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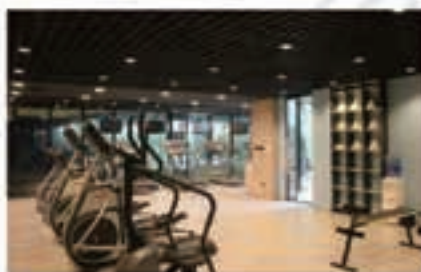
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**16**  
FEATURE

**Cars in China**  
买不买车，没那么简单



**22**  
PEOPLE

**Finding Help at the Right Time**  
关键时刻，伸出援手



**24**  
BUSINESS

**Please Buy For Me**  
“代购”的学问



**34**  
EDUCATION

**Multi-Cultural Unity in Soccer**  
多彩的球队

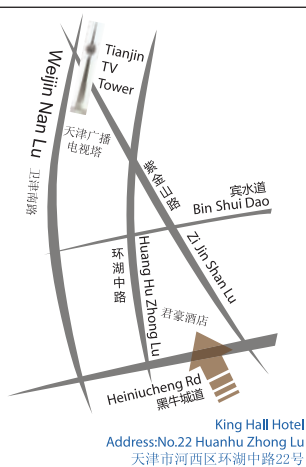
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Please contact Scott Carlson with any questions:  
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• TEDA email: enquiry@tedafellowship.com  
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**42**  
CULTURE

**Doing the Locomotion**  
火车承载文化



**36**  
PARENTING

**A Day In The Life Of A Chinese Public School Student** 一个中国学校学生的一天



**44**  
LOOK&LEARN

**Happy Holidays!**  
别让开心变堵心!



**46**  
TIANJIN IN PHOTOGRAPHS

**Regong Art in Tianjin**  
青海热贡艺术在天津

**LIFESTYLE**

What to do with the kids? **48**  
暑假来了，孩子们都去哪儿呢？

**DINING FEATURE**

BBQ Season Has Come **50**  
夏日烧烤季

**HEALTH**

Health Checkups in Tianjin **54**  
天津体检

**TRAVEL**

Xian—The Center and Origin of China **58**  
华夏文明的发源地——西安

**TIANJIN TIP**

Interpreting Phone Company Messages **61**  
解密运营商的短信

**PARTING SHOT**

Not Boring Summer in Tianjin **74**  
夏天不寂寞

**Ads Index**

**Hotel 酒店**  
The Westin Tianjin  
**School 学校**  
Tianjin International School  
International School of Tianjin  
TEDA International School  
Hopeland International Kindergarten

**Restaurant 餐厅**  
Ding Tai Fung  
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REX Service  
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HR CLUB

TNC  
JINGS STUDIO  
Montrose Wine House  
SINOBO

07/04

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Children's Play: Cat and Mouse**

儿童剧《猫和老鼠》

演出: 北京丑小鸭卡通艺术团

Time: 10:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/23

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Piano Recital**

琴键上的玩耍—茱莉亚·马佐尼钢琴独奏音乐会

演出: 茱莉亚·马佐尼

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/04

▶▶▶ Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

**Gelman's Classic Play: Bench**

谈谈情, 说说谎

—苏联剧作家盖利曼经典剧作《长椅》

演出: 杨力 郭思辰 文悟先

Time: 20:00

ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi

河西区友谊北路3号

Tel: 8622-23263505

07/05

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Piano Recital**

丹尼尔·里戈利奥钢琴独奏音乐会

演出: 丹尼尔·里戈利奥

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/24

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Drama: Come to A Bad End**

冯远征导演话剧《死无葬身之地》

演出: 冯远征

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/10

▶▶▶ Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

**Parsons Angel's Voice Concert**

柏斯天使之声音乐会

演出: 柏斯小天使艺术团

Time: 19:30

ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi

河西区友谊北路3号

Tel: 8622-23263505

07/12

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Piano Concert by Lance Wiseman**

钢琴里的宫崎骏—兰斯·怀斯曼钢琴视听音乐会

演出: 兰斯·怀斯曼

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/25

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Chorus Concert**

春江花月夜—中外名曲合唱音乐会

演出: 北京春之声合唱艺术团

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/11

▶▶▶ Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

**String Concert**

当提琴遇上民歌—弦乐四重奏音乐会

演出: 西岸新古典室内乐团·田园组合

Time: 20:00

ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi

河西区友谊北路3号

Tel: 8622-23263505

07/14

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Piano Recital by Feng Dawei**

冯大维钢琴独奏音乐会

演出: 冯大维

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/26

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Joe Hisaishi and Miyazaki Hayao  
Cartoon Works Audio-visual Concert**

千与千寻—久石让与宫崎骏作品音乐会

演出: 京津爱乐乐团

Time: 15:00

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/18

▶▶▶ Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

**Chamber Music Concert**

漫步在音乐小巷—室内重奏音乐会

演出: 蒲公英重奏组

Time: 20:00

ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi

河西区友谊北路3号

Tel: 8622-23263505

07/17

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Double Piano Concert**

炫技双钢琴—阿莲娜和伊莲娜双钢琴音乐会

演出: 阿莲娜·瓦尔丹妮 伊莲娜·萨维那

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/31

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Opera: La Traviata Tianjin Version**

津版歌剧《茶花女》

演出: 天津歌舞剧院歌剧团、天津歌剧院合唱团

Time: 19:30

ADD: Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi

河西区平江道文化中心

Tel: 83882000

07/25

▶▶▶ Western Shore Art Salon 西岸艺术馆

**Duet Concert**

午夜幻想曲—萨克斯钢琴重奏音乐会

演出: 罗朗·穆赫

Time: 20:00

ADD: No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi

河西区友谊北路3号

Tel: 8622-23263505



07/25

▶▶▶ Tianjin Olympic Sports Center Stadium  
天津奥体中心体育场(水滴)



**2015 World Tour Concert by Fish Leong**  
“梁静茹·你的名字是爱情” 2015世界巡回演唱会天津站  
Time: 19:30

ADD: 393 Bin Shui Xi Dao  
宾水西道393号



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07/31

▶▶▶ Tianjin Grand Theatre 天津大剧院

**Classical Guitar Concert**  
滨城曦月—古典吉他二重奏之夜  
演出: 胡滨、陈曦  
Time: 20:00

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

07/10

▶▶▶ Tianjin Concert Hall 天津音乐厅

**Symphony Concert**  
by Tianjin Symphony Orchestra  
欧洲之旅交响音乐会  
演奏: 天津交响乐团  
Time: 19:30

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

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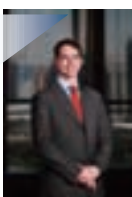
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**Todd Mischke**  
Territory Developer for SUBWAY Tianjin  
赛百味天津地区发展商



Tianjin No.2 Children's Hospital was officially opened on June 1. The new Children's Hospital is located at 238 Long Yan Dao, Beichen District, next to Metro Line 1 Liu Yuan Station. The original 64-year-old Children's Hospital will be closed for renovations.

6月1日,天津市第二儿童医院正式全面开诊。地点位于北辰区龙岩道238号,地铁一号线刘园站附近。有着64年历史的原佟楼院区停诊改造。

Tianjin Airlines is now offering direct flights from Tianjin to Irkutsk in Russia. The new route opened on June 2 and the A320 Airbus will fly every Wednesday and Sunday.

6月2日,天津滨海国际机场开通天津至伊尔库茨克(俄罗斯)国际航班,该航线由天津航空A320机型执飞,每周三、日各一班。

Scot Airline's Dreamliner route flying from Singapore to Tianjin was officially opened on June 4. The aircraft will fly the Singapore - Tianjin route on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

6月4日,新加坡酷航波音787梦幻飞机首航天津,该飞机将运营“新加坡—天津”定期航线。每周一、周四、周六执飞。

The first phase of Subway Line 6 in Tianjin will undergo pilot runs by the end of the year, according to the Tianjin Railway Transportation Group. The main body of 24 subway stations of Subway Line 6 has been completed. Around 77 percent of construction between Dabizhuang and Shuishangdong containing 21 channels has been completed.

按照计划,到今年年底,天津地铁6号线一期工程即大毕庄至水上东路段将完成施工,实现试运行(通车不载客)。据悉,目前地铁6号线已完成24座场站主体结构施工,大毕庄车辆段至水上东路站区间盾构掘进完成总量的77%,其中21条区间隧道已贯通。

Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei held the First Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition of Traditional Handicrafts to welcome the tenth Chinese Cultural Heritage Day on June 13. Up to a hundred pieces of traditional handicrafts from Tianjin were exhibited at the National Agriculture Exhibition Center in Beijing. The exhibition is held by the Culture Bureaus of Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei and is the first regional intangible cultural heritage project. The exhibition will be held in Tianjin next year.

为推动京津冀协同发展,“京津冀非物质文化遗产展暨传统手工艺作品设计大赛”已于近期在北京农业展览馆举办。本次活动是京津冀三地组织的首次区域合作非遗展示活动,也是首次在国内非遗保护工作领域举办作品设计大赛。

The names of the honorary advisors are listed according to the alphabetical order of the first name initial. 以上荣誉顾问按姓名首字母顺序排列,排列不分先后

Three domestic first-class media platforms: 91maker.com, YOU+ International Youth Community and 36Kr.com set up office in the Tianjin Development Zone on June 5 and are now ready to provide their full-services to new entrepreneurs.

6月5日, 创客总部、YOU+ 国际青年社区和 36 氦三家国内一流创客空间落户天津开发区, 为创业者提供全方位服务。

The 2015 Tianjin Spring Real Estate Fair was held in the Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Center on June 6-10. There were 105 exhibition projects mainly concerned with commodity housing projects.

6月6-10日, 2015天津春季房地产交易会在梅江会展中心举行。105个参展项目以普通商品住房为主, 主推中小户型、中低价位的项目内容。

After approval by the Ministry of Public Security, from June 8, 2015 the Tianjin Binhai International Airport will officially conduct a 72-hour visa-free entry policy for some foreign passengers. Foreigners from 51 countries around the world holding valid international travel documents and a third country (region) onward ticket can enjoy a 72 hour visa-free stay in Tianjin.

经公安部批准, 自 2015 年 6 月 8 日起, 天津滨海国际机场口岸将正式实施部分国家外国人 72 小时过境免办签证政策。届时, 来自全球 51 个国家持有有效国际旅行证件和前往第三国(地区)联程机票的外国人, 可免办签证在天津停留 72 个小时。

Northern Chinese transport authorities are aiming to build a second intercity railway between Beijing and neighboring Tianjin municipality this year, with a route incorporating a stop in Hebei province. Intercity trains started transporting passengers between the two cities in 2008, but that route does not stop in Hebei. The new service forms part of the region's development plan, based on integrating Beijing and its surrounding areas.

在近期举办的“北京影响力”启动仪式及京津冀协同发展主题论坛上, 市发改委副主任、市协同办副主任刘伯正介绍, 京唐城际铁路将在年内开工, 而北京天津间的第二条城际铁路——京滨城际也力争年内开工。

The 9th China International Private Equity Forum commenced on June 17, 2015. The two-day session of the 2015 CIPEF has attracted delegations from 22 countries and regions as well as from 30 provinces, cities and autonomous regions in China.

During the event there will be 27 major conferences and seminars. The seminars will be on topics such as "Internet+ Finance and the Real Economy", "OBOR and African Development", the "ACG Enterprises Growth Forum", "Yujiapu Factoring the Ecosystem by Relying on the Free Trade Zone", "Synergetic Development of Beijing Tianjin and Hebei", "Green Finance and Free Trade Zone Construction", "The Future of Free Trade Zones and the Leasing Industry" and "Institutional Innovation and Synergetic Development".

The 2015 CIPEF is being promoted in various new media: including APP, the Financial Service Website and Wechat, this is in addition to the information available on its official website. For more details, please visit www.cipef.org.

第九届中国企业国际融资洽谈会 - 科技国际融资洽谈会于 6 月 17 日开幕。为期两天的本届融洽会有来自全球 22 个国家和地区以及全国 30 个省、市、自治区代表参加。



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# LETTER

## FROM THE EDITOR

July is one of the few months without a national holiday but most schools will be closed for the summer holidays. With this in mind, read our Lifestyles article that provides some suggestions for what to do for and with the kids.

This month's feature is about buying cars, the pros and cons of whether to buy a vehicle and what are some of the special challenges and hurdles of owning an automobile in China. Can you get a license plate? For the culture article, we have an interesting piece regarding the culture of train travel. Our travel section takes us to Xian and the many sites and historic events other than just seeing the Terracotta Warriors. This month, we will visit the He Dong District. Continuing in our series of Metro articles, this month, we look at Xihengdi station.

If you are planning to buy a washing machine, read our article first and benefit from our process of making this purchase. Why do most Chinese homes not have a clothes dryer?

Although there are no Chinese holidays, look for July 1 and July 4 for national days for Canada and United States respectively. France celebrates Bastille Day on July 14 and South Korea has Constitution Day on July 17th. I'm sure some of the hotels will feature special promotions. Summer is also the popular time for barbeques and we look at different types of barbeques and various foods that are popular for the grill.

Enjoy the summer and I always look forward to hearing from you.

7月既是为数不多的几个没有法定节日的月份之一，也是各个高校暑假的开始。如果你对孩子的暑假没有太多的计划，那么不妨参考一下我们的生活文章，希望里面的内容会对你们有所帮助。本月的主题是关于买车的话题，什么值得买以及在中国取得驾照的问题，我们都会在文章中一一列出，如果你正有这方面的疑惑，不要忘记我们的文章永远能帮你找到答案。7月的文化栏目，我们为大家讲述的是火车旅行的文化，而至于本期的旅行目的地，我们则来到了历史古城——西安，这里有太多的内容值得你去探索，当然也有太多的故事等待着人们去聆听。虽然本月没有中国的法定节日，但对于外国朋友来说，7月可是一个多姿多彩的月份，多多关注我们的杂志，多多发现酒店里各种精彩的活动，尽情享受这个愉快的夏天吧。如果有任何的疑问与建议，我一一如既往的在这里等你。

Monica Wang  
Editor  
editorial@jinmagazine.com.cn



JULY

**Responsible Institute**

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**Publisher**

Jinwan Media Group

**Editor-in-Chief**

Li Juanjuan

**Assistant Editor-in-Chief**

Liu Zheng

**Editors**

Monica Wang, Leticia Zhang

**Regular Contributors**

David Wong, Carmen King, Bryce Cristiano, Robert Watt, Daniel McCool, Charlotte Edwards

**Design**

Sun Xiao, Joker, Wang Xiaomin

**Sales & Advertising**

CandyYang, LuHuiqing, Li He

**Distribution**

Chen Pengyu

**Advertising**

Tianjin Fenghua Advertising Co., Ltd.

**Tianjin Office**

8F, Jinwan Media Building, 358 Nanjing Lu, Nankai District

**Tel** +86 22 2750 0877

**Fax** +86 22 2750 9201

**E-mail** editorial@jinmagazine.com.cn

@jinmagazine

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传真 +86 22 2750 9201

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FEATURE

# CARS IN CHINA

by David Wong and Carmen King



Consumers are consulting a sales person in a 4S shop  
Photo by Jane Liu





**M**y first trip to China was 1985. At that time, there were no privately owned cars, all vehicles were registered and owned by companies and there were only 5,000 passenger cars manufactured in China. In 1985, it would have been hard for you to see any luxury cars, a Mercedes was an exception, and most cars were Volkswagen, Santana and Audi's. Just 30 years later, and China is now the world's largest car manufacturer, making over 20 million automobiles each year, USA is number 2 producing 15 million units annually.

Of course being number one has also produced a formidable traffic problem. From no private cars in 1986, there are now over 200 million privately owned cars in China, about 6 million in Beijing and almost 3 million in Tianjin. The numbers continue to grow as young couples strive to own an apartment, buy a car and have a baby, not necessarily in that order. As for luxury cars, there is a significant segment of rich that tend to show off their wealth by driving the most expensive cars available. When you pass by a five star hotel or restaurant you will see more Bentleys, Rolls Royces, sports cars such as Ferrari's or Lamborghini's than you will see in North America.

This love of cars and huge growth has necessitated an implementation of restrictions to try and limit the numbers on the overcrowded roadways. In Tianjin and Beijing, a license plate lottery has been in place, in order to obtain a new car plate, you must submit an application into a pool and only a limited number of new plates are available every month. In Shanghai, they have implemented a system of monthly auctions for new plates, one now costs over 80,000 RMB. Also according to the last number of the plate, cars are not allowed on the roads one day a week from Monday to Friday from 7am to 8pm depending upon the daily weekday restriction. These restrictions are posted widely

and shown in the local papers or you can call operator assistance at 114 and they will confirm if your number is allowed on the road.

Don't forget that these restrictions apply to other cities, so if you are driving to Beijing, your Tianjin plate is considered a foreign plate and are restricted during rush hour periods in addition to the weekly restriction. It is said that China invented bureaucracy and if you look at the licensing system, you will agree. Each province has its designated license identification, for example, Tianjin is the initial character Jin 津, Beijing is Jing 京 and the neighboring Hebei province is Ji 冀. This is further segmented when there are several other cities in the province such as Shijiazhuang, which is the capital and largest city in Hebei. There car plates are 冀 A. This may also be a good place to remind you that 津 E is the official plate for Tianjin taxis otherwise they are illegal or "Black Taxis". If you see a plate with the character Qiong 琼 you may wonder how it got to Tianjin, because this stands for Hainan Island.

Other plates to note are white plates, which represent a branch of the military forces. These plates usually have the run of the road and are not restricted by the police. A black plate represents a foreign company vehicle. These are getting fewer as they have stopped issuing this type of plate a number of years ago and those you see are older plates. They were originally issued to provide foreign owned cars with some privileged benefits but these have long ceased. Diplomatic plates are also have their specific format, they are black with the red character Shi 使 which stands for Embassy and the first 3 numbers designate the country. For example 123 is Canada and 224 is United States, and if the following 3 numbers are 001, it is the Ambassador's car.

Assuming that you are able to obtain a license plate and you have considered all the economic reasons why purchasing a vehicle is the worst investment one can make, not just in

### IN CHINA, OWNING A CAR IS A STATUS SYMBOL. YOU ARE JUDGED BY HAVING YOUR OWN CAR AND THE TYPE OF CAR YOU DRIVE.

China, but especially in China. Once you purchase a car, the asset immediately depreciates and never appreciates over time. If you calculate the total costs, in terms of fuel, maintenance, insurance, parking and highway tolls etc. It would make better economic sense to take public transportation, a taxi or rent a vehicle when required. However, in this age, most of us have grown up in a culture of owning a car, being able to control our own destiny and being able to drive anywhere and anytime that we want. This is especially true in the West, where as a teenager, having your own vehicle is a way of life and something all is accustomed to.

In China, owning a car is a status symbol. You are judged by having your own car and the type of car you drive. The next level up is when you not only own the car, but can afford to hire a driver to do the driving. If not for

recent developments of GPS (Geographic Positional Systems), driving in China for non-Chinese speakers would be virtually impossible. This has now all changed and these devices are quite accurate, even in an environment of constant new roadway additions.

So you have decided to buy a car in China, there are still a few things to be remembered. If you decide to buy an imported car, expect to pay as much a double or triple the manufacturers' listed price back home. This is changing as the Chinese authorities have declared that this is unfair for the Chinese market and import duties are expected to drop. However with over 20 different Chinese manufacturers of local brands, it will likely be some time before the import duties are lowered significantly which presently serves to protect the domestic manufacturers.

Another purchasing option is to buy second hand or also known as a pre-owned vehicle. This market is not as developed as in the West, where used car lots are as numerous as new car lots and in fact some sell new cars and used cars in the same facility. In China, this is growing but slowly. Chinese still have an aversion to buying something that is previously owned by a stranger. There is a

culture of "losing face" (in Chinese known as: Mei MianZi 没面子) and the perception of not being able to afford to buy new. Some Chinese new car dealers will have access to used cars when clients trade in their old vehicle and buy a new model. But unless you have an exceptional relationship with the dealer, these deals will be gobbled up by friends and relatives.

Owning an older vehicle also comes with the added burden of the annual vehicle inspection for cars that are over 3 years old. This is a time consuming exercise that means you need to take at least half a day to run your car through a government facility. The alternative is to pay a "car club" to do this for you and if you pay the extra fee, they will guarantee that the vehicle will pass the inspection. This process is also another way that the government ensures that everyone pays for their traffic infractions. One of the first checks made during the inspection process is a review of outstanding traffic tickets, for moving violations, parking and highway infractions. There are a series of infractions ranging from point deductions and monetary fines. Going over 12 point's means your driver's license will be suspended. You can have it reinstated by taking a driver re-education course. You can also avoid the



A road in Beijing during rush hours

points by allowing someone else to assume the infraction. This is a thriving business at all Police Traffic Offices, individuals will hang out at the front door selling the service to “use” their driver’s license for your infraction, usually at the price of 100 RMB per point.

You will need to buy insurance for your vehicle, take a good Chinese friend who is a driver and understands the policies to help explain the options of the policies. There are minimum coverage requirements. The premium will depend upon the replacement value of your vehicle, with the higher the value meaning the more costly the premium.

Are you sure you really want to drive in China? Now that you have cleared all the hurdles to buy a car, you need to ask the question, will you be able to cope with driving conditions here. Due to the extreme high number of vehicles, driving in China is not anything like driving in the West, even in downtown Manhattan. Do not misunderstand, the drivers in China are not bad drivers, in fact, they are probably more skilled at driving than any Western driver. In order to manipulate in the endless sea of traffic, the drivers here are much more aggressive. Tailgating and constant changing of lanes is a must if you want to make any progress during rush hour traffic.

In the West, you will likely find driving to be leisurely and a time to relax. Perhaps even putting on cruise control and listening to some of your favorite music. Not so in China, you will likely never use your cruise control and your favorite “music” is likely that of your GPS instructions. Some of the new vehicles have a safety feature of automatic braking if you are too close to another vehicle. This feature is useless though because traffic here dictates tailgating or else other drivers will cut you off. Driving in China requires much more attention. You need to be aware of traffic patterns developing ahead in order to anticipate your next move. Driving for an hour here is very draining of your energy and nerves. You will find that a normal 3 hour drive in the country back home will be torture here and require a similar recovery time. Remember this is even after the implementation of limiting new license plate registrations and a 20% reduction in the cars on the road by means of weekly driving restrictions. The only way to really avoid all this nonsense is if you are fortunate enough to hire a driver to handle all the driving. Then you can actually sit back and listen to your music or play with your

smartphone.

All things considered, cars are still selling in China. Major cities like Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Shenzhen all represent huge car markets. We will now compare the differences in the car buying process in China versus overseas. Let’s use Tianjin as a sample market. What factors into a Chinese person choosing a car goes beyond price, and many times will involve, as mentioned above, what is “socially acceptable”. A car should not just be reliable, a good value, or easy to maintain. It should, for many Chinese, be a means to let others know they have the financial prowess to obtain such a car. Putting aside the crazy expensive cars, in general, Audi’s are very socially acceptable and sell quite well in Tianjin. Why? One major reason is that many government leaders ride in Audi’s, most always black in color.

buying all the Toyotas? One major consumer is cab drivers. Tianjin has a huge Chinese-Japanese Joint-Venture Toyota plant. This means that certain models of Toyota cars are widely available, and sold at a price that is less expensive than an imported Toyota. Add to this Toyota’s reputation for being easy to maintain and highly reliable, this makes it a top pick among cab drivers.

Ironically, the way Tianjin cab drivers choose a car, is much closer to the way the average western may choose a car. Things like, overall value, durability, maintenance fees, and long-term cost of ownership are all things most expats will have high on their list of things to consider when buying a car be it in China or back home. Since cab drivers are less concerned about “face” and whether their car makes other people think they are “cool” and



Toyota is popular among cabbies.  
Photo by Jane Liu

Therefore, a business man pulling up in his black Audi, even if he has nothing to do with the government, may get to bask in the glory of “government official” like treatment.

Another brand which sells well in Tianjin is Toyota. However the surprising thing is who is buying those Toyotas. It isn’t the average family. This is in stark contrast to the States where Toyota is a very popular car brand, especially among budget conscious, and quality conscious families. The Toyota Corolla, Camry, Prius, RAV4, and other Toyota models can be seen pretty much everywhere around town in America. Not so in Tianjin. Some of the models are rarely, if ever, seen here. So who is

more concerned about practicality, then likewise the Toyota brand represents a solid choice. Cabbies aside though, Toyota’s are not hugely popular with Tianjiner’s.

