. One, they are very dedicated. Some of these students spend years preparing for the TOEFL\* or similar tests. They put in countless hours from adolescence on getting ready. Far from cramming the



TOFEL takes significant time and effort to prepare for.

night before, it is years of blood, sweat, and tears that get them passed the test. Second, they've failed a few times, but finally pass. Though not passing the first time, they don't give up. Instead they take the TOEFL® over and over again until finally they get passed it. So don't get discouraged or put too much pressure on oneself when preparing for the TOEFL®. If at first one does not succeed, try, try and try again. Don't give up easily. Put in the time, and likely in time the results will come.

In recent news, it appears that some schools which used to accept the TOEFL® no longer do. Meaning their admission requirements have changed. Most of the students taking the TOEFL® are doing so with the hopes of studying abroad, quite possibly in America. Regardless of where or when, double check the school or institution being applied to as to if it accepts TOEFL® results as proof of English competency. In addition, remember, like with so many tests, even after they have been passed there is still much to learn. Tests are only a piece of the puzzle. They do provide a standardized way of determining English proficiency. However there is a limit to what can be tested. Therefore TOEFL® testers will be interested in not only taking classes or getting a tutor to help them pass the test, but also to teach them English related to daily life. After all, even a native English speaker may not be able to pass the TOEFL®. Yet there is little doubt they can navigate everyday life in an English speaking country. Thus tests like

TOEFL® are something, just not everything.

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## 应对托福

人人都知道托福考试,但至于那个藏在托福背后的考试机构却鲜少为人所了解。美国教育考试服务中心,世界最大的私立教育考试机构,距今已有60多年历史。它的成立旨在将教学机构和考试机构分离开来,从而减轻学术机构的考试压力。毫无疑问,它是成功的。

由美国教育考试服务中心组织的众多考试中,最为大家所熟知的当属托福。它是一项鉴定非英语为母语者的英语能力考试,也是众多美国大学评定留学生英语能力的重要标准。但托福并不是检测英语能力的唯一考试,对于有出国深造计划的学生而言,你需要根据目标大学的实际情况来考量自己到底需要哪种考试。

托福考试的费用一般在儿百美元左右,但考生在备考过程中所花费的时间和精力远远不止这些钱而已。像众多考试一样,托福考试也有各种各样的补习班,尽管考试机构并不倡导考生报名参加这种培训班,但仅凭考生的个人能力,他们很难能通过考试。托福考试由四部分组成,分别是阅读、听力、口试、和写作。鉴于中国学生人人具备良好的阅读和写作功底,所以相较而言,他们的薄弱环节当属听力和口试,天津学生尤为如此。

托福考试在某种程度上揭示了中美学生的差异。 外国学生学习汉语的顺序通常都是说, 听, 读, 写, 而中国学生恰恰相反。中国学生热衷于看国外的电 影电视, 但他们更热衷的是看带有中文字幕的海外 影视。如此一来, 他们能锻炼的仅仅是阅读能力, 而并非听英语的能力。

我接触了一些成功通过英语水平测验的学生,他们的成功无外乎一个路线: 勤奋加坚持不懈。我们都知道,对于托福考试,很少有人能一次考过,大多数的考生都是几经沙场才熬到胜利的那一刻。所以,千万不要放弃,也不要给自己太大的压力,只要坚持到底,胜利一定属于你。

#### PARENTING



# PARENTING PRACTICES IN CHINA: **ELIMINATION COMMUNICATION AND CO-SLEEPING**by Charlotte Edwards

ention the phases "elimination communication" and "co-sleeping" to Americans and you'll probably get a confused look or negative response. At least that's what I've experienced when I tell people about how we started having my son use the toilet at 7 weeks of age, or how we co-slept once he outgrew his crib. Neither of these parenting practices are mainstream in the West and people are quick to form an opinion without understanding the practice.

I recently read a blog post by a Canadian woman who visited China and had all sorts of misguided and negative views on Chinese parenting practices based on her trip to China. She wrote that the people are so poor that they can't afford diapers. My observations and experience is quite the opposite. Teaching babies to be aware of their bodily functions is an age-old practice. Parents and grandparents are diligent in working with the baby so they don't need diapers. Disposable diapers are a rather new invention-even my parents were raised with cloth diapers--and are expensive here. Despite their growing prosperity Chinese remain frugal and see no reason to change their habits. To me it's a win-win that has been very positive for our family.

In all honestly, I was hesitant to let my son wear split pants, with just an old torn

t-shirt covering his bottom. But one day I was catching up on reading some blogs during my lunch break at work and came across the success story of a 10-month old who used her potty chair and I knew this was something I could do. I read everything I could and started the next day. My mother-in-law was delighted! There's a learning curve, to be sure; we had our share of messes, but nothing worse than the diaper blow-outs that my sister experiences with her daughter. By the time my son was five months old he was able to communicate, through fussing, that he had to use the toilet. I sewed him split pants so that he could toddle to his potty chair and use it by himself. We started with his sister on her second day of life and she learned even faster. Now at 2 years old she's able to use the restroom unassisted.

Now, there are always the few people who don't use good manners; the ones that let the child go to the bathroom on the sidewalk and don't clean it up. That's the exception, not the rule. And kids have accidents. Even those potty trained by Western methods. I was able to keep the kids out of diapers at night by sleeping with them; taking them to the toilet when necessary. I was very opposed to this at first, but it did make sense to do this for a number of reasons. It's not unusual for mothers to co-sleep well in to the primary school years. There's even a special

## BY THE TIME MY SON WAS FIVE MONTHS OLD HE WAS ABLE TO COMMUNICATE, THROUGH FUSSING, THAT HE HAD TO USE THE TOILET.

size of bed for this exact purpose, the mother-child bed which is 1.2 meters wide. Cribs aren't widely used and, as such, they're expensive. Not only did we save money on a crib and diapers, but my husband was well-rested for work since he didn't have to listen to my snoring nor the baby's cries.

Strange as these practices may seem to a lot of Westerners, it's a two-way street. My son was appalled that wearing shoes in the house was allowed when we visited relatives in America; he thinks it's strange that his cousin eats fruit and raw vegetables for lunch. But

that's the beauty of living in a different country; you learn that there isn't just one way to do something.

## 如厕练习

当我向美国朋友提及我对孩子进行如厕训练并与他们同睡的时候,他们感到很奇怪,且一致持有否定态度。这种做法在西方并不流行,以至于每每提及此,他们总是特别不能理解。

最近我读到了一个加拿大妈妈写的博客,她有过来中国的经历,并基于她在中国的所见所闻,写了很多关于中国育儿方面的负面观点。其中一点就是她认为中国的家庭很穷,父母买不起纸尿裤,但这绝对是一个错误的观点。其实,锻炼婴幼儿的身体机能是一种古老的实践。众所周知,父母和爷爷奶奶会长期与孩子在一起,所以他们有充分的时间锻炼孩子的能力,他们根本不需要纸尿裤。尽管中国日益繁荣,但中国人勤俭的习惯并没有因此而消失。相反,这种节俭对我的家庭来说,无疑是件好事。

老实讲,一开始我很犹豫是否要让我的儿子穿 开裆裤。直到有一天,我看到一个关于 10 个月大的 孩子成功使用坐便器的时候,我才意识到,或许我 也可以这么做。凡事都有磨合阶段,到我儿子 5 个 月大的时候,他已经可以自己使用坐便器了。

现在,我可以通过和孩子一起睡觉来让他们整晚都不用戴尿不湿,我要做的,就是在适当的时候起来带他们去厕所。一开始我也很抵触,但时间久了,就发现,这样做的确有很多好处。通过这样的方法,我们不仅节省了开支,还能让孩子的爸爸在辛勤工作后得到良好的睡眠。

这些育儿方法对西方人来讲或许有些奇怪,但 这就是一条双行道。当我们回美国探亲的时候,儿 子看到人们在屋里穿鞋他会感到诧异,甚至当他看 到他的那些堂兄堂妹吃着简单的午餐,也会感到不 可思议。但这恰恰就是一种生活在别处的美,通过 这样的方式,你才能发现每样事物都不止一面。

## Back to the Hopeland International Kindergarten

Well, we are now officially through the winter with another lively Spring just around the corner.

Our children have just spent their time at our safe and happy Winter Camp and now they are preparing to greet spring as well as the new semester with great joy and anticipation. We welcome back to the Hopeland International Kindergarten our happy family and look forward to continuing to live and study together.

This new semester breeds new hope. This year, with the grand opening of Meijiang campus with its giant constant temperature controlled swimming pool, the fancy Bruno Theater and the largest all



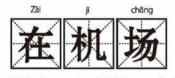
villa-style kindergarten complex, we believe that our children will have an even more satisfying and happy semester in 2015.





by Zheng Hong Xiang and Carmen King

### AT THE AIRPORT



It's time for some travel in Tianjin. Learn the Chinese needed to check in, and get through security.

(Check in, get boarding pass, and check baggage)

Huàn dēng jī pái tuổ yùn xíng lì (换登机牌,托运行李)

Passenger: Excuse me, is this where I can check in for flight A100?

乘客:您好,请问 A100次 háng bān shì zài zhè ge guì tái bān 『 航班是在这个柜台办理 dēng』 shǒu xù ma 登记手续吗?

Ticketing Agent: Yes. Please let me see your passport.
Gong zuò rén yuán Shì de qīng nín chủ shì 工作人员:是的,请您出示yī xià hù zhào 一下护照。

Passenger: Sure, here it is.

Chéng kè Hảo gếi nín 乘客:好,给您。

Ticketing Agent: Please put your luggage on the scale. Göng zuò rén yuán Qing bã xing lì fàng zài chèng shàng 工作人员:请把行李放在秤上。

Passenger: Ok. Is it overweight?

Chéng kè Hão de Chấc zhòng le ma 乘 客:好 的 。超 重 了 吗 ?

Ticketing Agent: No. How many carry on items do you have?

Gông zuò rén yuến Mei you Nĩ yòu jĩ gọ 工作人员:没有。你有几个 suí shēn xiế dài de shōu tỉ dài 随身携带的手提袋?

Passenger: Two. Is that ok?

Chéng kè Liảng ge kẻ yǐ ma 乘安:两个,可以吗?

Ticketing Agent: Yes, no problem.

Göng zuð rén yuán Méi wèn tí 工作人员: 没问题。

Passenger: Today's weather doesn't look so good. Will the flight be on time?

Chéng kè Wô kàn jĩn tiấn de tiấn qì bù tài 乘客:我看今天的天气不太hão féi jĩ néng àn shi qĩ féi ma 好,飞机能按时起飞吗?

Ticketing Agent: I'm sorry but I'm not sure about that. However as of right now, we haven't received any notification of a delay. Here's your passport and boarding pass. You can now proceed to the security check.

Gông zuò rén yuán Dul bu qī wǒ bù tài 工作人员:对不起,我不太有情况的 mù qián wǒ men hái méi jiê dào rèn 清楚,目前我们还没接到任格 tông zhī Qīng nín shôu hǎo hù zhào há 何通知。请您收好护照和déng jī pái dào qián bian qù 都 jiān 登机牌,到前边去安检。

Passenger: Ok, thank you.

Chéng kè Xiè xie 乘客:谢谢!

(Security Check) (安检)

Security Agent: Please stand here and remove all items from your pockets, including any keys, and take off your shoes.

Gong zuò rén yuán Qíng zhàn zài zhè lǐ 工作人员:请站在这里,bā kǒu dài lǐ de shǒu jī hé yào shi ná把口袋里的手机和钥匙拿chū lài bā xié tuō diào出来,把鞋脱掉。

Passenger: Ok.

Chéng kè Hẫo de 乘客: 好的。

Security Agent: Your water bottle has water in it. Please dump that out or drink it. Liquids cannot be taken on the plane.

Gông zuò rén yuán Nín de shuǐ běi lǐ yǒu shuǐ 工作人员:您的水杯里有水ba qīng nín dào diào huò zhé hé diào yè吧,请您倒难或者喝掉,液信。bù yǒn xú dài shàng fēi lǐ di 太不允许费一下水机

Passenger: Ah, ok. I'll drink it then

Chéng kè Hảo de wõ hệ diào ba 乘客:好的,我喝掉吧

Security Agent: Thank you. Please proceed to the waiting area until the plane is ready to board.

Gong zuò rén yuán Xiè xie nín de pèl hé T 作人员:谢谢您的配合。
qing dao hòu l shì xiū xi yi xià yi hù ging dao hòu l shì xiū xi yi xià yi hù liù ké yi deng l le 儿就可以登机了。

Passenger: Ok.

Chéng kè Xiè xie 乘客:谢谢!

## GEN-Z TALKS

The Secondary School students, teachers and parents at International School of Tianjin (IST) witnessed a remarkable presentation by students at a special Secondary School assembly on January 26, 2015. The audience was left spellbound by five student speakers from the IB Diploma Programme who shared their candid and moving experiences of "Growing Up International" and what this has meant to them. This was part of the 'GEN-Z Talks'-based on the same concept as TED Talks- a student initiative led by IST Grade 11 students Claudia Quek and Seung Yeon as part of their IB Diploma CAS (Community, Action and Service) programme. The student speakers were Gurkriti Singh, Lawrence Lin, Hae Won Kim, Tony Jong Uk Yoon and Claudia Quek. GEN-Z is a short form of Generation Z. which means people who were born in 1995 or later; People who live in a world full of high technology, and information.

If you missed these impressive and touching student speeches, do not worry as they have been posted as videos on our Youtube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs43 3tTYaQLRXTNEs0X0J4q

Congratulations to all involved on a wonderful student initiative and presentation!





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#### PROMOTION

## IST Spirit Week

#### International School of Tianjin

students and staff celebrated School Spirit Week in the last week of January from the 26th to the 30th! Each day of that week the students and teachers dressed up according to the day's theme. There was a lot of fun and competitiveness involved as there were prizes to be given. Monday saw everyone dressed for "Pajama Day" followed by "Nerd Day" on Tuesday, and then "Twins and Triplets Day" on Wednesday; Thursday was "Opposite Gender Day" and Friday was "Class Theme Day". There were prizes involved so the competition was serious! The students and teachers really outdid themselves and the school was treated to some rare sights of hilariously and at other time beautifully dressed people moving around the school.





#### PROMOTION

## China Week

#### The International School of Tianjin

(IST) not only provides formal multi-faceted quality education to its students to be successful in an ever-changing global scenario, but also inculcates in them an appreciation of the culture of their host country, China. One of the things organized at IST every year in this regard is the school-wide China Week. This special week, aptly scheduled just around the Chinese New Year time is dedicated to celebrating Chinese culture and traditions at IST. Starting off this festive season with a China Bazaar organized by the Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) in school on the Feb 04, the China Week was celebrated from Feb 9-13 with the students enthusiastically taking part in activities like Chinese Calligraphy, Making Clay Figurines, Chinese Tea Ceremony, Temple Fair, Lion Dance amongst many others.













### JIAN HUA

## It's time for Spring Festival

The Spring Festival is a traditional Chinese festival. In order to help the children experience the atmosphere of the Chinese New Year, the teachers in the JHF Angel Children Rehabilitation Center designed a series of special courses for the children. Through the courses, the children learned some common knowledge about spring festival, mastered the basic etiquette of the holiday, and enjoyed the happiness of coming together and celebrating.

When we refer to the Chinese Spring Festival, I believe that we all know about the cleaning, decorating doors and windows with Chinese sayings of blessing, setting off firecrackers, eating dumplings, and wearing new clothes. Some of the happiest things for children are to get the New Year's money gift and to eat all kinds of delicious food. To enhance the children's experience of the Spring festival atmosphere, the teachers brought in the Chinese sayings, blessing characters, and red envelopes. When the

children saw these, they were very happy. At the beginning of the class, the teacher took out a calendar and told the children which date Spring Festival was on. And then through the pictures, the teachers showed the children how to prepare before the Chinese Spring Festival - cleaning the houses and going shopping for the new year. In class, the children practiced some simple housework such as sweeping the floor and wiping the table. From these practices, the children gained some skills needed for independence in activities of daily living; meanwhile they learned to tell the difference between clean and dirty. On the other hand, they also learned how to help their family do the housework.

The children decorated the doors with Chinese blessings, with the teachers' help. The special sayings and blessing characters mean hope and blessings for the New Year. When Chinese Spring Festival comes, the children get really excited about the new year's money gift. The teachers taught the children how to say greetings to the elders and how to wish their moms and dads a happy and healthy new year. In the coming new year, the children are getting a year older. We hope that the children can grow up happy and we also wish every family happiness in the new year.



春节是中华民族的传统节日。为了更好的让孩 子们感受到过年的气氛, 建华天使儿童康复中心的 老师为孩子们设计了一系列别开生面的课程。通过学习,孩子们了解过年的常识,掌握基本的礼仪, 体验团聚的乐趣。

提到过年, 相信我们都还记得那些热闹的场 景:大扫除、贴对联、放鞭炮、包饺子、穿新衣。 最高兴的是拿到新年的压岁钱, 吃各种好吃的食 品。为了能够让孩子们感受到更加真实的过年氛 围,老师们拿来了真正的对联、吊钱和红包。看到 这些,孩子们特别高兴。首先,老师拿出日历,告 诉孩子们今年过年的日期。然后通过图片,向孩子 们展示了过年前的准备工作——大扫除和买年货。 孩子们在课上练习了扫地、擦桌子等简单的家务劳 动,通过练习,一方面锻炼了孩子生活自理的能 力,学习了对比性词语干净和脏的区别,另一方面 也培养了孩子们帮助家人做家务的意识。

孩子们在老师的帮助下贴对联、贴吊钱、贴福 字。对联和福字寄托了人们对新一年的祝福。说到 过年最高兴的事情, 那就莫过于拿压岁钱了。老师 教孩子们如何给长辈拜年, 祝爸爸妈妈身体健康, 新年快乐。新的一年,孩子们又长大了一岁,老师 祝愿孩子们能够快乐成长, 也祝愿每一个家庭都能 圖家幸福。

## WELLINGTON MILEPOST 3: MISSION TO MARS

The Milepost 3 children took part in an astronaut training course as they prepared for their 'Mission to Mars'. Fitness tests were carried out first as the children demonstrated speed, endurance and strength. After a short break challenges designed to test team work, survival skills, logical thinking and agility were carried out. The morning was a huge success and we now have 58 astronauts ready for space!



#### **PROMOTION**

## Wellington: The Pirates of Penzance

The fourth annual Wellington International play is in its preliminary stages with the same duo of Steve Griffiths (Performing Arts Director) and his daughter taking up the helm. Last year, the school worked hard to pull together its own production of the Lionel Bart play, Oliver!; which was a very unique experience for the students and for Tianjin. To take up something which may have never been produced in China so far, the students and staff of Wellington International now seek to reproduce the Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert comic-operetta, The Pirates of Penzance. Given the success they've experienced with their plays over the years, they've received a great deal in support from the school in putting the production together. Their resources have allowed for them to create a grand stage and custom costumes for each actor/actress.

The Pirates of Penzance centers



around the lead role of Frederic (played by Oscar) who has just been released from his apprenticeship at the age of 21 and falls into a band of kind-hearted pirates. Given the archaic language of the original play, it have proven to be quite the change of pace for the students. While it is a challenge, it does give them a more developed grasp of the English language and will make for quite the show once things come to fruition. Considering that a bulk of the play is performed through song as well keeps the students practicing diligently.

Speaking to the actor and actress of Frederic and Ruth, they both expressed the fun they have with setting up the performance and noted the strenuous rehearsals. Their rehearsing of 1-2 hours a

day and up to 4 hours on the weekend are sure to make for an excellent performance. The play will be hosted every day from March 17th-21st, so be sure to get tickets for this unique experience as they usually go quickly.



#### PROMOTION

## **ISCOT MATHS** COMPETITION

## For the second year in a row,

Wellington College International Tianjin hosted the ISCOT Maths Competition. This competition, once again, promoted teamwork, problem solving, communication skills and mathematical endeavour. The best young mathematicians from both IST and TEDA,



accompanied by our Wellington teams, were at their best while solving serious maths problems. The Maths Department would like to thank all the participants, their teachers, and the College community for contributing to the big success of this competition.