Volkswagen is an interesting brand in terms of who buys it here in Tianjin. First, VW makes the list of possible cab choices for taxi drivers. The types of cars which are allowed as cabs are limited. Cabbies can’t just pick any car they want. Albeit VW is typically known to be sturdier than Toyota in terms of overall car construction, this comes at a price. One, the initial price of a VW is usually higher than a Toyota. Second, fuel efficiency seems to be lower. Thus cost conscious Tianjin cab drivers in



Busy traffic in Tianjin

most cases choose Toyota over VW. The number of Toyota cabs in Tianjin far outnumbers that of VW cabs. However, it looks like VW was smart and hasn't put all their car selling eggs in one basket. In addition to being available as a cab choice, VW has also made it on the list of cars that some government agencies are using. For example some Police cars in Tianjin could be a VW. Likewise some government leaders have been known to ride in VW's, again like the Audi's, black in color. With VW being "good enough" for the government, so too a number of company bosses seem to feel comfortable making a black VW their choice of car. In this respect the VW brand and what it represents in Tianjin is way different than in the United States. In the States VW is typically a "family" brand. VW would be thought of as a solid choice for the middle class family looking for a great balance between quality and price. Only in recent years has VW been producing more and more luxury level cars, trying to effectively expand its market share beyond the family.

Not only do car brands and what they represent in Tianjin vary greatly when compared with overseas, so too do the models. Not every type of model car commonly available elsewhere will be easily bought in Tianjin. A fascinating phenomenon in this respect is the "old new" car. What's this? Expats may have seen an older model car driving around town that looks like brand new. At first, one might think the owner really knows how to keep up their car. Overseas, this is typically the case if an older style car is still in great condition after years of driving. Not necessarily so in Tianjin. How so? Older year body styles are often still available for purchase brand new! That's right, imagine buying a

## IRONICALLY, THE WAY TIANJIN CAB DRIVERS CHOOSE A CAR, IS MUCH CLOSER TO THE WAY THE AVERAGE WESTERN MAY CHOOSE A CAR.

2005 model car in 2015, and it isn't used, it is new. This type of situation exists in Tianjin. It actually is a great option. Especially for expats who often aren't buying a car for "face" but rather for the practicality, choosing a brand new car with the body style of yesteryears can save big money. It's like getting the best of both worlds, a cheaper car like buying used, but new in terms of quality.

So we've covered car culture in China, what sells well in China, what is the difference between China buyers and overseas buyers. Next on the list is alternative energy. Car registration and daily driving restrictions in China are sited as necessary for two reasons: to reduce traffic and to reduce pollution. In addition to reducing the rate at which new cars hit the road, or even trying to control the number of cars on the road, there is another option when it comes to easing car related pollution. That is alternative energy vehicles. One of the most popular examples of this overseas is the Toyota Prius. The Prius electric powered car isn't just about cleaner energy, but it has even become a bit of its own sub-culture. Drivers of a Prius tend to "represent" something, an overall lifestyle of going green not just driving a battery powered car to save on gas. What about

non-gas automobiles in Tianjin?

For expats interested in Chinese manufactured electric cars they can consider Lifan (力帆 lifān). Lifan was founded in Chongqing and has made cars for several decades. Currently they have a car dealership located in Tianjin's Beichen district. Side note, as it relates to linguistics, for some odd reason car dealerships are known as "4S店" in Chinese. The number four is said in Chinese "sì", the S is said in English as simply "S", and then "diàn". So it is an odd Chinese, English, Chinese "word", which means "car dealership". Simply add the brand of the car on the front when asking or searching for info online. For example in this case Lifan Car Dealership would be in Chinese: 力帆 4S店.

Chinese class aside, back to car talk. So Lifan has two electric car models available. One is a typical four door passenger car, the Lifan 630. The sales price is around 140,000 RMB. Another electric option is a mini-van, which oddly enough in Chinese is known as a "Bread Van" (面包车 miànbāochē). This is sold for around 50,000 RMB. Now the beauty of these electric cars is the availability. Unlike their gas-powered competitors, currently in Tianjin electric cars can be purchased at any time. There is no need to either play the "registration lottery", or pay the whopping fee associated with the "registration auction". Of course, every coin has its flip side. In this case, it is re-charging.

Re-charging electric cars is no small issue. According to the Lifan sales associate there are about 50 re-charge stations around town. However, a recharge of course comes at a cost, and takes time! Perhaps somewhere around 1 hour! Just when you thought getting gas took too long, imagine waiting around for an hour just to charge up your car! The other re-charging option doesn't get much better. One could find a friend and dismount the battery. Then take it inside and charge it for around 6 hours. Depending on how often one drives, this process could become very time and effort preventive! Imagine needing to find a friend every time you need to charge up! Thus, the good of electric cars is, no waiting for a license plate, plus no foul emissions. The bad is, charging up that battery becomes a real pain!

Well, as with everything else in life, there are always pros and cons, and owning a car in Tianjin is no different. Despite the challenges, the numbers don't lie. Cars are still big business in China. Although America may be

the "home" of the automobile as it relates to culture. China is claiming its spot as the largest car market in the world. Overcrowded city streets in Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, and Shenzhen make this point painfully clear. To try and put a band-aid on the wound, the Central government has placed limits on the number of new registrations granted in many of the major cities, Tianjin included. Add to this, driving restrictions based on license plate numbers. Add to this the intense driving conditions, where roads are shared between cars, trucks, bikes, mopeds, pedestrians, and anything else that can move. When all of these factors are taken into consideration, taking that cruise around town may not be so relaxing after all. Of course there is the option of going green and buying an electric car. However for men with testosterone the idea of stamping down on the pedal of your "go-cart" may not seem appealing at all, let alone when issues like re-charging are considered. When it comes to cars in China, perhaps the best advice can be found in the simple yet time-tested wisdom of: "buyer beware".

## 买不买车，没那么简单

1986年我初到中国的时候，中国还没有私家车，所有的车辆都是以单位名义登记的。30年后，中国已经成为世界最大的汽车制造国，每年生产超过2000万辆机动车。机动车数量的激增也带来一系列交通问题。仅在京津地区，目前机动车保有量分别达到6000万和3000万，而且每年还在增长，因为年轻一代成家立业之前必须买房买车，有坚挺的刚需。而在中产阶级以上的富裕阶层崛起之后，对豪华型轿车的需求也持续上升。在星级酒店门口，你经常能看到宾利、劳斯莱斯这样的豪车。

在这样的形势下，政府不得不采取一些措施控制机动车的飞速增长给城市交通带来的压力，一系列限行措施在京津两地都已经实施。消费者购买新车需要经过摇号，每月只有一定量的号牌发放。而在上海则采取号牌拍卖，中标价已经超过8万元。即使你已经成功拥有自己的车，每周还有一天限号不能开车。

即便你有幸摇到了号牌，但综合所有经济因素，买车是最不划算的投资，尤其在中国。你一旦买了车，它就开始贬值，所有的养车成本包括汽油、养护、保险、停车和高速费用。如此算来，乘坐公共交通更为划算。但在这个有车时代，我们希望能够掌控自己的生活，随时开车去想去的地方。在西方，很多青少年都有自己的车，大家习以为常。

在中国，私家车也是一种社会地位的象征，你开什么车代表你是什么样的人。但作为雇不起私人司机的一个老外，导航仪是一件必不可少的武器。

如果你决定在中国买车，有几件事是要注意的。进口车的价格往往是国外的两到三倍。虽然进口关税有望降低，但中国有20多个汽车品牌，作为对它们的一种保护，进口车关税是否真的能降下来还有待观察。

第二个选择是购买二手车。西方的二手车市场几乎和新车市场一样庞大，有些车行甚至两种车都卖。

但在中国，二手车市场发展却较为缓慢，因为人们不喜欢买别人用过的东西，因为这样有些“丢面子”，好像买不起新车似的。有些4S店可以办理旧车收购业务，收购的款项可以抵消新车费用。但是你也得货比三家，不要让4S店把价格压得过低。

有些年限较长的车还要面临年检，这也是一个让人痛苦的过程，因为一次年检办下来至少需要大半天的时间。有一个办法是加入一个汽车俱乐部，交点钱托人代办，而且能够保你通过年检。办年检之前，你要把之前的违章罚款交齐，如果积攒的违章扣分超过12分，你的驾照就要被吊销了并且要参加学习班。

其次，你还要为车辆上保险。你最好找一个熟悉流程的中国朋友给你解释具体条款，根据车龄、车况，所缴纳的最低保险费用都有不同。

如果上述问题你都能一一解决，你还要考虑一下，你能在中国的马路上安全行驶吗？由于机动车数量庞大，中国路况之复杂远非西方能比得到了。这并不是说中国的司机不是好司机，恰恰相反，他们比其他国家的司机驾驶水平更高。他们开车更为勇猛，善于在复杂路况中频繁变道，这些都是一个中国司机必备的技能。

在西方国家，开车可以是非常休闲的过程。在清净一些的马路上，你甚至可以打开定速巡航，专心听你喜欢的音乐。在中国这几乎不可能，没人用定速巡航，你最想听到的声音恐怕就是导航的指令。有些新车型在你离前车过近的情况下可以自动刹车，但在中国不可行。因为在拥堵路况，如果你不离前车近一些，很容易被人插队。在中国开车，你必须随时保持注意力集中，非常耗费体力和精力。即使现在实行了限号措施，路况也没有很大改善。不想遭受这种折磨，你最好雇一名司机给你开车，你就可以舒服坐在后排听音乐玩手机了。

虽然看起来开车养车都有很多麻烦和开销，但中国的汽车销售市场依然火爆。我们就来比较一下中国和西方买车流程的不同。我们以天津为例，天津人买车不仅仅考虑车辆的性能、性价比和售后保养，还能够显示自己的经济实力。且不说那些顶级豪车，奥迪就是在天津卖的比较好的车型。也许是因为很多政府部门都喜欢采购这个车型，而且其黑色车身也很受商务人士的青睐，所以开奥迪的人显得很有身份。另一个畅销车品牌是丰田，但奇怪的是，丰田的主要客户并不是普通家庭。而在美国，丰田因其价格实惠，质量过硬，是最畅销的家用轿车品牌，每个车型都卖得很好。在天津，丰田车的主要消费者是出租车司机。由于丰田在天津有工厂，所以价格比较有竞争力。再加上易于保养、性能稳定的特点，丰田车成为出租车司机的首选。他们选车的想法和美国人很像，都是从实际出发。而天津的家庭用户比较青睐大众，因为很多人看中了大众车结实这一特点，当然随之而来的是更高的价格。出租车司机很少选择大众车是因为大众车成本高、费油。但一些政府部门也青睐大众品牌轿车，比如你会发现一些警车使用的就是大众车。而在美国，大众车是中产阶层的首选。

说完了汽车文化，我们再来说说新能源车。为了减少交通压力和对大气的污染，政府实行了限购限号措施，这让一部分消费者开始考虑新能源车。在海外，丰田的普锐斯是比较畅销的电动车型，选择普锐斯体现一种绿色的生活方式，也属于汽车文化的一个分支。

一些中国的品牌也推出了电动车型，比如重庆力帆。重庆力帆已经有十几年制造汽车的历史，目前有两个电动车型，一是普通四川轿车力帆360，售价14万元，另一种是面包车型，售价5万。电动车的最大优势是随时可以购买，因为它不用参与摇号和拍号。当然，每个硬币都有两面，它的劣势就是充电。

电动车充电并没有那么简单，以力帆为例，目前在全市有50个充电点。但是每次充电都有费用，而且十分耗时，大概需要1个小时。或者你需要找人帮你一起把电池卸下来拿到屋里充6个小时，反正哪个方法都很麻烦。

凡事都有两面，买车也一样。数字不会说谎，汽车工业在中国依然发展良好，已经成为世界最大的市场。你只要去一线城市的马路上看一看就知道，这样的地位绝不是徒有虚名。政府对机动车快速增长带来的负面影响做了很多工作，但这里机动车、非机动车、电动车、行人混杂的交通体系依然复杂。总之，买方承担一切责任，这是亘古不变的道理。

International logistics

# SINOBO

## 中寶物流

### Professional logistics supplier

專業物流供應商

## Core service

- Supply Chain Management for E-Commerce

- ISO TANK

- Cold-chain logistics

- Household goods moving

- Exhibition

- Africa Line

- Domestic logistics & distribution

## 核心產品

- 電商供應鏈管理

- 集裝罐 · 冷鏈物流 · 私人物品搬遷

- 展覽 · 非洲航線 · 國內物流及分撥

上海 Shanghai 北京 Beijing  
青島 Qingdao 威海 Weihai 大連 Dalian  
烟台 Yantai 天津 Tianjin  
Email: service@elogistix.com.cn  
www.elogistix.com.cn

KBE 國寶

CNAS

WCA

WCA

C+ 中寶物流



IN FACT WE WERE THRILLED TO SEE THAT DESPITE ANY COMMUNICATION CHALLENGES, THE QUALITY OF AID WAS ON PAR WITH THAT PROVIDED WHEN RESPONDING TO PAST QUAKES WITHIN CHINA.

Han Shuyan  
Photo by Jane Liu

## FINDING HELP AT THE RIGHT TIME

by Carmen King

**A**t a time when profit is king, altruism all too often is cast aside. Many organizations take risks for the purpose of achieving greater financial reward. Few organizations take risks for the sake of simply helping others. Since 1995, Mrs. Han Shuyan and the Hetong Foundation team has made it their goal to do the latter. They have made significant contributions in providing disaster relief in the aftermath of major natural disasters. Mrs. Han

serves as the Secretary General of the Hetong Foundation, which is located in Tianjin's Nankai District. As the organization leader she is responsible for arranging and dispatching disaster relief crews to disaster areas. She was kind enough to accept an interview and shed light on recent activities, including the services her team provided in response to the Nepal earthquake.

**JIN:** What type of overseas disaster relief projects has Hetong participated in?

**Mrs. Han:** "Hetong provided disaster relief assistance to those injured in the massive earthquake which occurred in Nepal on April, 25. This was the first time Hetong volunteers participated in disaster relief activities abroad. However, prior to this, Hetong has provided aid in the aftermath of four major intra-China earthquakes. They include the May 12, 2008 earthquake in Wenchuan Sichuan, the April 14, 2010 earthquake in Yushu Qinghai, the April 20, 2013 earthquake in Yaan Sichuan and the August 3, 2014 earthquake in Ludian Sichuan.

The team of Hetong volunteers possesses a special set of skills when it comes to providing disaster relief. These skills have been developed during non-disaster times as they staff a number of nursing homes whose focus is providing care for those advanced in age and incapacitated in some way. Thus they are especially suited to provide post-disaster aid to victims, including those who are older. The Chinese Government has publicly praised the Hetong volunteers with words such as: "professional, skilled, organized, and effective".

Considering the previous in-country experience, along with the faithful service provided day in and day out on behalf of Chinese senior citizens, it was no surprise that when the Chinese government chose to provide disaster relief to Nepal, it was from within Hetong that 39 volunteers were selected. Within seven days of the massive 8.1 quake in Nepal, these volunteers arrived at the Spinal Injury Rehabilitation Center in Nepal. It was there that this team provided aid to over 100 earthquake victims during the course of one month. For doing so, they received great praise from the local community."

**JIN:** How did being involved in this disaster relief work affect you?

**Mrs. Han:** "For one thing, before departure the entire team had a lot of concern over potential linguistic barriers. Candidly, the team which was comprised of volunteers from all parts of China, in general terms didn't possess a high level of English proficiency. Our greatest concern was that this language barrier might inhibit the level of care we could provide.

The reality though, proved to be just the opposite. By means of leveraging their years of health care industry experience, previous professional training and non-verbal, body language they were able to successfully collaborate with local medical teams in



Mrs Han is consoling a local victim.

provided an excellent level of care. In fact we were thrilled to see that despite any communication challenges, the quality of aid was on par with that provided when responding to past quakes within China. It was my privilege and honor when the team received the praise and commendation of the local Nepal people in response to the care provided.”

**JIN:** What would you like expats in Tianjin to know about your work?

**Mrs. Han:** “The experience gained by the Hetong team in responding to the Nepal quake gave us an entirely new level of disaster response training. There is no doubt it serves as a solid foundation for handling future international requests for disaster relief. During the time in Nepal, our team provided medical relief for quite a number of local Nepal residents. In doing so, we not only attended to their injuries, but also established a deep and meaningful bond with them. This in turn strengthened the friendship between the people of China and Nepal.”

No doubt we all appreciate the selfless spirit Mrs. Han and the entire Hetong team showed in going to Nepal following the April 25 earthquake. We also thank her for accepting our interview. Indeed, any natural disaster serves as a great equalizer. No one regardless of race, nationality, social status, or economic class is exempt from the effects. As such, disaster often unifies individuals of unique background. So it did with the Chinese volunteers and the Nepal locals. In the face of real danger, people are forced to focus on what really matters. Often even the basics like food, water, clothing and shelter become the difference between life and death. Not to

mention should one be injured, how imperative good medical care becomes. For these reasons and more, the Nepalese victims who received aid from the Hetong volunteers felt true gratitude.

It is wise for all of us to consider how we will respond in a time of crisis. As noted, even China has not been without its major earthquakes. In addition to the four massive China quakes after which the Hetong team provided disaster relief services mentioned above, there is the never to be forgotten great quake on July 28, 1976 in Tangshan. All are sobering reminders of how fragile human life is, and how suddenly everything we know can change.

The Hetong team was ready, willing and able to respond to the Nepal quake due to their preparedness. It wasn't a mere momentary desire of wanting to provide aid with little to no tangible skills to back up those thoughts with actions. Instead, since each of the 39 volunteers had long prior chosen a career in healthcare, providing nursing assistance to Chinese senior citizens, when the call for action came, they were truly able to provide aid. With the waves of globalization surging worldwide, when disaster strikes we all need to pull together and face the harsh reality of post disaster damage. One step in that direction is to take action now.

Instead of waiting until a disaster strikes, at which time it is often too late to do anything. We can all think about obtaining a basic level of education as it relates to how to handle a natural disaster. There are a number of websites which provided free educational information related to general medical care, and how to prepare for surviving the first

72-hours following a disaster. As often this is the most critical time period. For those that want to take things even a step further, like Mrs. Han and the Hetong team, we could even consider taking up a career in the medical industry. Getting hands on training as it relates to providing necessary medical care. Especially is this type of training valuable when considering the unique and challenging nature of caring for the elderly. Tianjin like so many other places has a rapidly expanding senior citizen community. Therefore, the talents of the Hetong team are a real blessing not only during times of disaster, but everyday as more and more face the responsibility of caring for the elderly.

## 关键时刻，伸出援手

在这个人人逐利的年代，利他主义经常被抛之脑后，企业和公司往往是以追逐利益最大化为目标，很少愿意不计风险地做纯公益。但是公益组织鹤童老年公益基金会自 1995 年成立之日起就致力于不求回报地帮助弱者。迄今为止，他们已经在几次重大自然灾害的灾后志愿服务工作中做出了巨大的贡献。韩淑燕女士是基金会的秘书长，负责安排和派遣灾后救援的人员和团队。在采访中她介绍了鹤童志愿服务队的基本情况和参与过的灾后救援。

据韩女士介绍，鹤童志愿服务队的志愿者们刚刚结束 4 月 25 日尼泊尔大地震的灾后救援工作，这也是他们首次出国参与救援。之前他们参与过 2008 年汶川地震、2010 年玉树地震、2013 年雅安地震和 2014 年鲁甸地震的震后救援。

鹤童志愿服务队的志愿者们都在灾后救援领域拥有专业技能和丰富经验。他们的技能是在平时对老年人的看护工作中逐渐培养的，所以他们尤其擅长为年长的灾民提供救助和护理工作。

在尼泊尔大地震发生后，中国政府特定指派鹤童志愿服务队的 39 名志愿者奔赴灾区。在地震发生 7 天后，志愿者们来到脊柱损伤康复中心，在一个月的时间内帮助了 100 名地震灾民，受到当地百姓的称赞。

韩女士说，出发之前，志愿者们非常担心语言不通会给工作带来困难，因为这些志愿者来自全国各地，英文都不好。但事实正相反，因为我们有专业的技能和丰富的经验，只用身体语言就成功地与当地救护队通力合作完成了救援工作。

这次参与尼泊尔地震救援让鹤童志愿服务队获得了宝贵的经验，为今后的国际救援打下了坚实的基础。通过为当地百姓提供医疗护理，志愿者与他们建立了深厚的感情，从而也加深了中尼两国人民的友谊。

在自然灾害面前，人与人之间不再有种族、国别、社会阶层和经济地位上的差别。这个时候最容易让所有人团结在一起。在危难面前，人们才能看清什么是最重要的。最基本的食物、水、衣服和避难所会成为决定生死的关键。对于伤员来说，医疗救助至关重要。这也是尼泊尔灾民衷心感谢这些志愿者的原因。



Purchase list

# PLEASE BUY FOR ME by Carmen King

**B**efore you criticize the poor English associated with the title of this article, understand the task at hand. In as few words as possible, explain in English what “代购” (dài gòu) means. For old expats, “daigou” is nothing new. For new expats, “daigou” might be as foreign as living abroad. After all “daigou” isn’t necessarily common to those living outside of China. Especially would this be true for those living in America, Australia, Canada, or the UK. Why?

In the most common use of the term, “daigou” means you want something, and someone else buys it for you. Not as a gift, but instead because you ask them to, and well, paid them to do so. The concept became all the rage when overseas products were in demand but perhaps not available locally. Therefore, local consumers would employ a number of different tactics to ultimately accomplish one goal, get the goods from afar

into their hands locally without ever actually going to the place of sale personally. Since its inception, the “daigou” market has expanded vastly. Go to jd.com and search the Chinese characters: 代购. This will result in thousands of choices being displayed. Goods from abroad can be searched based on location, such as Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Australia, or America. To narrow search results

**AS IT RELATES TO TAXES, IF PRODUCTS BROUGHT BACK TO OR SENT TO TIANJIN FROM ABROAD FIT WITHIN CERTAIN RANGES, PERHAPS TAXES WOULD NOT BE DUE.**

simply add the Chinese characters for the country desired, for example: 美国代购 (měiguó dài gòu). This will limit the query to only items which originate from the US. Another method of searching is by category. Thereby letting you see all of an available item, regardless of which place it originates from.

Keep in mind, the internet has simply put this sort of 3rd party buying on steroids. In the early days, someone needed to know someone personally who was either going abroad and willing to bring something back for them, or met someone from abroad that had brought goods to Tianjin. In general terms, to the average person “daigou” is thought of less in terms of large volume importing and exporting, and more in terms of a person buying a limited quantity of foreign goods on behalf of someone else. As such the gray areas surrounding this sort of service abound. Especially in terms of how



much quantity can be bought by any one person and how taxes should be handled.

As it relates to taxes, if products brought back to or sent to Tianjin from abroad fit within certain ranges, perhaps taxes would not be due. In other cases, an import tax would first need to be paid, or risk having the goods confiscated. These are some of the unknowns associated with 3rd party buying. The fact that someone agrees to buy something for you when they travel abroad, doesn't 100% guarantee they will be able to successfully bring it back, or at what cost in terms of taxes.

Putting those logistical issues aside, another issue with 3rd party buying is the concern over quality. Namely, are the goods legit? The answer to this is, unless you personally went to the official store and bought the product yourself, there is always the possibility of deception. Especially when using online mediums to purchase goods that were bought by someone else, there is the potential for problems. Some may offer the option of payment only after delivery and inspection. Still other "daigou" vendors might even provide an inspection step as part of their services offered. Meaning, if you buy via them, they will take on the responsibility of ensuring the product you bought was the real deal and not just an expensive knock-off. Still, this transfers the trust from the individual who bought the product to the company in between. Either way, a level of trust is involved.

Some expats think that "daigou" is a great way to earn some extra money when traveling back home. Therefore having already been in Tianjin, before going home they will get a list of things that others here want. Go home, get the things on the list and then bring them back. Chances are, almost every expat has been involved in this process, even if not for the purpose of profit. Sometimes the goal isn't to "save money" by buying abroad, but rather to ensure a certain level of quality. Or even still, for those chronically inflicted with the "keep up with the Jones" bug, they need to have that certain something that just isn't available locally, but is overseas. Therefore, not to be left behind, they must find a way to get the latest and greatest via a 3rd party.