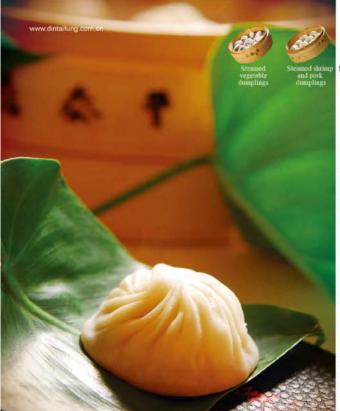








Specialty Xiao Long Bao





and pork Shao-Mai

#### The Best Xiao Long Bao in Tianjin

You shouldn't miss the xiao long bac at Din Tai Fung. The thir dumpling wrapper holds a delicious soup with the xiao long bao isible when you hold it up to the light. Then use your chop to pick up a freshly steamed xiao long bao. Take a bite and feel the juices, stuffing and soup squirting out to stimulate your taste buds. Take your time though because these delicacies need to be appreciated and savored slowly.

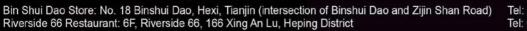
The staff at Din Tai Fung are extremely careful with their quality control and all xiao long bao are made following strict rules. The dumpling wrapper weighs 5g; the stuffing is 16g; 18g is provided for the crimping crust and the dumpling will always weigh about 5mg.

Their dealers search the world to source the highest quality wheat powder to meet their strict culinary standards so you are assured that it is the best available. The powder is quality tested by Din Tai Fung before it is sent into the kitchen.

The main stuffing is pork. It is always freshly prepa nade from a secret recipe.

All stages of the preparation and cooking are handled by skilful shefs to ensure that the high standards of Din Tai Fung are met. The steaming process combines high tech and old fashioned but time proven techniques. The high tech steaming machine was invented by Din Tai Fung and is computer controlled. After the steaming process the dumplings are placed in a low tech but time nonored bamboo steamer to ensure that the dumpling is cooked

Tel: 022-2813 8138 Tel: 022-5990-5166



YUMMY DUMPLING



A poem reading show

xpats may be quite familiar with some of the more obvious activities associated with Tianjin culture. These include singing (唱歌), dancing (跳 舞), and calligraphy (书法). Singing can be heard around Tianjin in the various parks. Dancing happens about every night in the open spaces such as the Tianjin railway station rear plaza, or the area across the street from Carrefour at Haiguangsi. Calligraphy is sometimes demonstrated using a giant brush and water on the sidewalks of Tianjin. In addition to these Tianiin cultural favorites, what other activities are there to help expats improve their Chinese and get to know better the city they call home?

How about the art of reading? Expats may be surprised to find out there may be as many as 50 or more reading clubs throughout Tianjin. Yes, reading. This "reading" isn' t simply reading a book to oneself or one's children. The "reading" spoken of here is reading out loud in a clear, controlled, highly precise manner. Many Tianjiner's like to practice the art of reading. While the vast majority of these groups may simply be friends who gather

together in rather informal settings to practice, there is actually one very official, government recognized reading club in Tianjin.

The Tianjin Reading and Art Club ( 天津 朗诵艺术团 ) is a government recognized non-profit organization. Currently the Tianjin government only allows one non-profit organization per industry or activity. Thus when it comes to arranging the study and promotion of the art of reading, The Tianjin Reading and Art Club is the most official entity in Tianjin by far. The club was originally setup in May, 1996 by Mr. Wang. He was a Tianjin literature teacher with a passion for classic Chinese writings and standard Mandarin pronunciation. The club has been holding activities ever since, even enjoying recognition

EVEN FOR NATIVE CHINESE SPEAKERS IT TAKES YEARS OF PRACTICE TO GET LOCAL DIALECTS IRONED OUT. in Hong Kong. Mr. Wang has since retired and Mr. Lee has taken over as club chairman. Currently the club has over 30 members, each with many years of reading experience.

The benefits of expats mastering the art of reading are numerous. There is a proven link between reading skills and speaking skills. Expats are more than familiar with the challenges in learning to speak good Chinese. The key to expats learning to speak better is found in first learning how to read better. Common speaking issues include poor pronunciation, improper tones, incorrect grammar, and incomplete sentences. Interestingly, almost all of these issues are one by one addressed during oral reading practice. This is because good public reading requires highly accurate pronunciation and knowing the correct tone for every character. For these reasons, good readers make good speakers.

Mistakes in reading often involve misread characters. Club chairman Mr. Lee mentions even native Chinese speakers frequently misread and mispronounce characters when reading aloud. This is

because the tones used in everyday speech may not be the tone as listed in the dictionary for that character. Not to mention many of the classical works which club members perform contain characters which are rarely used. These need to be looked up in the dictionary one by one to confirm and memorize proper tones. The work of a reading performer is very similar to expats learning Chinese. Therefore expats may find The Tianiin Reading and Art Club a great after class activity hub with plenty of people who are highly motivated to improve their Chinese.

Club performers, when reading for an audience, must read using standard Mandarin Chinese pronunciation. This is similar to the requirements for newscasters and other television show hosts. Most Chinese speakers have a local accent. Thus the untrained reader will not only read the wrong tone, but their pronunciation may also be off as well. The problem is their local accent comes through. Members of The Tianjin Reading and Art Club must rigorously practice reading aloud using standard Chinese pronunciation. To improve in this area, they often read and record themselves. Then listen for errors in



pronunciation or tone. Even for native Chinese speakers it takes years of practice to get local dialects ironed out. This too is similar to the process expats need to go through.

To achieve this high level of reading accuracy the Tianjin Reading and Art Club meets every week to practice as a group. The Qinmin Nankai Elementary School (天津勤敏 小学) has long since supported the club by providing a classroom for them to use. Every Sunday from 2-5 pm club members get together to study the art of reading. This includes a lecture from a teacher on how to improve pronunciation, read with more feeling, or improve in some specific aspect of

reading. In addition if there are upcoming performances, the club will use the time to prepare such. Newer members such as expats can bring their own Chinese work which they want to learn. There they can read it to the teachers and get tips on how to improve. Expats looking to get serious about their Chinese reading skills and learn about Chinese culture can do so by listening to the audio tracks provided for free at www.yishutuan.asia . These tracks are routinely updated and are a great free resource for

The goals of the Tianjin Reading and Art club include promoting the use of Standard Mandarin, famous literary works, and the use of technology to extend the club's reach worldwide. Expats should understand that speaking clear, correct Chinese isn't just something non-native speakers must work hard at. With the proliferation of local Chinese dialects, along with the challenging nature of learning the tone for thousands of Chinese characters, even native Chinese speakers have their work cut out for them. The Tianjin Reading and Art Club wants to help not only locals but expats alike improve their Chinese reading skills, which in turn will directly improve their speaking skills.

Every expat is familiar with Canadian born Mark Rowswell, better known as Dashan (大山). Decades ago upon arriving in Beijing he too was just a humble Chinese language student. His claim to fame came by way of another extracurricular activity called "cross-talk"(相声). At the time, in addition to learning more about Chinese culture, one of Mark's main goals was to improve his Chinese. He used cross-talk to not only improve his Chinese leaps and bounds, but find fame. Tianjin expats may or may not one day become famous like Dashan, however, it is highly possible that joining studying the art of reading will seriously improve one's Chinese skills. Unfortunately most traditional Chinese classrooms greatly lack opportunity for students to regularly read aloud.

Hopefully now, expats can see the strong connection between daily reading aloud and speaking amazing Chinese. Not only are vocal skills improved by reading out loud, but listening skills as well. When one reads aloud they are also listening to those words being uttered. The words being spoken and heard over and over again effectively gets them sounded into one's mind and heart. The works that performers have prepared for

performances become very hard to forget. All this makes oral reading one of the best ways for expats to learn Chinese. Not to mention since only the most famous of writings get performed, reading enthusiasts tend to be very culturally literate.

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## 朗诵的艺术

老外们可能对天津的公共文化生活并不陌生, 比如唱歌、跳舞和书法。天津的各个公园都聚集着 些合唱团体,公共广场上每天晚上都有大规模的 广场舞活动。业余书法爱好者也可以用一只自制毛 笔在路边练习。除此之外,还有哪些文化活动可以 让外国人提高中文水平, 更加了解本地文化呢?

你了解朗诵吗?这里说的朗诵并不是单纯地朗 读文字或是给孩子念故事书。朗诵是要以清晰吐字、 有控制的气息把文字准确地大声朗读出来。在天津 大约有 50 个左右的朗诵俱乐部,在这众多的俱乐部 中,只有一家是政府认可的官方俱乐部。

天津朗诵艺术团是政府承认的非营利性组织, 于 1996 年 5 月成立。艺术团的创建人王团长以前是 一名语文老师, 对书法和普通话发音十分感兴趣。 现任团长姓李,目前有30多个成员。

掌握朗诵艺术的益处有很多。因为朗诵涉及到 朗读和说话的技能, 而外国人提高中文口语水平首 先要提高阅读技能。经常出现的问题如发音不正确、 声调错误、语法错误和句子不完整都可以通过练习 朗诵得到矫正。

读错字是外国人经常犯的错误,但据李团长说, 中国人也经常读错字。这是因为在日常对话中,有 些字的声调和字典里的标准音调不一样。而一些文 言文中出现的字现在已经很少用到了。所以,每次 团员们都要逐字查字典, 标注正确读音。这和外国 人学中文的过程很相似, 所以加入这样的俱乐部很 能激励你提高中文水平。

艺术团成员在表演的时候必须使用标准普通话, 其标准与播音主持人相同。大部分中国人说话都会 带一些口音, 未经过训练的朗读者经常会带出家乡 口音。为了矫正口音,成员们经常把自己的朗诵录 下来, 然后反复听, 找出错误的地方。这个方法外 国人同样可以借鉴。

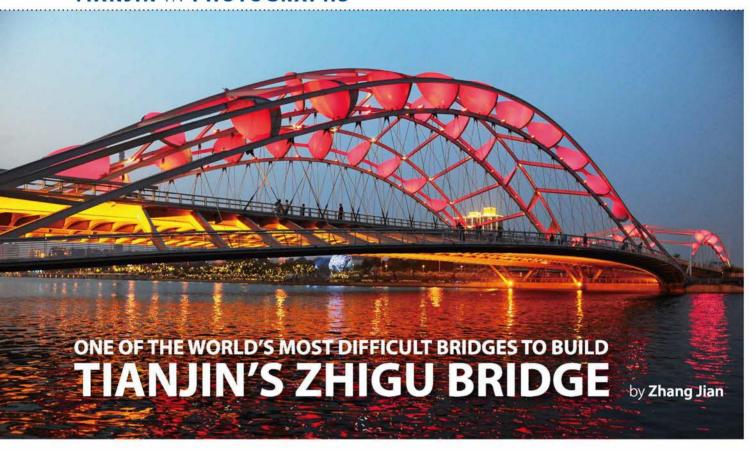
艺术团每周有一次活动。活动上通常会有一位 老师先讲解如何改进发音, 更充分表达感情以及提 高阅读能力。新加入的会员可以带着自己想要朗诵 的作品来现场表演,老师会给予一定的指导。

天津朗诵艺术团的目的就是推广标准普通话、 文学名著并利用高科技手段增加艺术团在世界范围 的影响力。所以, 老外们应该意识到说一口标准的 普通话会有多难。不但要记住几千个汉字的读音声 调,还要排除各种口音的干扰,要知道哪怕是中国 人都不一定能准确朗诵呢! 这个艺术团就希望能帮 助人们提高他们的朗诵技巧, 提高演说水平, 不论 你是中国人还是外国人。

我们都知道"大山",他是靠说相声出名的。其 实他最初也不过是一个中文马马虎虎的留学生, 学 说相声之后, 他不但中文突飞猛进, 还成为家喻户 晓的明星。也许你不会变成大山那样的名人, 但一 定会让你的口语水平迈上新水平。而一般的课堂恐 怕没有这样让你大声朗读的机会。

朗诵不但能提升说话的能力, 同时也让你的听 力有所提高。朗读的时候, 你同时也在听那些念出 来的词语。重复的说和听会让你牢牢记住这些文字。 而朗诵者朗读的大都是文学著作,所以还能提升你 的文学修养。

#### TIANJIN IN PHOTOGRAPHS



half-through arch steel bridge in
Tianjin and was designed by Marc
Mimram Architects and the Tianjin
Urban Construction Design Institute.
The bridge is located in the upper
reaches of the Haihe River, near the
Liuzhuang Bridge, and connects Hedong and
Hexi Districts. The bridge's length is 257.3
meters and its maximum width is 58.5
meters. The Zhigu Bridge combines a
complex structure fashioned by multiple

he Zhigu Bridge is the first

arches and the essential links between these arches which were labeled in the initial stages of the project as "petals". There are 27 arches, 68 steel petals and 296 hanger rods built into the bridge, with a total mass of steel of about

7500 tons.

The design and construction of these petals was a triumph of the connection between advanced technology (they are comprised of reinforced polymerized fiberglass resin and have a metallic structure) and the craftsmanship needed to fabricate 68 molds of complex and elaborate geometry. During the day, the petals, because of their east-west orientation, capture and reflect the movements of the sun as it passes by overhead. By night, they serve as large diffusers of light and transform the structure

into a succession of well oriented and separated reflectors that seem to float above the river.

The Zhigu Bridge has no supporting piers within the river, so the design takes the Zhigu Bridge all the way to He Ba Lu and Tai`er Zhuang Nan Lu in the one unbroken span. The upper part has the footbridge, which guarantees the smooth flow of pedestrian traffic on both sides. The lower part is a walking path, which provides the opportunity for visitors to have a closer look at the Haihe River.

Because of its unique design and complex technological content, the Zhigu Bridge was considered one of the world's most difficult bridges to build. It is also the longest bridge on the Haihe River. In order to ensure its positive and aesthetic effect on the landscape, all actions from its assembly to the final welding, were strictly in accordance to the exact coordinates required to ensure total accuracy. In order to ensure the safety of the bridge during construction a variety of special techniques were used.

After its completion, the Zhigu Bridge's pass rate has reached 60 kilometers per hour as required under its original plan. As we cross the bridge, it is like a trip through time and space because the overall framework of the

bridge makes you feel as if you are inside a giant prehistoric dinosaur skeleton.

## 结构最复杂的桥 ——直沽桥

直沽桥是天津市首座中承式全钢结构拱桥,由 法国马克·曼朗设计所和天津城建设计院联合设计。

直沽桥位于海河刘庄桥上游,是中心城区快速路工程南横的一部分,连接河东区大直沽西路和河西区奉化道。该桥全长257.3米,桥梁最大宽度58.5米,桥面设计为双向6车道,两边是人行桥和景观道,向下延续至两岸的亲水平台。全桥有27道飞跨拱、68片钢结构"花瓣"和296根吊杆,再加上钢桥面,总共使用约7500吨钢材,成为本市用钢量最大的跨海河大桥。

这座桥河道内没有桥墩,两跨分别跨越河坝路 及台儿庄南路。桥梁主体上、下游的人行桥及景观 步道很有特点,上游设置人行桥,重点保障两岸人 行交通的顺畅,下游设置的景观步道,主要满足两 岸亲水空间的沟通。主野和剧跨的中间拱位于两侧 行车道之间;主跨与副跨的侧拱位于行车道与景观 步道和人行道之间。

由于设计独特且技术含量高,直沽桥的施工难度也堪称"世界第一"。为了保证桥梁的景观效果,直沽桥从拼装到焊接,每一步都必须严格按照坐标点上的精确度来操作,任何一点误差都可能影响整体效果。为了保证桥梁的安全,在钢结构的制造和结点的处理上也都经过层层把关,并且在拼装和焊接时同时使用多项特殊工艺使桥梁结构更加坚固。建成后的直沽桥,通行速度已经达到规划时的60公里时速,穿梭在这座桥上,犹如时空的跨越,因为这座桥整体上看去,更像一架史前恐龙的巨型骨架。

r Zha seems to have been forgotten by people, however it has played an important role in the history. Most people do not know that Er Zha is the first water conservancy project in Tianjin. According to historical records, in 1881, the governor Li Hongzhang was afraid of Tianiin would probably have a flood disaster when he saw the five rivers has silted up, which were built during the reign of Emperor Qianlong, so he suggested to dig a new river to reduce the pressure of the Haihe River. In 1893, the first sluice was built and located at the east coast of the Ziya River's downstream. During 1919 to 1921, the first sluice was restored. The sluice was shaped like a man's ear, so people gave its name as Er Zha, means Ear Sluice. During the cultural revolution, Er Zha was once called "Jiefang Zha", which means Liberation Sluice.

At first, the rise and fall of the Er Zha was controlled by manual operation, after liberation in 1949, Er Zha was changed to power steering. During the period of 1921 to 1924, Tianjin happened two floods, and because of the sluice, Tianjin was safe and shielded from natural forces. But over time,

the old Er Zha's function and flood control capacity was reduced, people built a new sluice next to the old Er Zha to ensure the survival of the old sluice.

Now, Er Zha has become a park. In addition, the site of the first textile enterprise -Hengyuan Scale Wool Mills is beside the Er'Zha Park. So the park not only beautifu, but displays old water conservancy items, old industrial equipment and so on. At the same time, the park also builds wharf and open-air cafe and so on. That makes the citizens have a rest, drink coffee and view the cultural relic.

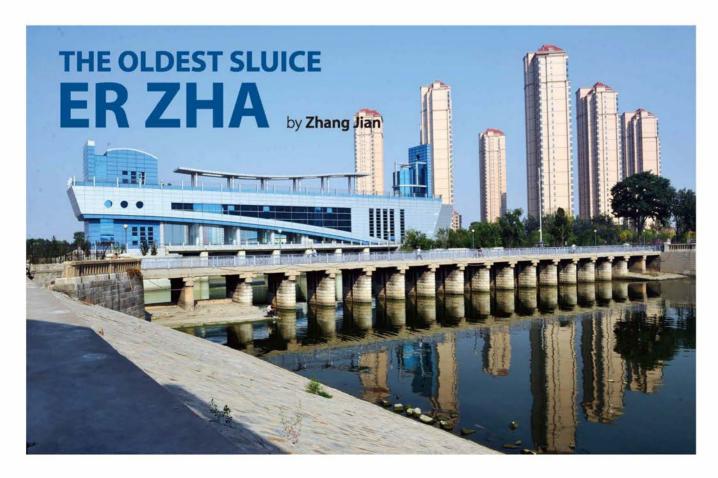
## 最古老的闸桥—

耳闸似乎渐渐被人们遗忘了,可是它在历史上所 发挥的作用依然不可小视, 你知道吗, 耳闸还是天津 第一座水利工程呢! 据史料记载、清光绪七年(1881 年)时任直隶总督的李鸿章上奏朝廷称:清同治、乾 隆年间开挖的5条河道已经淤塞, 洪涝之灾重新威胁 天津,提出在堤头一带开挖新河,以疏减海河的压力。 于是在清光绪十九年(1893年)开始破土动工,并 在子牙河下游东岸、新开河口建一坝一闸, 1919 年 至 1921 年间又重修此闸。据传, 因该闸处于河岸, 如人之耳, 故名耳闸, "文革"时期曾一度改称"解 放闸"。

初建时闸门起落由人工操作,解放后改为电力操 纵。1921 年和 1924 年天津发生的两次大水,海河得 以无恙均与这座水利工程有关。但是由于老耳闸的功 能退化,抗洪能力降低,于是在其下游60米处建设了 新闸, 老耳闸经灌浆加固被完好地保留下来。

当年老耳闸是连接河北堤头及窑洼的重要通道, 特别是天津历史上第一家纺织企业 位于耳闸南侧, 大批产业工人从耳闸或附近的北开渡 口经过, 因此流传着一句顺口溜: 堤头看窑洼 群"小棉花"(指挂满棉绒的纺织女工); 窑洼看堤 一群"小黑猴"(指炭厂的烧炭工人)。如今, 这里建成了景色宜人的耳闸公园,它由呈船形的新闸 与老耳闸共同组成, 其岸边设计建造了一艘由汉白玉 石材精雕细刻而成的仿明代石舫——"天一舫",公园 内不仅有美丽的自然景观还陈列着老水利物件、老工 业设备等,与此同时还建有游船码头和露天咖啡屋等 休闲娱乐设施,成为市民回顾历史、品味文化、修身 养性的好去处。







Parents helped their chidlren find the right marrying candidates on a match-making event.

Ithough you may feel that we have passed that time of year when the subject of love and marriage rears its tricky head once again, unfortunately for many Chinese singletons it is still a really testing time. I am not talking about St. Valentine's Day, I am talking about Spring Festival. You may wonder what that has to do with love and marriage, well if you are Chinese, it has a lot to do with it.

As you have obviously gathered by now, Spring Festival is a time when the whole of China is on the move and Tianjin is also influenced by this mass movement. The Tianjiners who work away will come back to the loving arms of their families and if they are not married but should be, (according to their families) it is a difficult time. In fact any Chinese person who is past the perceived marrying age (quite low by Western standards) has problems. The Spring Festival connection comes in because when people return to their families, the grandparents and parents are one year older and they are desperate for their offspring to have offspring themselves and so the pressure is on. Also if the neighbours' children have got married and had children, this is a subject for boasting

as it is good news. For the likes of Mary who is still not married at 28, this is not good and every time she goes home the pressure gets worse. It is this marriage aspect that makes my Chinese friends dread going home at Spring Festival, which is sad because it is traditionally a time when families cherish their time together.

I got an email from a Chinese friend recently, this is the gist of it "I will be going home for Spring Festival. My family say I must get married and stay in my home town, they say I cannot go back to Tianjin. They will find someone for me to marry and I am afraid I will have to listen to them". She is 23 years old and in her village girls get married younger than this so she is already in danger of being left on the shelf.

A friend here in London, Sue, asked me to meet with one of her classmates who was extremely depressed and Sue didn't know how to make her feel better. Sue met her English husband in China and they came back to London to live, which was quite difficult for her as she doesn't speak English, she was newly married and had left her family and friends behind to come and live in a foreign country. Her classmate is almost in the same position, although her husband is Chinese,

she got married a month ago and they came to London to live. Her family spent a huge amount of money to get her here but she now wants to go home. In fact when we were together she marched into a Travel Agency and asked if they had flights to China for the next day. I intervened and told her she was being too hasty and that at least she should discuss things with her husband. She said that she hated him and didn't want to be married anymore. I tried to get her to think about the impact on him if she just upped and left, but she insisted she didn't want to be married to "such a person". Eventually I asked her why she had married him if she didn't love him. She told me that her family had wanted her to get married as she was 30 and almost

HOWEVER IT HAS NOW CHANGED AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ONCE AGAIN AGREEING WITH THEIR ELDERS THAT THEY WILL GET MARRIED "IF THE CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT". finished, she was in the last chance saloon because of her great age. Only the fact that she was very pretty and that her family had money had saved her from being consigned to the place that dare not speak its name – spinsterhood. Her family had made it clear that her suitor must be accepted as it was highly likely that there would be no more Romeos calling for her hand in marriage. So she had married him and found out that she couldn't stand the sight of him. If she had had her way she would not have got married at that point to that quy.

It seems to be a common belief that family is more important to Chinese people than it is to Westerners. Like you, I don't agree with this, I think it is more the case that members of Chinese families are allowed to have a lot more say in the decisions that their relatives make than ours are. My mum and dad cannot possibly tell me when I should get married, who to and when to have children, or even that I should get married. That does not mean that they love me less than Chinese mums and dads love their children, merely that there are boundaries in Western families that cannot be crossed, not even by parents.

However before we get too carried away feeling sorry for people who do not marry for love, but because they have bowed to family and social pressure, you may be surprised to know what a survey carried out by Tianjin Times Online News revealed. Whereas before Chinese people felt that the right order of things was to to get married and that love would come later, hopefully from one's spouse, the younger generation started to assert their authority by saying that they would get married for love. However it has now changed and young people are once again agreeing with their elders that they will get married "if the conditions are right". These conditions of course mean financial suitability and good child bearing prospects. Other things also must be taken into consideration according to 25 year old Anna, still single who says "If the other party has no fixed job, residence, the education gap is too big, there is family opposition, etc., and many other practical factors are not met, the marriage will bring enormous pressure. Love is important but it is not necessary to be madly in love to get married". Chinese men on the other hand have different requirements, "Women should be good, hardworking, prepared to care for her in-laws, not spend money and do the housework".



I am not criticising what happens in Chinese families, after all they have to live in Chinese society, but problems occur when the younger generation do not want to be married off just because their families want them to. As far as the older generation are concerned, in the words of the legendary Tina Turner "What's love got to do with it?"

The interesting thing is that many of my friends' parents were not well off when they got married and their marriages have lasted, proving that material things are not everything. So unfortunately for Anna and her peers, having "appropriate conditions" is still no guarantee of a happy future as too many of them find out in the long run, which is why the divorce rate for people who have not been married long is rocketing sky high in a land where not so long ago divorce was a shame and a disgrace.

## 婚姻与爱何干?

情人节过后,你可能觉得有关爱情与婚姻的话 题已经过了时效性。但是对很多中国的单身青年来说, 他们仍要经历一段煎熬的时间,因为春节马上来了。

作为一个老外,你可能不知道春节和恋爱婚姻 有什么关系。春节是中国人全家团圆的时刻,无论 你离家多远,在除夕夜之前你都要赶回老家,与父 母亲人团聚。亲戚们聚在一起,自然会来关心你的 婚姻大事,老人们年纪越来越大,也就越来越渴望 见到孙辈。邻居的孩子如果已经结婚生子,那父母 马上就会联想到自己的孩子还孤身一人,逼婚的压 力已经让很多年轻人害怕过年、害怕回家。

我有个中国朋友,老家在农村。她告诉我,她 今年必须回家过年,家里要求她留在老家,马上结婚。 家里会为她安排结婚的人选,也许她就要服从家里 的安排。而我这位朋友只有 23 岁,但在农村已经到 了"剩女"的年纪。

在伦敦,我也认识了一个中国女孩,她是和丈夫一起来英国的。但是,这个女孩时时刻刻想要回国,心情十分抑郁。她告诉我,这个丈夫是家里帮她找的,因为她已经30岁,父母警告她,如果错过了这个人,她以后都不会找到更好的了。但是现在,她几乎不想看她丈夫一眼。

虽然你我都无法理解这样的事情,但是你要知 道,中国人的家庭观念要比西方人更强,长辈对晚 辈的生活有更多话语权甚至决定权。在西方,父母 和子女之间是有一定界限的,互相都不能跨越,但 这不代表西方的父母对子女的爱比中国的父母要少。

也许你要为中国的青年人不能为爱而婚,只能 屈从于家人的安排而感到惋惜,但有一项调查结果 会令你更吃惊。根据天津本地媒体的一份调查,年 轻人对婚姻的观点正在发生变化,他们开始对老一 辈的观念表示赞同,认为"条件合适"就可以结婚。 这里说的条件当然是指经济实力和生育能力。25 岁 的安娜说:"如果对方没有稳定工作,没有住房,教 育水平相差过大,家里肯定会反对,这样的婚姻一 定会面临很大压力。爱情固然重要,但不是要爱得 死去活来才可以结婚。"而男性的择偶标准则有所不 同,他们认为"女方人品好、勤劳、愿意照顾公婆、 不爱花钱、能做家务就好。"

我并不是在批评中国式婚姻,毕竟他们要在这样的社会里生存。但是如果子女和父母不能在这个问题上达成一致,就会产生各种各样的问题。对于老一辈来说,就像 Tina Turner 的一首歌名"这与爱何于?"

有趣的是,我这些朋友的父母在他们结婚的时候,经济条件都不宽裕,但他们还是白头到老了。安娜和她的同龄人发现,"合适的条件"似乎也不是幸福婚姻的保障,因为离婚率依然逐年上升。



magine: You are in a jungle. You are in a pool of quicksand in a jungle. It is difficult to move and continue because you are trapped in a bog. This is not a good situation, you tell yourself, 'I must find a way out of this!'You notice a vine dangling from a nearby tree. You grab hold and begin to pull yourself out. After each pull of the vine, the pool resists, wanting you right where it has got you. If you are happy with this, then it is quite all right. However, if you are not happy with this, then it would be a good idea to keep tugging.

The city is a very busy place, replete with enough distractions to resist the tugging of anyone looking for any kind of respite. The fast-paced, I-must-get-ahead lifestyle and its characteristic symptoms, stress and anxiety, are difficult to avoid. There is no sense in just giving up, and that is not what is needed. We need to work and contribute to society. What is needed, then, is a way to balance the speed and aggression in a manner that is able to combat the negative symptoms of said lifestyle. If you can accept that speed and aggression are the causes of our stress and anxiety then, conversely, you can conceive of opposing behaviors as being the causes of tranquility and peace.

#### **Finding a Quiet Place**

It is difficult to find a quiet place in the city to where we can rest from the noise. As it is difficult to find such a place, we might as well not seek that avenue. Secondly, escapism does not remedy the fundamental, underlying causes of the issue. Instead, we need to work with the noise and combustion of the concrete jungle and make it the food of our peace. (Do not wait until you find that magical place to be relaxed, as it is so often difficult to find!) Of course, we can find peace and quiet at home, and although we can not stay at home for the entire day it is, nevertheless, a great place to start.

#### Establishing a Relationship with Peace

Begin your morning by taking care of all the necessary chores that need tending to so that they do not crop up when you least want them to. (Starting with the environment is a good way to begin cleaning out the mind.) Next, find a comfortable place to where you can sit without distraction. You sit not to think about how your boss failed, again, to recognize your hard work nor to ponder about whether to wear two pairs of socks rather than one. This kind of meandering only stirs up the quicksand, making the pool ever more difficult

## IT IS POSSIBLE TO ENJOY PEACE OF MIND WHILE LIVING IN THE CITY, EVEN AMIDST THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE.

to get out of. Instead, do not churn the mind but rest it on the sound of the fish tank, the feeling of the seat, or the sight of the hanging picture.

If you find yourself getting sucked back into the pool of meandering thought, tug again on the vine – bring yourself back to whatever you chose to rest with. If you find yourself, again, getting sucked back in then, again, pull yourself back out. This continual and gradual 'vine-tugging' is what eventually gets you out of the murkiness and into a certain mental clarity. One tug is not enough – many times are needed to get onto dry land.

By doing this, you will see that there is an alternative to the constant chasing after of thoughts and that this incessant meandering only brings stress, anxiety, and headache. Instead, learn to become familiar with the mind's capacity to rest and relax, and that in

such a state we do not fail to function but. rather, operate with much greater calm and efficiency.

#### Integrating Peace into the City

We can not stay at home all day listening to fish tanks or staring at pictures. We need to get out and into the world to contribute and earn our living. After having established a recognition of the peaceful side of mind, we can recall this experience throughout the day. When you find yourself stressed out at the office, recognize how fast your mind is moving. There is a tight relationship between the body and mind, and both can influence the other. Stopping your mind from chasing and hurrying does not mean that you stop working - actually, you can continue your work as normal while allowing your mind to rest with the experience of whatever it is you are doing.

Try this: When sitting on the crowded bus, close your eyes. What do you hear? I like to sit at the back of the bus where no one else does. Back there with the engine, I hear the bus accelerate and change gear. There is no point in spending 30 minutes on a bus running the mind through countless recollections of events that no longer exist and through projections of events that may never occur - this will only leave me getting off the bus with a speedy mind, even though I was sitting quietly the entire time!

Try this: When walking down the street, what do you think about? Do you regurgitate the memories of people or events that brought you stress and anxiety or something else that does not exist? What is the purpose of reliving, albeit mentally, such a situation and set of negative emotions? Having come out of the scenario alive, learn what you can and move on: let it go. Instead, what does the wind feel like? Is it warm or cold? What do the cars sound like? What color do the clouds make the buildings appear to be? These are not things to think about: simply be aware of the mind's present moment.

Try this: When sitting at the office, are you aware of one thing or many things? I am a fast typist and can operate the computer with reflex-like familiarity. I often find I give myself a headache from using the computer: the fast movements of the mouse, the typing, and the constant eye-shifting. I am often unaware of my surroundings, of colleagues and of sights and sounds. Is it not strange how a neighboring colleague may be typing though

I do not hear her? Instead, combine a resting-with-the-environment with the task that you are working on. Narrowly focusing your mind is not what gets work done - rather, allowing the mind to relax so that you may be less stressed makes you more capable for the next task or difficulty.

#### Conclusion

I have used the analogy of being trapped in guicksand to illustrate the busy mind and how to slow such a state down. Try out the above practices to see for yourself whether or not the mind has a peaceful side to it. If you find that it does, repeatedly becoming more familiar with it is a powerful combatant to the stress and anxiety that it is all too easy to become accustomed to. It is possible to enjoy peace of mind while living in the city, even amidst the hustle and bustle.

## 在城市中寻找一片宁静

假设你正身处从林,被困在一片沼泽,无法前行。 你告诉自己,必须找到办法走出去。但是每当你挣 扎往前迈进的时候,总会出现一些障碍阻止你的前 行。如果你乐于此情此景,那么情况尚且还好,但 如果你不喜欢这种感觉, 那么亲爱的朋友, 你还得 再加把劲才行。这样的场景正如我们的生活一样, 我们每天被忙忙碌碌所充斥, 快节奏、高效率将我 们压榨的疲惫不堪。面对这样的生活, 我们既然不 能选择逃避, 那么何不找一个方法, 来平衡这种境 遇呢?

#### 寻觅一个安静的地方

城市中, 我们很难找到一个能够彻底远离喧嚣, 归于宁静的地方。既然找不到, 我们不妨试着和嘈 杂打个交道。而家,或许就是我们寻找和平与宁静 的最好地方。

#### 学会心平气和

每天清晨从收拾家务开始,这样,才不会让它 们在你最不想要它们出现的时候出现(打扫卫生也 是理清头脑的最好方式)。然后,找一个舒服的地方, 安安静静的坐着而不去想任何其它琐碎的事物。让 你的大脑在鱼缸的声音中休息, 在静坐的氛围中感 觉,在手写的图画中寻得放松。如果你被琐事反复 干扰, 那么记得无论如何都要使你自己保持清醒, 并努力使自己矫正回来。这种不断的、持续的藤拽 方法是你走出困境、回归精神的正确途径。记住, 反复拖拽终能抵达安全地带。这种方法, 可以让我 们在不丧失头脑功能的前提下,得到良好的放松与 减压, 然后用更冷静、更有效率的方式来办事和工作。

#### 在嘈杂中享受宁静

我们当然不能整天待在家里听鱼声、看画。我 们需要走出去, 需要挣钱, 需要养家。当你对平和 有了认知以后,不妨回想一下这一天的经历。如果 你这一天是在压力中度过的, 你会发现你的大脑始 终处于运转状态。正如我们所知,身体和大脑有着 紧密的联系,且两者互相影响。让你的大脑休息并 不意味着停止工作 — 实际上, 你可以正常工作, 然 后让你的大脑在你的工作中得到休息。

与压力和焦虑作战是一个长期的考验, 但一旦 你学会了在焦躁中享受宁静, 你会发现, 即使是生 活在熙熙攘攘的城市,日子也能在祥和中度过。



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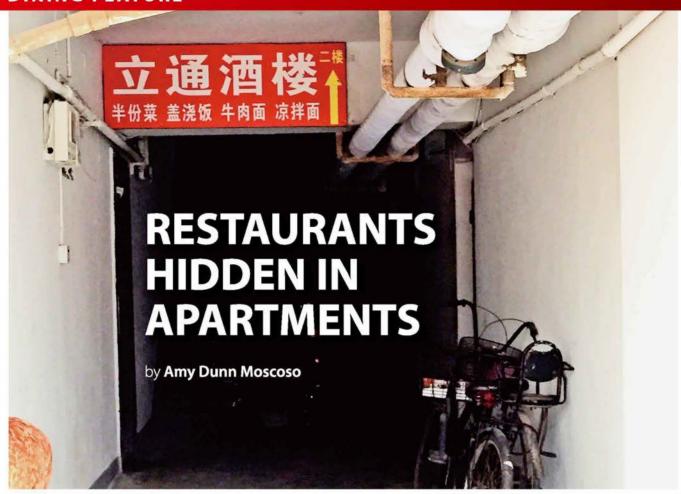
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fyou've ever suspected something other than mere living was going down in your apartment building, you may be right. Especially if you notice a lot of food smells, visitors of all ages and delivery trucks outside. Your apartment building may very well be housing a secret home-style restaurant.

I started to notice the restaurant in my neighbourhood soon after arriving in China. As I cooked dinner for my family, I watched people come and go from an apartment in a neighbouring complex. Many left with bags of food. Hoping for a nearby food pit stop, that did not require trekking down the stairs and across a busy street, I sent my husband out. What he discovered enriched our Friday evening meals—without damaging our wallets.

Inside was a dumpling shop with a grandmother, grandfather, a married couple and a boy busy steaming dumplings while watching TV for a few patrons sitting at grungy little tables chatting away to the proprietors. Many others came in and purchased orders, which were wrapped in plastic bags and exchanged for a few Yuan.

## WHAT HE DISCOVERED ENRICHED OUR FRIDAY EVENING MEALS—WITHOUT DAMAGING OUR WALLETS.

The people were friendly, and often gave my small sons a peppermint candy when we went to pick up our orders. Although I was a little worried about the cleanliness of the establishment, I didn't see any bugs or rodents, as I have seen in the mall food courts, even those with luxury brand name stores. I follow the same rules as when eating at a street stall and look for plenty of other customers, friendly operators and food that looks and smells pretty good. We've eaten these dumplings at least once a month since arriving in TEDA, Tianjin over the summer, and have never once gotten sick. That's more than I can say for the groceries at the local supermarket, so I've come to trust (and love) this little shop that is so homey and

so nearby. A batch of six dumplings to go costs six Yuan and they are delicious.

Curious, I asked a Chinese friend about the restaurant. She told me they are common and are run by people from a variety of backgrounds, so it can be possible to find cuisine from other parts of China, such as the West, Northern and spicy south. People serve different fare, usually a set menu with a few items done well-or like this one, specialize in just one dish. While not exactly legal, they are appreciated. Landlords and security guards are well-fed, in food and in other ways, to ensure the restaurant continue and the complex gates remain open to delivery trucks, which also make deliveries of food stuffs at times to elders, guards and other nearby restaurants at times. "Don't you have those at home?" my friend asked.

No. Not that I know of anyways, though I have had friends mothers cook up massive batches of food and sell off the extras. I convinced her to take me to another one—this one serving noodles, veggies and mystery meat with spicy additions at hand. Both meals, with tea, came to 24 Yuan. The only problem? My friend has left the country

and though I've walked this neighbourhood again, I cannot locate the restaurant.

I wondered if every apartment complex has a restaurant like this and started asking around. Most expats, in luxury and modest apartments seemed to think that yes, there was an apartment that they knew of which was a restaurant. Only a few of the more adventurous ones—younger people apt to book trips to Cambodia or Nepal, had investigated. They found the food delicious, but also the atmosphere friendly and inviting. Finding a few friends with food was one of the prime reasons they frequented the establishment.

So how can you tell if your apartment building has a hidden restaurant? Ours has no signs, no symbols, no advertising. "We just know it," my Chinese friend said. "I don't think foreigners would like it." We usually meet at a coffee shop, the one with the green siren, so she assumed I would not like a place without a menu, pictures or special food. Once I was aware that these restaurants existed, I started to see them everywhere even without the help of locals.

#### Selecting a Stealth Culinary Spot

First, ask your Chinese friends. Though they may not really want to steer you towards





A home-style restaurant kichen

these spots, they will point them out.

Look, smell and listen. If you notice a lot of traffic, including couples, families, elderly folk, delivery trucks and so on coming and going, and people leaving with bags of food, smell cooking at all hours of the day and night, and hear chairs scraping and people walking around – there's likely a hidden restaurant nearby.

Expect a set menu, which may or may not be printed in Chinese. Also expect cheap prices, somewhat random hours of opening and space for small groupings. Showing up with 10 foreign friends at 8 p.m. on a Friday could be a major letdown. There may also be some mystery meat, but if you're used to street stall vendors and outdoor barbeque joints, this shouldn't be too much of a concern.

Also realize your special spot could shut down without warning, move or even run out of food on especially busy occasions.

With two McDonald's loving children, having a small neighbourhood hangout has enhanced by experience in China and meeting a few locals over one of the best bonding sources, food, has made my world feel warmer. It's not a place where everybody knows my name, or where I can chitchat with others, but it is a place where they know my order. For me, that's a welcome I look forward to as least as much as an order of steaming dumplings.