"Daigou" isn't just for those living in Tianjin who want overseas goods. The website 86daigou.com turns the tables on things, and approaches things with just the opposite goal. Their service is making Chinese goods available to those overseas. An example would be someone living outside of Tianjin that

wants to buy a Meizu cell phone. Some models of this Chinese brand cell phone may only be available for purchase inside of China. Thus their company becomes the medium by which someone living elsewhere can still buy the Chinese made phone they want.

Recently "daigou" has morphed again. Now there are platforms such as rrkd.cn that enable localized "daigou". This means, someone in Tianjin can put in a request to another person in Tianjin to go and buy something for them! Now folks with the tap of the screen get those vegetables from the market, or drinks from the store delivered to them. In certain cases such as older folks where mobility is an issue, perhaps this local "daigou" service has some merit.

However, no matter in which form it occurs, "daigou" will always have some risk involved. First, there is the issue of quality control. Is the product as advertised? Is it really the item desired or some amazingly similar reproduction? Let's just say it is real, what happens if it needs service? How will warranty claims be handled? Is that overseas item completely compatible with the local environment? On the surface "daigou" might seem great, but it can have its draw backs. Let's say post-sales service and repair isn't a problem, such as with clothing. Still, it is a huge drawback not to be able to try something on in advance, especially when it comes to something like shoes. Sizes with each brand can vary ever so much, making that perfect fit

## PUTTING THOSE LOGISTICAL ISSUES ASIDE, ANOTHER ISSUE WITH 3RD PARTY BUYING IS THE CONCERN OVER QUALITY.



in one brand, too tight, or too big in another. All these things are hard to deal with when dealing with a "daigou" transaction.

Last but not least, especially when it is a more "personalized" case of "daigou", is the issue of personal information. Perhaps even one's home address will be leaked out in the process of getting that coveted item. For now "daigou" is a major part of many Tianjiner's lives, even some expats. With the establishment of the Tianjin Free Trade Zone there is the potential that buying foreign goods will get easier on the local level. Not to mention at more reasonable rates. If so, perhaps the days of "daigou" are numbered, or at a minimum, those "please buy for me" requests will drop significantly.

## “代购”的学问

关于“代购”这一现象，仅用短短的一篇文章来解释，实在不是件容易的事。对于资深的移民朋友来说，代购也许并不陌生，但对于初来乍到的外国朋友来讲，代购无疑和他们搬到另一座城市生活一样陌生。在大多数的情况下，“代购”意味着你需要某些东西，别人帮你买回来。这是一种在有偿条件下所进行的买卖。自“代购”的概念产生以来，它的市场已在不断壮大。打开电脑，输入“代购”，你能看到成千上万种商品罗列在你眼前。

不过，你需要记住的是，互联网永远不会考虑真假问题，它们懂的就只是无一例外的将全部店家挂到上面。在过去，代购就是你找到某些要去国外的人，然后让他们帮忙带回东西，但现在，“代购”就是小剂量的进出口贸易，商家随处可见，人们随处可买。

但凡买卖就一定会存在纳税问题。从国外买来的东西运到天津，倘若在一定的合理范围之内，它是有可能不被征收税费的。但在其它情况下，进口物品被运到中国不但会面临高额的税收问题，它还有可能面临被没收的风险。所以，当有人愿意帮你代购某些商品的时候，他也不是说能100%的帮你带回来。

除此之外，找第三方代购还会产生其它与质量问题相关的疑虑。除非我们到官方的店铺去亲自购买，否则找别人代购，总是会有各种各样的信任挑战。尤其是当你选择一些在线代购商的时候，情况更为考验。

近年来，由“代购”所衍生的新兴产业也在悄然兴起。比如，市民之间就有人做起了“代购跑腿”业务，这意味着你买个菜，缴个煤水电费，都可以找人帮你实施。对于这样的代购现象，它们的服务价值往往更多的是体现在老年人的身上。

无论哪一种形式的“代购”，这个过程始终带有风险。因为你既不能保证商品的正规程度，也不能确保商品出现问题以后，你可以找到地方维权。除此之外，代购过程中，你还会遇到诸如服装尺寸，鞋子尺码不合适等不可估量的客观因素风险。当然，“代购”最大的风险当属个人信息的泄露，这无疑会对买家造成巨大的困扰。随着天津自贸区的成立，购买进口商品已不再是一件困难的事，我们也相信“代购”终会有它没落的一天。还是那句话，市场有风险，代购需谨慎。

## Past Events

### White Paper Delivery Meeting & 2015 AmCham China Tianjin Government Appreciation Reception

May 15 – Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel

The 2015 AmCham China Tianjin Government Appreciation Reception and White Paper Delivery Meeting on May 15 brought together Tianjin municipal officials and AmCham China leadership. Taking place at the Tianjin City Government offices, the White Paper presentation was an important exchange of thoughts and views between the business community and local government.

AmCham China Chairman James Zimmerman and Tianjin Executive Committee Chairman Martin Winchell led the delegation and delivered the White Paper to Sun Wenkui, Vice Mayor of Tianjin Municipality. Key officials in attendance also included: Deputy Secretary General of Tianjin Municipal People's Government Chen Zongsheng, Deputy Director of Tianjin Commission of Commerce Sun Jiannan, Deputy Director of Tianjin Municipal Human Resources and Social Security Bureau Yuan Jiajian and Deputy Director of Tianjin Customs Ma Zhentai.



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

May 28, the Westin Tianjin

On May 28th, about 20 ladies joined the Women's Professional Committee Executive Lunch at the Chinese restaurant of the Westin Tianjin.

Ms. Carol Zhang, G.M. of The DCK Tea Company, national senior tea art specialist talked about the history and the main categories of Chinese tea. She also showed how to taste the fine Chinese tea and fine Chinese porcelain appreciation through a Chinese tea ceremony show.

Ladies enjoyed the fantastic Chinese dishes provided by the Westin Tianjin as well as the opportunity to network with old and new friends.



## Upcoming Events

### AmCham China, Tianjin 14th Charity Golf Tournament and Annual US Independence Day Celebration

8:30 AM - 8:30 PM, Saturday, July 4

Golf Tournament @ Tianjin Binhai Forest Golf Club

US Independence Day Celebration and Golf Awards Banquet @ the St. Regis Tianjin

### Tianjin Monthly Executive Breakfast Briefing

7:15-9:00 AM, Thursday, July 17 – The Astor Hotel

Address: Room 2918, Exchange Tower 2, No. 189 Nanjing Rd, Heping District, Tianjin 300051

TEL: 86-22-23185075 Contact person: Amanda He [amandahe@amchamchina.org](mailto:amandahe@amchamchina.org) Website: [www.amchamchina.org](http://www.amchamchina.org)

AmChamChina

TIANJIN

中国美国商会·天津

Saturday, July 4, 2015

# AmCham China, Tianjin Annual US Independence Day Celebration

@ River Lounge of The St. Regis Tianjin

Doors open 4:30pm \* Dinner 6:00pm

All proceeds will be donated to Tianjin Jian Hua Autism Rehabilitation Center.

### Tickets

Adults: RMB260

Member Children between 5 -12: Free

Non-member Children between 5-12: RMB120

Children under 4: Free



Buffet Dinner \* Drinks \* Ice cream \* Live Music \* Games \* Lucky Draw

Send an e-mail to [amandahe@amchamchina.org](mailto:amandahe@amchamchina.org) or call Amanda He at 022-23185072 to book tickets.

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ANALOG TIANJIN COMPOSITE CO., LTD.





# EUROPEAN CHAMBER IN TIANJIN

## Full Day Training- Collaboration & Positive Influencing Skills (English)

21st May, 2015

The efficient way to success is through effective collaboration and influencing skills. This full-day training course aims at professionals who need to create alignment and engagement with the people they work with. By the end of the program, participants have learned the essential skills on applying the 3 Golden Skills (© Vantage Partners) of communication to achieve positive influence and 4 Quadrants method to achieve alignment when collaborating with others.



## Workshop: Global Ready Leadership: Developing Your Global Mindset

11th June, 2015

Developing global leadership capability is key to business success in the globalized business market. The workshop is designed to help participants become more effective in their regional or global interaction as a business leader. Members from European Chamber and German Chamber have acquired the skills and self-understanding for building their global leadership capability.

## Discussion forum: New Development Trends for High and New Technology Enterprise and R&D Expense Super Deduction Practice

12th, June, 2015

Government authorities are strengthening the administration over HNTe and the new HNTe regulation is under the draft. The draft will impact the current HNTes extensively and understanding of the trends of HNTe draft will give the entities the time to prepare for the change. In the discussion form, experts from KPMG shared their knowledge with members on the trends of the HNTe regulation development, industrial experience and technical background.



The European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Tianjin Chapter  
中 国 欧 盟 商 会 天 津 分 会

41F, Tianjin World Financial Center, 2 Dagubei Lu, Heping District, Tianjin 300020.

天津市和平区大沽北路2号天津环球金融中心41层, 邮政编码300020

Tel: +86 (22) 58307608 Email: tianjin@european-chamber.com.cn Website: www.european-chamber.com.cn



## Past events

### **Breakfast Seminar – Einkommenssteuer, Sozialversicherung und private Vorsorge für deutsche Expats**

Wednesday, May 27, 2015

The German Chamber of Commerce invited to an informative breakfast seminar at the St. Regis Tianjin on May 27, 2015. Klaus von der Eltz, General Manager of Expatriate Care Consult, and Manuela Reintgen, Manager Business Development of ECOVIS R&G Consulting Beijing, shared their knowledge on social security and individual income tax in China and pointed out what measures have to be taken to ensure a secure stay in China, what has to be observed to avoid too costly income taxation, and explained the main factors for individual income tax liability.



### **Workshop – Global Ready Leadership: Developing Your Global Mindset**

Thursday, June 11, 2015



Developing global leadership capability is a key to business success in the globalized business market. The German Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with European Chamber invited its members to the workshop which was designed to help the participants to become more effective in their regional or global interactions as a business leader. This workshop taught how to gain a better understanding of what is required for successful global leadership and to develop a personal action plan with the most effective and efficient ways to improve one's global mindset and global leadership capability.

### **Special Event – Deutscher Filmabend: Fack ju Göthe** Friday, June 12, 2015

Members and friends of the German Chamber of Commerce got together for casual event watching the entertaining comedy movie "Fack ju Göthe" while Paulaner served German beer and German food.



### **Seminar – Official Launch of Tianjin Pilot Free Trade Zone: Impact and Opportunities for Your Business** Monday, June 15, 2015

The China (Tianjin) Pilot Free Trade Zone has been officially launched on 21 April 2015. Meanwhile, the State Council released the General Plan of China (Tianjin) Pilot Free Trade Zone. The German Chamber invited Mr. Kelvin Lee and Mr. Jeffrey Cai, two experts from PwC, who shared and analyzed how the Tianjin Free Trade Zone can be distinguished from the Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone while leveraging on its successful experience. The participants learnt about opportunities and impact on their business by the introduction of financial innovation, foreign investment entry administration, taxation and customs policies.



## Upcoming Events

**July 29, 2015, 19:00-22:00:** Kammerstammtisch, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus

**July 30, 2015:** Lean meets Industry 4.0

# HAPPY TO BE A HOTELIER

by David Wong



**SOMETIMES HE FEELS THAT HIS TRAINING PROGRAM IS TOO EFFECTIVE AS HE SEES HIS STAFF TAKING EMPLOYMENT IN HIGHER PAYING JOBS IN THE HIGH-END RETAIL SECTOR.**

**M**ark Francis has been in China for the past 8 years and managed several Starwood SPG (Starwood Preferred Guests) properties throughout China such as Chongqing, Shanghai and this is his second posting at the Sheraton BinHai in Tianjin. He is from Canada born in Brandon, Manitoba and grew up in Victoria, the capital of the beautiful province of British Columbia on the west coast of Canada. Prior to coming to China, Mark had worked and travelled throughout Asia Pacific and the Bahamas.

He looks forward to his renewed posting in Tianjin. It's been 4 years since he managed this property and a great deal has changed. In

2011, the Sheraton BinHai was the only major building other than the TEDA headquarters. Now they are in the middle of a commercial development. The retail hotel market has also changed, there is a growing Chinese middle class that is attracted to domestic travel and demanding 5 star international venues like the Sheraton BinHai.

The majority of their clientele are the young 30-35 year-old highly educated professionals, looking for a modern hotel facility providing a comfortable stay, with good service, good food and a restful stay. About 10% of the customers are long-term clients, staying one month to one year. When you consider the costs of a full service

apartment, it is very competitive and having the luxury of daily service and access to a business center, fitness center and pool.

One thing that Mark pointed out is access from Sheraton BinHai to Beijing is more convenient and faster than from downtown Tianjin. Driving is very direct using the S30 highway or if you decide to use the high-speed train which is very efficient from the Tangu station, that is only 10 minutes from the hotel. There are plenty of local eating establishments and a great golf course within walking distance of the Sheraton.

When Mark was asked what is his greatest challenge, he answered that it was ensuring that the hotel is staffed with qualified dedicated staff. China's hotel and retail sector is growing and new opportunities are available to trained service personnel. Sometimes he feels that he is training program is too effective as he sees his staff taking employment in higher paying jobs in the high-end retail sector. One answer to this problem is the SPG Starwood career program, which has an excellent mentoring system and with over ten brands and almost 200 properties and growing in China, there many opportunities for a young employee that has the patience and dedication.

Aside from building a service-orientated property, Mark is devoting his efforts to developing the Sheraton BinHai into a venue where one can go and have fun enjoy the company of friends. To this end there is a rejuvenation of the second floor Italian Bene restaurant. It will be transformed in a modern sports bar. His theme is that 'Life is better when shared'. His chefs will combine the tradition and innovation to represent the perfect food. His hope is customers will enjoy the authentic Italian food in the open kitchen of the Bene Restaurant.

JinMag was impressed with Mark's openness and dedication to being a professional hotelier. He said this was a profession that he has worked towards from an early age and doesn't know what else he would be happy at. The role of General Manager adds new meaning to "The buck stops here" because it is really a 24/7 job and never ending. This is probably especially true now with the evolving of social media such as wechat, weixin and weibo.

We wish Mark Francis all the best and continued success in his career.

# UNITED CAPITAL HOLDS RESOUNDINGLY SUCCESSFUL "CHINESE HIGH-END ENTREPRENEURS TIANJIN FTA INSPECTION TRIP"



On 11th of June 2015, China's first high-end one-stop investment financing service—United Capital—successfully organized their "Chinese High-End Entrepreneurs Tianjin FTA Inspection Trip". The investigation team gathered over 50 assorted respected business people: including those from companies such as Amazon, Jingdong, Dangdang, Jumei Youpin, Prologis, Shun Feng, SDHS, YeePay, Kerry China and other enterprises. Under the leadership of Mr. Wang Xiaohua - the chairman of the United Capital and chief of China E-Commerce & Logistics Think-Tank - the participants received a cordial reception.

As part of the investigation the guests visited the FTA airport and Dongjiang area, including the Tianjin Airbus Assembly Company, the European Trade Center and some important import and export bonded enterprises. All guests were very impressed by the experience.

United Capital is China's first traditional cross-border industry. They are a combined internet provider, electricity supplier and capital raising company. In the future, they will continue to organize similar kinds of inspection activities, including "regional economic research excursions", "walks around famous enterprises", "city visits", "important city

logistic nodes investigations", "experimental e-business cities", "a walk around American's Silicon Valley" and "European industrial innovation journeys".

## 优联资本成功举办“中国高端企业家天津自贸区考察行”

2015年6月11日，中国首家高端一站式投融资服务机构 - 优联资本成功组织了“中国高端企业家天津自贸区考察行”活动。考察团由国内50余位主流电子商务、金融支付、物流快递、跨境贸易、融资租赁、投融资等领域的总裁级企业家组成。分别来自亚马逊、京东、当当、聚美优品、普洛斯、顺丰、山东高速、易宝支付、嘉里中国等企业，在优联资本董事长、中国电商与物流智库理事长王孝华先生的带领下亲赴天津，得到了市政府领导及自贸区领导的亲切接见。

此次考察围绕天津自贸区获批的最新政策与投融资发展环境展开，来宾们走访了自贸区空港片区及东疆片区两大主要保税区域，参考察了空客天津总装公司、欧洲贸易中心及多个进出口保税企业。本次活动政企交流充分，行程安排紧密，高效务实。当晚的优联“空港之夜”晚宴及沙龙，总裁间的高端对话和思想碰撞，给嘉宾留下深刻印象。企业家们均表示此次考察收获良多，不虚此行。

优联资本是中国首个跨界传统产业、互联网电商及资本等诸多领域的高端战略咨询及投融资服务机构，其后续还将组织多种方式的总裁考察行活动，包括“区域经济研讨”、“走进名企”、“一带一路沿线城市走访”、重要物流节点城市考察、电子商务试验城市考察以及“走进美国硅谷”、“欧洲工业创新之旅”等。



# Destination Melbourne

## The Most Liveable City in the World

Melbourne lies on the southeast coast of Australia. As the second largest city of the country following Sydney, Melbourne is the capital city of the State of Victoria – better known as the “Garden State” for more than 40% of its urban area is covered in greenery. Melbourne has been voted the most livable city globally for four consecutive years and is regarded as Australia’ s center for culture, business, education, fashion, sports and tourism.

Between the years 1851 and 1860, the discovery of gold mines near Melbourne led to a gold rush followed by a population surge, making the city one of the few Metropolises in the country then, hence the name “New Gold Mountain” . As the first capital city in the southern hemisphere to host the Summer Olympic Games in 1956, Melbourne is also home to a host of internationally celebrated sports events – The Australian Open, Formula One Australian Grand Prix, the Melbourne Cup, etc.

Melbourne has the second most Victorian architectures – led only by London – and many typical Gothic style buildings. Many landmark architectures can be seen around the city center: world renowned Victorian Arts Center (also famously known as the “Whirling Skirt” ), Federation Square featuring surrealism and neo-symbolism, Melbourne’ s tallest office building Rialto Towers – built in 1986 and best known for its ocean blue body color, the National Gallery of Victoria – Australia’ s oldest public art gallery. These are all prominent features demonstrating Melbourne’ s diverse culture.

Also worth mentioning is the Flinders Street Railway Station at the heart of Melbourne’ s busiest precinct – built in 1879 and opened in 1883 as Australia’ s earliest railway station. Today, it is one of the busiest transit stations among major lines in Melbourne and serves more 850,900 passengers every day. In addition, Parliament House in East Melbourne – a prominent architecture featuring Australia’ s



City of Melbourne tourism services staff and volunteers



Melbourne Flinders Street Station

neo-classism – is widely regarded as the most majestic building among all historic buildings still in use by various legislative institutions across the country.

Federation Square is the most sophisticated and the largest development project in the State of Victoria featuring a combination of modern architecture designs. The Square reaches out to the entire inner city area and connects Melbourne’ s Central Business District with the Yarra River which runs through the city. It serves as a venue for arts, events, recreational activities, tourism, outdoor activities and hosts more than 500 different events every year. The Melbourne Visitor Centre is also located at the Federation Square where friendly staff and volunteers provide a range of services including information, tour booking and accommodation. Chinese information

booklets and Chinese-speaking volunteers are also available at the centre. Melbourne Town Hall – originally built in the 19th century – is open to the public and offers free tours for tourists to experience a building which carries profound social and political significance for the city.

Melbourne’ s transportation system is easy and convenient. The combination of trains, trams and buses gives passengers access to all precincts from the Central Business District. Myki is the ticket system for Melbourne’ s public transport system and it is free in the CBD area. With a Myki card, one can travel on any trains, trams or buses in all city areas (and other designated areas). In addition, visitors can take the Melbourne Visitor Shuttle bus with 13 stops along the route at different locations throughout the city. A guide service is available on the shuttle bus, providing stories of Melbourne’ s rich history and anecdotes.

As the home to a vast array of local produce including cheese, wine, meat, seafood and fruits, Melbourne is well known for its diverse food culture. In March every year, the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival offers the best Australian seasonal produce, the world’ s longest lunch which seats 1200 people, and wine from some of the world’ s best vineyards.

Victorian buildings, trams, opera houses, galleries, museums and green gardens and streets are the essence of Melbourne’ s grace and charm where people can find all they need for the most liveable city in the world.



Yarra River



Melbourne Visitor Centre



It is scheduled to hold Nankai Forum--the 5th Tianjin Human Resource Management Elite on June 26, 2015 sponsored jointly by Human Resource Manager Club(HRCLUB) and Human Resource Management Department of Nankai University. Well-known Human resource officer in Hundred of enterprises and senior experts and scholars of Human resource in Nankai University will attend the meeting and discuss overall status of human resources, focusing on hot topic and difficulties confronted at present. By means of sharing experts' ideas, deep discussion, interactive participation, common issuance, etc., a profound exchanges may be made with respect to challenges of human resource management, response and prospects and so on.



**Time:** June 26, 2015 (Friday) 14:00-16:00  
**Place:** No. 301 Lecture Hall at third floor of Commercial College of Nankai University  
**Sponsored by:** Human Resource Manager Club  
Commercial College of Nankai University  
Research Center of Labor relationship, Nankai University

**Distinguished guests:** 100

**Topic 1:** Challenge, response and prospect of HR manager in the era of internet.

**Topic 2:** Alteration and orientation of HR Management under the environment of enthusiasm.

**Topic 3:** The future of HR management and HR personnel in enterprises in the transformation of organization.

**Participants to be invited:** Member of HRCLUB, including chairman, general manager, chief officer of HR, HR manager and HR Managerial personnel in middle and above level.

**Inquiry and Sign up for the forum:** Tina Lv 24239638

**Official website:** <http://www.tj-hrclub.org/html/index.aspx>



Application Consultation: 022-24239638

E-mail: [Tina\\_hrclub@126.com](mailto:Tina_hrclub@126.com)

Official Website: <http://www.tj-hrclub.org/html/index.aspx>

Please focus on HRCLUB WeChat Platform for more activity information.



Hotline: 2423-9638 / 2423-9636 / 157-607-15692

HRCLUB website: <http://www.tj-hrclub.org>

Club wechat:

## TNC EVENT

### Tianjin Networking Club Event At Hotel Nikko Tianjin



On June 23, TNC event was held at Hotel Nikko Tianjin. About 40 professionals and entrepreneurs attended the event. The event is organized by Jin Magazine, and co-organized by American Chamber of Commerce, European Chamber of Commerce, German Chamber of Commerce, Singapore Chamber of Commerce and Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce.

Olivier Rochenfort, General Manager of Hotel Nikko Tianjin made a welcome speech to the guests and hosted the lucky draw session. The event proved to be another great success. TNC social event has become the most important and influential business event in Tianjin and we look forward to seeing you in June.

For more information, please log on:

[www.tjnetworkingclub.org](http://www.tjnetworkingclub.org) or email: [tnc@jinmagazine.com.cn](mailto:tnc@jinmagazine.com.cn)

6月23日晚, TNC 商务沙龙活动在天津日航酒店成功举行。本次活动吸引了 40 多名中外商务人士参加, 其中不乏各公司新近上任的高管和刚刚进入天津市场的公司代表。由《今日天津》杂志和天津各个商会共同举办的 Biz Socializer Event 为京津地区的涉外商务人群提供了交流合作的平台, 已经成为天津最火爆的涉外商务沙龙。



Jasmine celebration

# MULTI-CULTURAL UNITY IN SOCCER

by Gregory Troutman

**A**n American, Australian, Canadian, Chinese, Columbian, Frenchwoman, Japanese, Korean, and Singaporean walk onto a soccer field...what happens?

Would you believe they communicate effectively, play well together and have fun?

I have been a soccer coach for over 15 years. I have coached high school boys, club level boys, club level girls, middle school girls and high school girls. The greatest satisfaction I get is when I see my teams improve over a season. The best teams I've had were good listeners, hard-working, dedicated, without egos and fun to be around. Of course, winning is important too, but if a team works as hard as they can and does the best they can, it's all you can ask for.