## 隐藏在居民楼里的饭馆

你是否怀疑过自己居住的楼不仅仅只有住户?也 许你的怀疑是正确的,尤其是当你注意到楼里总充斥 着食物的味道,形形色色的陌生人进进出出,还总有 送货的卡车停在楼外,那么很有可能你的楼里有一家 神秘的家庭式餐厅。

我刚到中国的时候就发现小区里有这样一家餐厅。有一次我在做饭,看到旁边楼里总有人进进出出,离开的时候手里总是提着一兜食物。于是我派我老公前去侦查一番。结果,我们周五的晚餐因此而变得丰富,而且没有过多破费。

原来那栋楼里有一家包子铺,是祖孙三代一起经营的,地方不大,儿张桌子,客人们有的看着电视,有的和老板一家聊天。

老板一家很友善,经常给我儿子几块薄荷糖吃。 我虽然对卫生问题也有所担心,但是我从来也没发现 过任何蟑螂。我们至少每月到他家买一次包子,从来 没发生食物中毒事件。所以我渐渐爱上了这家店,非 常温馨,物美价廉。

我怀着好奇心问一个中国朋友,她说这样的小饭馆很普遍。由于经营者来自五湖四海,所以这些小馆也各具风味。通常这样的小馆菜品种类不多,或专做一种食品。虽然未必手续齐全,但在社区里却十分受欢迎,就连保安也会多开些绿灯。不过在加拿大我从来没见过这样的家庭式小馆子。

我不知道是否每个小区都有这样的饭馆儿。大多 数住在高档公寓的外国人都说确实有,但是只有更具 冒险精神的年轻人亲自去试过。他们觉得这些馆子的 饭很好吃,人也很友好,气氛融洽。以饭交友是他们 来这里的主要原因。

如何发现这些小馆子的存在呢?看、闻、听!如果你看到形形色色的人进进出出,离开的时候手拿食品袋,楼里总有做饭的味道,能听到椅子与地面的摩擦以及人们走来走去的声音,这很有可能是个隐藏在居民楼里的饭馆儿。

这里的菜单只有中文,选择有限。营业时间不固定,营业面积不大,价格便宜。在这些小店里,我有机会能认识一些友善的本地人,让我的生活变的温暖。

## **C COLOR**



**One more place** to hang out in the afternoon is a cafe called C Color-Contrast Color. It is nestled on the ground floor of Maigou Times Square about 200m away from Dong Nan Jiao metro station. Sitting by the window, you can just empty your mind and enjoy watching people going back and forth.

C Color specializes in low-fat parfait, a trendy and healthy dining concept introduced from Australia. There are several flavors on offer featuring different fruits and cereals. The Parfait Cup looks very attractive as it has several layers of fruits separated with yummy layers of rich and colorful yoghurt. The different types of parfait cost about 20RMB and the portions are quite satisfactory.

Another best-seller is the Durian Mille Crepe. More and more Chinese people have fallen in love with durian, although it is still a bit of a taboo dish for a lot of westerners – because of its permeating taste and smell. However, the durian flavor is quite softened so maybe you can confront your fears and have a try. If it is definitely a no for you, the Mango Mille Crepe is an excellent replacement option.



C Color撞色主打澳大利亚低脂芭菲和榕莲千层蛋糕。低脂芭菲由低脂酸奶和各种新鲜水果或谷物麦片制成,健康天然。榕莲蛋糕细腻软滑,榕莲的异味大大降低。

#### 撞色

- 1F Maigou Times Square, Nan Ma Lu, Heping District 和平区南马路中原麦购时代广场底商
- © 87348808
- **8 RMB 30**

## **CAFÉ FRESCO**





**Opened last year, Fresco** is a new edition to the Exchange Mall's 5th floor range of restaurants. I found the restaurant's industrial interior design of wooden tables, brick and concrete walls, and chain-link fence partitions complimented the ambience of dim lighting, providing a comfortable escape. The restaurant makes for a pleasant business lunch or a relaxing get-away with friends.

Fresco serves a selection of signature dishes from around the world – the menu draws from American, Mexican, Spanish, French, and Italian cuisine, replete with a wide variety of courses. Head Chef Leo describes the menu's fusion as "simple and healthy". He introduced some of his favorites from the menu.

Try the Creamy Mushroom with Almond Soup (¥23). For a hearty pizza for two, the thin-crust Mother Pizza (¥112) is topped with two king prawns, ham, fish, and salad rocket. Not willing to share? – go with a traditional Beef Burger (¥59) with fries or a Penne & Tuna with Chili Sauce (¥35) pasta. Finish off with a beautifully presented Red Velvet Cake (¥35). Other choices include a Snack Platter (¥68) of cold-cuts, cheese, and bread; Mustard Lamb Chop with Rosemary Sauce (¥158); Super King Prawns (¥198); and assorted pastas, salads, burgers, pizzas, soups, and coffees and juices.

Fresco (异国餐厅) is located in the Exchange Mall. Enter the building and take the elevator near Starbucks to the 5th floor and pass Lotus Thai. TSearch for the restaurant on the

social app DianPing for specials and discounts. The buffet is open on Friday and Saturday (¥78 for females; ¥88 for males). A party room is also available for booking (with a 20-30 person capacity). Visit their other location in Galaxy Mall.

Café Fresco 异国餐厅在津江广场开了第二家餐厅。本着简单、健康的宗旨,你可以品尝到美国、墨西哥、西班牙、法国和意大利等国的异域美食。

#### Café Fresco

- Sth floor, The Exchange Mall, Bin Jiang Dao, Heping District 和平区滨江道津汇广场5层
- 83191366

## **NEW DIN TAI FUNG AT RIVERSIDE 66**





鼎泰丰在恒隆广场的新店已经正式营业。和其他连锁店一样,即使在平日午 餐时间也几乎满座,所以一定要提前预定。鼎泰丰现在推出了很多季节性菜品, 只有当季才吃得到,有新鲜的时令蔬菜还有新鲜的河虾。 **As one of the world's** best known Chinese restaurant brands, Din Tai Fung recently opened a new restaurant at Riverside 66 Mall.

We visited the new restaurant on a weekday lunch hour and it seemed almost full. Not every restaurant could be so busy like this on a regular work day so it must have something special. The decor is simple but modern and the tables were arranged in close formation but I never felt that I was crammed in tight.

I found the menu had been updated since the last time I dined there about a year ago. Like always, Din Tai Fung selects ingredients that are fresh because they are in season. At the moment they offer Sautéed Cabbage with Shredded Bacon (39RMB) and Sautéed Sweet River Shrimp (58RMB).

If you are a shrimp fan, you can't miss the Steamed Shrimp and Pork Shao-Mai and the Shrimp and Pork Pot Sticker. Then do yourself a favour and have the highly recommended dessert - the Strawberry Snow Ice (38RMB). The strawberries are big, fresh and sweet while the ice is smooth and creamy.

#### 鼎泰丰(恒隆广场店)

- 6F, Riverside 66 Mall, 166 Xing An Lu, Heping District 和平区兴安路166号恒隆广场6层6008
- © 59905166
- **8** RMB 130

## **GODIVA GOLD COLLECTION**



**Godiva Gold Collection** is like a colorful palette, which contains flavors including hazelnut paste, chocolate cream, chocolate tablets, caramel and nuts. With incomparable taste and characteristics, the collection is a must have for chocolate fans.

The selective hazelnut paste is made with finely ground hazelnuts and almonds that are mixed with coco oil and various spices. It tastes smooth and crispy. The chocolate cream series has a rich flavor and soft texture by mixing chocolate and cream. The fragrant chocolate tablets have three dark chocolates with the density of 85%, 72% and 50%, respectively, plus one carre milk chocolate tablet. The caramel flavor has smooth caramel filling with walnut, cranberry or chocolate bits. The

combination of fruit and nuts brings out a richer flavor. The nuts flavor chocolate is a perfect marriage of chocolate and nuts.

The package of the Gold Collection uses high-class gold paper and is ironed with the portrait of Madam Godiva. The elegant ribbon decoration makes the collection the best choice for a gift to chocolate fans.

GODIVA歌帝梵金装巧克力礼盒系列就像是一个多采多姿的调色盘,拥有无可比拟的口味和特质,融合五种最受人喜爱的元素: 榛果蓉、巧克力酱、片装巧克力、焦糖和果仁系列巧克力,让人一试倾心。

#### **GODIVA (Isetan)**

- B1F in Isetan, No.108 in Nanjing Road, Heping District 和平区 南京路108号 伊势丹百货B1楼
- (b) 022-27188236 / 022-27221111

#### **GODIVA (Joy City)**

 1F-66 in Joy City, No.2 in Nanmenwai Street, Nankai District 南开区南门外大街2-6号中粮大悦城购物中心1楼66号商铺

#### GODIVA (Galaxy Mall)

1F-045 in Yinhe Shopping Mall, No.9 in Leyuan Street, Hexi District 河西区乐园道9号银河国际购物中心1楼045号商铺银河地下商业广场全部店铺 022-83887366

#### **GODIVA** (Hisense)

 B1-033 in Hisense, No. 188 in Jiefangbei Road, Heping District 和平区 解放北路188号海信广场81楼033号商铺

## WATER

by Carmen King



ater is essential to life. Without water it is estimated a human cannot live much longer than one week. The majority of the human body is water. Water must be regularly replaced by eating liquid rich foods or more commonly by drinking fluids. Perhaps no liquid is relied upon more than water to rehydrate. It has been said if one waits until they actually feel thirsty to drink water, it is "too late" as the body is already dehydrated. For this reason athletes of types, from runners to mountain climbers rely on scheduled fluid intake not thirst to dictate when to drink. Once dehydrated it cannot be fixed "instantly" by just drinking a lot on the spot as it takes time for the fluid to be absorbed by the body.

Tianjin expats especially need to pay attention to water related warnings. Tianjin like so many northern China cities is dry, which is the exact opposite of southern China. Expats unaccustomed to such dry climate often complain of everything from dry cough, dry eyes, dry nose, dry skin, to dry throat. Dry everything is common here in Tianjin. Tianjiner's are seasoned professionals in dealing with the dry. How? One of the principal defenses is routine water drinking. Like the athletes Tianjiner's everywhere can be seen carrying their water bottles. They drink

# ONCE DEHYDRATED IT CANNOT BE FIXED "INSTANTLY" BY JUST DRINKING A LOT ON THE SPOT AS IT TAKES TIME FOR THE FLUID TO BE ABSORBED BY THE BODY.

not when they get thirsty but routinely throughout the day.

For years the importance of water drinking has been touted even overseas. This resulted in a glut of bottled water manufacturers peddling water. In Tianjin though, bottled water is nowhere near as popular as overseas. Why? One is cost. Buying bottled water costs more than carrying water from home. A 550 ml (about 19 oz) bottle of water is sold for 1-2 RMB in Tianjin. One would want to drink at least a few bottles of this size to maintain a good daily water intake. At just 3 bottles per day and a mid-range price of 1.5 RMB/bottle, that is 4.5 RMB per day or a whopping 135 RMB/month. With some monthly salaries being around 2000 RMB/month buying bottled water is cost prohibitive.

Second is temperature. The temperature

of water is perhaps equally if not more important than the cost of bottled water. Why? Chinese medicine highly condemns consumption of cold anything, especially liquids. It apparently harms pretty much every organ and system of the body. Ideally water should be drunk warm. Thus, even if expats were already in the custom of carrying a water bottle, chances are it is different than the kind Tianjiner's carry. Tianjiner's typically are carrying an insulated thermos like water bottle, not simply a plastic water bottle. The goal is keep their water warm if not hot for an extended period of time.

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Insulated water bottles are big business in Tianjin. Go to any major supermarket in town and they will have a huge assortment of heat protecting water bottles. One of the latest products to hit the market perfectly highlights Tianiiner's obsession with warm water, it is the 55° bottle (55° 杯®). This bottle claims to take any water to 55° within a minute or so. Pour in boiling water or ice cold water and after one minute of shaking the bottle it will be 55°, the ideal temperature for drinking. Regardless of which temperature expats choose to drink water at, with Tianjin being so dry, it is hard to never get thirsty at all. Therefore when in Tianjin do drink more water! Doing so is essential in avoiding dehydration. Water should be consumed on a schedule, not just when one feels thirsty.

## 抗干燥,补水少不了

水是生命的源泉。没有水,人类生存不会超过7天。人体内,水分的含量将近70%。人体内的水分依靠吸收富含水分的食物来进行交替更选。有人说,如果你感到口渴再去喝水,那么实际上你已经处于脱水的状态了。基于此,运动员们才会严格按照规定定时定量的进行补水。和大多数北方城市一样,天津的冬天以干燥为主,这和南方截然相反。生活在天津,外国人会经常患有干咳、眼干、鼻干、皮肤干等症状。解决这个问题,不妨参考天津人的做法,随身携带一瓶水,及时补充水分,以达到滋润目的。

近年来,饮水问题已在海外广为传播。这也致 使瓶装饮用水的大量生产及消耗。尽管如此,瓶装 水在天津的销售量还远不及海外。为什么?其最主 要的原因当然要属成本问题。矿泉水的平均价格在 1.5 元/瓶,一个人一天至少需要三瓶,那么一个月 下来就是 135 元。这样的消费成本对于月薪在 2000 元左右的人来说、无疑是笔巨大的挑费。

其次是水温问题。中国人讲究养生,而中医更 是讲究忌食一切寒冷食材,尤其是水。因此,即便 是外国人已经入乡随俗的知道携带水瓶出街,他也 和地道的天津人有所差别。天津人携带的通常都是 保温性能良好的保温杯,而不仅仅是单纯的塑料瓶。

所以,生活在天津,既然干燥避免不了,那么 请一定记得及时补充水分,而不要等到口渴才去想 到喝水。定时补充水分,远离一切干燥烦恼。



Choose the right mask to fight against smog

## **COMBATING**BAD AIR QUALITY

#### by Amy Dunn Moscoso

iving in Tianjin, a city of 14 million people, means dealing with air pollution. Lots of it. On Greenpeace China's list of most polluted cities in China, Tianjin is number 11, with Hebei province being home to seven of China's top 10 most polluted cities, according to a Global Voices China survey in February 2013.

Though things are improving as coal burning plants convert to natural gas, vehicles upgrade from diesel to liquefied natural gas and traffic measures are imposed, Tianjin's air quality is still harmful. Data from the Tianjin from August 15, 2014, showed in the previous year Tianjin had 105 clear days with just 15 days of severe air pollution with an 18.4% drop in the harmful particularate matter called PM2.5, known as 'fine' particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter. These particles can be breathed deep into the lungs and cause severe health issues.

While a decrease in PM2.5 is positive, levels still soar compared to the 2012 Chinese Ministry of the Environment Protection's annual PM2.5 standard of 35 micrograms per cubic meter for PM2.5 and the World Health Organization's maximum ceiling of 10. So while waiting, it pays to use protection.

#### **Protecting Yourself from Air Pollution**

Reducing exposure to PM2.5 is especially important for the elderly, children, and those with asthma and heart disease. Even healthy people can experience tightness in the chest,

coughing, irritated eyes, nose and mouth and a shortness of breath. To reduce exposure:

- · Reduce activity levels
- · Sweep, mop and dust frequently
- Remaining indoors in a room with filtered air
- Using disposable respirators when spending time outside

While people can't stop living, they can purchase products to increase the quality of life.

#### **Buying an Air Purifier**

Air purifiers can be purchased at major department stores. A recent window shopping spree to compare the machines turned up a selection ranging in price from approximately 1,500 Yuan to 10,000 Yuan, or can be purchased from those leaving town. Though many companies recommend changing the filter every three to six months, long-term expats in Tianjin change it monthly. "You'd be amazed at the dirt you find," a friend said. Built to remove particles from the air, many of these machines also report an air quality rating. After testing one out at a friend's home, we found opening the window on a low air quality day increased the level of air pollution inside, so keep the windows shut.

A Chinese language Shanghai Daily article, translated by Google and posted on the blog www.myhealthbeijing.com run by Richard Saint Cyr, a family medical doctor, rated the top 22 air purifiers available in China, on effectiveness for removing PM2.5 and formaldehyde. AMWAY, Blueair, Electrolux, Daikin, and Honeywell came out on top, removing between 99% and 97% of PM2.5 particles, with many other brands in the same range, going down to 78%. For removing formaldehyde, Blueair was the most effective at 97%, while other brands ranged from 8% to 70%.

#### Buying the Right Mask vs. Masking the Problem

Though cloth, surgical and home-fashioned 'bandana-masks' offer comfort, they don't offer protection from particularate. Buy a disposable respirator, marked as N-95 or P-100 respirators. Masks must also fit properly and be secure enough to stay in place, so buy masks to fit.

Masks are available at grocery and convenience stores as well as pharmacies. My local grocery store offers individual disposable masks for adults and children for between 5 RMB and 25 RMB. The best masks are between 99% and 95% effective at filtering out PM2.5 and should be replaced every few days. The Shanghai Consumer Rights Protection Commission tested 17 disposable masks in 2013 and Dr. Saint Cyr published the translated results on his blog. Top brands included 3M and Totobobo.

Don't become complacent about the effects of air pollution. Prevention can be costly, but it's a healthy long-term investment.

## 好装备抵抗坏空气

根据绿色和平组织 2013 年的报告,天津位列中国污染最严重城市的第 11 位。为了治理污染,一些燃煤工厂已经改用天然气,车辆也从柴油驱动升级为液化天然气,车辆限行限购措施也已经实行。但是,污染形势依旧严峻。2014 年 8 月 15 日公布的数据显示,过去的一年里还是有 15 天严重污染。

虽然天津空气中 PM2.5 水平已经有所降低,但 是目前的空气仍然对健康不利,需要时刻注意防范。

对于老人和儿童以及哮喘、心脏病患者来说, 减少 PM2.5 的接触是十分重要的。除了减少户外活动,常打扫室内环境以外,购买一些抵抗污染空气的产品也是必要的。

很多家庭选择购置空气净化器。通过我的观察,市场上的产品价格从 1500 元到 10000 元不等。大部分产品建议三到六个月换一次滤芯,但很多外国家庭每月都会更换。我一个朋友说:"你只要看看滤芯上的土就知道了。"

一位在中国工作的外籍医生推荐了安利、布鲁雅尔、伊莱克斯、大金和霍尼韦尔的空气净化产品,它们过滤 PM2.5 的效率都达到 97% 以上。

其次是口罩。一般的布口罩对 PM2.5 可没有任何作用。你必须购买一次性N-95或者P-100的口罩。 这些口罩在便利店和药店就能买到,分儿童和成人两种。3M 和 Totobobo 都是信得过的品牌。

#### **DISCOVERING TIANJIN**



talian Style Town

# PUBS AND PERMITS IN HEBEI by Carmen King, photo by Jane Liu

he Hebei district rounds out the list of Tianjin City Central districts to be discovered. Nankai, Heping, Hexi, Hedong, Heping, and Hebei make up the six major districts of Tianiin. Each of these districts, for the most, part all fall within the first outer ring as created by the major highway encircling Tianjin. While Tianjin is growing, it still dwarfs in size compared to its big brother Beijing. Beijing has huge development and density all the way to the fifth outer highway ring. The key to Tianjin's future is to keep widening out. Too much development has happened within the first ring. With the Tianjin metro finally getting in gear and starting to expand the footprint of where residents can go quickly and conveniently, hopefully more outer areas of Tianjin will start to show some signs of life.

Hebei district is a classic example of how the district is huge, but really only a portion of it has been highly developed. Hebei spans from the Haihe River on the south all the way to the first ring to the north. The old Tianjin North Railway station (no longer in use) also is in Hebei. Hebei has a couple parks like Ningyuan, Jingang, and Zhongshan Park. There

are also a number of cultural spots in Hebei such as the Liu Shu Tong memorial, Liang Qi Chao residence, Feng Guo Zhang residence, and Cao Yu residence. The biggest Buddhist temple in Tianjin is in Hebei. Also, the first Catholic church in Tianjin is located on the Haihe riverside near the well known Lion Forest bridge.

There are two places in the Hebei district that likely all expats will be interested in and visit at least once if not several times. The first is the Tianjin Exit Entry Bureau. The second is the Italian Style Town. When it comes to expats getting anything done with their visas and residence permits, a trip to the Exit Entry Bureau is in order. It is located at 19 Shouan Street in Hebei district. For an exact location. Baidu the following in Chinese: 天津市公安出 入境管理局. The closet metro stop is line 2 JianGuoDao (建国道地铁站). From there it is about a 10 minute walk. It should be noted, not just expats need to go to the Exit Entry Bureau in Hebei district, this is also where many Chinese go as well to get visa's to leave the country.

Expats should be aware that a trip to the Entry Exit Bureau will make or break their stay

## AT NIGHT THERE ARE LOTS OF LIGHTS TURNED AROUND ON WHICH MAY ALSO MAKE FOR SOME CAMERA FRIENDLY MOMENTS.

in Tianjin. In preparation it is best to inquire what documents need to be brought, such as original passport, pictures, forms, health report, business license, school invitation, etc. There are too many documents to list, the possibilities are infinite. Expats studying at a large university in Tianjin may have the assistance of university staff when going to the bureau. Others studying at smaller schools may not. These trips if taken alone can be nerve racking and confusing. Don't expect that the first trip to the bureau will end with a good result. It may take a few trips and bit of inquiring to get things right. Don't get frustrated, be mentally prepared and keep trying until the visa or permit is obtained.

In addition to providing required documentation during the application process, it is possible expats will need to go through an interview. The police officer may ask questions about why one is visiting Tianjin, where will one stay, and how long one will stay. Of course be polite. Answer questions directly and clearly. It is possible that an officer who speaks English, Korean, or Japanese may be present. However the majority of the time Chinese will be the main language used. Therefore expats should be prepared to speak Chinese or take a translator with them. Be sure the translator is a reliable and trusted friend. The answers to the questions are very important. Any miscommunication could result in an expat's application for residence being rejected. Also, be sure not to interact with any strangers in or around the Exit Entry Bureau. These peddlers are looking for easy prey. It would be advised not to engage any of these people in conversation or employ them for translation or document preparation services. Talk only with official representatives of the Bureau who are wearing an official police uniform.

The Exit Entry Bureau is the serious side of Hebei district. There is also the fun side of Hebei. That is the Italian Style Town. The Italian Town is also within walking distance of the

#### DISCOVERING TIANJIN



Liu Shu Tona residence

JianGuoDao metro stop. However, if going via subway it is best to arrive during the day, as the walk from the stop to the Italian district could be a little scary at night. It isn't super far, but getting lost isn't out of the question, especially if going the first time. Plus some sections of the walk have few pedestrians. Traveling with a few friends or a local is a good idea. There are also a few bus stops around the Italian Town. Therefore, the best route may be to take a bus to one of the stops which border the town. If expats are familiar with the 8684公交 app they can simply search 意式风情区 to find a number of buses which go there. Typically after getting off the bus an entrance to the Italian Town is right there. Also, expats could just catch a cab and show the cab driver the above Chinese characters.

The Italian District in Hebei is rich with international cuisine. Expats can finally find a few restaurant choices outside of the typical stir-fried Chinese fair. There are French, German, Italian and Thai restaurants to choose from. There are also a number of pubs there, a few which may even have live bands playing at night or on the weekends. Because the Italian town is mostly outdoors, during winter some activities will be lighter. However come spring and summer action will ramp up. In addition to eating, there is some sightseeing to be done be. During the day, themed restaurants or statues will give a decent backdrop for photos. At night there are lots of lights turned around on which may also make for some camera friendly moments.

Hebei district in Tianjin is like the rest of the city. It has some very developed areas. The area around the Exit Entry Bureau, the Italian Style Town and the various residences listed above are a few examples. Still it is a big district, and as one travels out to the edges it gets pretty bare. The subway system is again critical in widening the development of downtown

Tianjin. Hebei is similar in that as more people can travel to the outer parts of the district easily, perhaps more new stores and places of interest will be built. Hebei was originally a major site for manufacturing in the old days. Therefore it will still take some time for Hebei to fill out as it relates to shopping and entertainment. At current it has yet to have a huge mega mall open within its borders. Until then expats will know Hebei as the must visit district when it comes to permits and pubs serving up international cuisine.

## 观光、娱乐、出入境办理 -河北区

河北区属于市内六区的范畴, 区内面积很大。 河北区南起海河, 北至中环线, 历史悠久的天津北 站就在河北区境内。

河北区还有一些知名的公园, 比如北宁公园、 中山公园。其他的文化历史景点还有李叔同故居、 梁启超故居、冯国璋故居和曹禺故居。天津市最大 的佛教庙宇大悲院和第一座天主教堂望海楼教堂也 坐落在河北区。

作为外国人,河北区有个地方是你不得不去的, 那就是天津市公安出入境管理局。这是外国人办理 签证和居住证手续的地方。乘坐地铁二号线在建国 道站下车, 步行十分钟即到。

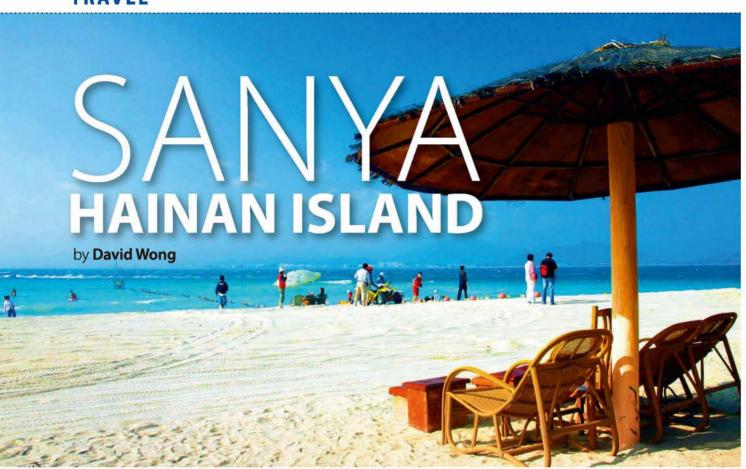
在这里办理手续的时候你要注意, 最好提前打 听清楚需要带哪些证件和材料, 否则会白跑一趟。 大学里的留学生会由学校集体办理, 其他小语言学 校的学生就要依靠自己了。这中间的流程和手续比 较繁琐, 对于初来乍到的外国人来说非常不容易, 所以你要做好心理准备,也许要辗转多次才能成功 办理

如果你想观光游览, 意式风情区是你不能错过 的地方。同样乘坐地铁二号线, 在建国道站下车。 但是通往意式风情区的小路有些偏僻, 晚上尽量不

意式风情区汇聚了世界各地不同风格的餐厅, 有法国、意大利、德国、泰国,还有一些风格各异 的酒吧,晚上或周末有乐队现场演出。入春之后, 这里的活动将会更加丰富, 更有生气。

总体来说, 意式风情区和出入境管理局一带是 开发的比较好的。但是越往外走,越觉得荒凉。当然, 地铁对于推动周边地区的开发起着至关重要的作用。 河北区在历史上是制造业基地, 但在新的历史条件 下,也许未来会在购物和娱乐业有所发展。





anya is located in the most southern of China's provinces, Hainan Island. Hainan was part of Guangdong province until 1988 when it was designated its own provincial status. It has been referred to as the Hawaii of the Orient, but that is probably an overstatement.

The province has an area of 33,920 square kilometers (13,100 sq mi) Hainan Island measures 155 km (96 mi) long and 169 km (105 mi) wide and is China's southernmost province. Although it comprises some two hundred islands scattered among three archipelagos off the southern coast, 32,900 square kilometers (12,700 sq mi) 97% of its land mass is Hainan Island, from which the province takes its name. The total provincial population is 8.8 million with the capital Haikou on the north part of the island with almost 2 million and Sanya, which is the popular tourist spot, on the southern tip with about 700,000 residents. The PRC government also claims territories of the province that extend to the southern Spratly Islands 南威岛 NanWei Dao and other disputed marine territories.

Hainan Island was once called the Pearl Cliffs (珠崖 Zhūyá), Fine Jade Cliffs (琼崖/瓊崖 Qióngyá), and the Fine Jade Land (瓊州/琼州 ALTHOUGH SANYA CANNOT BE REALLY COMPARED WITH HAWAII, IT COMES CLOSE WITH WARMER TEMPERATURES AVERAGING IN THE MID 20'S, PM2.5 LEVELS UNDER A 100 AND MOSTLY BLUE SKIES.

Qióngzhōu). The latter two names is the reason for abbreviation for Hainan as used for their license plates: Qióng (琼/瓊), referring to the pearls that were once abundant on the north coast of the island.

Although Sanya cannot be really compared with Hawaii, it comes close with warmer temperatures averaging in the mid 20's, PM2.5 levels under a 100 and mostly blue skies. However, one needs to remember that Sanya is still developing and only started its tourism sector a mere 20 years ago when China economy started to boom. Now this is a destination for the growing millions of Chinese middle class, estimated at 300 million. It is a place for the Chinese to visit without having to apply for a visa. 99% of the tourists are Chinese,

so the standard of service and facilities cannot be compared to western standards, such as Hawaii.

Having said this, a break from Northern China's harsh temperatures and pollution to enjoy 25 degrees of sunshine, blue skies and clean air and is only a 4-hour flight from Tianjin. In Sanya alone, there are over 140 tourist attractions listed by the smartphone app Trip Advisor. Just be prepared that most attractions have little or no English available and during peak tourist seasons, you will have to contend with crowds. For the expat without Chinese language capability, probably an international 5 star hotel is the best bet and arrange local tours through the hotel and an English-speaking guide can be arranged.



For those that can speak Chinese or more adventurous and budget conscious, there are numerous private condos or apartments available. These are advertised on the Internet or have large signs hanging from their windows. Taxis are numerous with a starting fee of 8rmb or can be negotiated for the day for 400rmb. Remember to bring your passports and students cards when buying admissions to sites as there is usually a discount. Only a few of the attractions are reviewed here, so it is best to reconfirm before starting out as some attractions may be closed for renovations especially during the slow season.

Tianya Haijiao (天涯海角) "Edges of Heaven and Corners of the Sea" is a large beach area with very large rock formations. Superstition is that the end of the beach, where the largest rock formation is located, also represents the "End of the Line" for one's career so many government officials do not venture to this point for fear of ending their jobs. However, in seeing the crowds, either those that were there are not civil servants or not superstitious. Entrance fees are 101 rmb and local coconut drinks are 15rmb. If you forget to bring a hat or need flips flops or swimsuits, they are for sale and are quite reasonably priced.

NanShan (南山) "South Mountain" is a huge Buddhist area with one of the tallest statues: Guan Yin Statue of the South Seas. In English, she is known as the "Goddess of Mercy". As mentioned, this area is very large and expect to spend a whole day if you want to visit everything, there are several temples and the main temple is NanShan with each having incense offerings and descriptions of the different idols (only in Chinese and no English pamphlets). Entrance is 150rmb and if you are on a time constraint, pay for an electric bus ticket at 30rmb per person.

YaLong Bay (亚龙湾) is considered the best beach area in Sanya. It is open to the public but the lounge chairs and umbrellas all belong to hotels so expect to pay for their use unless you are staying at one of these hotels. Water Skidoos and a pontoon ride costs about 150rmb per person and laminated photos are sold for 10rmb and available in minutes. The beach area available for swimming is limited due to the skidoo activity. There are several other tourist spots in this area: The Butterfly Park and the Shell Museum (closed for renovations at the time of writing this) and the Rose Park which was interesting but with limited blooms in the winter. In the park there



is a small aviary, which is included with admission and the lovebirds, and budgies are hand raised so very people friendly but beware of the Grey Parrot who bites. Admission is 88rmb including the bus ride which allows multiple stops.

Fairyland Daxiao Dongtian(大小洞天) is another large park on the coast about 40 km from Sanya Admission is 130rmb and a so-so buffet at 58rmb, but very clean.

Sanya No. 1 Agricultural Products Market (三亚集贸市场) For something different, try visiting the local market, which has everything. The fish section is the most interesting, with species not common in the northern Tianjin area. Prices are not so cheap but selection and quality is excellent. Some bargaining is expected but not much, a 10-20% discount is usual. There are local restaurants that will cook your purchases for a small fee but confirm the price in advance and make sure that cook what you buy. There are dry goods and fruit stands adjacent the market.

Fruit stands are located throughout the city but charge a premium in high tourist volume areas so be bold and bargain or locate a local supermarket for fixed pricing. You can expect everything to be higher priced in Sanya for several reasons. It is an island so everything needs to be transported to this isolated area. Labor is scarce, due to the limited population. This is apparent by absence of traditional chess players in public areas, demonstrating that people are working rather than leisurely playing games. There is virtually no manufacturing and resources with total reliance on tourism.

So don't forget to take along some suntan lotion and lots of patience and enjoy a few days in the sun and clean air.

## 东方夏威夷——三亚

三亚,位于海南岛的最南端,素有"东方夏威 夷"美誉,是中国最南部的热带滨海旅游城市。 1988年以前,海南曾隶属于广东省。海南本岛面积 有3.39万平方公里,尽管几大群岛加起来的岛屿数量 超过200多个,但97%的岛屿隶属海南岛,这也是海 南岛名字的由来。海南岛别名珠崖、琼崖、琼州、 意为岛屿北岸上富饶的珍珠。

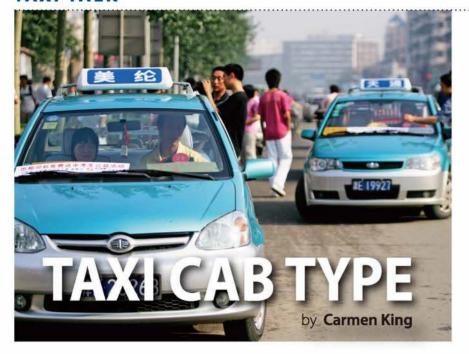
尽管三亚不能和真正的夏威夷相比, 但它常年 20几度的气温以及较少的空气污染,伴着大多时候 的蓝天白云, 也足以令人心神向往。三亚是中产阶 级的旅游胜地,到这里观光的游客大多是中国人, 所以, 服务和设施相较西方而言, 稍有不足。

从天津坐飞机只需4个小时,你就能从寒冷的北 方过渡到和煦的碧海蓝天中。打开手机app,你会发 现关于三亚的迷人景点竟有140个之多,大多景点都 没有英语服务,尤其在旅游高峰季的时候,你还需 要饱受人群的拥挤。对于一个不会讲中文的外国人 来说, 找一个五星级酒店, 通过酒店定一个当地的 团, 再找一个会讲英语的导游, 将会是一个不错的 选择。而对于那些可以讲中文, 并且时间精力都绰 绰有余的外国人来说,下榻一些私人公寓也是不错 的选择。三亚出租车的起步价是8块钱、如果你想租 一天,费用大概是400元。去景点参观之前,记得确 认一下景点是否开放, 因为很多景点在淡季的时候 都会选择关闭修缮。

天涯海角, 是海南旅游的第一名胜。这里海水 澄碧, 烟波浩瀚。但因其有天尽头之意, 所以当地 人并不推荐做生意的商人到此参观。南山,是中国 最南端的山,历来被称为吉祥福泽之地。如果你想 把南山的每个景点都游览过来,那么至少需要一天 的时间。亚龙湾,原名牙龙湾,是一个近似龙牙的 天然海湾。它背靠翠绿的青山, 面向浩瀚的南海, 景点附近有很多水上游乐设施,游客可自行选择。 大小洞天,位于三亚市区以西40公里的南山西南 隅,因其秀丽的海景、山景和石景,所以号称琼崖 第一山水名胜。三亚集贸市场、售卖各种和天津不 一样的海产品,尽管售价不低,但质量上乘。游客 可在购买之后再拿到附近饭店进行加工。

三亚遍地都有水果摊,但售价往往过高。毕 竟,它是一个岛屿,所有商品需要从别处运送到这 里。三亚的劳动力并不发达, 走在街上, 你根本看 不到那些悠哉下棋的人们。三亚儿乎没有工厂,一 切收入来源都依靠于它的旅游业。好了, 现在就带 上你的防晒霜和好心情, 好好的享受这个纯净世界

#### TAXI TALK



ianjin taxi drivers are sitting in the same car all day and/or all night. The choice of what type of car they will drive is therefore very important. Not to mention, from a passengers perspective, the model of the taxi car makes a huge difference in safety and comfort. What kind of cars are Tianjin cabbies driving?

One of the most popular, by far, is the Toyota Corolla. These Corolla's are an older body style Corolla. They have also been stripped down to the bare necessities. If cab drivers want things like alloy wheels and other interior upgrades, these all are paid add-ons. Why is the Corolla so popular with Tianjin cab drivers? These Toyota's are manufactured in Tianjin. Therefore they are easy to buy, easy to service and priced competitively.

Running a close second and really almost as common as the Corolla is another Tianjin manufactured car called Tianjin One Wind (this being an unofficial English translation). The fact that this car brand doesn't even seem to have an English version of its name, probably tells expats everything they need to know. Namely, it is a local Tianjin brand, it is very Chinese, and relatively speaking very cheap.

How much of a difference is there in the cost of a Tianjin One Wind vs. a Toyota taxi? Incredibly, the Toyota is almost twice as expensive. The Toyota Corolla costs about 100,000 RMB. The Tianjin One Wind costs about 50,000 RMB. At nearly double the price, why do so many Tianjin cabbies choose the Toyota? The number one response is quality.

Taxi talk reveals Tianjin One Wind taxis are plenty cheap, however come with a host of trouble. From broken door handles to other "quality" related issues, the money saved initially ends up being spent on repairs. Not to mention the difference in ride quality is ridiculous. Riding in a Tianjin One Wind feels like riding in a tin can. The overall car size is smaller than the Toyota as well. Therefore passengers looking for a little extra leg room or storage in the back for luggage definitely do not want to flag down a Tianjin One Wind cab.

Come summer time the difference in these two cars is even more obvious. Most Tianjin One Wind cars are hot. The A/C is typically broken, or next to useless. Since the engines and other parts in the Tianjin One Wind are cheap, the A/C capabilities are greatly lacking. Especially in the summer riding in a Toyota taxi typically pays off big time.

Outside of Toyota and Tianjin One Wind, there are also some Volkswagen cabs. These are not often seen though. They typically are one of two models, the Jetta or Santana. Jetta's run about 68,000 RMB new. These are solid cars. Especially if it is a newer VW, it makes for a great cab ride. The large Santana's are more expensive than the Jetta's per mile. The actual rate of the cab fare has been

SO MUCH LIKE THE TOYOTA'S ARE THE TOP CHOICE IN TIANJIN FOLLOWED BY THE TIANJIN ONE WIND, IT LOOKS LIKE LOCAL MANUFACTURING PLAYS A BIG PART IN DECIDING WHICH CABS ARE PURCHASED.

adjusted due to the larger car size. These Santana's are typically found at the airport. Also on the road, but few in quantity are a larger Hyundai sedan, and a little Mazda sedan.

For expats familiar with Beijing, the most common cab there is the Hyundai Sonata. Taxi talk reveals the reason is because those Hyundai's are manufactured in Beijing. So much like the Toyota's are the top choice in Tianjin followed by the Tianjin One Wind, it looks like local manufacturing plays a big part in deciding which cabs are purchased. For expats looking for a more comfortable cab ride look for Toyota's, VW's and Hyundai's. Last and only in a pinch should one settle for the Tianjin One Wind.