I have been coaching, for the past two seasons, with an International School's High School Girls' Soccer Team. It has been the most

rewarding coaching experience of my life. Not only for the aforementioned qualities but because they are a group of girls from all over the world who came together for soccer and ended this season playing the best soccer yet.

One of the team Captains, Rachel, from Australia, explains "It is more than a sport where you just kick around a ball. It is about teamwork, skill, pushing oneself to the limit and trusting your teammates to do the same. We are all from different places but when we walk onto that field none of that matters because we are a team." Another Captain, Kalina, from America, said, "Coming to China from America was my first overseas, international experience. I have made great friends with people from all over the world. My friendships with people on the soccer team will last forever."

In the past two seasons, we have had players from all the countries listed in the

opening sentence. These girls have developed lasting bonds despite being from different cultures. I remember our first practice of this season. We had many new players, over half of the team. They had trouble, not only with their skills, but with understanding me as their American coach. Every time I would give instructions, I would see and hear teammates talking to each other in Chinese or Korean. I do not tolerate players talking while I am talking. I was about to say something to the team when I asked my assistant coach (Yuan Yuan from China) what was going on. She told me that some of the girls English is not perfect and the other girls were explaining what I said to them. I went from ready to have them run sprints for disrespecting me to praising them for helping each other. I had to learn to expect these times of translation during practice and games. I noticed as the season went on, there were less and less of a need for translation to a



Team captains. Left to Right - Kalina (from USA), Jasmine (from Korea) and Rachel (from Australia)

## I NOTICED AS THE SEASON WENT ON, THERE WERE LESS AND LESS OF A NEED FOR TRANSLATION TO A POINT WHERE IT DISAPPEARED ENTIRELY.

point where it disappeared entirely.

One of our new players, Luo Lan, who came to our school this year from a Chinese school, said "In our big and compassionate soccer team, we incorporate many girls from multifarious countries. Though we are from different nations, and speak various languages, in the soccer team, we stay as one. During soccer ACAMIS tournament, 12 girls from 6 nations all played for one team. Everyone was the center of the stage and strive for the victory. We didn't have strangeness because of the nations, but get on well with each other forever."

This group has fun together and also serves together. One service project they did was to bring toys and gifts to children at the Tianjin Cancer Hospital. We rented a bus for the team and friends, and went from Teda to Tianjin. After going to the Hospital, we went to dinner together and then went to the Tianjin-Teda professional soccer game. Other service they do is help coach younger girls' soccer teams. Every girl on the team does service work, whether it's at an animal shelter, orphanage, hospital or somewhere else.

We started a program this year called the Senior Recognition Game. This game is meant to acknowledge our seniors, who are graduating, for all their years of service to the

team and the school. This year, we had just one senior, Lee Kyung Seo (Jasmine). The entire team worked together to plan the event. Our 12th grader and a Captain, received flowers and gifts, and we had a ceremony during half-time of the game. Our Australian and American players made the speeches that recognized our Korean 12th grader. It was truly a global ceremony. Lee Kyung Seo commented, "I felt extremely grateful to be acknowledged as a leader by the team, and it made me feel special. I am very proud of my teammates and they have provided me with the best memories. Soccer has always been my 'partner' throughout my high school life, and I will miss my team and the coaches so much. It was especially impressive when my teammates said that they will win the tournaments for me! I will never forget the big hugs they gave me in the senior recognition game."

Also this season, we were at a tournament and staying in a hotel. It was our Goalie, Zhang Ming Yang, aka Linda's birthday during the tournament. The girls had a big surprise party for her. Quoting Linda, "Soccer has lit a spark in every player's life. It is more than a sport that teaches one the importance of teamwork, responsibility, communication and camaraderie. The team has given me one of my most memorable and precious birthdays. I couldn't be more surprised and touched to see all my teammates come together to celebrate my birthday. And it was in that moment, when I walked through the door that I realized, I ain't got teammates, I got family." (adapting quote from Fast & Furious 7)

In our final tournament of the season, everything came together and the team was unstoppable. It was a dramatic difference from

the team that started the season. They were confident, won every game, didn't let in a single goal, and became champions. Our player from France (Ilinca) was named tournament most valuable player and our player from America (Kalina) won the Golden Boot award for scoring the most goals (9) in the tournament. What I was most impressed with is that, top to bottom, no matter who played where or with who, everyone knew what to do. Everyone played their positions well and made great decisions on the field. It was like they came to know each other so deeply that they didn't even need to communicate at all. What a great ending to a memorable season.

## 多彩的球队

试想一下，一个足球队里有来自世界各地的人将会是怎样的一副画面？不同的国家、不同的语言、不同的文化，你能相信他们可以毫无障碍的彼此配合默契并发挥出色吗？借这个机会，就让我来讲讲他们的故事，因为如果我不说，你就永远不会知道他们究竟能有多么完美。

我是一个有着 15 年教龄的足球教练，可以说，我接触过各种各样形形色色的队员。作为一个教练，我最大的成就就是看着队员们一次次的提高与进步。他们每一个人的努力都深深的刻在我的脑海之中。我从不对他们有过多的要求，只要每个人尽心尽力全力以赴，我就心满意足。当然，没有人不渴望成功，但这并不是我追求的全部。

过去两个赛季，我在一所国际学校的高中女子足球队任教。可以说，在这里任教的日子是我人生中最有价值的经历。她们来自全球各地，为着一个共同的足球梦想而走到了一起，并最终凭借绝佳战绩完成了本赛季的比赛。我们的队员来自五湖四海，但是她们并没有因为彼此的文化差异而相互排斥。相反，她们结下了深厚的缘分。我仍然记得，本赛季的第一次实践活动上，因为超过一半的孩子都是新人，所以不仅是技能方面还是语言理解方面，她们都有不小的困难。每当我给出指示，她们就在底下彼此小声交流。说实话，我真的很不能接受我在说话的时候，别人交头接耳。所以每当我要说些什么的时候，我都不得不询问一下我的中方助理她们在讨论什么，她告诉我说一些孩子正给一些英文不太好的同学讲解我的讲话内容。经过一个赛季的磨合，我逐渐体会到了等待与赞扬的重要性。在这个赛季结束的时候，我注意到她们之间的解释已经变得越来越少了，我知道，任何事情都需要一个磨合的阶段，而我们正等待着那个时刻的到来。

我们的足球队是一个有趣且有爱的团队。我们做过很多慈善服务活动，比如为天津肿瘤医院的孩子送去礼物、帮助青年女子足球队训练等等。每一个队上的女孩都从事过服务工作，她们有爱、有热心。在这个赛季的最后一场比赛上，我们的姑娘英勇善战，势不可挡，这和赛季开始的时候有着截然不同的状态。经过整个赛季的历练，姑娘们已经变得自信、无敌，她们坚持每一场比赛，不放弃任何一个进球的机会，最终取得了胜利。她们每一个人都知道自己的位置，并在自己的领域发挥出色。她们彼此之间已经无需太多的语言，就能默契十足。我为她们感到自豪，我为她们感到骄傲。



## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CHINESE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT

by Charlotte Edwards

For various reasons, namely the language barrier, most children of expats usually attend international schools. In our area, we don't have that option so my son attends the local Chinese school. He's helped me share with you what a typical Monday looks like for him, a first grader.

**6:00-** I usually wake up around this time, so I play quietly until everyone else gets up.

**6:30-** Now it's time to practice reading. If my little sister is awake, I read to her. I like to read *The Boonie Bears* (熊出没) and *Thomas the Train* books.

**7:00-** Today my grandma brings us breakfast, fried bread with pork and lettuce inside. Since it's not healthy, we only eat it once a week. On the other days we have oatmeal, eggs and fruit. After eating, I wash up and get dressed in my school uniform.

**7:40-** I leave for school with my dad on his bike; it's about a ten minute bike ride to my school but he needs to go another five minutes to get to work.

**8:00-** Classes begin and we greet the teacher. We have two classes—Chinese and Math—with a ten minute break in the middle.

**9:30-** All of the students go outside to do morning exercises and listen to announcements from the principal. Then we

have time to play and do our classroom chores. I'm in charge of taking out the trash which I do twice a day.

**10:00-** The next two classes of the morning are Chinese (yes, again!) and PE. I like PE because the teacher lets us play after teaching us a short lesson.

**11:40-** It's lunchtime and we get to go home! Grandpa comes to get me and take me to his house where Grandma cooks lunch for my sister and I.

**11:50-** We have a delicious lunch with many foods. Grandma always cooks a lot of delicious meats and vegetables.

**12:30-** After cleaning up, Grandpa takes us home in his three-wheeled electric cart.

**12:50-** I play with my Mom and Dad and then do some homework. Everyday I have to do a timed math paper with 50 problems and a math exercise in a notebook. Our teacher collects this homework once a week.

**1:20-** Once I'm done with that I have a banana and Mom reads me some books in English while I play with Legos. These are my favorite toys; I wish I could play with them all day long!

**2:15-** I fill up my water bottle and Mom takes me back to school.

**2:30-** I love Monday afternoons because we have art class. The teacher lets us draw, so I make a picture of an airplane. I want to be a

pilot when I grow up.

**3:20-** After a ten minute break we have our last class where we learn about health and good manners. We should end the day at four o'clock but the teacher always keeps us longer to make us correct homework, today we have to correct a Chinese exam.

**4:40-** Finally we get to go home! My mom and sister are waiting for me at the school gate. We go to the park with my friends and play for awhile. Dad meets us there so Mom can go home to cook.

**5:50-** We arrive home and eat dinner.

**6:20-** I play with my sister while Mom cleans up the kitchen.

**6:45-** I start my homework and Dad helps me when I have a question.

**7:30-** I'm finished with Math and go out to play with my friends.

**7:50-** I go home to do my Chinese homework.

**8:40-** I'm finally done with my homework, drink some yogurt and get ready for bed.

**8:50-** Mom tucks me in bed and tells me a story.

### 一个中国学校学生的一天

基于各种原因，当然大多数时候是因为语言障碍，很多外国孩子喜欢就读一些国际学校。但在我们周围，因为没有可选的国际学校，所以我不得不将孩子们送去当地的学校就读。这篇文章是在我儿子的帮助之下完成的，讲述了一个一年级孩子的典型周一生活。

“我通常在6点钟左右起床，然后自己一个人玩，直到大家都起来。之后，我会做一些晨读，如果这个时候，妹妹也醒了，我也会为她读一些故事书。7点钟是早餐时间，结束之后，我会换上校服，然后坐爸爸的自行车去学校，开始一天的学校生活。我们8点正式上课，每节课之间我们都有10分钟的休息时间。9:30全体同学都会走到操场做早操、听校长讲话。之后的两节课是语文和体育，体育是我最喜欢的科目，因为老师在做过简短的教学工作之后就会把时间留给我们，让我们自行活动。11:40-2:15是午休时间，这个时候爷爷会把我接到他的家中，等到午饭过后，再把我们送回家。之后，我会做一些数学作业以及听妈妈用英文朗读书籍。

2:30 下午课时正式开始。我喜欢周一下午的时光，因为每个周一下午都是我们的美术时间。3:20，我们上最后一节课，这节课老师通常会教授一些健康与礼仪的知识。学校理应在4:00下课，但由于老师要给我们批改作业，所以我们通常会下的晚一些，4:40是我们最终的放学时间。结束一天的课堂生活，我可以利用饭前的一点时间和朋友们一起玩耍。5:50我们到家并享用晚餐。晚餐结束之后，我可以做题、玩耍。8:40做完作业，我开始准备睡觉。8:50我和妈妈正式躺在床上，结束一天的生活。”

## IST Graduation – Class of 2015

**The International School of Tianjin (IST)** held its 11th Graduation Ceremony for its Class of 2015 on June 05, 2015. This was the first year that the ceremony was held in IST's own theatre, making it a more meaningful experience for the 27 graduates (from 7 countries), their families and teachers. The graduates will be embarking on the next phase of their exciting journeys either to pursue higher studies in prestigious universities around the world, or to follow their dreams of travelling and experiencing more of the world before going further towards their academic or career goals. Amongst the universities that the graduates are going to attend, are New York University, University of Washington, University of California Berkeley, Carnegie Mellon University, University of Hong Kong, HK University of Science and Technology, University of Leeds, King's College, EcoleHoltelier de Lausanne and Yonsei University in Korea.



## International School of Tianjin "Coming of Age" Ceremony

**The IST Theatre witnessed** another "coming of age" ceremony on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 in the form of the Grade 5 graduation. This is an important point in the lives of our outgoing Grade 5 students who will turn from being the oldest and most senior students in the Elementary school to the youngest and most junior ones as they move into Secondary school after the summer. To celebrate this momentous occasion, the Grade 5 students, their families, teachers and friends gathered to congratulate them and wish them well.



## PROMOTION

# Wellington College International Charity Summer Fayre



As the sun rose on the morning of Saturday 6th June, the day of the annual Wellington College International Charity Summer Fayre had finally arrived, and around 2000 people had turned up to experience it!

As promised, this year's event was both bigger and better than what had gone before, with over ninety outside vendors offering games and activities, foods and drinks, and so much more. On-stage performances of traditional Chinese tea ceremonies and junior school dance troupes (to name but a few) gave the event a truly electric atmosphere, with traditional Tianjinese stilt performers

starting off proceedings with their customary Drum Dance. The Sports Hall was once again transformed into a children's paradise and a much-needed parents hideaway, with fun for all the family at every turn.

This would be an ideal opportunity to comment on the wonderful parent community at Wellington, who not only supported their children in all preparations for their House stalls, but more importantly got involved themselves, cooking and preparing wonderful foods and drinks from their home countries, whilst enjoying the sights and sounds of the Fayre.

This year's event, was held in support

of the China Development Foundation - a nationwide group that supports teachers in rural locations by bridging the gap between eastern and western educational institutions in China.

The Summer Fayre at Wellington College International Tianjin is an event for all the community, and is a true celebration of the role of an international school in an increasingly diverse yet passionately traditional city. Being the only event of its kind in Tianjin, we can only wait in eager anticipation to see what surprises await us next year.



## Teda International School Sports Day & Water Day

There can be few better ways to wrap up the school year! After a long and intense year of developing and exercising the mind and experiencing the joys and bounties of acquiring knowledge in the classroom the chance to exercise the body in the competition & exhilarating fun of a sports day and refresh the spirit in the big splash of 'water day' is exactly what students and teachers need.



At TIS this is what we did. On Children's Day, under blue skies we screamed around a racetrack, kangaroo jumped and joined partners in the three-legged race before finally all falling over when the tug-of-war rope finally snapped! This day was quickly followed by 'water day' which was all about getting yourself soaked to the skin in whatever way you could, by heading down the soapy water slide, standing in the line of fire before the water gun and missing your step when crossing the bridge over the pool. It was crazy! But, oh, what fun!



Supporting all the frolics under the sun were parents who added to the great joy everyone was experiencing by sponsoring fruit & ice blocks. What a way to head of the school gates for the summer holidays!



## PROMOTION

# Teda International School Charity Ceremony

This year, the TIS community has raised a record-breaking amount of funds for charity: around 75,000rmb! This does not include the clothes, goods, and services collected and donated to various organizations. From Walkathon, we raised 40,000, which we donated to the Teda



Charity Association at a beautiful donation ceremony on Tuesday, May 26. This money is going to support schools in Yunnan and Qinghai province, to send 20 girl students to school in Baodi, to support Shine Home's

new building, to support two autistic homes in Tanggu, and to help rural cottage industries. We invited the children from Shine Home and the Tanggu Autistic Home to celebrate with us at our donation ceremony. They performed a beautiful song and presented us with hand-made artwork, and then made mooncakes with our high school students. Additional projects we did this year were fundraisers for the Nepal Earthquake (6400rmb), Tianjin Animal Rescue, Chinese orphans in Tianjin, Tanggu Nursing Home, and supporting rural middle school students. Thank you, TIS community, for your spirit of generosity and community-building. Together, we will make a difference!



## JIAN HUA

# Happy Game Day, happily growing up

June 1st is Children's Day, it is also a happy festival. On this unforgettable day, the children at the Jian Hua Autism Rehabilitation Center in Tianjin participated in the third annual Tianjin Nankai district game day. The theme of the games was "Pay more attention to children with autism, walk into a better future". The field day was held at the Tianjin Nankai district special education school. The parents of children with autism were also invited to participate in the activities and they experienced the joy brought by the games. During the games, every child took part in five different fun games which ranged from easy to difficult. After all the games were completed, the children got a prize. The Five games were "Picking up mushrooms", "Popeye", "Chasing the duckling", "Happy frogs" and "Throwing the rings". In the "Picking up mushrooms" game, the children took baskets, and

walked carefully over balance beam bridges and crawled through a "cave" made by arches, then came to the mushroom land to pick mushrooms. In the "Chasing the duckling" game, the children pushed a small cart, around obstacles then to the finish line. The most impressive game was "Popeye". This game focused on the children walking, jumping, and kicking. The children walked on a circular balance beam, jumped over 10 cm high obstacles, and kicked a ball to a specific target. All the games were designed to help the children work on their balance, to help their body awareness, and to improve their coordination and motor planning. When the teachers saw children with sensory integration problems, who originally could not do these activities, but after a period of training, complete these activities independently, they were able to see the success of their training in the small

smiling faces of their students. There is no doubt that the progress of the children is the hope of parents and the joy of teachers. The sports meeting came to a close and everyone enjoyed the warm and pleasant atmosphere. The prizes the children received were not only rewards for the games, but also for their long-term training results. The games also gave their parents a rare chance to relax in their busy and nervous lives. During the activities they could see their children's growth and improvement and were able to spend an unforgettable children's day with them.

六月是孩子们的节日，也是一个快乐的节日。在这个难忘的日子里，天津建华自闭症康复服务中心的孩子们参加了天津市南开区第三届趣味运动会。此次运动会以“关注孤独症儿童，走向美好未来”为主题，在天津市南开区育智学校召开。这次的活动也邀请了孩子们的家长参与其中，与我们一同感受运动的快乐与健康。





## The Hopeland International Kindergarten's Graduating Class Visit to Tianjin Experimental Primary School Bruno Helps us understand the Convergence Teaching System

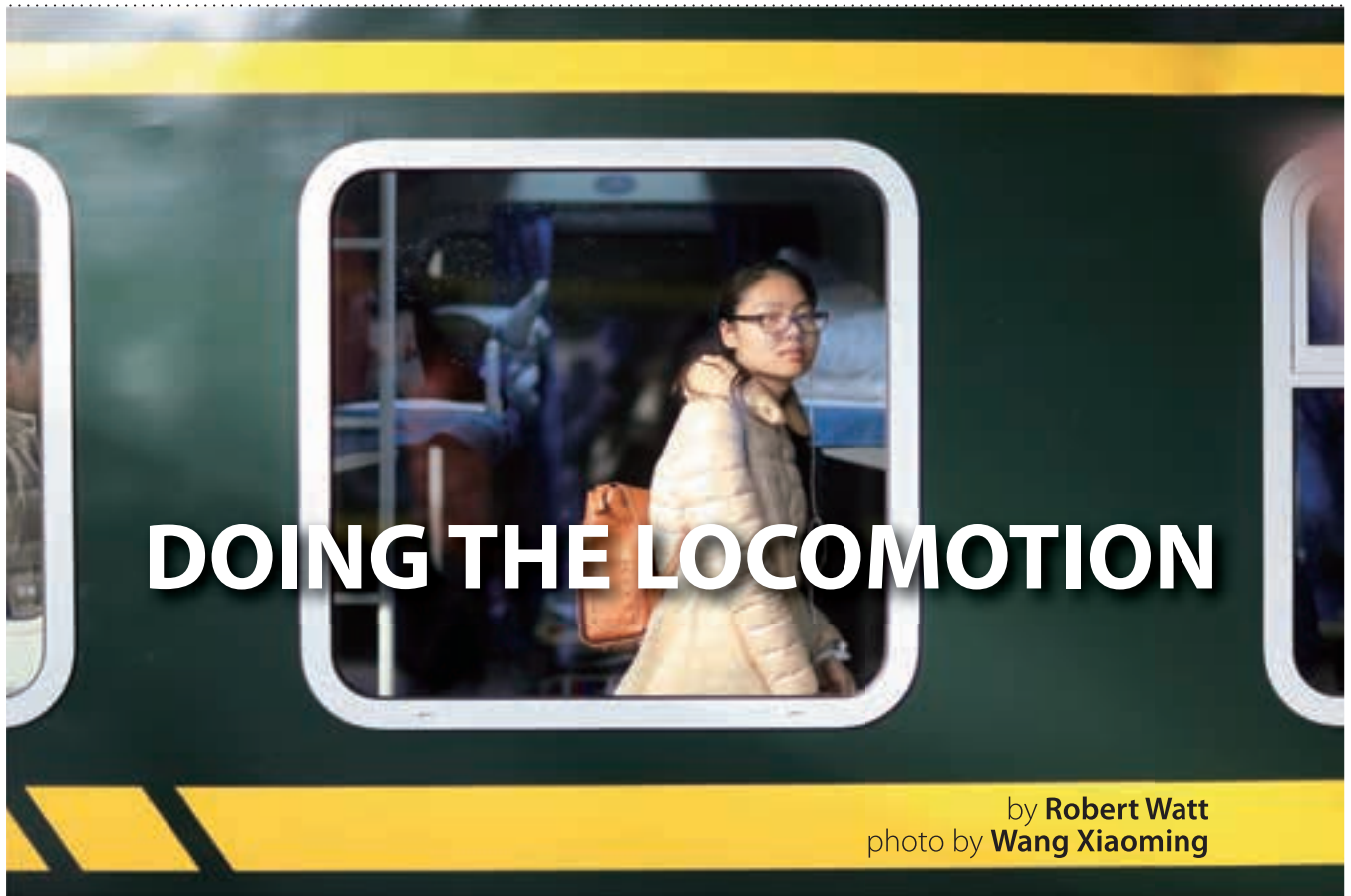


Recently, children from Hopeland International Kindergarten's graduating class conducted their annual visit to Tianjin Experimental Primary School. On the day, our students experienced primary school life and closely studied their brothers and sisters in the classroom and observed how to make friends at school. In these activities, the children completed an important lesson of our convergence course. The teachers from Tianjin Experimental Primary School told us they thought highly of our children and praised their comprehensive abilities.

华兰国际幼稚园独创的幼小衔接课程，从幼儿情感、态度、能力、习惯、兴趣等多方面培养孩子，经过长达一个学年的培养训练，让大班孩子从心理、生活习惯、学习习惯、知识储备等方面与小学相衔接，以最自然的状态过渡到小学的生活中来。



This year is the eleventh graduation session of our students from kindergarten to primary school. After ten years of exploring every aspect that can help the children successfully complete this important transition and quickly adapt to primary school, Hopeland International Kindergarten has developed a convergence teaching system. The system develops the children emotionally, assesses their attitude, ability, their habits and interests. It lasts for the whole year and the outcome is children who go are ready to go to primary school and are ready to succeed.



by **Robert Watt**  
photo by **Wang Xiaoming**

A girl is looking out of the window.

**W**henever I visit a country, I inevitably find myself travelling on one of its trains - East to West or North to South. The change in geography, language, wealth, beliefs or industry shapes the communities and their traditions and encourages diversity. A train journey reaches into the centres of those peculiar parts and pockets of difference.

But train tracks do more than just provide a link between places. Of all the methods of transport, riding a train provides the best opportunity to observe and to meet its people. The ability to move around the compartment and to face fellow passengers encourages contact and conversation. The wide windows allow you to observe the changing countryside and to look into the backrooms and yards of suburban homes.

Trains don't just help you to access a county's culture, they're also as much a part of the culture as the lands through which they run; their origins and history often entwined with that of their nation, the service and condition of travel a reflection of the state that invariably runs them. As a result, unlike airlines, in no two countries are they the same.

A vivid demonstration of this is the

**AS THE TRAIN LEAVES THERE IS A BUZZ OF EXCITEMENT; PART RELIEF THAT WE'RE ON OUR WAY, PART ANTICIPATION OF THE DESTINATION.**

journey between Beijing to Ulaan Baatar. A single line that slowly climbs through the spectacular mountains north of Beijing and onto the Mongolian plateau before meandering along the edge of the Gobi desert towards Russia and the Trans-Siberian railway. It's the only Chinese train where the carriage can be as empty as the land outside. At the border, the whole train is jacked up to change its wheels from the old British track width to the narrower Russian gauge.