## 天津出租车型

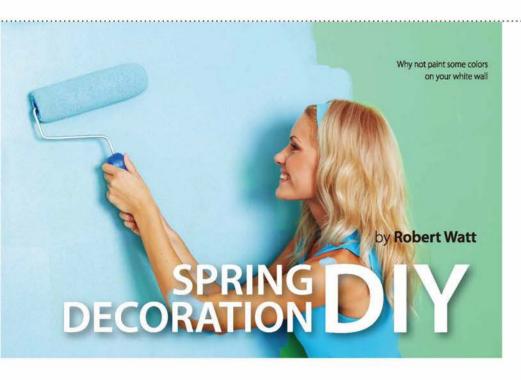
对于整日或整宿开出租的司机来说,选择车型,尤为重要。这不仅事关司机自己,也关乎其乘客的安全和乘车感受。

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天津出租中最流行的品牌当属丰田。这种旧体 风格且低配置的车型,天津人俗称花冠。它之所以 能在天津出租行业中如此受欢迎,是因为丰田在天 津设有工厂,所以购买丰田,无论是从销售还是服 务,甚至价格来讲,都是最佳的选择。

天津第二热门的出租车型是天津一汽生产的威志。尽管价格要比花冠便宜一倍,但它带来的质量问题可不少。从门把手破裂到其它质量问题产生,买车省下的钱最终用在修理费上,这种做法得不偿失。此外,威志的空间体积也要比花冠小很多,所以乘各坐在里面,会略显拥挤。到了夏天,这两种车型的差别就更为明显。由于威志在价钱上便宜很多,所以它的性能也欠缺很多,很多时候,它的空调形同虚设。除了花冠和威志,天津司机也有选择排达或基塔纳的。

北京常见的出租车型是现代旗下的索纳塔。至于索纳塔流行的原因也和天津花冠大同小异,只因现代在北京设有工厂。这样看来,当地生产商对于当地出租车的选择起着至关重要的作用。而对于外国人来说,寻找一个舒适的车型,当然首选丰田、大众或现代。



he worst of the winter has passed and in the warmer days windows can be cracked open and the freshness let into homes, stirring the fug that has, like the occupants, been shut up tight against the cold. Around the northern hemisphere, as spring arrives this month and into the next, rooms get aired. their curtains torn down to be washed and rugs dragged outside to beat out the dust. Spring cleaning, like pussy willows and catkins, is a sign of the season's arrival and it drives a compulsion to refresh our homes like birds driven to nest building.

For many, the urge extends beyond a thorough clean, it is a time for redecorating, for starting those home improvement and repair projects. Weekends during these months are occupied with buying rolls of paper and pots of paint. The air is alive with distant hammering and the whine of power tools. Although I rent an apartment in China, that spring urge to create a feature wall, or put up a set of shelves is still felt as keenly as the force that drives frogs to spawn.

Given that home ownership is around 90% in China, you would expect home improvements or at least maintenance of properties to be as enthusiastically pursued as elsewhere. But other than essential repairs, or the first painting of a new apartment, home improvement isn't a popular past time. Most Chinese men possess little DIY knowledge, or more than the most basic of ancient tools. The families I asked said they only redecorate a room every 10 to 20 years, so a well-stocked

tool shed isn't high on many Chinese Dads dream list. Consequently when work is required Chinese people are more likely to hire an expert than attempt to 'Do It Yourself.

In 2007 the multinational DIY and home improvement chain B&Q had opened 67 stores across China and was expecting a huge growth. But, while they still remain the largest DIY chain in China, 22 stores have since closed, including the store in Tianjin. The company blames the housing slump, but a look at the website, of the store still open in Beijing, shows how expensive imported materials are. When Chinese people do need to buy some decorating materials the local distributer provides much better value. It's from these small independent and hard to find distributers where you will have to purchase the materials you need. This makes all but the simplest task difficult; few people are going to know the Chinese words for Plumbers Mait or Gaffer Tape.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO ADD A SPLASH OF COLOUR OR WARMTH TO A ROOM THEN YOU WILL PROBABLY NEED TO IMPORT THE PAINT, OR MIX YOUR OWN USING **ACRYLIC COLOURS FROM A CRAFT** SHOP.

You can get materials from local shops including paint and wallpaper. However, don't expect to find familiar brands or even the range of colours you'd find at home. Nearly all interior walls in China are painted with flat white emulsion. If you're looking to add a splash of colour or warmth to a room then you will probably need to import the paint, or mix your own using acrylic colours from a craft shop.

If you need to get some work done in China, calling on a family member or an expert is still preferred. Most people will get someone recommended or from an advertisement in the local paper. Some shops that sell paint or wallpaper will also do the work for you, or have advertising cards. For interior decorating, hiring someone who has been recommended is the best option. You get an opportunity to view the standard of their work and it's generally a better result than from Building teams. You may also want to get the materials yourself.

For the DIY enthusiast, getting someone else to do the work isn't going to satisfy that spring compulsion, but don't underestimate how much harder the absence of materials aimed at the DIYer makes a job. Of course, that extra level of difficulty, all adds to the satisfaction of when it's finally finished.

## 春季家装DIY

寒冷的冬天过去了,人们终于可以打开窗子, 把室内污浊的气息排出去, 让新鲜空气吹进来。人 们会在春天给家里来一次大扫除, 让居室呈现一个 全新的气象。

还有人会在开春之后开始给家里重新装修。于 是周末的时间都用来采买壁纸、油漆。虽然我的房 子是租来的, 但我也打算打造一面主题墙, 在墙上 安装几个架子, 对我来说, 其迫切程度不亚于驱赶 **爱霜。** 

虽然中国人买房比租房的多, 但是装修只会在 入住前进行, 而后也许十年、二十年才会重新装修。 很多中国男人对家装 DIY 知之甚少。所以像百安居 这样的 DIY 家居卖场才无法在中国存活下去。进口 装饰材料的价格过于昂贵, 人们会去更加物美价廉 建材市场采购。所以, 国外的家装卖场例如 Plumbers Mait 和 Gaffer Tape 恐怕无法进入中国了。

本土的家装市场恐怕买不到你熟悉的品牌或期 望的颜色, 因为在中国, 大部分家庭的墙都刷成白色。 如果你想房间墙面更加多彩, 你可能还是要购买进 口漆料或找专门店混合颜色。

对于具体的装修工作,中国人还是喜欢找专业 的装修队来进行, 尤其是熟人推荐的, 因为你可以 亲眼看到他们施工的效果。

如果你喜欢亲自动手, 你可能会有点失望, 因 为你很有可能买不到你需要的材料。当然, 如果在 这样的情况下你还是出色了完成了装修, 你会更加 佩服自己的!



## **MOVIE TITLE: Silent Witness**

### Quan Min Mu Ji 全民目击



Director: Feng Xiao Gang 冯小刚 Actors:Ge You 葛优; Shu Qi 舒淇 (real name is Lin LiHui林立慧); Sun Hong Lei 孙红雷; YaoChen 姚晨

**Tycoon Lin Tai's (Sun Hong Lei) daughter** Lin Mengmeng (Deng Jia Jia) becomes the murder suspect of his father's fiancé. Her defense lawyer Zhou Li (Yu Nan) and prosecutor Tong Tao (Aaron Kwok) gains in-depth understanding through cross examinations in court. Who is actually the murderer?

Sun Hong Lei has become very popular recently and puts in a solid performance in this movie. He is from Harbin, Heilongjiang

province in the Northeast China. One reason for his increased popularity is his recent appearance in a TV Series: Nan Ren Bang 男人帮. This is quite common in China for Chinese movie stars to take roles on TV after they become successful in film, something you would never see in the West. His nickname is San Lang 三狼 Three Wolves.

Aaron Kwok holds down the other main role in this movie and also does an excellent acting job as the crown prosecutor. He is from Hong Kong (thus the different pronunciation and spelling of his Chinese name) and is considered one of the "Four Heavenly Kings" in Hong Kong – Do you know the other three?

Yu Nan is an actress from Dalian; she is fluent in Mandarin, English and French and has participated in international film festivals.

If you like mystery thrillers, this one is quite good, after taking the viewer through several possible outcomes, it zeros in on the final ending in a unique style that keeps your interest. The movie was released in late 2013 and enjoyed reasonable box office and critical success. It was filmed in Tianjin.

《全民目击》是由非行编剧执导,众多文化机构联合出品打造的一部犯罪亲情片。该片讲述了富豪林泰(孙红雷饰演)因女儿林萌萌(邓家佳饰演)而陷入杀人嫌疑后,聘请了律师周莉(余男饰演)和童检察官(郭富城饰演)智斗的故事。2013年11月18日,伦敦第5届英国万像国际华语电影节颁奖礼上,《全民目击》斩获多重奖项。该片取景天津,并于上映后取得了不错的票房佳绩。



## TV SERIES: The Old Chinese Peasant 老农民



This 60 part series is set during the period 1948-2008 and describes the 60 years experiences of a farming community in the province of Shandong. The protagonist, a daredevil villager named Niu Dadan, (Chen BaoGuo) is an achiever who goes from being a poor farmer to a successful entrepreneur. The character is based on the personal experiences of Xu Dadan, a veteran farmer-turned-businessman, and Zhou Zhenxing, former deputy governor of Shandong province.

The other main character is a farmer portrayed by veteran actor, FengYuanZheng. Prior to shooting, these two actors spent many

months with local farmers to understand the cultural and learn their habits and Chen BaoGuo even shaved his head and eyebrows to develop a the proper facial expression.

The writer, Gao ManTang spent five years preparing for the series, he interviewed more than 200 farmers from six provinces, who had witnessed the country's agricultural campaigns and experienced the influence of changing policies. Gao was the highest paid writer in 2014.

Critics have stated that the series accurately depicts this rural sector of the country's 800 million farmers and reflects the policies during this period even the turbulent era of the Cultural Revolution. The series is also quite blunt at showing some of the inequalities of policies such as strict controls of what could be cropped and by whom. These restrictions also included daily living conditions. It appears to a very open.

It appears that the preparation for this series was very thorough and is reflected by the critical success and the realism of setting and costumes.

《老农民》是一部由山东影视集团制作的农村题材电视剧。该剧由张新建、 王滨执导,高满堂担任编剧,陈宝国、冯远征、牛莉、将欣等人主演,讲述了由 北方农村的一场土地改革所引发的长达半个多世纪的故事。该剧同时关注了中国 当代农村现实生活和农民精神世界60年的发展演变历程,历经土改、人民公社、 三年自然灾害、取消农业税等重大历史事件,突出表现了中国农民与土地之间那 种割含不断的联系。《老农民》是新中国成立以后首次用全景式视角为农民树碑 立传的伟大作品。



## TIANJIN MALLS — TIANJIN BINHAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Traveling typically brings with it some stress. One aspect of this stress is shopping for gifts to give the people who are being visited. Fortunately now there is an option which might be able to reduce some of that shopping stress. The new Terminal 2 is open at the Tianjin Binhai International Airport. With it, comes convenient subway access to the airport. From the city take metro line 2 to the Binhai International Airport stop (滨海国际机场站). It is the last stop on line 2 headed east. Upon arrival, come up one level, exit the subway and follow the signs to terminal 2.

On the ground level of Terminal 2 there are two shops which may be particularly useful for travelers when it comes to buying gifts. The first store is nearby the Lei Cafe. It is a Tianiin Culture shop. Inside is a collection of 14 different manufacturers' products. Each has produced a

line of goods representing Tianjin culture. These are great gifts to give friends back home or in other cities who want a non-edible souvenir from Tianjin. Some are quite unique like grasshopper replicas inside of little glass globes.

The second store is called Tianjin Specialty. It is right across from the culture shop. Tianjin Specialty has conveniently provided access to all the edible souvenirs which represent Tianjin. The famous Tianjin fried dough twists are there, as well as other local favorites. These items are all pre-boxed for easy carrying and easy gifting. If carrying them is a hassle, no worries, travelers can use the SF Express located downstairs at 1F next to "Meeting Place 3" to send these goods to the desired destination. While the Tianjin Binhai International Airport isn't a mega mall, it does provide a few key stores to get gifts which represent Tianjin with the convenience of doing so right before takeoff.

有的时候, 旅行也会带来一些压力, 而这些压力的来源之一或许就是给别人 带礼物。地铁2号线滨海国际机场站的开通,不仅为市民的出行提供了便利条 件,也为赶路的行人提供了方便。天津机场T2航站楼的地面层有两个可以选择纪 念品的商店。其中之一是天津文化商店,里面售卖的是具有天津特色的小商品, 这些商品造型精美,样式别致,是馈赠亲朋好友的不二之选。第二个商店是天津 特产汇, 里面售卖的都是天津著名小吃。选购商品的顾客, 如果不方便将商品带 上飞机,可当下选择快递服务将商品寄往目的城市。所有有需要的乘客,不妨考 虑一下。



## 💎 TIANJIN METRO LINE 2 BINHAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT STOP



#### The new metro line 2 Binhai International Airport stop is

finally open! In the past making airport runs in Tianiin was a real hassle. Pretty much cab or personal car was the only way to get there. Now those days are gone! Now from 6 am to 10 pm daily folks can easily get to and from the Tianiin Binhai International Airport via subway line 2. Simply hop on line 2 from anywhere in the city and ride it to the last stop headed east. Outside of peak hours, subway passenger volume in general is not crazy. Plus the incredible 3 RMB fare can't be beat, not to mention there is no traffic!

After arrival, take the escalator up one floor and either swipe a City Card or deposit a token to exit the subway. From there follow the

## 天津地铁2号线滨海国际机场站

signs to the new Terminal 2. Terminal 2 is for domestic flights. The walk from the subway to the terminal is all indoors. Plus along the way there are plenty of restrooms. Terminal 2 has access to McDonald's, KFC and other eating options. Plus goods can easily be shipped via SF Express. There is another indoor walkway from Terminal 2 to Terminal 1. Terminal 1 is now dedicated to servicing international flights.

Travelers arriving to the airport and wanting to take the subway can buy a single-ride token via automated machines or a teller. Tianjin expats can also buy a Tianjin City Card in advance for easy subway travel. As with other stations around the city, the airport stop has a full security screening before boarding. So be prepared to accept a pat down, metal detector wand scan and run bags through an x-ray machine before boarding the subway. It is nine stops from the airport (about 25 minutes) to the Tianjin Rail Station which is a transportation hub for other subway lines, buses, and the fast train to Beijing.

天津地铁2号线滨海国际机场站的开通终结了一个只能私家车和出租车往返 机场的时代。从早上6点到晚上10点,只要你有需要,可随时踏上2号线列车,去 往天津滨海国际机场。出站以后,沿着指示牌,乘客很容易找到T2航站楼,沿途 有很多便利店、商店,旅客可自行选择。T2航站楼和T1航站楼之间有一条室内通 道,T1航站楼目前处理的都是国际航线业务。从机场乘坐地铁2号线,只需九站 (大约25分钟),就能抵达天津站,有需要的乘客可经由天津站转乘其它交通工 具去往北京。

## Eaglewood Love of Emperor Qian Long Theme Exhibition

A themed exhibition entitled "Eaglewood Love of Emperor Qian Long" is currently on show at the Tianjin Chenxiang Art Museum.

According to organizers, the exhibition is divided into three distinct units. The first unit introduces the origins of the royal eaglewood during the reign of Qian Long; the second unit is about the use of eaglewood in Qian Long's daily life; and the third unit is on the maintenance of eaglewood. This excellent exhibition not only shows visitors the incense burners from the Qing Dynasty but also provides a series of informative public lectures. The exhibition is open until March 15th.



## WTA Chairman & CEO Stacey Allaster presented at Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan

In January 25, 2015, WTA chairman and CEO Stacey Allaster made a special trip to Tianjin with deputy director of WTA Asia-Pacific region Melissa Pine to investigate WTA Tianjin open venues Tuanbo International Tennis Center and 2015 annual match preparatory operation condition, and held a brief meeting with Tianjin Municipal Sports Bureau in Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan hotel, she praised WTTianjin open will be the Tianjin new name card. Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan as WTA Tianjin open players' designated hotel successfully hosted the players welcome party in 2014 October, and received numerous domestic and international tennis sports stars, such as: Jelena Jankovic, Schiavone, Shuai Peng, Shuai Zhang, Belinda Bencic, Martina Hingis and Saisai Zheng.



## Pan Pacific Tianjin Begins 2015 with a Blast

**Pan Pacific Tianjin** celebrates the upcoming Chinese New Year with an intensive dumpling eating competition at Pacifica, our 144-seater all-day-dining restaurant during the dinner buffet on 6 February 2015.

With over 30 participants comprising of media friends, spontaneous diners as well as fans selected through various social media partners and platforms, the competitors raced against time and competed against each other in four rounds of intensive dumpling eating. The top three winners were awarded with lucrative prizes, featuring a complimentary room night stay in our Deluxe Cityview Room inclusive of breakfast and dinner for two

The Chinese dumpling, also known as Jiaozi, is one of the most important staples eaten all year round in Northern China and a must-have during the Chinese New Year festival. In light of the upcoming festivities, Pan Pacific Tianjin has extended an exclusive offer for participants and diners that evening to reserve their reunion dinners at Hai Tien Lo, offering authentic Cantonese and Tianjin specialties. Diners at Pacifica's buffet had the opportunity to have a sneak preview of the signature dishes that are featured in the Chinese New Year dinners at Hai Tien Lo.



## Wanda Hotels and Resorts Appointed Mr. Fabrice Collot as General Manager of Wanda Vista Tianjin

Wanda Hotels and Resorts has announced the appointment of Mr. Fabrice Collot as General Manager of Wanda Vista Tianiin.

Mr. Fabrice Collot holds an MBA from Cornell and possesses a rich 27 years' experience in hotel management. Prior to coming to China he was managing the multiple-award winning property and leading hotel of the world "Maradiva Villa Resort and Spa" in Mauritius, and worked for the luxury hotel operator Banyan Tree hotels and Resorts in Morocco and in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Before this appointment, he was the General Manager of Wanda Realm Maanshan.

Mr. Collot also possesses diplomas in French cooking, modern pastry and he is a certified chocolatier and sommelier. He also loves driving sports cars, motorcycles, and possesses an airplane private pilot license and a motorboat license. Mr. Collot is conversant in five languages; French, English, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. His other hobbies include travel, ethnic food, vintage wine, literature, computers, music, skiing, golf, photography and deep sea diving.



# Snow Beer Sponsored the 2nd Taste of Tianjin Signature Dish Awards

On January 9, the second Taste of Tianjin Dining Awards Ceremony presented at The Westin, Tianjin.

Sponsored by Snow, a well-known draft beer brand in China, the event presents awards to the most popular signature dishes of restaurants. It took four months to have an online voting among 300 dishes from 200 restaurants. On Sina Weibo, the topic "Taste of Tianjin" had a hit over 100 million times and 110,000 comments. 30 restaurants eventually won the golden award of signature dish.

Snow's sponsorship to the event showed its support for the development of Tianjin's catering business.







## Shangri-la Hotel, Tianjin Presents The City's Largest Yusheng to Welcome The Spring Festival

Shangri-La Hotel, Tianjin presents the city's largest Yusheng, or Raw Fish Salad, in the hotel's lobby to usher in the Year of the Goat.

Yusheng originated in Southeast Asia, namely Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, and is usually served as an appetiser due to its symbolism of good luck for the New Year. The act of tossing the dish as high as possible signifies how high you will climb in career, wealth and prosperity'. Typically, this dish is consumed on the seventh day of the Lunar New Year, otherwise known as Ren Ri (People's Day).

A team of 30 chefs, led by Malaysian Executive Chef Johnston Ang and Chinese Executive Chef Oliver Lai, presents the city's largest Yusheng on a table, 5.5 metres in diameter, with a total of 680 kilograms of ingredients waiting to be tossed. After tossing, all guests will be treated to a plate of complimentary Yusheng for good luck and prosperity.







## Tao Li Special Discount day January - March, 2015

Monday, Wednesday, Friday Double boiled seafood soup RMB88net Monday-Tuesday-Thursday Sea Bass with Teriyaki Sauce RMB58/net Saturday and Sunday Dim Sum Select menu 50% off, more than 20 items Reservations: 83198888 Ext. 3561

Venue: Hotel Nikko Tianjin Tao Li Chinese Dining 6F





## EXTRAVAGANT SEAFOOD DINNER BUFFET (Every Fri. in March)

ZEST is pleased to showcase luxurious and extravagant buffet, offering a series of succulent seafood, international delicacies. Our talented chefs have selected premium seasonal ingredients worldwide and present a truly enticing gourmet dinner with free flow of juice, soft drink, coffee and tea. RMB488+\* per person Venue: ZEST of The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin
Tel: 86-22-5857-8888





#### Time for "Fresco"

Holiday Inn Tianjin Riverside offers a new live performances by Band Fresco which has gained a reputation for breaking the stereotypes of existing Filipino bands and mastering a wide range of genres such as pop, jazz and R&B. Café Venice (2F): Monday to Saturday, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Dazzle (Lobby Lounge): Monday to Saturday, from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. For more information, please call at 2627 8888 ext. 2266





#### SPRING ROASTING SEASON

Café Majestic offers a stellar selection of spring roast sumptuous dishes. RMB268 + 15% service charge per person, free flow of soft drinks and local beer Exclusive on every Sunday, 11:30am to 2:30pm Sundays in March 1st / 8th / 15th / 22nd / 29th , lunch only 1st Floor, Haihe Wing T: 5852 6888 ext 8910





### High Tea @ Lobby Lounge

High Tea @ Lobby Lounge of Renaissance Tianjin Downtown Hotel includes an array of sandwiches and desserts, to enjoy in a traditional style with coffee, juice and fine tea.