A railway as a reflection of its culture is not a new idea. The importance of the railroad in the creation of America is widely acknowledged not just for the opening of the west and the uniting of its states, but in its romantic mythology of outlaws and train hopping hobos. As Christian Wolmar states in

his book *The Great Railroad Revolution* 'Images of railroads have permeated the American cultural psyche and are central to its cultural identity.' Similarly, the British passenger moans about the cost and reliability of the UK network, straining with its ancient infrastructure, but fights to preserve its lines of Thomas the Tank like heritage.

So undertaking a train trip abroad is taking a journey through a slice of its culture. China, with its network among the largest in the world, offers plenty of opportunities for adventure and insight. Not just to see the spectacular scenery that passes the window outside, but to look into the lives of people who, for a period, make the inside of your carriage their home.

Taking an overnight train to a distant city makes the journey as much a part of the holiday as the destination. Don't be put off by what is austere called 'hard sleeper'. The beds are soft, the compartments compact, but adequate for 6 people to stretch out in 2 tiers of 3 beds. Lights go off at 10:30 so you can doze off easily to the rhythmic rattle and rock of the carriage while outside, China's vastness races past, its landscape slowly changing, unseen in the blackness. China's slow trains look old and well used, but the lights work, the

toilets flush and the taps run. And while the sleeping coaches will most likely be full, bodies are not lying everywhere, there is no one sleeping in the toilets, in the corridors or luggage racks. The seating only carriages however, are generally rammed, with even the standing room overbooked. It's a wonder how the space, already bursting with people and their enormous quantities of baggage, is accommodated. Big bags bulging with food for the journey are a necessity as the dining cars rarely contain anything but bored staff. Somehow it all shakes down, people claim their space perching on boxes or squeezing onto seat corners. As the train leaves there is a buzz of excitement; part relief that we're on our way, part anticipation of the destination. There is a good spirit, a feeling of comradeship in the long uncomfortable journey ahead.

There's no real equivalent to this experience in the west, outside of rush hour, when fares are slashed to half price, commuter carriages are often empty and the atmosphere is subdued. In the U.S., long distance train journeys are a bit of an oddity, largely taken by nostalgic enthusiasts, tourists, or those with flying phobias. Air is cheaper and far faster, even driving is preferred by most Americans. Yet crossing the continent by train still remains the best way to see large swathes of the country. Reserved seating and baggage limits make for a relaxing, slightly decadent journey. Trains have dining cars serving large, cooked breakfasts and dinners on dressed tables with real crockery. In observation carriages you can sip a cocktail, as you wind along the historic

lines that stretch from coast to coast. Outside, the canyons of Colorado, the Rockies and Sierra Nevada mountains and the Navajo Indian Territory pass like an anthology on the Wild West. The journey isn't cheap or particularly fast, the 3000 mile trip takes 3 days and depending on the degree of comfort costs from \$227 for a reclining chair to around \$1000 if you want a two bed room with meals included.

In the UK, a long distance drive to the other end of the country isn't attractive. The clogged motorways and perpetual road works make train travel a lesser evil than the equivalent time spent squeezed in a small car. But even a journey to Scotland isn't far enough to need an overnight sleeper. In 1935 Britain held the world record for the fastest passenger train service at 180kph. That record still stands for a steam powered train, it also stands for the age where many British sensibilities are set. The rest of Europe has invested in high speed networks giving services over 300kph whereas journey times in UK have hardly changed. The ancient rolling stock and signalling has been gradually replaced, but its Victorian legacy persists; modern display boards and tannoy systems hang from the stations old wrought iron and clapboard structures. Trains, still limited to 200kph, crawl between one quiet country station to the next.

The relatively short distances and lack of space restrains high speed needs in the UK whereas masses migrating across China have necessitated the building of a high speed network that has become the world's fastest

and longest. The modern, clean, efficient, transport symbolises the country's boldest ambitions; pushing up the Himalayas to Lhasa and planning to push more new lines into Bangladesh and Bhutan, even across Asia and into Europe.

In America, plans for High-speed rail have become a key component of what is known as 'green urbanism'. A means to make metropolitan areas more sustainable and less dependent on cars and suburban sprawl. Such plans are extensions of the vision the US and China have of their own destinies. An extension of the train that started in the myths and memories of the past and its locomotion into the dreams of the future. And culture, riding with it, slowly changing like the view from the window.

## 火车承载文化

每到一个国家旅游，我都会买一张火车票，从这个国家的一端穿行到另一端。一路上地貌、口音、发展水平、信仰或工业环境的变化勾勒出一个国家的真实画像，处处体现了这个国家的传统和多样性。

长长的铁路不仅能够连接遥远的两个地方，还能为你提供观察和结识当地朋友的最好机会。你能够在车厢间自由移动，与陌生人近距离面对面，这些都增加了互相交流的机会。透过车窗，你能把宁静的田园风光尽收眼底。

火车不仅能让你了解当地的文化，它本身就是文化的一部分。火车的起源和发展史往往和一个国家的历史息息相关，所以没有两个国家的火车体验是完全一样的。

出国旅游的时候选择火车最能真切感受当地的文化。而中国拥有世界上最庞大的铁路网络，给外国人很多历险和观察的机会，不但能欣赏窗外匆匆而过的景色，还能深入了解形形色色的乘客。

对我来说，坐夜车也成为旅行的一部分。晚上十点半熄灯之后，我能很快伴着铁轨和车轮有节奏的接触酣然入睡。即便是慢车，虽然车内设施陈旧，但至少都运转良好，而且每个人都有床位，没有人睡在厕所、过道或行李架上。但硬座车厢通常是人满为患，就连站票都超售了。实在很难想象这么多人和他们的行李是怎么塞进这狭小空间的。人们通常会带足干粮，所以餐车总是空空如也。火车开动后，车厢里的人们总是很兴奋，毕竟是在路上了。人与人之间很容易形成同病相怜的情感，一起相伴度过漫漫长路。

这样的体验在国外几乎没有。在旅游淡季，车票打对折的情况下，火车车厢依然很空。在美国，坐飞机更便宜也更快，人们甚至宁愿开车也不愿意坐火车。但乘火车依然是领略整个国家不同风光的最好方式。由于火车票需要预定，对行李的重量也有限制，美国的火车不会拥挤不堪，乘客感觉相对舒适放松。餐车提供一日三餐，环境整洁。车窗外，一路经过科罗拉多大峡谷、落基山脉、内华达山脉和印第安人聚集区，就像是一部关于“狂野西部”的史书。这样的旅程并不便宜，3000 英里的全程车票从 227 到 1000 美元不等。

火车的诞生起始于神话故事和久远的记忆中，未来也会不断进化。而与之相伴的文化也如车窗外的风景一样，一路变化着。



Mother and kids wait excitedly to set out.



Shopping always takes most of the time during the trip for low-price travel packages.

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

by Paula Taylor

**W**hen we go on holiday we naturally hope that everything will go smoothly. After all we have worked hard and deserve a break.

Sometimes things happen that are beyond our control, and these things are either a blip in an otherwise wonderful holiday, or they spoil the holiday altogether. Being sick on holiday is sometimes unavoidable, flight delays, lost luggage, becoming a victim of crime or a horrible hotel all contribute to an unfortunate holiday experience. However Chinese tourists have to face another problem, which we as Westerners do not. The reason we do not face this problem is that we would not put up with it.

Would you sign up for a package deal and then accept being insulted by the tour guide because you had not spent enough money at shops with which the tour company had done a deal - commission in exchange for bringing tourists?

Actually once I went on a coach trip in Jamaica and the tour guide made us stop at a

shop selling cheap rubbish for tourists and urged us to buy presents "for the folks back home". We declined as, if we had given friends those kind of presents, I suspect they would have quickly become "unfriends". Also she was stressing the need to use American dollars rather than Jamaican ones, which is another scam, as Jamaican dollars have a much lower value but they tried to convince us otherwise. Strange that they thought we wouldn't know. Anyway the guide was agitated and we guessed that she was on commission, but that day she did not earn anything as the whole coach kept their American and Jamaican dollars safely in their wallets. She wanted us to buy and we didn't, and that was the end of the matter.

**ACTUALLY I MIGHT JUST FOR THE CURIOSITY VALUE TO SEE IF I GOT INSULTED AND THREATENED.**

Unfortunately for a group of Chinese tourists travelling to Yunnan, when they were taken to a jewellery shop by the tour guide and did not spend much money, that was not the end of the matter, not only for the tourists, but also for the guide and her employers. The incident ended with the tour guide, Chen Chunyuan having her license suspended, her tour company being fined and also being investigated by the Chinese Government, for berating, haranguing and threatening the tourists. Unfortunately for her she did not realise that she was secretly being filmed by a guest who promptly posted the video online.

At this point I will partly reproduce the "difficult conversation" Chen had with the tourists and then you can make up your own mind as to her actions. She said, or rather shouted "This bus is prepared for tourists who have moral standards and consciences. If you do not have these, you are not fit to sit here. If you do not spend money, at the next stop get off and don't follow me. If each of you cannot spend between 3,000 to 4,000 yuan, we will cancel the trip. Your flight tickets home will

also not be covered. You need to at least spend for the sake of your consciences". She then went on to utter the dire threat "There is a spirit up above watching you, there is a spirit down here watching you and prodding your consciences".

Well would you put up with that? Of course not. Actually if you buy a package holiday, wherever you live, don't the tour guides plug trips and excursions? They get commission for this and we all know this, it is part of the deal, although we don't get threatened if we don't buy, and if we did get threatened we would deal with the perpetrator. But as usual there is more to this than meets the eye, there are always two sides to every story. So does Chen have a defense? Although her treatment of the tourists was indefensible, as far as she was concerned she did have good reason to be upset.

The package deal was extraordinarily cheap, so that should have set alarm bells ringing. In fact the tour company could not

so that they actually made a profit and not a loss. Surely this is the first rule of business – to make a profit. The holiday makers should have been willing to pay a fair price for a fair deal. And the tour guide – well maybe she needs counseling.

No doubt the tour company will say that they offered such low prices to attract a lot of people and to beat off competition, however this has sadly backfired and has had disastrous consequences. Not only did they lose money by offering holidays that were so cheap that it was business suicide, but there is the matter of the hefty fine and Government investigation, and being ridiculed through social media so that their reputation is in tatters. Who would want to book a tour with them now? Actually I might just for the curiosity value to see if I got insulted and threatened. For you English readers, doesn't Chen remind you a little bit of Basil Fawley? For anyone that doesn't know who Basil Fawley is, I suggest you check him out. Anyway for that holiday company it all

listen, no she won't. Like those hapless holiday makers she will find out the hard way that her cheap trip will end up costing her more. Also like Mary, whom I believe I have mentioned several times but I will do so again as she will read this and it will annoy her. Mary got ripped off over a too cheap plane ticket. Remember the old adage "If something seems too good to be true, it usually is". These tourists should have tried to guess what the "unwritten" small print might have been.

## 别让开心变堵心!

我们出门旅游当然会期望一切都顺顺利利的, 毕竟这是我们辛勤工作后奖励自己的一次珍贵假期。但是, 不如人意的事情十有八九会发生, 有些不过是小插曲, 有些却能完全毁掉你的假期。航班延误、行李丢失、酒店糟糕是我们都曾遇到过的事情。但对于中国的游客来说, 他们还有可能遭遇另一种噩梦 – "强制购物"。

你花钱在旅行社报名参游, 因为在某个商店没有达到购物下限而遭受导游冷言冷语, 这样的待遇你能忍受吗?

我曾经参加了一个去牙买加的旅行团, 导游也带我们去了当地一个商店, 店里面卖的都是廉价的劣质商品, 她不停地游说我们买点礼物带给亲戚朋友。但我们拒绝了, 因为送这种东西给朋友会被绝交的。而且她建议我们使用美元而不是当地货币。她拿我们当傻子吗? 我们不知道汇率吗? 最后我们一分钱都没花, 导游自然没有分文提成。不管她脸色如何难看, 我们的钱袋子自己说了算!

但在中国, 类似的事情发展到这一步并不算完。最近在网上传着一段视频, 云南一个导游因为游客购物太少而在大巴车上发飙, 大骂游客。最后这名导游被吊销导游资格, 其公司也受到主管部门的处罚。

视频中, 导游指责游客缺乏 "道德标准和良心", 威胁如果没有人均购买到三千到四千就取消后面的行程。

我们都知道, 导游会从游客购物的金额中抽取提成, 但强制游客购物是不允许的, 如果游客收到这样的威胁完全可以向导游和旅行社追究责任。但是, 是什么导致这个导游如此暴怒, 进而出口恶言呢?

现在有很多旅行社打出十分诱人的价格吸引游客参团。这些价格低的令人乍舌, 相信连成本都不够, 这时候你就需要在脑海里敲响警钟了。旅行社的利润从何而来? 当然他们不会明确告知对购物金额的要求, 因为这是违法的。

如果游客能花最少的钱完成一次旅游, 同时旅行社能从游客购物中获得利润, 那么这是皆大欢喜的结果。但有时候, 游客就是分文不掏, 那旅行社肯定会赔钱了。但如果旅行社的报价可以保证有竞争力同时也是有利可图的, 那么就不会发生这样的事情。

虽然旅行社想用超低价吸引大批游客, 但这样的结果却是灾难性的。一方面, 旅行社赔钱的可能性很大, 同时还会扰乱整个行业的健康发展, 毁掉旅游业的声誉。其实, 我还真想报一个这样的低价团, 很好奇导游会怎样羞辱我。

我周围的朋友也曾经掉入过这样的低价陷阱, 按中国的俗话说 "占小便宜吃大亏"。下次再遇到这种情况, 你不能只盯着诱人的价格, 还要学会分辨那些隐含条件。



A tourist group are shopping in an overseas luxury shop.

even hope to cover their costs. The tourists should have asked themselves why it was so cheap. Obviously the tour company could not spell out that they would have to buy goods, as it is against the law in China for them to do this, although they still do it, just not openly.

A good deal is when both sides get something out of it. In this case the tourists got a very cheap holiday but the tour company actually lost money because the tourists refused to spend in the shops, thereby cutting off an important source of revenue.

This sad situation could have been avoided. For instance the tour company could have offered the holiday at a competitive price

turned out to be a false economy as they have lost far more than they gained.

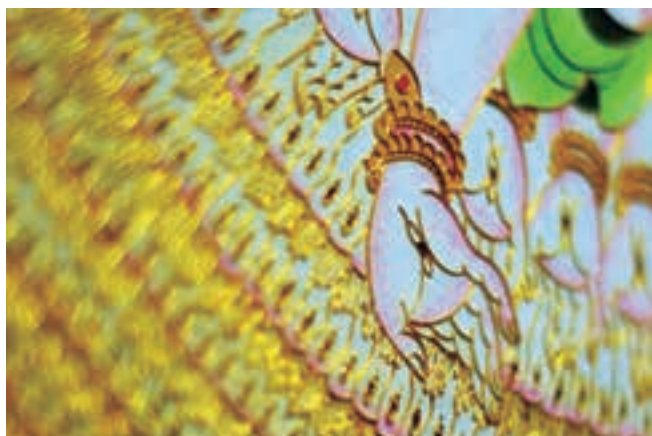
I have been trying to reason with my flatmate over exactly the same thing. We are going to a three day conference to the same place with some other friends and she has chosen a different hotel to me. Why? Not because she doesn't like me but because her hotel is £35 (350rmb) cheaper in total – with good reason. It is miles away from the conference venue. She has told me in all seriousness that she will get a taxi there all three days, and no doubt a taxi back. You don't need to be genius to work out that she will spend far more than she saves, but will she

# REGONG ART IN TIANJIN

by Jane Liu



Image of the Buddha painted on the Thangka



Filigree Thangka

**O**n May 30th, the Qinghai Special Exhibition of Intangible Cultural Heritage was held at the Tianjin Culture Assets and Equity Exchange. There were more than 80 Thangka arts including Filigree Thangka and hand-painted Thangka on display at the exhibition. This was also the first time that Tibetan Sand Mandala were shown in Tianjin. The exhibition will last until the 21<sup>th</sup> June.

Regong Art is an important part of Chinese Tibetan Buddhist Art. Originating in the LongWu River Valley of Qinghai Province (Tongren County of the Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture), Regong art is a successful mix of religious art by Tibetan and Tu ethnic minorities and local folk arts. In 2006, Regong Art was included among the first artworks in the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection program.



Drawing tools



Mineral pigment



28-year-old artist, Nanla is painting



Tibetan Sand Mandala

Tips for Appreciation:

**Thangka Art**

Regong, which has the highest artistic levels and requires the best artists, is becoming the largest producer of Thangka art in China. Thangka usually requires paint made with natural plant or mineral pigments such as gold, silver, pearl, agate, turquoise, precious minerals, saffron and indigo. These natural materials ensure the painting can last for many years with its colors as bright and as fresh as when it was painted.

**Tibetan Sand Mandala**

The Mandala was introduced to China in the 11th Century. The painters use millions of grains of sand to make a painting, and the process may take a few days or months. The sands are polished by a special stone and applied by hand. The sand is of six colors - white, black, blue, red, yellow, and green. In addition to the white and black, the four other

colors are also subdivided into deep, medium and light colors. In all, there are 14 colors that can be produced. The process of painting with the sand is difficult as the fragile patterns can be so easily destroyed but at the same time, the resulting works of art can be of unparalleled beauty.



Hand-painted Thangka



Tibetan Sand Mandala

**青海热贡艺术在天津**

5月30日,“善美大成——青海热贡非物质文化遗产特展”在天津文化产权交易所(和平区长沙路95号)开幕。包括掐丝唐卡、手绘唐卡在内的80余幅精品亮相,坛城沙画也首次在津揭开神秘面纱。展览持续至6月21日结束。

热贡艺术是中国藏传佛教艺术的重要组成部分,十五世纪发祥于藏族文化的原生地青海省黄南藏族自治州同仁县境内的隆务河流域。2006年被列入国家首批非物质文化遗产保护名录。

**热贡艺术鉴赏小贴士:**

**唐卡艺术:**热贡是中国唐卡产量最大的地方,是画师最集中同时也是艺术水平最高的地方。唐卡的颜料采用金、银、珍珠、玛瑙、松石等矿物宝石以及藏红花、蓝靛等植物颜料。这些天然原料保证了所绘制的唐卡虽经百年岁月,仍是色泽艳丽。

**坛城沙画:**“坛城”译为曼陀罗、坛场等,十一世纪传入中国,保存至今。画师们用数百万计的沙粒描绘作品,过程可能持续数日乃至数月。绘画所用的细沙是以特殊石头手工磨制而成,共有白、黑、蓝、红、黄、绿六色,除白黑之外,余四色又分为深、中、淡三种层次,总共可调配成十四种颜色。当坛城完成后,整个画面将会被驱散(从外层的沙驱散向内层)。每一个绘制步骤,难建而易毁,美丽而脆弱,让人感受“万千繁华,不过一掬沙”之心灵感撼。



Exhibition Site



Day school is an option for child during the summer holidays.

**EVEN IF THEY HAVE THEIR SEPARATE HOMES, MANY CHINESE COUPLES WILL DELIVER THEIR CHILDREN TO THE GRANDPARENTS ON MONDAYS AND PICK THEM UP ON FRIDAY.**

# WHAT TO DO WITH THE KIDS?

by **David Wong**

Summer is now upon us and while the teenage kids are out of school and enjoying themselves, what about the younger ones that cannot be on their own like their older brothers and sisters.

For local Chinese parents, there are the grandparents who are usually available since retirement for Chinese is normally 55 years old for female workers and 60 for males. Also in the Chinese culture, it is quite acceptable to live with parents until enough money is saved by young couples to buy their own home. Even if they have their separate homes, many Chinese couples will deliver their children to the grandparents on Mondays and pick them up on Friday. The other option is one of the grandparents, usually the grandmother will move in for the weekdays.

These arrangements seldom occur in the West and not because western grandparents are not caring but both parents and grandparents in the West would feel that this would be an imposition. Separate lives are the norm after marriage and combined living

arrangements are only for emergency circumstances. Whereas in the Chinese culture extended family living was the norm in the past and due to the one child policy, not so much of a burden now.

For the expat family living in China, their grandparents are usually at their home country so this option except for family vacation visits, is not possible. Unless the family is privileged to have a good full time Ayi 阿姨 literal meaning is Auntie and common name for housekeeper. Many expats will decide that one of the parents will become the housekeeper while the other is the working breadwinner. It is not always the wife who stays at home; there are many examples of the "House Husband" instead of the "Housewife". This almost becomes a necessary arrangement when there is more than one child. So without the advantage of a live-in nanny, whether it is a granny, ayi, home-parent, what are the other options?

Many expats will plan their summer vacations during this period and take extended holidays to return home. The

working spouse will likely return to China early and let his spouse and children spend more time with parents or in laws. The other option is to have relations and friends visit in China and organize tours in China to usually first time visitors. However be prepared for crowds because this is when local Chinese do the same with their children that are out of school.

Another option is Day School. Many of these facilities operate during the summer months and accept children as young as 18 months. Jean Pierre, a Canadian with two boys has used a Chinese facility for two years and said they operate from 8AM to 6PM, providing three meals and a snack. He also recommended that if your children are young and this is the first time they will be away from home; try easing them in by using an "Adaptation Week". The child is introduced to the facility gradually, just a few minutes on the first day and increasing to a few hours by the





end of the week. No doubt there will be tears for this new adventure but soon the little one will make friends and realize that mommy or daddy will be back.

Summer schools are becoming very popular and they operate various programs, locally and abroad using for 2-3 weeks. Be sure to ask about history, supervision and references of past participants. It really depends upon the aptitude of the child and what are their interests. There are many science programs and other mainly outdoor activities. If you look at the [www.exploringtianjin.com](http://www.exploringtianjin.com) website, you will see some of the schools listed and also some daily activities and events that may be useful for summer activities.

If a residence or compound is large enough, several parents with a common interest may organize group activities that will be fun for the kids. I have seen larger Embassies in Beijing that offer such summer programs for families within the diplomatic compound who decide to remain during the summer. The same is true for larger foreign companies in Tianjin who extend daycare facilities during the summer months.

Learning a new sport or refining the child's skill in a sport is also an ideal thing to do during the summer. There are many swimming classes available and this is a good skill for your child and will provide you with a better ease of mind when they are near water in the future, also good exercise. How about golf or tennis lessons, you never know if you have a Tiger Woods or Venus Williams in the making. Most clubs will have a professional



Learning a new sport is an ideal thing to do during the summer.

that will provide lessons and they should have group and individual lessons. The [exploringtianjin](http://www.exploringtianjin.com) website mentioned previously has an extensive listing of sports facilities.

You shouldn't worry if the lessons are only in Chinese, I did when my daughter was only 6 and I was concerned that I was enrolling her into a French immersion school and she was being taught Mandarin at home and living in an English environment. At that time, a school counselor told me that children under the age of 16 are like sponges; they will soak up everything you give them. Today my daughter is fluent in English, French and Mandarin.

How about learning a new craft or playing a musical instrument? Try to take advantage of living in a different culture where you have exposure to different things that are not readily available back home. Some crafts are unique in Tianjin that may interest your child, clay sculptures and new year paintings Nian Hua 年画 literal meaning is Year Picture. You can find examples of these at Nanshi Cuisine Street.

For musical instruments, there are many unique instruments such as the Gu Qin 古琴, a 7 string flat zither, or the Er Hu 二胡 a two stringed fiddle. In a simpler vein, a bamboo flute called a Di Zi 笛子, may be easier.

If your child is older, there are several charitable organizations that would welcome volunteer help. Some of these are orphanages or foundations for the needy. Some senior home facilities would love to have a young helper to spend some time with seniors and you would be surprised that some have English capability but loving care will overcome the language barrier.

No matter what activity or facility you choose, the safety of your child is the most important. Always check out the facility and ask for and follow up with contacting references. Never leave your child unsupervised and the younger they are, this is more crucial. Make sure the activity is something your child wants, not just you.

Children grow up so fast and by the time they leave home, you will be saying: "Where did the time go by so fast, I wish I had spent more time with them before they left and now I hardly see them." So think about having a trip with them to explore China while you are here. China is such a huge country and diverse with scenery, minorities and history. There are countless tours and travel packages or make your own travel arrangements.



Taekwondo Class

## 暑假来了， 孩子们都去哪儿呢？

一年一度的暑假终于又要来临，孩子们也迎来了他们最幸福的时光。大一点的孩子，可以组队游玩，那么小一点的孩子呢？他们可以选择的项目有哪些呢？

在中国，人们的退休年龄是 55 岁和 60 岁，所以理所应当，这个照看孩子的责任就落在了老人身上。按照中国的传统，很多年轻夫妇在婚后都会选择和老人住在一起，直到他们攒够钱，有能力购买自己的房子，才会离开。但即便是他们有了自己的房子，他们还是会孩子送往老人家里。而这样的情况，在西方却很少见到。中国自古讲究几代同堂，这样的观点也将这一文化带到了现今社会。

对于那些居住在中国的外国家庭来讲，他们并不具备让老人帮忙照看孩子的条件，此时的他们会选择由父母中一方留家照看孩子，而另一方则外出工作。到了暑期，他们会利用这个空档回国探亲，为了使相聚的时间能够长久一些，他们也会延长假期或者让有工作的一方提早回来。当然，除了回国，他们也会邀请初次来中国的家人或朋友一起在中国旅游。那么除了回国或旅游，孩子们还能有什么选择呢？

首先，家长可以送孩子去一些暑期学校，这样的学校通常在假日开放。暑期学校可根据孩子的喜好来选择所学习的科目，通常学校会以科学项目或户外活动为主，如果你的孩子感兴趣，不妨上网搜索一下，你能找到很多相关信息。其次，利用假期时间为孩子报名一些运动辅导班也是不错的选择，比如游泳、高尔夫、或者网球，这些项目都能很好的开发孩子们的技能与潜力。说不定，下个体育明星就在你的周围产生。除此之外，学习一些手工制作或掌握一门新的乐器，也是很好的选择。天津著名的泥人张以及杨柳青年画，如果你的孩子感兴趣，不妨多带他们到处走走，收获一些新鲜事物。

当然，无论选择何种方式度过暑假，孩子的安全永远是第一位的。作为家长，你要时时刻刻保证孩子的安全与健康，并不忘提醒自己，你们所参与的所有活动一定得是小孩喜欢的，而不是你所期望的。小孩儿都是一眨眼的功夫就长大了，千万不要等他们都长大了，离开家了，你才想起来说：“时间都去哪了？孩子们都去哪了？”所以，趁着他们还在你身边的时候，好好的享受和他们在一起的时光，多看看这里的山山水水。中国这么大，你还怕找不到地方欣赏吗？



# BBQ SEASON HAS COME

by David Wong

**T**he word barbeque is derived from the Caribbean or Haiti in the 1500s when Spanish explorers described the method of cooking meat over an outside pit over a fire with wooden posts and in Spanish was called “barbecoa”. The barbeque is usually shortened to BBQ or the Australians call it a “Barby or Barbies”. It is described as a type of cooking over slow heat and an open fire that actually smokes the meat to give it more flavor. BBQ now is not restricted to only meat but many people enjoyed BBQ vegetables and seafood.

BBQ has become very popular in different parts of the world, especially during summer time when people want to enjoy the outdoors as much as possible. In Canada and United States, barbeques use charcoal briquettes or portable propane tanks for fuel. The charcoal is convenient if you need to transport the BBQ to different locations but the propane tanks are becoming more popular because there is less of a mess once the BBQ is done and you have to dispose of ashes. Also the propane tanks provide instant

heat and can be adjusted or turned off immediately, whereas charcoal must burn until the fuel is completely used up. Many homes and apartments in North America will have a propane BBQ in the backyard or balcony and some connect directly to the home’s natural gas supply. Almost all gas stations will fill propane tanks, which usually will last the summer, depending upon use.

All of these North American BBQ units are manufactured in China, but you will not find any for sale in the China market. There are many reasons for this. The main reason is it would be difficult to fill portable propane tanks in China and probably illegal to store them in Chinese apartments. Aside from the safety issue, these barbeques are quite large and would not fit in the average Chinese apartment. This type of BBQ may be accommodated in the large villas that have the space, but these are high density and I am sure that neighbors would complain about being smoked out from the cooking process.

Aside from home cooking, BBQ is very popular in some restaurants. In Southern USA,

the regional TexMex cuisine is a combination of Texas and Mexican cooking, where large pieces of meat is smoked in a BBQ oven over a slow heat until the meat is so tender, that you don’t need a knife to cut it. BBQ chicken, notably whole birds are roasted in the same manner but with one difference the heads and feet are cut off, where in China, they are left on to show that it is fresh and nothing is wasted.

Beef and Pork Ribs make a delicious dish to barbeque, but in order to have a tender final product, it should be cooked by parboiling first and marinated before putting on the barbeque. This is true for most cuts of meat that may be tough, such as beef shank or pork hocks, overnight marinating will make sure that the flavors are permeated into the meat and cooking times are reduced.

The Western BBQ in a backyard will consist of mainly meats. Beefsteaks are cut thick and from tender portions such as Rib Eye, Tenderloin or Strip Loin, these are cooked in a few minutes and depending on the degree of wellness. Well-done means there is no blood showing and the meat is

completely cooked, this would be equivalent to a level 10 on the Chinese labeling of degree of wellness. Medium is a slight degree of blood showing in the center of the meat and a Chinese equivalent degree of 7, and Medium Rare is more blood showing and a Chinese rating of 5. Some people enjoy their BBQ meat as rare as possible and will ask for it to be cooked Rare or Blue Rare, when only the outside part of the meat is cooked briefly and the middle portion is completely raw. This is not recommended unless you know that they meat is very sanitary and safe.

Seafood is also becoming a popular BBQ dish and whole lobsters are best cooked by splitting them in half and Shrimps cooked with the shell on. Make sure to have lots of lemon on hand and hot sauces for flavoring.

## THIS TYPE OF BBQ IS REFERRED TO AS KEBAB WHERE MEAT OR VEGETABLES ARE SKEWERED ON A WOODEN OR STEEL STICK AND COOKED OVER CHARCOAL.

Salmon and other fish dishes are best cooked wrapped in aluminum foil with fresh seasoning and onions. Most people will cook the items with heavy sauces as it makes it very difficult to clean the grill after.

In China, barbeque was probably started in the Northwest from the Xinjiang province and is called Chuan 串 specifically Yang Rou Chuan 羊肉串 for lamb. This type of BBQ is referred to as Kebab where meat or vegetables are skewered on a wooden or steel stick and cooked over charcoal. It is a very popular street food throughout China. Just be careful that the meat is really lamb because street vendors are notorious for using cheaper cuts of meat such as duck and pork to substitute for more expensive lamb.

Since Tianjin is known for seafood, BBQ can feature scallops, clams and shrimp. These are great when the seafood is fresh. You will find street vendors featuring Squid or Octopus, make sure you inspect the raw product before it is cooked to ensure it is fresh, a quick sniff will do the trick, if it is a very fishy or unpleasant smell, move on.

Another BBQ treat is ears of corn being



barbequed. There are various sauces from sweet to spicy that make it delicious. Fresh shitake mushrooms need to be watched closely so they are not overdone. You can also see potato chips on a kebab and what about sweet potatoes, although a recent article warned about avoiding those being barbequed in drums that were previously used to hold dangerous chemicals.

The famous Peking duck is usually barbequed in a stone or brick oven in a slow fire using hardwoods such as apple tree, which will emit a special smoked flavor. The proper end product will have a crispy skin and tender meat with less fat and oil compared to Southern or Cantonese style barbequed duck, which is fatty and juicier. The Cantonese is also famous for their BBQ Pork that has a sweet taste and the whole pig or suckling pig with its crispy skin. Their barbeque pigeon or squab is excellent with seasoned salt and lemon.

One of my favorites is barbequed chicken wings. These should be marinated for a few hours before cooking but if it is a hot day do not leave the meat outside too long and marinate it in a refrigerator. One way to shorten the cooking time and make them easier to eat is to cut the wings in half along the two wing bones. This exposes more meat to the sauce, allows the wings to cook faster and eating is convenient with only one bone for each wing to contend with.

Just remember that although barbeque is tasty and very popular during the summer and some restaurants offer it year round, don't over do it. Once in awhile is fine but too much smoked meats are not good for your health.

## 夏日烧烤季

Barbeque 这个词起源于的 16 世纪的加勒比海或海地。当时的西班牙探险家们来到这里，在户外围火烤制肉类。现在，这个词通常被简化为 BBQ，意思是在明火上低温慢烤，使食物带有特别的烟熏味。现在，BBQ 不仅限于肉类，很多人也喜欢烤蔬菜和海鲜。

BBQ 在夏天尤其火爆，全世界都是如此。在北美，使用炭块或便携式丙烷罐进行烧烤。炭块更加方便，可以随身携带。但是丙烷罐现在更受欢迎，因为比较清洁环保，而且可以控制火量。很多家庭都在后院或阳台用丙烷炉烧烤，每个加油站都可以充丙烷。

所有的北美式烧烤用品都是中国生产的，但在中国却很难买到。原因有很多，比如在中国少有丙烷罐，除了安全因素之外，这些器具体积过于庞大，不适合中国式住宅存放。即便你住在别墅区，但在后院烧烤也会遭到邻居投诉，因为这里的别墅密度比国外大得多。

BBQ 餐厅在北美也十分红火。在美国南部，很多餐厅结合了德克萨斯和墨西哥特色，把一大块肉放在烧烤炉子里慢火烤制，直到肉质变得十分软嫩，无需用刀即刻切开。和中国不太一样的，烤鸡在制作之前会把头和脚砍去。牛排和猪肋骨也是常见的烧烤肉类，为了保证鲜嫩的口感，这些排骨在烧烤之前会预先煮到半熟并且要经过腌制，这样可以使肉更加入味，减少烤制时间。

西方后院式烧烤主要选择肉类，牛排采用比较嫩的部位，比如肉眼、里脊等。通常烤这些部位的肉只需要几分钟而已，当然也要看你耍儿成熟。

海鲜也非常适合烧烤，比如龙虾、大虾、三文鱼等。如果在烤好的海鲜上挤上一些柠檬汁或辣酱会让味道更好。

在中国，烧烤起源于西北地区，尤其是新疆的羊肉串。人们把肉串在树枝或铁签子上放到炭火上烤。这是风靡中国大街小巷的街头小吃。

由于天津临海，人们也喜欢吃烤海鲜，比如扇贝、蛤蜊、鱿鱼等。当然，原材料要确保是新鲜的。辨别的方法很简单，只要闻一下气味，如果有明显的腥臭味，你就不要停留，继续找下一家吧。

我个人最喜欢烤鸡翅。鸡翅要事先腌几个小时，在上面划几个刀口不仅可以缩短烤制时间还能更加入味，吃起来更方便。

虽然烧烤是夏天最应景的美味，但东西再好也不能多吃，因为烟熏肉吃多了对身体也是有害的。

## TGI FRIDAYS



**TGI FRIDAYS is a world famous** chain restaurant which originated in the USA back in 1965. As a casual and laid back eatery, TGI FRIDAYS provides authentic American-style snacks and food. TGI FRIDAYS opened its first and the only restaurant in Tianjin 13 years ago in Teda International Club Tianjin and soon became one of the most popular spots for expats to hang out. While local people were still at the stage of being fascinated with the burgers from KFC and McDonalds, TGI FRIDAYS brought authentic American style hamburgers to the city.

It's not easy for a restaurant to keep thriving for more than a decade in the ever-changing culinary market of Tianjin but TGI FRIDAYS has been able to do it. The secret to its success seems to be its ability to maintain

what makes it unique while continually updating its menu. The FRIDAYS Three in All (RMB 118) as a snack, the Jack Daniel's Premium Whiskey Glazed Ribs (RMB 138 small, RMB 188 large) as a main course, as well as the classic grilled steaks and burgers are good examples of what brings customers back again and again.

For every western festival, there is always a promotion and don't forget to check out the regular Happy Hour and afternoon tea set. The drink menu at TGI FRIDAYS is also impressive with both classic and innovative cocktails served to a consistent international standard.

星期五餐厅是美国著名主题式休闲西餐连锁品牌，美国休闲餐饮风潮的代表，以其烹制考究的美式西餐和美利坚风情的餐厅装饰著称。天津泰达国际会馆星期五餐厅是其在天津市开设的第一家也是唯一一家连锁店。轻松的用餐环境，丰富创新的特色美食，令人流连忘返的鸡尾酒，伴您度过每一个惬意时光。近期“浪漫七夕——紫色情人节”推广活动，邀请大家相约在星期五餐厅。



### 星期五餐厅

-  **1F, TEDA International Club Tianjin, 7+2 Fu Kang Lu, Nankai District**
-  **58695555 ext. 8456**
-  **RMB 150**  **11:30-22:00**

## PIZZA MATTA



Kiss Calzone

**Italian pizza is loved** by people from all over the world. Different parts of the world have transformed pizza and made it their own by adding ingredients unique to their cultures. China, is no exception, you may have tried Kung Pao Chicken pizza and there are other unique oriental versions. However, there are some restaurants that stick to tradition and offer the truly authentic Italian choices. Pizza Matta, just opened in Riverview Place, is one of them.

Pizza Matta features traditional Italian pizza, with a particular focus on the Napoli styled pizza. It boasts traditional recipes and high quality ingredients. Through the glass window of the open kitchen, you can watch the pizza being made by hand from the kneading of the dough to

the extraction of the tempting steaming hot disc from the oven.

You must try the Kiss Calzone (RMB 78) with mozzarella cheese and salami which is recommended if you want to try something authentically Italian but a bit different.

For the main course, the Roasted Pork Ribs (RMB 138) is one of the chef's selections and the portion is big enough for four people. The meat is both sweet and sour and not too greasy. To accompany it there are apple and mustard sauces.

One of the desserts that is really special is the lemon tart. It consists of a hollowed out marinated lemon with skin so soft that it tastes like the fruit flesh. When you cut open the lemon, you see the lemon tart tucked away inside. The sweet and creamy filling and the sour lemon skin are a perfect match.

Pizza Matta 坚持做意大利传统口味的披萨，你可以从宽敞的开放式厨房看到手工制作披萨的整个过程。甜品也融入了餐厅的独特匠心，会给你带来许多惊喜。

### Pizza Matta

-  **No. 4001, 4F, Riverview Place, 238 Liu Wei Lu, Hedong District**
-  **24268326**
-  **RMB 80**
-  **10:00-22:00**







## HEALTH CHECKUPS IN TIANJIN

by **Carmen King**

**T**here tends to be two types of health checkups, mandatory and voluntary. Expats in Tianjin may face both types. Regardless of whether it is mandatory or voluntary, a routine checkup may do expats well in early detection of various medical conditions. A mandatory health checkup could be related to applying for a residence permit, or getting a new job. Be it for study or work purposes, as part of the application processes, expats will need to submit to a mandatory health check. This checkup is done at the Tianjin International Travel Health Center (<http://bjzx.tjciq.gov.cn/>). It is located in Hexi district at 6 Pukou Dao. If going there by taxi, simply show the driver the following information in Chinese: 天津国际旅行卫生保健中心位于天津市河西区浦口道6号. The current cost for this health checkup is 577 RMB and is typically paid in cash. The center is open daily Monday through Friday at 8:00 AM. Testing occurs in the morning, with test results being picked up in the afternoon a few days later.

Patients are required to go with an empty stomach. Expats should also take their passport. There is no need to pre-book the checkup. Patients are taken on a first come first serve basis. Upon arrival a form

will be given whereby the patient must fill out basic information. While there is some English on the form, expats with limited Chinese are recommended to take a Chinese speaking friend with them if not for linguistic support, than at least for emotional support. The exam includes taking blood and urine samples. Chest x-rays, an ultrasound, and vision test to name a few. Each test often occurs in its own little room, so imagine going up and down a hallway entering different rooms wherein different tests are administered. The center can be quite busy, so don't expect any chit chat with doctors or some special treatment.

Another option for voluntary health checkups is the Health Center at Tianjin Medical University General Hospital (<http://center.tjmugh.com.cn/>). It is located in Heping district at 154 Anshan Dao, in the No. 2 Inpatient Building on the second floor. If going there via taxi simply show the following information to the cab driver: 天津医科大学总医院健康管理中心位于天津市和平区鞍山道154号, 第二住院楼二层. Checkups here need to be pre-booked. Depending on which "package" is selected, it could be necessary to book anywhere from 1-8 weeks in advance and fees could

**WHILE THERE IS SOME ENGLISH ON THE FORM, EXPATS WITH LIMITED CHINESE ARE RECOMMENDED TO TAKE A CHINESE SPEAKING FRIEND WITH THEM IF NOT FOR LINGUISTIC SUPPORT, THAN AT LEAST FOR EMOTIONAL SUPPORT.**

range from around 1,000-4,000 RMB. In comparison to the International Travel Health Center mentioned above, testing options here are much more comprehensive. Checkups can be booked onsite daily Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:30-11:30 AM and 2:00-4:30 PM. Payment is best made in cash and is required at the time of reserving the exam.



### 天津体检

生活在天津，外国人难免会遇到体检的时候，但无论是强制的，还是自愿的，体检总是没有坏处。常规的体检可以帮助我们及早发现并预防一些疾病。当外国人申请居住证或找一份新工作的时候，通常都会被要求提供相应的体检证明。这个时候，外国人就可以到天津国际旅行卫生保健中心去完成体检项目。

体检当天，被体检的人需要空腹进行检查。此外，外国人还应携带护照，该体检单位不接受提前预约。体检之前，需要完成表单填写工作，尽管表单上附带英文信息，但为了方便起见，外国朋友最好还是由一名中国朋友陪同为好。体检项目通常包括采集血液和尿液样本、胸部X光、超声波、以及视力检测等。

如果是自愿性质的体检，外国朋友还可到天津医科大学总医院健康管理中心去进行体检，这里需要我们先提前预约。根据体检套餐的选择不同，预约时间也不固定，且费用在1000-4000元之间不等。和天津国际旅行卫生保健中心相比较，这里的检查更为全面。如果有需要体检的人员可于周一到周五的上午7:30-11:30或下午2:00-4:30到体检中心的现场进行预约。

## BEFORE EXPATS GO BUYING THE BIGGEST WASHER OUT THERE, THEY MUST MAKE SURE EXACTLY HOW LARGE THE AREA IN THE APARTMENT IS FOR PLACING IT.

**A**partments in Tianjin are typically one of two types, furnished or unfurnished. There are pros and cons to both. For those who choose an unfurnished apartment, this means it is time to go appliance shopping, with one of which item being a washing machine.

Washing machines are sold in many different places, such as Gome ([www.gome.com.cn](http://www.gome.com.cn)), Suning ([www.suning.com](http://www.suning.com)), and Vanguard to name a few. Expats looking to learn about washers in advance of visiting a local store to buy it can browse the above websites and search for the following Chinese characters: 洗衣机 (xǐyījī).

While these websites are all in Chinese, after searching the above characters the name of a number of top brands are displayed in English. Therefore, pick one of the brands and start investigating. Washers can also be browsed based on price or size. Expats from the UK and locations using the metric system will be fine with washer capacities being expressed in kilograms. Those from the US however will need to do some converting. Expats may likely have two reactions to the washer selection here in Tianjin. One is the typical washer is small, and two they are expensive.

First let's talk about the oddly small size of washing machines in China. The fact is, is that it wasn't so long ago that many Tianjiner's were washing by hand. In fact some locals still do. Unlike expats who probably couldn't imagine



# BUYING A WASHER IN TIANJIN

by Carmen King

living without a washer, it is not out of the question for Tianjiner's. This is especially true for the Chinese who come to Tianjin from the countryside to work. They are totally accustomed to washing by hand. Therefore as hard as it may be to believe, a washing machine would be a luxury not a necessity, and going from no washing machine to a small washing machine is still quite a leap.

Another issue which dictates washer sizes being smaller on average when compared with those overseas is the size of most apartments. Many bathrooms are not very large, which oddly enough is where many are placed. Older apartments many not even have a real dedicated space for a washer. Most new buildings will however include a spot for one. Yet, since a lot of apartments are not that big in terms of overall dimensions, the idea of having of big washer taking up a big amount of precious floor space is less than ideal to a lot of locals. Therefore, if a washer is bought, it is quite possible it won't be huge. Before expats go buying the biggest washer out there, they must make sure exactly how large the area in the apartment is for placing it.

A washing machine of moderate size, perhaps even a bit "large" to locals would be 6.0-7.0 kg. On the low side Chinese brand washers will be around 1,000 RMB. While the foreign brand washers could get into the

3,000-4,000 RMB price range. Those numbers might be steep for expats who are not looking to stay in Tianjin long term. However, expats that may be here for a few years might actually want to spring for the better brands as the cheaper appliances are notorious for needing fixed.

## 选购洗衣机

天津的公寓通常分为两种情况，带家具的以及不带家具的，它们各有利弊。如果选择了那些不带家具的公寓，租客往往需要自行购买一些电器，其中不可或缺的一项当属洗衣机。选购家用电器，首先推荐的是天津知名电器卖场，比如国美、苏宁或其它大型超市等。当然，购买之前，外国朋友不妨在网上多做些调查并参考一些购买指南。

相对于欧美国家的洗衣机尺寸来讲，中国洗衣机的尺寸往往都过于偏小。这是因为，即便是在今天，天津人都依然热衷于手洗衣物。这一点和美国人的做法完全不同。美国人无法想象没有洗衣机的日子，然而这对天津人来说就完全不是问题。从手洗到小型洗衣机，这已经是一种质的飞跃了。此外，天津公寓的面积尺寸也限制了洗衣机购买的规模，所以安全起见，在选购洗衣机之前，切记量好你要存放洗衣机的空间尺寸，以免造成不必要的麻烦。

一个中等大小的洗衣机，通常在 6-7 公斤左右。低端一点的品牌，价格售价大约在 1000 元人民币，而非国产品牌的洗衣机价格一般在 3000-4000 元之间不等。这些价格显然对不打算在中国久居的外国人来讲，有些过高。但尽管如此，人们还是希望能够买到一些质量好一点物品，毕竟没有人愿意无休止对家用电器进行维修。



Bridge Park

# BEAUTY BELOW THE BRIDGE

by **Carmen King**  
Photo by **Jane Liu**

**W**hat's below the bridge? All too often it is something scary. However, there is an exception to this rule. Basking below the massive Weikun Bridge (卫昆桥) one will find the beautiful Bridge Park waiting to be explored. Bridge Park is located in Tianjin's Hedong District at the corner of Tianshan Lu and Panshan Dao. If heading there by cab, show them these Chinese characters: 天津河东区桥园位于天山路与盘山道交口. By bus, either the Songfengxili stop (松风西里站) or the Panshan Dao stop (盘山道站) will work. Via subway, take line 2 to the Yudongcheng stop, exit A (屿东城站A出口) and then walk about 5 minutes.

Bridge Park has two entrances. Based on Baidu, the North Gate is across the street from a Vanguard supermarket. However,

locals seem to call this gate "East Gate" (东门). The other gate is listed on Baidu as the "East Gate". Yet again locals feel differently and prefer to call it the "Main Gate" (主门). Don't let all the name nonsense confuse you. The key is there are two gates to get in. The park is open daily from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. There is no entrance fee. Be aware though, while bathrooms are available within the park, concession stands are lacking. Other than

**BRIDGE PARK, LIKE MANY OTHERS IN TIANJIN WILL OFFER A TOTALLY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE DEPENDING ON WHEN IT IS VISITED.**

one little shop near the Kid's Amusement Park area, which is only open at limited times, there is nowhere inside the park to buy water or snacks. So come prepared accordingly!

Bridge Park, like many others in Tianjin will offer a totally different experience depending on when it is visited. This "when", may be in terms of time of day, time of week, or even time of year. For example, in the mornings around 7:00 am the classic Chinese dancing groups can typically be found throughout the park. If a peaceful, quiet stroll is your goal, then mornings may not be the best time. Likewise, in the evenings after dinner, the park tends to be filled with dancers, singers, and other outdoor enthusiasts. For many Chinese locals, this lively environment is just what they are looking for.

Also in the morning (9:00 am – 12:00



pm) and in the evening (5:00-9:30 pm) Bridge Park has a Kid's Amusement area open. There are some basic rides, like a merry go-round which little ones can, for a fee, ride. The rest of the park though is free for all visitors. Only this ride area has fees associated with it. The rides are 10/RMB each. Or all 7 rides can be ridden for a flat 60 RMB. They also have a sandbox area for children to play in as well.