Please call 022-23026888-6400 for reservation. Address: 105 Jianshe Road, Heping District, Tianjin





## Wanda Vista Tianjin Launches Indulgent Weekend Package

Wanda Vista Tianjin launches Indulgent Weekend Package for guests to enjoy an extravagant weekend with elegant accommodation and rejuvenating spa experience.

Indulgent Weekend Package is at RMB 888nett/room night for one person, or at RMB 1288nett/room night for two person includes: 60-minute balance aroma massage for one or two person at SHUI Spa (original value of RMB 782/person), free upgrade to Grand Deluxe Room, buffet breakfast for one or two person at Cafe Vista, free WiFi access, complimentary access to gyrn & indoor swimming pool and free upgrade to Grand Deluxe River View Room for consecutive stay over two nights. Valid from now till 31 March 2014.

For enquiries or reservations, please contact the hotel at (86 22) 2462 6888 or by email to sales.tianjin@wandahotels.com





## The Reason Why We Love Afternoon Delight

Sometimes, nothing says indulgence like a spot of high tea with family or friends. From the savory to the sweet, pamper yourself with sumptuous spread of Chinese and Western favorites.

Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel is a great spot for teatime, and basks in the sheer radiance of the hotel while being served a variety of bite-size sandwiches, scones and assorted pastries. Add on to the lip-smacking goodness of high tea delicacies, The Lounge is all set to please your palate with a well-loved selection of oriental bites. Introduce for you, your friends and families to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with delicacies.

High Tea Buffet RMB 128 net/person

Saturday and Sunday 14:00-17:00@The Lounge.

For more information and reservations, please contact The Lounge at 022 5822 3130.





### Flamed Fish Head @ Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan

For elegant and sumptuous Cantonese cuisine, Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan Rong Chinese Restaurant is the preferred destination offering 16 private rooms with classical decoration. Using selected Qiandao Lake fresh fish head, Chinese master chef Feng will flame it for you on-site, and taste extremely delicious fish only CNY188+15% service charge.

For more information or reservation please call 022 58576666 ext.6660





#### The Taste of Shannxi

Wok in the Garden Chinese Restaurant features authentic Northern Chinese dishes. A unique rooftop garden design and open show kitchen make Wok in the Garden a memorable venue for fine Chinese dining. The restaurant has added a selection of traditional local Shannxi favourites including Biang Biang noodles, Shannxi pancakes etc. to its seasonal menu, which welcomes quests to experience the flavours of the most popular types of Northern Chinese food from Chairman Xi's hometown.

For reservations, please call: +86 22 2466 7252



#### A Ladies Affair

Celebrate Women's Day! Enjoy a happy day with your friends with our exclusive offers. Women's Day Dinner Buffet: RMB 308 nett per person, with a special gift per lady. Level 1 Seasonal Tastes

Women's Indulgence Dinner menu: RMB 288\* per person, accompanied by lucky draw. Level 3 Prego Italian Restaurant

Women's Day Menu: Indulge in our healthy dishes and receive a complimentary bowl of healthy seasonal soup

Level 4 Zen5es Chinese Restaurant

Women's Day Welcome: Enjoy a complimentary pink sparkling cocktail per lady

\*Above price subjects to 15% service charge Valid on 8th March 2015/2/12

Tel: 022-23890088

Email: westindining.tianjin@westin.com

Website: www.westin.com/tianjin

www/spgresataurantsandbars.com





### Spring Nutritious Soup

Indulge in the spring nourishing stews dedicated and enjoy tasteful soup while boosting body immunity.

Date: March 23 - May 31, 2015

For more information please call 2457 8888 ext. 3260

Address: 66 Xinkai Road, Hedong District, Tianjin Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin China Station 2nd Floor





## Seafood Hot Pot Buffet Dinner @Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City

Cheers up with a grand selection of seafood and free flow of drinks, as well as varied tasty soups awake your buds! Even sumptuous delicacies from sashimi, noodle station, desserts and much more!

Price: RMB 128/person (Subjects to 15% service charge)

RMB 99/person net for the Hotel WeChat members

Venue: Agua Café

Address: 2nd floor of Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City, No.6 Jieyuan Road, Hongqiao District, Tianjin (Xibeijiao Station, Subway Line 1)

Tel: 022-58776666 ext.3718





## Five-star hotel apartment at TEDA International Club Tianjin

Human-oriented and scientific room design for delicate one-bedroom apartment, classic two-bedroom apartment and deluxe three-bedroom apartment. All the rooms are equipped with modern furniture and appliances. The perfect facilities will guarantee a convenient and quality life for international elites who travel around the world. Considerate butler service showed the care and concern of Chinese. It is a real home away from home.

Detail-oriented butler service

Free broad band internet

24h food delivery

Discount in restaurants in the hotel

24 security service and independent access

Reservation hotline: 58695555-8289

CC =Credit Card 可信用卡付账

=Cost per person =Editor's pic

人均消费

P =Parking

编辑推介 有停车位

#### ■ Coffee 咖啡

Tianjin Downtown

#### Renaissance Cafe

万丽咖啡厅 E5 EP

Renaissance Café celebrates the best of Western and Asian cuisine.

2F, Renaissance Tianjin Hotel, 105 Jianshe Rd, Heping. 和平区建设路105号滨江万丽酒店二层 Tel: 2302 6888 Ext.6410 Hrs: 06:00am-10:00am

#### Victorian Lounge 大堂吧 E6 EP

Offers a relaxed atmosphere and nice food. The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin33 Taier Zhuang Road, Heping 和平区台儿庄路33号 天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店 Tel: 2331 1688 Hrs: 08:30am-21:00pm

#### TEDA&Tanggu

#### **Starbucks Coffee**

星巴克咖啡 PE ¥40 C102, Juchuan Jin hai'an Building, No.453, Jiefang Lu, Tanggu 塘沽区解放路453号巨川金海岸商界C102 Tel: 2589 3409 Hrs: 9:00-22:00(Mon-Fri) 08:30-22:30(Sat-Sun)

1F, Tianjin Friendship Mingdu Store, No.19, Huanghai Road, TEDA 开发区黄海路19号天津友谊商厦名都点一层 Tel: 6620 1781

#### Wine 红箔

Tianjin Downtown

## Montrose Wine House 名特公司进口葡萄酒

Imported wines. 2nd floor YY Beer House. Montrose(Tianjin) Office 粤园餐厅二楼名特(天津)办事处 Tel: 139 200 21679

Hrs: 09:00am-18:00pm







TEL:13920021679 13820159774(En) www.montrosechina.com E-MAIL: yixinliu1989@gmail.com 地址: 天津市和平区澳门路3号(粤园餐厅二楼), 名特 (天津) 办事处

ADD: 2F, YY Beer House, 3 Aomen Lu, Heping District

#### [ Western 西餐厅 ]

Tianjin Downtown

#### Fleur De Lys Restaurant

Fantastic surroundings and marvelous selection of food and teas great for a quiet afternoon with someone special

Address: 3F Lotte Department Store, 9 Le Yuan Dao, Hexi District, Tianjin 天津市河西区乐园道9号乐天百货三层 Tel: 022-58908026 Hrs: 10:30am-21:00pm

變麻西餐厅 ★ PED3

Offers buffets with open kitchen

1F, Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel, 16 Binshui Road, Hexi 河西区宾水道16号万丽天津宾馆1层 Tel: 5822 3388 Hrs: 06:00am-10:30am; 11:30am-14:00pm: 17:30pm-22:00pm

#### Hank's Sports Bar & Grill

\* ¥80 P E B4

Special dishes each week. A real vestern bar for watching sports and

Vanke Jin Ao International Square, Zhong Shi You Bridge, Wei Jin South Road, He Xi District, Tianjin, Chian 300221 天津市河西区卫津南路中石油立交桥东南侧 万科金奥国际广场6号楼333室 Tel: 13821611049 / 13920614814

Email: theupperdeckti@vahoo.com Hrs: 11:00am-23:00pm

#### Wind Song Western Restaurant 风之细语西餐厅 ¥100 P E

Features an impressive variety of buffet choice for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Continental and Asian cuisine is the fare, with large open kitchen

Crown Plaza Tianjin Hotel, No.55 Zhongxin Avenue, Airport Industrial 空港物流加工区中心大道55号天津滨海圣光

皇冠假日酒店一楼 Tel: 5867 8888 -2333 Hrs: 06:30am-24:00pm

#### Café d'Or

西第汇餐厅 ¥200 P E D7

From exquisite Chinese cuisine to exciting Japanese-European fusion dishes, Café d'Or satisfy discriminating

6F, Tangla Hotel Tianjin, No.219 Nanjing Road Heping 和平区南京路219号天津中心唐拉雅秀酒店6楼

Tel:23215888

Hrs: 06:00am-10:30am: 11:30am-14:00pm; 17:30pm-21:30pm

#### enade Italian Restaurant 河岸意大利餐厅 ¥200 P E C7

Cuisines are showcased in a sumptuous à la carte menu. International favorites comprising fresh produce are prepared a dedicated team of savvy chefs.

1F, St. Regis Tianjin, No. 158 Zhang Zi Zhong Road, Heping 和平区张自忠路158号,天津瑞吉金融街酒店

Tel: 5830 9959 Hrs: 06:00am-23:00pm

西班牙餐厅

Offers elegant, comfortable afternoon lunch and evening dining, featuring Spanish music and interior design.
Address: at the crossing of Hebei Lu and Luoyang Dao, Heping District 地址: 新平区五六道河北峰和洛阳道交口 Tel: 58352833

Hrs: 11:30am-15:30pm 17:00pm-22:00pm

#### **Buddies Restaurant & Bar**

The first Tianjin restaurant to offer real American hamburgers and craft beer. Every hamburger was made from prime beef with whole wheat buns and fresh

Bldg. A3m Magnetic Plaza, Binshui Xi Dao, Nankai 南开区宾水西道时代奥城商业广场A3区 Tel: 022-58112656 Hrs: 11:00am-24:00pm

Good steak and nice place for friends and family

at the cross of Naniing Lu and Jinzhou Dao, Heping 和平区南京路与锦州道交口 Tel: 27239363, 18702200612 Hrs: 11:30am-14:00pm; 14:00pm-17:00pm; 18:00pm-21:30pm

#### Drei Kronen-1308 Brauhar 路德维格1308 復餐啤酒坊 ★PED7 ood sausages, awesome pork knuckle

1F, BLK5, Jinwan Plaza Jiefangbei Road, Heping 和平区解放北路津湾广场5号楼1层 Tel: 23219199

www.ldwg1308.com Hrs: 11:0am-24:00pm

星期五餐厅 PE B4

Great place to have tasty burgers, french fries, chicken and steak.

No.7-2, Fukang Lu, Nankai 南开区复康路7-2号 Tel:23005555 Hrs: 11:00am-24:00pm

#### Terrace Café

燕园咖啡厅 C4

Offers both buffet and à la carte service. Western and Asian specialties featured at the buffet and theme nights are offered nightly

1F, Sheraton Hotel Tianjin, Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi 河西区紫金山路天津喜来登大酒店1层 Tel:27313388 Hrs: 06:00am-23:00pm

## PAULANER Tianjin

普拉纳啤酒坊 D7

A unique journey experiencing authentic Bavarian food, flair and

Venice Square, Italian Territory, No.429-431, Shengli Lu, Hebei 河北区胜利路429-431号意大利风情威尼斯广场 Tel:24468192 Hrs: 11:00am-01:00am

#### Seasonal Tastes

"知味"全日餐厅PED6

Offers Asian and international dishes.

1F, The Westin TianjinNo.101 Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路101号天津君隆威斯汀酒店1层 Tel: 2389 0088 Hrs:06:00am-10:00am;11:30am-14:30pm; 17:30pm-21:30pm



#### TEDA & Tanggu

**Dublin Irish Pub** 各柏林爱尔兰西餐吧 PE Great place, nice food. One of the best places to have a relax

No.137, 3rd Avenue, TEDA 开发区第三大街137号 Tel: 6629 2963 Hrs: 10:30am-01:30am

#### [ Japanese 日料 ]

Tianjin Downtown

**Benkay Teppanyaki** 弁度铁板烧 ¥180 P E D6 Luxury Japanese dining for the

5F Hotel Nikko Tianjin, 189 Nanjing Lu, Heping. 和平区南京路189号天津日航酒店5F Tel: 8319 8888(Ext.3558) Hrs: 11:30am-14:00pm: 17:30pm-22:00pm

#### [ FRENCH 法餐厅 ]

Tianlin Downtown

#### 福禮 ★¥350 PED7

The best French Restaurant in Tianjin offers the most authentic French cuisine. Brasserie FLO is the first restaurant in Tianjin to offer fresh

河北区意大利风情区光复道37号 No.37 Guangfu Road, Italy Style Town, Hebei

Tel: 2662 6688 Fax: 2445 2625 Hrs: 11:00am-22:30pm

#### [ Chinese 中餐厅 ]

Tianjin Downtown

#### **Din Tal Fung** 無毒率 ★¥150PE

Steamed Bread made of choice Ingredients are the main attraction. The Special desserts, steamed glutinous rice pudding and almond togu, will melt in your mouth, The luxury washroom on the first floor is an ideal place for ladies to freshen up

18 Binshui Dao, Hexi. 河西区宾水道18号(宾水道与紫金山路交口) Tel: 2813 8138 Ext 8001 Hrs: 11:00am-14:30pm; 17:00pm-22:00pm

#### Tian Tai Xuan

Savor dishes from the renowned Cantonese tradition in concert with Innovative creations exploring seasonal local ingredients, together forming a culinary experience which is not only extraordinary but quite possibly the most unique in the entire world

The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, 1st and 2nd floor, No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping 和平区大沽北路167号 天津丽思卡尔顿酒店一楼和二楼 Lunch 11:30am-14:00pm Dinner 17:30pm-21:30pm Tel: 5857-8888 Seats:160

#### [Thai&Malay 泰国&马来西亚]

Tianiin Downtown

#### YY Beer House 專閱泰餐厅 ★ ¥100 P E D6

The best Thai Restaurant in Tianjin offers the fantastic Thai food and beer

3 Ao Men Lu, (behind the International Building), Heping. 和平区澳门路 3 号(国际大厦后) Tel: 2339 9634 13821118292(English) Hrs: 11:00am-24:00pm



## YY Craft Beer House (NEW OPEN) 專國泰餐厅 ★ ¥100 P E D6

Xiannong Courtyard, No.1, Hunan Lu, Heping District, Tianjin 天津市和平区五大道先农大党湖南路1号粤风餐厅 TEL:58352835 185-2225-5354 (En) Hrs: 11:00-24:00



#### [ Italian 意大利餐厅 ]

Tianjin Downtown

#### 意大利餐厅 ¥ 400 P E D6

Prego's cuisine is rustic yet refined, rooted in tradition while producing innovative creations using only the finest and freshest ingredients available. An extensive wine list highlights the best of both Old and

3F, The Westin Tianjin, No.101, Nanjing Lu, Heping 和平区南京路101号天津君隆威斯汀酒店3层 Tel:23890088 Hrs: 11:30am-14:30pm; 18:00pm-22:00pm

#### BAR

Tian iin Downtown

#### **River Lounge** 瑞吉畔吧 ¥100 P E D7

One of Tianjin's premiere destinations, you can enjoy High Tea or artisan cocktails at the gleaming bar or in conversation areas furnished with rich leather seating overlooking the sparkling Hai River. The signature cocktail features a blend of unique Chinese flavors and seasonings, including Fujian lapsang souchong tea, Sichuan pepper, and soy sauce with fine vodka.

1F, St. Regis Tianjin, No.158 Zhang Zi Zhong Road, Heping (Next to Jin Tower, the opposite side of Ha Mi Road) 和平区张自忠路158号,津塔旁,哈密道正 对面,天津瑞吉金融街酒店一层 Tel: 5830 9958 Hrs: 10:00am-01:00am

#### **Blauer Engel** 蓝天使啤酒屋★PE

With an array of boutique beers, live band and great hearty german food, blauer engel is the only bar in Tianjin that blends traditional architect with comtemporary design. 314 Jie Fang Nan Lu, Hexi District, Hotel

Indigo Tianjin Haihe 天津市河西区解放南路314号 英迪格酒店 Tel: 88327698 Hrs: 17:30pm-01:00am

#### O'Hara's-authentic British lounge 海维林酒吧 - 经典英式酒吧 E6 Offers the intimacy of an English gentleman's lounge with regal Winchester styled sofas and an oversized bar counter.

1st floor Astor Wing, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin, 33 Taier Zhuang Road, Heping 和平区台儿庄路33号天津利顺德大饭店豪华 精选酒店,酒店一层 Tel: 58526888 ext. 8919 Hrs: 06:30pm-01:00am

#### Q吧 PED6

Oba's Latin-inspired décor creates an authentic ambience where delicious tapas and Latin-style snacks are shared among friends

The Westin Tianjin, No. 101 Nan Jing Road, Heping 和平区南京路101号天津君隆威斯汀酒店 Tel: 2389 0088 Hrs: 17:00pm-01:00am

Happy Soho Live Music &

#### Dance Bar 欢乐苏荷酒吧 Live Filipino band with hot

Russian dance girls. (Opposite of Central Hotel) No.16, Fortune Plaza, 3rd Avenue, TEDA 开发区第三大街财富星座16号

(中心酒店对面) Tel: +86 22 2532 2078

Hrs: 20:00-02:00

### ★PE E5

#### The Ritz-Carlton, Tianiin, 1st floor, No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping District,

Tianiin China 和平区大沽北路167号天津丽思卡尔顿西店一楼 Tel: 5857-8888

Mon-Fri 17:00-24:00 Sat-Sun 17:00-01:00

#### **SHOPPING**

#### [ Department Store 百货 ]

Tianiin Downtown

#### **Galaxy Mall**

银河国际购物中心 No.9, Le Yuan Road, Hexi 河西区乐园道9号 Tel: 8388 9577 Fax: 8388 9733 Web: www.galaxy-mall.com.cn Hrs: 10:00-22:00

#### Tianjin Joy city

No.2, Nanmen Wai Da Jie, Nankai 河西区南门外大街2号 Tel: 5861 8888 Web: tjjoycity.com

#### Tianjin Aeon Mall 天津永旺购物中心 Zhongshanbei Store

中山北店(10:00-22:00) No.1, Fushan Dao, Zhongbei Industrial Park, Xiqing 西青区中北工业园区阜盛道1号 Tel: 8719 5700 TEDA Store 泰达店(10:00-22:00) No.29, Shishangdong Lu, Development Zone 开发区时尚东路29号 Tel: 5985 7000

#### plaza66 天建信隆广场

160 Zhangzizhong Lu, Heping District 和平区张自忠路160号

[ Grocery 超市 ]

Tianjin Downtown

#### **Hisense Supermarket** 海信都市

-1F, Hisense Plaza, No.188, Jiefang Bei Lu, Heping 和平区解放北路188号海信广场负1层 Tel: 2373 1998 Hrs: 10:00-21:30 (Mon-Fri) 10:00-22:00 (Sat-Sun)

#### Isetan Supermarket 伊勢丹級市

-1F, Isestan, No.108, Nanjing Lu, Heping 和平区南京路108号伊势丹负1层 Tel: 2722 1111 Hrs: 10:00-21:00

#### [ Decorations 家居装饰 ]

Tianjin Downtown

#### IKEA 官宴家居

A:No.433, Jintang Road, Dongli Disrict 东丽区津塘公路433号 Tel:400-800-2345

#### SPORTS

[ Gym 健身 ]

Tianjin Downtown

## **Sheraton Hotel Fitness Center**

Inside Sheraton Hotel Tianjin, Zi Jin Shan Lu. Hexi 河西区紫金山路天津喜来登饭店内 Tel:27313388 Hrs: 06:00-24:00

#### Westin WORKOUT® 威斯汀健身值。

5F The Westin Tianjin, No.101 Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路101号天津君隆威斯汀酒店5层 Tel: 2389 0088 Hrs: 06:00-22:00