Towards lunch time and early afternoon is when the park settles down. Tianjiners follow the custom of most Chinese, that is to eat promptly at meal times. So as noon comes around, it is time to head home and get something to eat. Early afternoon is time for little ones and older ones alike to nap. So yet another reason people in the park will be few. Last but not least, the sun tends to be quite hot early afternoon. Especially when just walking around the open areas of Bridge Park, the scorching afternoon sun can leave one thirsty, burned, and maybe even a little wiped out.

Outside of time of day, expats will want to consider the time of year at which they visit Bridge Park. The park is full of different types of flowers, planted in different sections. So a walk through the park is rich with different natural sites. The park itself is a bit like the shape of a baseball field. Visitors can either walk around at ground level or they can scale either of the two bridges. These bridges have different levels. Plus there are "look out" towers along the way. Thus from atop one of these towers a panoramic view



Two statues in the park

of the park is available. These bridges are quite unique and offer a fresh prospective of the park. With each passing month, especially from spring until winter, the different flowers in the park begin to bloom. Thus, the colors and feeling the park gives a visitor will vary greatly depending on when in the year they visit. Nature lovers, those that like different types of flowers and trees, will likewise be pleased by the different plant life offered at Bridge Park.

With so many mega malls popping up around Tianjin, parks are a welcome change of pace. The city itself has a number of parks to offer expats, Bridge Park being just one of them. Few places give expats a better taste of Chinese culture than parks. The people visiting the parks are often true "locals". The activities will vary greatly, from dancing, singing, exercising, to playing poker or mahjong. As one walks around the park during peak hours, there are often little crowds of people dispersed throughout. Each being enthralled with their own little activity and attracting their own little "audience". For some because of so many different people doing so many different things, the noise level, as well as noise diversity can be absolutely overwhelming. So again, the time one visits the park is very key.

Hedong district is one of Tianjin's core downtown districts. Like the others, in recent years it is growing up and filling in. The Bridge Park is just one example of this. It is Tianjin's only man-made wetland. The park site used to be anything but useful. Thus in 2006, the park began being built. A few years

later in 2008 it opened to the public. Since then in recent times, it has been further renovated and has become a favorite among locals. Especially for flower, plant and nature lovers the beauty under the bridge known as Bridge Parks awaits exploring.

## 立交桥下的公园

立交桥下面能有什么风景? 混乱的交通、被改造的停车场、非法占地的烧烤摊或是流浪汉的栖身之所。但也有例外, 在卫昆桥下你会发现一个不一样的世界。这是一座美丽的公园, 名叫桥园。

这座栖身于桥下的公园有两个入口, 每天早 6 点至晚 10 点免费开放。在不同的时段, 你会获得不同的体验。早晨 7 点, 这里是广场舞的天下。如果你只想安静地散散步, 早晨不是个好时间。同样, 晚饭后这里依然聚集着广场舞、大合唱和其他户外活动爱好者。天津人就是喜欢这种热闹的环境。

上午 9 点到 12 点以及晚上 5 点到 9 点半, 公园是孩子们的乐园。公园里有一些适合儿童的游乐设施, 比如旋转木马。所有的游乐设施都玩过来花不过 60 块钱。

午饭时间和下午是公园相对清静的时间。天津人严格遵守中午的午饭时间, 所以差不多这个时间大家都回家吃饭了。两三点钟是老人和孩子们的午睡时间, 而且在夏季这也是日头最晒的时间, 所以很少有人出来活动。

其实在不同的季节, 你也会领略到这个公园多变的景色。公园里种植了很多花卉植物, 在公园里走一圈你能一一领略。公园的形状类似一个棒球场, 有人行道也有架起的通道。公园里还有两个瞭望塔, 登上塔顶你能俯瞰公园全貌。每个季节都会有不同的花卉开放, 所以公园总能呈现不同的色彩。

公园是让人们放慢生活脚步的地方, 也是为数不多能让外国人体验中国文化的地方, 因为来公园的大多是本地人。他们聚集在这里从事各种各样的娱乐休闲活动 跳舞、唱歌、锻炼、打扑克、打麻将。每种活动周围都会围着一群志趣相投的爱好者或欣赏或叫好。这么多活动同时进行, 其音量可想而知。

河东区作为天津市内六区之一近年来发展迅猛。桥园是天津唯一一座人造湿地公园, 2008 年正式对外开放, 2009 年在西班牙举行的世界建筑节上荣获 "全球最佳景观奖"。



The pond in the Park

# XI'AN

## THE CENTER AND ORIGIN OF CHINA

by David Wong



Hua Mountain

**M**ost people know Xian for the Terracotta soldiers, a tribute built by China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang. The soldiers were discovered in the 1970's and were built in 200BC comprised of thousands of clay statues. Terracotta is an Italian word meaning "baked earth". This incredible site of over 8,000 life size figures buried next to the mausoleum of the first emperor Qin is huge, the size of several football fields and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The amazing thing about this site is only four pits have been excavated revealing the 8,000 soldiers and hundreds of horses. The mausoleum remained covered and who knows how many other buried tributes remain undiscovered. China has shared some of the exhibits to several world-class museums throughout the world such as London's British Museum, San Francisco, Washington D.C., Toronto Canada, Barcelona Spain and many others. It was regarded as the most popular exhibition at each location. In London, they had to extend viewing hours to midnight and still could not accommodate everyone.

It is said that if you visit China and do not

**THIS INCREDIBLE SITE OF OVER 8,000 LIFE SIZE FIGURES BURIED NEXT TO THE MAUSOLEUM OF THE FIRST EMPEROR QIN IS HUGE, THE SIZE OF SEVERAL FOOTBALL FIELDS AND IS A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE.**

see the Terracottas, it's like visiting Egypt and not seeing the pyramids. While this is true, Xian offers so much more and you should make sure to set aside a few days to experience the Xian's other historic sites.

Xian, meaning "Western Peace" was also once known as Changan 长安 "Perpetual Peace" and Xijing 西京 "Western Capital". It is also the exact geographic and time zone center of China, it's actually a small town called LinTong 临潼 just 36 kilometers from Xian (which is a mute argument since although China is vast, there is only one time zone and it

is referred to as "Beijing Time"). If you have problems looking up Xian on computer programs, try separating the pinyin such as Xi'an. Xian is the capital of Shaanxi 陕西 province, not to be confused with the neighboring province of Shanxi (spelt with one a). Xian is the largest city in China's Northwest with over 10 million population.

Xian is also famous for many other sites such as Hua Mountain, Lantian Man, Great Goose Pagoda, Bell Tower and Drum Tower. Hua Mountain or Hua Shan 华山 is one of China's most revered mountains and is considered one of the country's five sacred mountains. The five mountains are among the best-known natural landmarks in Chinese history, and since the early periods in Chinese history, they have been the ritual sites of imperial worship and sacrifice by various emperors and are found in Taoist, Buddhist and Confucius teachings. The North Peak entrance has a cable car and once on top, you can reach the other three peaks. This route is considered the easiest but there are still several series of steep steps so you need to be physically fit to tackle this. The site is about one hour from the Terracottas and can be

combined in a day trip.

Lantian Man 蓝田人 was discovered in the county of the same name about 50 kilometers from Xian in 1963. This discovery is similar to the Java Man discovered in Indonesia and Peking Man near Beijing but older. It is estimated that the remains are from 500,000 to 1,000,000 years ago. These fossils are displayed at the Shaanxi History Museum in Xian. Just a hint, the museum is free but try to avoid the weekends and line-ups.

Xian is known for one of the best-preserved City Walls that used to surround the emperor's residence. This wall was started in the 1300's and is 13 kilometers long (there was a similar wall built in Beijing that was even longer at 24 kilometers but was dismantled in 1965 to allow building of the subway and the second ring road), the Bell Tower and Drum Tower are along this wall.

The Bell Tower 钟楼 ZhongLou built in the 1300's is one of the best preserved relics of this type and a symbol of the city. Nearby is the Drum Tower built at around the same time and both are about 40 meters high and provide a great view of the city. There are several steps, although not as demanding as Hua Mountain, you need to have a good constitution. The view from street level is also impressive and the night viewing provides a spectacular sight. There is a short ten minutes drum performance every hour included with the entrance fee of 35rmb. Near the Drum tower is Muslim Street, which is a long pedestrian street that features all types of Muslim foods and crafts.

Xian was the first city in China to be introduced to Islam in 651AD during the Tang Dynasty and there is still a large Muslim community with seven mosques. Muslim Street is crowded during lunch and dinner times due to the many food stands that feature many different ways of prepared lamb dishes. This is also a good place to buy dried red dates 红枣 Hong Zao or Jujubes (not to be confused with American jelly candies by the



Muslim Street

**IT IS SAID THAT IF YOU VISIT CHINA AND DO NOT SEE THE TERRACOTTAS, IT'S LIKE VISITING EGYPT AND NOT SEEING THE PYRAMIDS.**



The Drum Tower

same name). Red dates are a good snack and good for blood circulation, can be eaten raw or in soups or added to teas. The other popular product in the area is walnuts.

The Giant Goose Pagoda or also called Big Goose Pagoda is Da Yan Ta 大雁塔 in Chinese. This Buddhist tower was originally built in 600's but damaged by earthquakes and renovated several times until the existing height of 64 meters. It is next to a large square with the largest fountain in Asia which projects water high into the air, rising and falling in time to music during one of the daily performances (usually at noon and soon after sunset). There are many activities such as group dancing, exercising and a unique Chinese game called Jian Zi using a shuttlecock.

The new Westin hotel is next to the park and a great choice for your next trip, the present GM is from UK, James Walkden, who runs a very efficient staff and property.

## 华夏文明的发源地——西安

提到西安，人们不禁会想到兵马俑，它是中国首位皇帝秦始皇所创造的一种古代墓葬陪葬品，最早于 1974 年为人们所发现。在这个不可思议的遗址上，人们发现了有超过 8000 个真人大小的陶俑被埋葬在秦始皇的陵墓旁边。坊间流传这样一句话，来中国不看兵马俑就好比去埃及不看金字塔一样可悲。这话一点也不假。西安，古称长安或西京，是陕西省省会，也是中国西北地区最大的城市。西安有很多著名的景点，其中最著名的一定非中国著名的五岳之一华山莫属。

华山，位于陕西省渭南市华阴市，南接秦岭，北瞰黄渭。华山主要有四峰，其中以北峰线路登顶最为简单。但即便是最为简单的线路，其间也会有很多悬崖峭壁，游客如果来华山，一定要小心慢行。

西安的钟鼓楼是西安钟楼和西安鼓楼的合称，位于西安市中心，是凝聚了古代汉族劳动人民智慧与力量结晶的标志性建筑物，与两座明代建筑遥相呼应，蔚为壮观。西安钟楼始建于公元 1384 年，原建于今西大街北广济街东侧，明万历十年移于现址。鼓楼的后身就是著名的回民街，距今已有上千年的历史，它是西安著名的美食文化街区，也是人们来西安不得不去的一个地方。

作为中国第一座被引入伊斯兰教文化的城市，西安到处充斥着穆斯林文化的气息。回民街上永远热闹非凡，这里包含着各种各样的美味小吃，当然，最著名的还是得说这里的羊肉。回民街上的红枣个大甜美，既是送礼佳品，也是补气益血的良药，如果你有需要，不妨从这里带点回去。

大雁塔，世界文化遗产，位于西安市的大慈恩寺内，被视为古都西安和陕西省的象征。唐代永徽三年，取经归来的玄奘法师为保存由天竺经丝绸之路带回长安的经卷佛像而亲自主持修建。大雁塔作为现存最早、规模最大的唐代四方楼阁式砖塔，是佛塔这种印度佛寺的建筑形式随着佛教传播而传入中原地区并融入汉文化的典型物证，是凝聚了汉族劳动人民智慧结晶的标志性建筑，现存塔身七层，通高 64 米。

西安，一个历史悠久，有着 7000 多年文明史、3100 多年建城史、1100 多年建都史的文化名城，它既是中华文明和中华民族重要发祥地，也是丝绸之路的起点。倘若你有时间来到这座古城，那一定不要忘记在这里多待几日，因为西安有太多的内容值得我们去学习，西安有太多的东西值得我们去品味。



# CABS AREN'T CHEAP —EVEN FOR THE CABBIES

by **Carmen King**, Photo by **Jane Liu**

**W**hen's the last time after taking a cab you said to yourself, wow that was a cheap ride? While probably it hasn't happened lately, don't feel too bad. After all, while cabs aren't cheap for you, they aren't cheap for the cabbie either. How so? Most cabs in Tianjin are personal property of the cab driver. For those guy's, daily driving means cash straight into their pocket, minus of course the cost of fuel, insurance, and maintenance. For some cabs though, the cost of driving that cab is even higher. Why? These drivers are renting their cab from someone else.

Sometimes they rent from a company, and sometimes they rent from a person. Either way there is something called 份子钱 (fēnzi qián) or 份儿钱 (fèn'ér qián) as the Tianjianer's like to call it. According to Baidu, Beijing also has the "fenr qian" system going on. Baidu reports that in 2013 Beijing had over 60,000 cabs on the road. At that time drivers were paying somewhere between 5,000-8,000 RMB per month in "fenr qian", which we

will just call a "sub-lease fee". Now compare that with Tianjin, which has an estimated 30,000 plus taxis. Based on taxi talk, the drivers which have a "sub-lease fee" here in Tianjin are paying somewhere around 4,000/month. Sure that's less than Beijing, but the amount of money a Tianjin driver can make based on the base fare rate, per km rate and overall market demands is less than Beijing too.

The costs of driving a cab for the cabbie don't stop there either. In addition to paying a monthly "sub-lease fee" they also have to pay a deposit. After all, they are driving off with someone else's cab. Just in case they decided to try something silly like stealing it, or damage the car somehow, it wouldn't come without a major loss to them. The current range for a Tianjin cab deposit is around 60,000-80,000 RMB, in some cases even more. The deposit money is based on the year of the cab and the model of the cab. Of course the newer and nicer the cab, the higher required deposit.

With all that money going out the door upfront for the deposit, and every month thereafter for the "sub-lease fee"

**FOR SOME CABS THOUGH, THE COST OF DRIVING THAT CAB IS EVEN HIGHER.**

why would anyone choose this option? Because it is still cheaper than buying a cab outright, as currently a Tianjin cab with "taxi license" is selling around 600,000-800,000 RMB! This is because the number of legal cabs is finite. At least for now no new taxi licenses are being issued. It is a case where demand exceeds the supply. So before passengers bemoan the cost of a cab ride, don't forget that the taxi driver isn't fairing any better. Regardless of whether someone buys a cab outright for the cost of what some apartments could be bought for, or they lease a cab which is owned by someone else, driving a cab isn't cheap by any means even for the cabbie.

## 昂贵的出租车

你以为乘坐出租车，觉得贵的只有乘客？其实很多时候，司机自己也会觉得很贵。为什么？天津的出租车，很大一部分都是车主的私有财产，尽管他们每日营业额都是直接进入口袋，但实际上这些钱还要除去油费、保险以及保养的费用。而对于那些没有自己买车的司机来讲，他们的成本往往会更高，这是因为他们还需要额外承担其它费用。

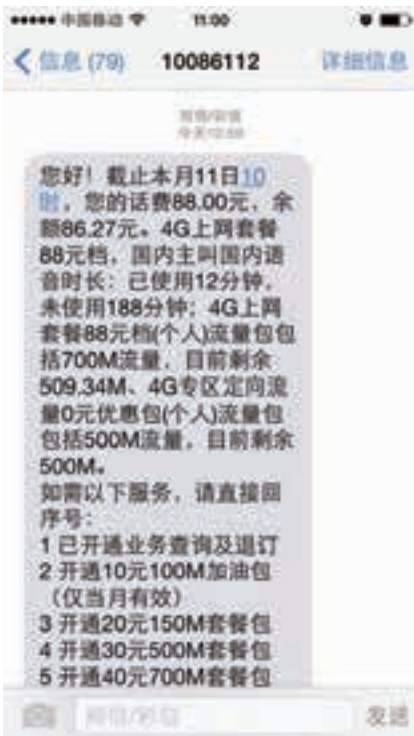
承租人无论以何种方式租车，他都需要缴纳一定的“份子钱”。北京也有“份子钱”一说。据报道，2013年北京有超过6万辆的出租行驶运营，而当年的“份子钱”水平在5000-8000元每月不等。相较于北京的情况，天津现有出租车大约在3万辆以上，他们每月的份子钱大概在4000元左右。诚然，这一数字要低于北京，但它也是由天津的整体情况而定的。

对于出租车司机来讲，他们所缴纳的费用并不只“份子钱”一项，除此之外，他们还需支付一笔押金，作为租车车主的保险。通常押金费用在6-8万之间，当然这一费用也不是固定的，它也由实际情况而定。

尽管租车的费用并不低，但相较于买一辆出租的费用，它还只是冰山一角。目前，天津出租车的牌照价格在60-80万人民币，而因为合法的出租车数量有限，且供不应求的情况持续发生，所以当你抱怨车费太贵的时候，他们其实也并不好过。因此，开出租车也是一项需要成本的工作。

**W**e all have a cellphone and, unless we have put a stop to it, we all receive messages from our service provider. Some of these messages may be useless and merely promotional, but some may actually be useful, such as the ones which provide us with balance and payment information. To receive a text of your balance and payment, simply call 10086112 for China Mobile (中国移动) users or 10010 for China Unicom (中国联通) users and hang up.

Interpreting these messages can be difficult, especially if you cannot read Chinese characters – all you may understand are a few numbers without actually knowing what they refer to. In this article, I will introduce some useful Chinese words that will help you interpret the figures you find in your provider's messages. You do not need to be able to read the entire message in Chinese, just look for the numbers and identify the adjacent Chinese characters to determine the meaning.



A text message from China Mobile about phone bill



# INTERPRETING PHONE COMPANY MESSAGES

by **Daniel McCool** with **Toby Zhao**

## Deciphering dates:

1. Ending on: “截止 (截止到) 06月11日” (截止, jié zhǐ, ‘ending’; 月, yuè, ‘month’; 日, rì, ‘day’): “Up to (ending on) the 5th of June.”
2. As of now: “本月11日10时” (本月, běn yuè, ‘this month’; 日, rì, ‘day’; 时, shí, ‘hour’): “As of the 5th of this month, 10 o’clock.”

## Deciphering credit and fees:

1. Credit used: “话费88.00元” (话费, huà fèi, ‘fee’)
2. Balance: “余额86.27元” (余额, yú'é, ‘balance’)
3. Payment: “交费50元” (交费, jiāo fèi, ‘payment’) “You’ve paid (topped-up) 50 RMB.”
4. Debt: “仍需充值30元” (仍需, réng xū, ‘still need to’; 充值, chōngzhí, ‘top up’)

The difference between 2 and 4 above is that 2 refers to unused credit while 4 refers to unpaid balance.

## Deciphering data and minutes (relative to

date):

1. Data remaining: “目前剩余507.34M” (目前, mùqián, ‘currently’; 剩余, shèngyú, ‘remaining’)
2. Minutes used: “已使用12分钟” (已使用, yǐ shǐ yòng, ‘already used’; 分钟, fēnzhōng, ‘minutes’)
3. Minutes remaining: “未使用188分钟” (未使用, wèi shǐ yòng, ‘unused’; 分钟, fēnzhōng, ‘minutes’)

Practice interpreting your balance texts until you become familiar with the patterns. It is easier than you think.

## 解密运营商的短信

我们在使用手机的过程中，经常能收到来自电信运营商的短信。有些短信只是单纯的广告，有些却是有用的信息，比如每月账单、消费和余额信息等。如果你需要了解你的手机使用账单，中国移动用户可拨打10086112，中国联通用户拨打10010获取短信。

对于不懂中文的老外来说，看懂这些短信十分困难，除了那几个数字之外都是天书。其实，你只要看懂数字旁边的几个关键字就可以了。其实这种短信都有统一的格式，多收几次你也能看明白了。



MOVIE: Lost and Love - 失孤 (literally Lone Loss)

Shī Gū



Stars: Andy Lau, 刘德华 Liu De Hua and Jing Bo Ran 井柏然  
 Director: Peng San Yuan (Her directorial debut)

Andy Lau, at 53 years young is amazing and still as popular as ever. In this serious role of a father who has been searching for his abducted son, for the past 15 years, he is very convincing as an Anhui farmer travelling throughout China on a motorcycle. Jing Bo Ran is a 25-year-old Chinese actor (with 1/8 Russian heritage) from Liaoning province who is a popular singer and does a credible portrayal of a teenager who was also abducted by kidnapers when he was 3 years age and befriends Lau in the search for his

natural parents.

The story was inspired by a true story of an Anhui father who continues to search for his missing son. Child abduction continues to be a big problem in China with estimates of over 70,000 abductions annually. With the advent of Internet, there are now several volunteer groups helping parents and police to search for these children. In the West, photos of missing children were printed on milk cartons.

The movie is set in Chong Qing and Sichuan within beautiful landscapes and provides an authentic view of rural life within these traditional villages. The movie was a critical success and a moderate financial success, with a budget of \$15 million USD; it grossed over \$30 million during the first month of its release in May 2015.

Andy Lau performs most of the motorcycle riding in the movie, no spectacular stunts but still very convincing. His make up, costumes and demeanor was very realistic and according to media, he was very accommodating to his fans on location.

《失孤》是2015年由华谊兄弟制作的一部“打拐”题材的电影，由彭三源自编自导，刘德华、井柏然、吴君如等主演。影片讲述了1998年，雷泽宽两岁的儿子雷达丢了，雷泽宽开始了长达十五年的寻子之路。一路上雷泽宽历经艰辛，还认识了三岁时被拐修车小伙曾帅。雷泽宽帮曾帅找到了失散多年的亲人，带着曾帅送他的导航仪继续自己的寻子之路。该影片已于2015年3月20日上映。



TV SERIES: Married but Available - 婚姻时差

Hun Yin Shi Cha



Stars: Wang Zhi Fei 王志飞, Jiang Shan 江珊, Zhou Xian Xin 周显欣

Wang Zhi Fei plays Li Hai, Jiang Shan plays Wu Ting wife of Li Hai, Zhou Xianxin plays Zhao Xiao Fei is a news reporter. Huang Meng plays Ma Ling who is the young partner to Li Hai, He Hong Shan plays Ying Zi the daughter of Li Hai and Wu Ting who has immigrated to Canada.

The story is based upon the trials and tribulations of the new real estate boom in China. How the relationships between developers and buyers struggle to buy their first apartment. Li Hai and his family immigrate to Canada but finds himself back in China to

continue his business in Chengdu, Sichuan province. His daughter remains in Vancouver, Canada and gives the opportunity for the series to feature a Canadian setting from time to time.

The series is a realistic depiction of what is quite commonplace in China as the economy and incomes of young couples grow and they try to buy into new developments. One can see how the real estate sector continues to grow and how developers can make fortunes. During one episode, Li Hai is torn between supporting his idealistic young partner, Ma Ling and siding with a pair of ruthless businessmen whose only goal is to make money. Another episode also shows a young couple overextending themselves to buy their first apartment and unable to secure the financing, must forego the purchase. This results in the bride's mother refusing to approve the marriage and forcing the daughter to choose abortion and refusing marriage.

The 38 episodes was launched in May 2015 and is rather complicated by switching from different settings and looking at various relationships between business and personal aspects.

《婚姻时差》由李牧鸽执导，王志飞、江珊、周显欣领衔主演，讲述了一对令人羡慕的夫妻，妻子陪女儿移民加拿大求学，丈夫留守国内，夫妻二人经历第三者、金融危机、离婚等考验后重归于好的故事。该剧根植于现实，既反映了当今的社会问题，让人产生共鸣，也在一定程度上折射出了中国普通百姓“买房难”背后的深层社会现实。本剧已于2015年5月2日在天津文艺频道首播，全剧共38集。



## TIANJIN MALLS — Hedong District Binfen Shopping Center



### hé dōng qū bīn fēn gòu wù guǎng chǎng 河东区缤纷购物广场

At the corner of Tianshan Lu (天山路 tiānshān lù) and Laoshan Dao (崂山道 láoshān dào) in Hedong district one will find the 5 story Binfen Shopping Center. On the first floor is a Mr. Lee restaurant. This is typically an ok choice for a bowl of beef noodles at a reasonable price. It offers a spot to sit and relax after a walk in the park, as it has plenty of seating. The restaurant has two levels. Also on level one is a Holiland bakery offering the usual assortment of pastries and cakes.