#### HOTEL

[ Hotel 酒店 ]

Tian jin Downtown

#### The Westin Tianjin 天津君隆威斯汀酒店

No.101, Nanjing Road, Heping District 和平区南京路101号 Tel: 2389 0088 Fax: 2389 0099 Website: westin.com/Tianjin

#### Wanda Vista Tianjin 天津万达文华酒店

No.486,Ba Hao Lu, Da Zhi Gu, Hedong 河东区大直沽八号路486号 Tel: 2462 6888

## The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin 天津丽思卡尔顿酒店

No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping 和平区大沽北路167号 Tel: 5857-8888 Fax: 5857-8899 www.ritzcarlton.com

#### **Sheraton Tianjin Hotel** 天津喜来登大酒店

Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District 河西区紫金山路 Tel: 27313388

#### Shangri-La Hotel Tianjin 天津香格里拉大酒店

No. 328 Haihe East Road, Hedong District, Tianjin, 300019, China 天津市河东区海河东路328号 Tel: (86 22) 8418 8888

#### Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel 万丽天津宾馆

16 Binshui Dao, Hexi District 河西区宽水道16号 Tel: 58223388



## Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangnan 天津梅江中心皇冠假日酒店

East to South Youvi Road (Opposite to Tianjin Meijiang Conference&Exhibition Center), Xiqing District, Tianjin, P.R. China 300221

地址: 天津西青区友谊南路东侧 (天津梅江会展中心正对面)

Tel: +86 22 5857 6666 Fax: +86 22 5857 6688 Web:www.crowneplaza.com/tjmeijiangnan

#### **TEDA International Club Tianjin** 泰达国际会馆

7+2 Fu Kang Lu, Nankai. 南开区复康路7号增2号 Tel: 5869 5555

Fax: 2300 5656

## Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City 天津水游城假日酒店

No. 6, Jieyuan Road, Honggiao 红桥区芥园道6号 Tel: 5877 6666

## The St. Regis Tianjin 天津瑞吉金融街酒店

1F, St. Regis Tianjin, No. 158 Zhang Zi Zhong Road, Heping (Next to Jin Tower, the opposite side of Ha Mi Road) 和平区张自忠路158号,津塔旁,哈密道正 对面,天津瑞吉金融街酒店一层 Tel: 5830 9999 Stregis.com/tianjin

#### Tangla Tianjin 天津中心唐拉雅秀酒店

No. 219, Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路219号 Tel: 2321 5888

## Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside 天津海河伐榕庄

34 Haihe East Road Hebei 河北区海河东路34号 Tel: 5861 9999 Fax: 5861 9998 banvantree.com

#### **HYATT REGENCY TIANJIN EAST** 天津帝旺凯悦酒店

126 Weiguo Road, Hedong District, Tianjin, 300161, People's Republic of China 中国天津市河东区卫国道126号 邮编300161 Tel: + 86 22 2457 1234 Fax: +86 22 2434 5666 Email: tianjin.regency@hyatt.com tianjin.regency.hyatt.com

## Hotel Indigo Tianjin Haihe 天津海河英迪格酒店

No.314, South Jiefang Rd., Hexi Dist 天津市河西区解放南路314号 Tel:88328888,4000380666 Web:www.indigohoteltianjin.com

#### Renaissance Tianjin downtown Hotel

森江万丽酒店 105 Jian She Lu, Heping. 和平区建设路105号 Tel: 2302 6888 Fax: 2302 8530

#### Hotel NikkoTianjin

天津日航酒店 189 Nan Jing Lu, Heping. 和平区南京路189号 Tel: 8319 8888 Fax: 8319 2266 Website: www. nikkotianjin.com

#### The Astor Hotel A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin 天津利順德大饭店 豪华精选酒店

33 Taier Zhuang Road, Heping 和平区台儿庄路33号 Tel: 2331 1688 www.luxurycollection.com/astor

#### Holiday Inn Tianjin Riverside 天津海河假日酒店

Phoenix Shopping Mall, East Haihe Road, Hebei (Nearby "Eye of Tianjin ") 河北区海河东路凤凰商到广场 ("天津之眼"摩天轮旁) Tel: 2627 8888 Fax: 2627 6666

#### TEDA &Tanggu

#### Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin

天津流海假日酒店 86 First Ave., TEDA. 经济技术开发区第一大街86号 Tel: 6628 3388

#### Crowne Plaza Tianjin Binhai

天津滨海圣光皇冠假日酒店 55 Zhonoxin Avenue, Airport Industrial Park. 空港物流加工区中心大道55号 Tel: 5867 8888 Fax: 5867 8899

Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Hotel &

## Web: www.crowneplaza.com

**Convention Cente** 天建万丽泰达酒店及会议中心 29 Second Ave., TEDA. 经济技术开发区第二大街29号

Tel: 6621 8888

#### **Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel** 天津滨海喜来受酒店

No.50, 2nd Avenue, TEDA, Binhai New Area 滨海新区天津经济技术开发区第二大街50号 TFI - 6528 8888 FAX: 6528 8801 www.sheraton.com/tianjinbinhai

#### [ Hotel Apartment 酒店公寓 ]

Tianiin Downtown

#### **Somerset International Building** Tianiin

天津盛捷国际大厦服务公寓 No 75 Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路75号 Tel: 2330 6666

## Somerset Olympic Tower Tianjin 天津盛捷奥林匹克大厦服务公寓

No 126 Chengdu Road, Heping 和平区成都道126号 Tel: 2335 5888

## Somerset Youyi Tianjin 天津盛捷友谊服务公寓

No 35 Youyi Road, Hexi 河西区方省路35号 Tel: 2810 7888

#### **Ariva Tianjin No.36 Serviced** Apartment

招商·艾丽华36号服务公寓 No.36 Xikang Road, Heping 和平区西康路36号 Tel: 2352 3636

#### TEDA &Tanggu

#### Green Park Villa 核林照

No.34, 1st Avenue TEDA, Tianjin 天津经济技术开发区第一大街34号 Tel: 2528 0670

#### **SCHOOL**

Tianjin Downtown

#### International School of Tianjin 天津经济技术开发区国际学校天津分校 Only international school in Tianjin fully authorized by the IBO to teach all three IB programs (PYP, MYP and DP) from age 3-18.

Weishan Nan Lu, Jinnan District, Tianjin 天津市津南区(双港)微山南路 Mon-Fri 07:30-16:30 T: +86 22 2859 2001 W: www.istianjin.org

#### Wellington College International Tianjin 天津惠灵顿国际学校

NO.1 Yide Dao, Hongqiao District 红桥区 义德道1号 Tel: 8758 7199 / 187 2248 7836 Email:admissions@wellington-tianjin.cn www.wellington-tianjin.cn

#### SmartKidz International Tianjin 音赞国际

5F, Building C, He Zhong Building, You Yi Bei Lu, Hexi District 天津市河西区友谊北路合众大厦C座5层 Tel: 18822359571, 18622303926 Landline:022-83860916 Email:thai.enc\_cn@yahoo.com

## Green Mandarin School 格林教育

Room 705, Block B, Kang Ning Building, Xi Kang Lu, Heping District 和平区西康路康宁大厦B座705室 1-2-302, Cheng Ji Center, Nan Jing Road, Heping District 和平区南京路诚基中心1号楼2门302室 Chengdu road No.151 成都道151号 Jiuhe International Village, 140Wei Guo Dao,Hedong District,Tianjin 河东区卫国道140号九河国际村 2401 Zaia Wanli Hotel&Apartment,8 Huang Hai Lu, Teda 滨海新区黄海路8号索亚万丽公寓2401室



#### Tianjin New Century Language & Culture education Center 天津新世紀语言文化教育中心 C3

Room 603, Building C, Huan Bo Hai International Apartment, Bin Shui Dao, Hexi District, Tianjin (opposite Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel) 天津市河西区宾水道环渤海国际公寓C座603 (天津宾馆对面) Tel: 2301 2820 / 15122706201 Email: office@newcenturychinese.com www.newcenturychinese.com



#### **Hopeland International Kindergarten** 华兰国际幼稚园 (海逸园)

No.5 Cuibo Road, MeijiangBay,tianjin,China 天津市梅江湾翠波道5号 Tel:022-6046-2555

## Hopeland International Kindergarten 华兰国际幼稚园(梅江园)

No.7 Huandao Middle Road, East Side of Jiefang South Road, Tianjin 天津市解放南路西侧环岛东路7号 Tel:022-5810-7777

#### Shuoba Chinese Academy 说吧汉语

Tianjin Heping District ChengduDao No.126 Somerset Olympic Tower 403 天津市和平区成都直还号盛建集林匹克层级室Tianjin Heping District Nanjing Rd.No.75 International Plaza 1802 天津市和平区南京路75号国际大厦1802室 Tel: 022-2335 0585 [Mr.Lu Tong] 187-1017-7191(Sandra)

#### Tianjin International School 天津国际学校

No.4-1 Sishui Road,Hexi 河西区裡水道4号增1号 Tel:8371 0900 Fax: 8731 0400 admin@tedainternationalschool.net www.tedainternationalschool.net

#### TEDA & Tanggu

#### Teda International School 泰达国际学校

72 Third Ave, TEDA. 经济技术开发区第三大街72号 Tel:6622 6158/6622 6157 Fax:6200 1818 admin@tedainternationalschool.net www.tedainternationalschool.net

#### MEDICAL FACILITY

#### Tianjin Downtown

## ARRAIL International Dental Clinic 聯尔专业口腔医疗机构

Rm 302, Tianjin International Building No.75 Nanjing Rd.Heping District, Tianjin 天津市和平区南京路75号天津国际大厦302室 Tel:022-2331-6202 Fax:022-2331-6215

#### Tianjin United Family Hospital (TJU) 天津和陆家医院

No. 22 Tianxiaoyuan, Tanjiang Road, Hexi District, Tianjin 300221 阿西区潭江道天满园22号 300221 Tel: (022) 58568500 Web: http://www.ufh.com.cn

#### Tianjin International SOS Clinic 天津国际(SOS)紧急救援诊所

1F Sheraton Tianjin Hotel, Zijinshan Lu, Hexi. 河西区蒙金山路天津喜来登大酒店公寓楼首层 Tel: 2352 0143 6537 7616

Hrs: 09:00-18:00(Mon-Sat)

## Tianjin TEDA International SOS Clinic 国际SOS天津泰达诊所

102-C2 MSD, No.79, 1st Avenue, TEDA 天津经济技术开发区第一大街79号泰达 MSD-C区2座102室 Tel: 6537 7616

#### **ESTATE**

#### Tianjin Downtown

#### E-SMART Relocation Consultants Co., Ltd 伊斯玛特安家服务有限公司

Rm. 1901, Ning Tai Plaza, No.1, Xia Guang Dao, Nankai 南开区懷光道: 号宁泰广场1901室 Tel: 2836 0997 Email: esmart@esmart.com.cn www.esmart.com.cn Hrs: Mon-Fri; 8:30-17:30 The very first and leading expats housing and relocation company in Tianiin region

#### Tianjin SYD Real Estate Consultants 天津尚易达房地产咨询有限公司

E-701 Rome Gardens, Yong An Dao, Hexi 河西区永安道罗马花园1期B-2-1401 Tel: 2324 6966/2324 6098 Hrs: 09:00-17:00

#### TEDA & Tanggu

#### Joanna Real Estate Consulting Co., Ltd (Tianjin Branch) 嘉國萱地房地产经纪有限公司(天津分公司)

No. H. 11 F, International Development Building, No.2, Dong Ting Road, TEDA 天神技术开放区洞路地引雨成为是大厦山景座 Tebes 6628 0211 Fax: 6628 0216 tjadmin@jrecorporate.cn

#### **CHAMBERS**

#### Tianiin Downtown

#### European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Tianjin Chapter 中國账票畜会天津办公会

41F, The Executive Center, Tianjin World Financial Center, 2 Dagubei Lu, Heping District, Tianjin 300020. 天津市和平区大治北路2号天津环球金融中心 41层總事商务中心 Tel: +86 (022) 58307608 Website:www.europeanchamber.com.cn

## The American Chamber of Commerce, Greater Tianjin Branch

Email: tianjin@euccc.com.cn

Rm2918, the Exchange Tower 2,189 Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路189号神江 - 期2918室 Tel: 23185075 Fax: 2318 5074 Website: www.amchamtianiin.org

#### German Chamber of Commerce in China - North China 中国被国高会

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#### German Business Circle Tianjin Deutscher Unternehmerkreis Tianjin, DUK

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#### Melbourne Office Tianjin 區尔本市天津代表处

Room 1008, International Building, 75 Nanjing Road, Heping District, Tianjin 30000, P.R.China天津市和平区南京路75号国际 大厦1008室 Tel: 86 22 23136003 Fax: 86 22 23136005 Business Hours: 8:30~17:30

#### CHURCH

#### Tianjin Downtown

#### St.Joseph's Cathedral 西平教堂

No.9, Xining Dao, Heping 和平区西宁道9号

#### Tianjin Christian Fellowship

King Hall Hotel, No.22, Huan Hu zhong Lu, Hexi 河西区环湖中路22号 Tel: 8829 7772 enquiry@tjif.com Open to foreign passport holders only

#### TEDA & Tanggu

#### **TEDA Christian Fellowship**

Building A, Report Hall, TEDA International Hotel, 2nd Avenue, No. 8, TEDA Tianjin 天津秦达开发区第二大街8号秦达理宗河占暨会馆

Email: enquiry@tedafellowship.com Phone: 151-2264-5704

#### **THEATRE**

#### Tianjin Downtown

#### Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大尉院

Culture Center Pingjiang Road Hexi 河西区平江道文化中心 Tel: 8388 2000

#### Tianjin Concert Hall 天津音乐厅

88 Jianshe Road Heping 和平区建设路88号 Tel: 2332 0068

#### Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

3 Youyi Road North Hexi 河西区友谊北路3号 Tel: 2326 3505/3501

#### **MUSEUM**

#### Tianjin Downtown

Tianjin Museum 天津博物馆

Intersection between Pingjiang Road and Yuexiu Road Hexi 河西区平江道与越秀路交口 Tel: 8388 3000

#### MASSAGE

#### Tianjin Downtown

#### A Sen Da Mu Tong 阿森大木桶养生馆

22 Pukou Dao, Hexi. 河西区浦口道22号 Tel: 2313 5080

#### Gudu Massage 古都技趣

1-1-607,Cheng Ji Center, Nanjing Road, Heping 和平区南京路诚基中心1号楼17367 Tel: 2313 7919 / 136 821 90233 Hrs: 10:00-02:00

#### Chinese Massage Club 中国整体院

Rm. 11F, Building 1, Zijin Garden, No.15, Binshui Dao, Hexi 河西区宾水道15号紫金花园1座11F室 Tel: 88294330, 13512489654 Hrs: 10:00-24:00

#### Heavenly SPA By Westin 威斯汀天梦水疗

6F, The Westin Tianjin, No.101, Nanjing Lu, Heping 和平区南京路101号威斯汀酒店6层 Tel:23890088 Hrs: 10:00-24:00

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#### **CAR RENTING**

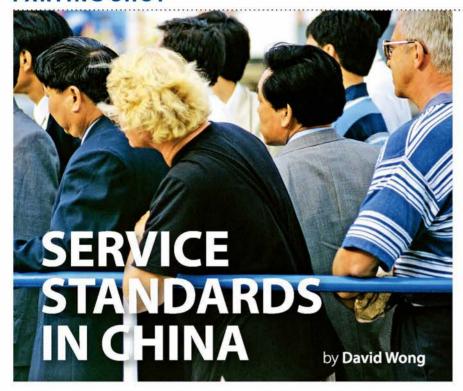
Tianjin Downtown

#### Car rental service (with driver)

Wong Wei has many years of driving experience and currently drives a 2.4L Buick Lacrosse Ultimate with a beige interior. If you are interested in using a car-rental business, please contact him on the the following number: 13820639359, 13920891917 (Chinese)







Ever feel frustrated when you confront service standards in China? Don't think that it is just the superior attitude of the expat over the native Chinese, just talk to a native that has just returned from an overseas holiday and they will have similar comments.

Paying at a Cashier: It is not unusual for other customers to butt in and ask questions or put their item or bill right in front to ensure that they are next. Heaven help you if there is any gap between you and the customer in front, because someone will butt in within a Nano second. Even with more than one cashier it appears like a free for all, don't relax and pay attention to your smartphone, if the person in front moves ahead, you've lost your place.

Service in the Restaurant: The server will bring to the table one menu and stand beside the customer immediately waiting for the order. While you are eating, the server will also be standing nearby, not to be clearing dishes or adding water but anxious to bring

HEAVEN HELP YOU IF THERE IS ANY GAP BETWEEN YOU AND THE CUSTOMER IN FRONT, BECAUSE SOMEONE WILL BUTT IN WITHIN A NANO SECOND. your bill, and clear the dishes immediately once you have paid. This is especially true if the restaurant is popular and patrons are waiting. Thank goodness, there is now a system of handing out numbers for those waiting. In the past, customers waiting for a table would look over the tables and guess who is almost finished and stand beside you. So there has been progress.

Service in the Supermarket: If you cant find an item and ask a worker, you will be lucky if they respond and if they do, they just point in the general direction. Usually, they are only responsible for their own area and not aware or care of other sections. Once an item is sold, returning it for an exchange is difficult if not impossible. As reality TV consumer programs become more popular and publicly criticize bad service, attitudes are changing. The consumer power through the Internet is growing so retailers are paying more attention to their customers. However, it is still a good idea to keep your receipt and confirm what is the return and exchange regulations.

Getting directions on the street: First you need to decide who looks like they may be able to help, many people do not venture too far from their space. The street numbering and building numbers are not logical and most times non-existent. If you are able to find someone willing to help, they will usually point you in the general direction and tell you to ask someone there. The problem is the Chinese are too hospitable, especially when it

comes to a foreigner. They really want to help and even if they don't know, they will try to provide a general direction. So it's wise to ask more that one person in order to verify your initial findings.

It is likely, we have all encountered one or all of the frustrations described above but remember that China is now 1.4 billion and cities like Tianjin over 15 million, that's more than some countries. If you speak to someone that was in China more than 20 years ago, there were absolutely no line-ups and now most bus stops are quite orderly.

This is not a critical article, but trying to explain the reasons for the differences - you just need to recognize the where you are. In China there are so many people and all with a highly competitive attitude. Solution, hire a driver or ayi to do it for you or count to ten and be patient (on second thought just count to 3 or else someone will butt in.)

## 中国式服务需要耐心

当你遭遇中国的服务标准时, 你很有可能感到 失望。这不仅仅是老外们的看法, 很多中国人在走 出国门之后也会有类似的感叹。

- · 结账——在你结账的时候,你要时刻提防有 人会插队,或是不停地向服务员问问题,把自己的 东西抢先一步放到银合上,提醒收银员他是下一个。 你不能只聚精会神玩手机,如果你不能紧跟队伍, 你的位置很可能被抢走。
- · 在餐厅——服务员每桌只给一份菜单,然后就站在旁边等你点菜。吃饭过程中,服务员也会一直站在你身边,等你结账然后收拾碗碟。幸好现在有很多餐厅都执行排号制度,否则你要自己去猜谁快吃完了然后站在旁边等。
- · 在超市——如果你在超市想找一样商品,你会去问理货员,他们通常只会指向一个大概的方向,因为他们只负责某一个区域,不了解其他货区的情况。而且退换货很不容易。鉴于人们越来越依赖网购,实体店也在改变他们的态度,不过购物小票还是要留好,方便退换货。
- · 问路——在中国问路你先要察言观色,认准 可以帮你的人。很多街道名称和门牌号好像排列的 并不清晰,甚至找不到。很多中国人都非常热情, 但他们也不是十分清楚,只能告诉你一个大概的方 向,让你到了那边再问其他人。所以你最好多问几 个人。

可能以上令人郁闷的情况你都遇到过。但你要记住,这是一个拥有 14 亿人口的国家,天津也有 1500 万人口,比某些国家的总人口还要多。20 年前,人们排队的意识可大不如现在呢。

当然,这篇文章并不是要批评谁,而只是告诉你, 在中国这个充满竞争意识的国家,你会遇到怎样的 情况。如果你不能忍受这些,最好让你的司机或者 阿姨替你跑腿。不然就请你心中默默数十下,保持 耐心!

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