The second floor offers men's and women's apparel, athletic clothing and shoes, makeup, watches, and a host of other various goods. However most are all local Chinese brands. The third floor has a pretty sizeable kid's play area. It is the type where you must

pay to enter. Hours of operation are 9:30 am to 9:00 pm. It includes a wide range of activity areas. There is an electric racing car track, a ball pit, a slide, a jungle gym area, and a number of other climbable structures, and these are just a few of the options for those more active children. There is a separate sand box area. Each of these areas has its own fee. When everyone gets hungry, check out Level 4 for a few places to eat. After eating, one can head to the underground Maidewang supermarket before heading home to pick up those daily essentials. Also underground, is a wine store with plenty of different wine choices.

缤纷购物广场，位于河东区天山路与崂山道交口处，是一座5层楼的购物中心。一楼有李先生牛肉面以及好利来蛋糕店，顾客逛累了，可以考虑吃碗牛肉面，这将会是一个性价比不错的选择；二楼是男女服装售卖区，但大多是本土品牌；三楼是儿童游乐区，里面有各种各样的儿童游乐设施，可满足不同年龄层次儿童的需求；地下一层是麦德旺超市，如果你有购买日用品的需求，不妨从这里选购。



## TIANJIN METRO — Line 2 Yudongcheng Stop



### yǔ dōng chéng zhàn 天津地铁2号线屿东城站

The Yudongcheng stop of subway line 2 has two exits open, exits A and C. The A Exit is the one needed to get to Bridge Park (桥园 qiáoyuán). Bridge Park offers plenty of flowers and plant life. It is discussed in detail in our Discovering Tianjin article. To get to the park, head out of Exit A and then walk straight ahead until you get to the pedestrian bridge which lets you cross over the freeway. After going up and over, come down off the bridge and go to the right. Head straight for about a minute or two until reaching Tianshan Lu (天山路 tiānshān lù), where you need to make a left. The park entrance will then be up ahead on the right. At the

entrance there is a set of public bathrooms.

On the way to the park you will pass a KFC and a Vanguard supermarket. The KFC has two floors, with the bathrooms being on the second level. The Vanguard also has two floors. However, be aware, that the Vanguard seems to have some fierce lines. As is all too common, the cashiers are few, and the customers are many. So other than completely non-peak hours, don't be expecting to make a quick run in, run out. Even one item could cost you dearly in terms of time. Also out of Exit A is a strip mall with a number of little shops and restaurants. Exit C takes you the opposite direction, with Tianjin No. 8 Middle School not being far off.

地铁2号线的屿东城站有A、C两个出口。出口A可通往桥园公园。桥园公园植被茂密，是市民锻炼健身的好去处，具体有关该公园的文化，我们在发现天津的文章中都有详细介绍。去往桥园公园的路上，你还可以看见肯德基和华润超市。华润超市共有两层，但由于收银台窗口少而顾客又太多的原因，使得这里通常都很拥挤。屿东城站的出口C周边有一些餐馆和商铺，与天津市第八中学仅百步之遥。



## Tao Li Special Discount day

July – Sep, 2015

Monday-Sunday, Summer Juice RMB48net

Monday-Sunday, Chicken Burn Shark's Fin RMB 48net

Monday, Wednesday, Friday,  
Spicy Sea Bass with Assorted Seafood RMB68net

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,  
Steamed Sea Prawns with Lemon RMB 38net  
Saturday and Sunday, Dim Sum 50% off, more than 20 items

Reservations: 83198888 Ext. 3561

Venue: Hotel Nikko Tianjin Tao Li Chinese Dining 6F



## Weekend Brunch at Café Yun

Having fun every weekend in July at Café Yun with bouncing castles, games, activities and great lucky draw prizes.

Celebrate the weekend at Café Yun with a half tail of Boston lobster per person, beef carvery station, foie gras and much more. The buffet is inclusive of free flowing beer, soft drinks, coffee and tea.

11:30am to 2:30pm on every Saturday and Sunday

RMB 198 + per person  
Subject to 15% service charge

For more information and reservations, please dial (86 22) 84188111



## Tangla Hotel S6U Buffet

Pay for 1 and have 1 on us at S6U for buffet lunch  
Enjoy luxury buffet lunch at our 49th Floor venue at S6U. You will experience the best taste under the sea and the greatest view from the sky.

RMB188 net/person  
Operation Hours: 11:00pm-14:00pm

Surf & Turf Buffet Dinner @ S6U  
Escape from the hustle and bustle of Nanjing Road and watch the crowd go by from the top of the world. Desserts, salad and soup for free.

Pay for 2 and have 1 on us.  
RMB218 net/person (Children under 1.2m for free)  
Free flow of draft beer and soft drinks.

Operation Hours: 17:30am-21:30pm  
For reservation, please call 022 2317 5109



TIANJIN RIVERSIDE



## Outdoor Garden Buffet Dinner

This summer, laid-back and enjoy the mouthwatering food with a landscaped garden view at weekends. Wide range of fresh seafood, well flavored BBQ and tasty buffet selections. Your secret garden is exclusively at Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside.

6:00pm -10:00pm, Friday and Saturday

RMB268 net per person includes River Café indoor and outdoor dinner buffet with free flow of soft drinks and local beer  
Half price for kids from 4 years old to 1.2 meters high and free of charge for kids below 4 years old

Level One, River Café

For more information and reservation: 022-58619999-8230  
One day advanced booking is recommended. Other Terms and Conditions apply.  
Address: Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside, No.34 Haihe East Road, Hebei District, Tianjin





## Beer Garden Night

Come to Flair on Friday nights, and enjoy the exclusive outdoor setting – and an exciting range of beers and Asian inspired snacks specially prepared by Chef Henry Li. RMB500+\* including 3 litre of Kronenbourg 1664, Salted Fresh Edamame, French Fries and Rosted Pork Rib.

Date and time: Dinner, Every Friday, July 1– 30  
 Venue: 1st Level, Courtyard of The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin  
 Tel: 86-22-5857-8888



## Delicious Set Lunch @Aqua Café

Experience a quick and value for money set lunch at Holiday Inn Tianjin Aqua City. Choose from dumpling or noodle, perfect if you have only a short lunch break. From RMB25/set, available from 11:00am to 2:00pm daily.

Add: 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



## Happy Hour of The BBQ @River Lounge

Enjoy the beer or cocktail with selection of meats, seafood and vegetables skewer BBQ by our talent culinary team at The St. Regis Tianjin with the Hai River view for your great summer night.

Valid until July 31, 2015

For reservations, please call +86.22. 5830. 9999 or e-mail [stregisbar.tianjin@stregis.com](mailto:stregisbar.tianjin@stregis.com)  
[stregis.com/tianjin](http://stregis.com/tianjin)



## TGI FRIDAYS New Promotions

- Texas Cowboy Festival  
 Enjoy American West Cuisine  
 American cowboy powerful physique, what they eat?  
 Find the answer to TGI FRIDAYS!  
 Reservation: 5869-5555



## Premium Ice Cream

Fresh Berries Flamy Alaska, Nagoya Green Tea Ice Cream, Champagne Tequila Lime Granite — get refreshed, indulge in a delicate portion of exquisite premium ice cream and feeler cooler during the summer at Hyatt Regency Tianjin East.



## Weekend Yum Cha

Be sure to catch our culinary brigade of Hai Tien Lo displaying the intricacies of dim sum making at the open kitchen every weekend. Appreciate the art of dim sum making while taking delight in the burst of flavours in every bite of our handmade dim sum in our weekend all-you-can-eat brunch.

Buy 2 get 1 free  
 Brunch: 11:30 - 14:30  
 RMB168 net per person

Available exclusively during Saturday and Sunday brunch.  
 Valid till 31 August 2015  
 Tel: +86 22 5863 8888



**E** =English Menu 有英文菜单  
**CC** =Credit Card 可信用卡付账  
**¥** =Cost per person 人均消费  
**★** =Editor's pic 编辑推介  
**P** =Parking 有停车位

## ☕ Coffee 咖啡

Tianjin Downtown

### Renaissance Cafe

万丽咖啡厅 **E5 E P**  
 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 / 11:00-14:00 / 17:00-21:00

### Victorian Lounge

大堂吧 **E6 E P**  
 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-10:30pm

TEDA&Tanggu

### Starbucks Coffee

星巴克咖啡 **P E ¥40**  
 C102, Juchuan Jin hai'an Building, No.453,JiefangLu, Tanggu  
 塘沽区解放路453号巨川金海岸岸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 红酒

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



## RESTAURANT

### [ Western 西餐厅 ]

Tianjin Downtown

### Fleur De Lys Restaurant

丽斯百合西餐厅  
 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

### Café BLD

餐廊西餐厅 **★ P E D3**  
 Offers buffets with open kitchen.  
 1F, Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel, 16 Binshui Road, Hexi  
 河西区滨水道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 western bar for watching sports and eating steaks.  
 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: theupperdecktj@yahoo.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 Park.  
 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

### Lobkowicz

洛克维茨自酿啤酒坊  
 101-104, West Building, Min Yuan Stadium, Heping  
 和平区民园体育场西楼101-104  
 Tel: 8312-2718  
 Hrs: 11:00-23:00

### Promenade 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 by 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  
 天津瑞吉金爵酒店一层  
 Tel: 5830 9959  
 Hrs: 05:30am-10:00am  
 17:30pm-21:30pm



### Cholito

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: 和平区五大道河北路和洛阳道交口  
 Tel: 58352833  
 Hrs: 11:30am-15:30pm 17:00pm-22:00pm

### Buddies Restaurant & Bar

老友记  
 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 organically grown vegetables.  
 Bldg. A3m Magnetic Plaza, Binshui Xi Dao, Nankai  
 南开区滨水西道时代奥城商业广场A3区  
 Tel: 022-58112656  
 Hrs: 11:00am-24:00pm

### Drei Kronen-1308 Brauhaus

路德维格1308 德餐啤酒坊 **★ P E D7**  
 Good sausages, awesome pork knuckle and nice beers.  
 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: 11:00am-24:00pm

### TGI FRIDAYS

星期五餐厅 **P E 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: 11:30am-22:00pm

### 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 coziness.  
 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: 10:30am-01:30am

### Seasonal Tastes

“知味”全日餐厅 **P E D6**  
 Offers Asian and international dishes.  
 1F, 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1层  
 Tel: 2389 0088  
 Hrs:06:00am-10:00am;11:30am-14:30pm;  
 17:30pm-21:30pm

TEDA & Tanggu

### Dublin Irish Pub

督柏林爱尔兰西餐吧 **P E**  
 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

**Nice To Meet You**

很高兴认识你  
278 Hebei Lu, Heping District  
(near Chengdu Dao)  
和平区河北路278号  
(近成都道)  
Tel: 2339-0409  
Hrs: 11:30-22:00

**The Pressroom 26th**

New Minyuan Stadium, at the crossing  
of Changde Dao and Hengyang Lu,  
Heping  
和平区常德道与衡阳路交口新乐园  
Tel: 2722-7888

**[ FRENCH 法餐厅 ]**

Tianjin Downtown

**FLO**

福楼 ★ ¥350 P E D7  
The best French Restaurant in Tianjin  
offers the most authentic French  
cuisine. Brasserie FLO is the first  
restaurant in Tianjin to offer fresh  
oysters from France.  
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-23:00pm

**[ Chinese 中餐厅 ]**

Tianjin Downtown

**Din Tai Fung**

鼎泰丰 ★ ¥150 P E  
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-21:30pm

**Tian Tai Xuan**

天泰轩  
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

**Le Loft Fusion Restaurant**

贰楼小院  
Classic Chinese food  
No.4, Jin Song Li, Nanjing Lu, Heping  
District  
和平区南京路劲松里4号  
Tel: 2723-9363  
Hrs: 11:30-21:30

**[ Thai&Malay 泰国&马来西亚 ]**

Tianjin Downtown

**YY Beer House**

粤园泰餐厅 ★ ¥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  
If need be, we have a designated driver  
to take you to your next destination.

**YY Craft Beer House (NEW OPEN)**

粤园泰餐厅 ★ ¥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院湖南路1号粤园泰餐厅  
TEL: 58352835 185-2225-5354 (En)  
Hrs: 11:00-24:00  
If need be, we have a designated driver  
to take you to your next destination.

**[ Italian 意大利餐厅 ]**

Tianjin Downtown

**Prego**

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.  
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**

Tianjin 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**

蓝天啤酒屋 ★ P E  
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  
contemporary 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 - 经典美式酒吧 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

**Qba**

Q吧 P E D6  
Qba'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: Tue-Sat 6:30pm-01:00am

**Flair**

★ P E E5  
The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, 1st floor, No.  
167 Dagubei Road, Heping District,  
Tianjin China  
和平区大沽北路167号天津丽思卡尔顿酒店一楼  
Tel: 5857-8888  
Mon-Fri 17:00-24:00  
Sat-Sun 17:00-01:00  
Seats:118

**SHOPPING****[ Department Store 百货 ]**

Tianjin 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**

大悦城  
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**

天津恒隆广场  
160 Zhangzizhong Lu, Heping District  
和平区张自忠路160号

**[ Grocery 超市 ]**

Tianjin Downtown

**Hisense Supermarket**

海信超市  
-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**

伊势丹超市  
-1F, Isetan, 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**

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

SHOPPING  
购物BAR  
酒吧RESTAURANT  
餐厅WINE  
红酒COFFEE  
咖啡

# LISTING

- 酒吧 BAR
- 公园 PARK
- 运动 SPORTS
- 酒店 HOTEL
- 学校 SCHOOL
- 医疗 MEDICAL
- 房产 ESTATE
- 商会 CHAMBERS
- 教堂 CHURCH
- 剧院 THEATRE
- 博物馆 MUSEUM
- 按摩 MASSAGE
- 租车 CARRENTING

## SPORTS

[ Gym 健身 ]

### Tianjin Downtown

#### Sheraton Hotel Fitness Center

喜来登健身美容中心  
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: 2731 3388  
Hrs: 06:00-24:00

#### Westin WORKOUT®

威斯汀健身馆®  
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: 2731 3388

#### 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  
河西区滨水道16号  
Tel: 58223388

#### Crowne Plaza Tianjin Meijiangan

天津梅江中心皇冠假日酒店  
East to South Youyi Road (Opposite to Tianjin Meijiang Conference&Exhibition Center), Xiqing District, Tianjin, P.R. China 300221  
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/tjmeijiangan

#### TEDA International Club Tianjin

泰达国际会馆  
7+2 Fu Kang Lu, Nankai.  
南开复康路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, Hongqiao  
红桥区芥园道6号  
Tel: 5877 6666

#### Pan Pacific Tianjin

天津泛太平洋大酒店  
1 Zhang Zi Zhong Road, Hongqiao  
District, Tianjin, China 300091  
天津市红桥区张自忠路一号  
Tel: +86 22 5863 8888  
Wed: panpacific.com

#### 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  
Web: 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

天津海河悦榕庄  
34 Haihe East Road Hebei  
河北区海河东路34号  
Tel: 5861 9999 Fax: 5861 9998  
Web: banyantree.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

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

#### Hotel Nikko Tianjin

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  
Web: www.nikkotianjin.com

#### The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin

天津利顺德大饭店 豪华精选酒店  
33 Taier Zhuang Road, Heping  
和平区台儿庄路33号  
Tel: 2331 1688  
Web: 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贸广场 ("天津之眼" 摩天轮旁)  
Tel: 2627 8888 Fax: 2627 6666

#### TEDA & Tanggu

**Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin**  
天津滨海假日酒店  
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 Zhongxin Avenue, Airport Industrial Park.  
空港物流加工区中心大道55号  
Tel: 5867 8888  
Fax: 5867 8899  
Web: www.crowneplaza.com

#### Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Hotel & Convention Center

天津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

天津滨海喜来登酒店  
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  
TEL: 6528 8888  
FAX: 6528 8801  
Web: www.sheraton.com/tianjinbinhai

[ Hotel Apartment 酒店公寓 ]

### Tianjin Downtown

#### Somerset International Building Tianjin

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  
河西区友谊路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

格林园  
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

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Weishan Nan Lu, Jinnan District, Tianjin  
天津市津南区(双港)徽山南路  
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

童慧国际  
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: 18622496466  
Landline: 022-83860916-0  
Email: smartkidz@foxmail.com;  
934971182@qq.com  
WeChat: smartkidz-tj  
Website: www.smartkidz-tj.com

#### Tianjin International School

天津国际学校  
No.4-1 Sishui Road, Hexi  
河西区泗水道4号增1号  
Tel: 8371 0900  
Fax: 8731 0400  
admin@tedainternationalschool.net  
www.tedainternationalschool.net

#### 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

Jiuhue International Village, 140 Wei 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



#### Hopeland International Kindergarten

华兰国际幼稚园 (海逸园)  
No.5 Cuibo Road, Meijiang Bay, 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

**Tianjin Translation College**

天津翻译学院  
No.5 Pinghu Road, Anshanxi Street,  
Nankai District, Tianjin  
天津市南开区鞍山西道平湖路5号  
Tel: 2737-9758  
Email: jenny\_tj@126.com

**Tianjin Golden Collar Translation Center**

天津金领翻译中心  
No.5 Pinghu Road, Anshanxi Street,  
Nankai District, Tianjin  
天津市南开区鞍山西道平湖路5号  
Tel: 2737-9758  
Email: jenny\_tj@126.com

**Shuoba Chinese Academy**

说吧汉语  
Tianjin Heping District Chengdu Dao  
No.126 Somerset Olympic Tower 403  
天津市和平区成都道126号盛捷奥林匹克4层403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  
139-1079-8835 (Mr.Lu Tong)  
187-1017-7191 (Sandra)

**TEDA & Tanggu**

**Teda International School**

泰达国际学校  
72 Third Ave, TEDA,  
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Fax: 6200 1818  
admin@tedainternationalschool.net  
www.tedainternationalschool.net

**MEDICAL FACILITY**

**Tianjin Downtown**

**ARRAIL International Dental Clinic**

瑞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)**

天津和睦家医院  
No. 22 Tianxiaoyuan, Tanjiang Road,  
Hexi District, Tianjin 300221  
河西区潭江道天潇园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.  
河西区紫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**

**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

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Building, No.2, Dong Ting Road, TEDA  
天津技术开发区洞庭路2号国际发展大厦11层4座  
Tel: 6628 0211  
Fax: 6628 0216  
tjadmin@jrecorporate.cn  
www.jrecorporate.cn

**CHAMBERS**

**Tianjin Downtown**

**European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Tianjin Chapter**

中国欧盟商会天津办公室  
41F, The Executive Center, Tianjin World  
Financial Center, 2 Dagubei Lu, Heping  
District, Tianjin 300020.  
天津市和平区大沽北路2号天津环球金融中心  
41层德事商务中心  
Tel: +86 (022) 58307608  
Website: www.eurochamber.com.cn  
Email: tianjin@euccc.com.cn

**The American Chamber of Commerce, Greater Tianjin Branch**

美国商会天津分会  
Rm2918, the Exchange Tower 2, 189  
Nanjing Road, Heping  
和平区南京路189号津汇二期2918室  
Tel: 23185075  
Fax: 2318 5074  
Website: www.amchamtianjin.org

**German Chamber of Commerce in China - North China**

中国德国商会  
Rm.1502, Global Center, No. 309  
Nanjing Road, Nankai  
南开区南京路309号  
环球置地广场1502室  
Tel/Fax ++86 (0)22 - 8787 9249  
Email: tianjin@bj.china.ahk.de  
Internet: www.china.ahk.de

**German Business Circle Tianjin**

Deutscher Unternehmerkreis Tianjin, DUK  
天津德国人联谊会  
Rm 803, Huake Center, 3 Kaihua Road,  
Huayuan Industrial Zone.  
华苑产业园区开华道3号  
华科创业中心803室.  
Tel: 8371 7855  
Fax: 837 17859

**Melbourne Office Tianjin**

墨尔本天津代表处  
Room 1008, International Building, 75  
Nanjing Road, Heping District, Tianjin  
300050, 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**  
西开教堂  
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  
天津泰达开发区第二大街8号  
泰达国际酒店暨会馆  
Email: enquiry@tedafellowship.com  
Phone: 151-2264-5704

**THEATRE**

**Tianjin Downtown**

**Tianjin Grand Theatre**  
天津大剧院  
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**

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1-1-607, Cheng Ji Center, Nanjing Road, Heping  
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136 821 90233  
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**Chinese Massage Club**

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Rm. 11F, Building 1, Zijin Garden, No.15,  
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**PARKS**

**Tianjin Downtown**

**Tianjin Water Park**  
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No.33, Shuishang Gongyuan Bei Lu,  
Nankai  
南开区水上公园北路33号  
Tel: 2335 0095

**Tianjin Zoo**

天津动物园  
Shuishang Gongyuan Dong Lu, Nankai  
南开区水上公园东路  
Tel: 2391 5066

**Tianjin Botanical Garden**

天津植物园  
North No.7 Bridge, Outer Ring, Cao  
Zhuangzi, Zhongbei Zhen, Xiqing  
西青区中北镇曹庄子外环线7号桥北  
Tel: 2794 8011

**Tianjin Changhong Ecological Park**

天津长虹生态园  
No.145 Hongqi Road, Nankai  
南开区红旗路145号  
Tel: 23358453



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- MEDICAL 医疗
- SCHOOL 学校
- HOTEL 酒店
- SPORTS 运动
- PARK 公园
- BAR 酒吧

## LOCALEVENTS

### Live Life to Discover

Renaissance Tianjin Downtown Hotel celebrated the 4th Global Day of Discovery on June 10th, 2015. Guests were invited to discover the food, local art and a selection of cocktail. We believe business unusual and let's Live Life to Discover!



### The St. Regis Tianjin Won the Best Scenic Environment Award from Vantage

Mr. Martin L. Leclerc, General Manager of The St. Regis Tianjin, is delighted to announce that The St. Regis Tianjin received the Best Scenic Environment Award from Vantage.

The award is rewarding to be recognized for our efforts in creating a visually enticing, luxurious hotel where guests from near and far will savor unparalleled signature St. Regis Butler Service, deluxe amenities, and unique dining experiences at the best address in Tianjin.



### Pan Pacific Tianjin Cares for the Wider Community

Pan Pacific Tianjin visited Tianjin Children's Welfare Organization on 26 May 2015. This visit consisted of a donation, gifts and an interactive afternoon of well wishes.

The hotel management and May birthday celebrants were led by General Manager, Mr. Reinhold Johann, who represented the hotel in the donation ceremony. The hotel directed all the proceeds from the auction held during the associates' April birthday celebration to the Tianjin Children's Welfare Office. The hotel has also specially prepared baskets of fruits, cookies and toys in light of the upcoming Children's Day.



### Evergrande Yuanchen Medical Beauty Hospital Opens in Tianjin

On June 23rd, the world's top, and China's first all-Korean-team medical beauty hospital—the Evergrande Yuanchen Medical Beauty Hospital opened in Tianjin. According to authorities, it will be the first hospital in China to introduce South Korean medical beauty techniques in technology, management and service. Its modern equipment and excellent service will ensure its place as a world class medical beauty hospital.



## New Zealand Wine Tasting

**The 7th June, 2015.** The New Zealand wine cultural activities, organized by Cave d'Emma, was held at the Shangri-La Hotel in Tianjin. This was the first dinner of Forrest Winery in New Zealand, who would later have a tour to promote itself in China.



## Hong Kong Film Week Tianjin Held at Riverview Place

**On June 17,** the opening ceremony of Hong Kong Film Week Tianjin, a cultural event co-organized by the Beijing Office of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Broadway Cinematheque was held at Riverview Place. Nick Cheung, a famous Hong Kong movie star was present at the ceremony as the ambassador of the Hong Kong Film Week.

The purpose of the event was to promote the film culture in Hong Kong and show the aggressive and optimistic spirit of Hong Kong people. The five movies that were played during the film week from June 17 to 23 were outstanding locally produced movies that received a high reputation but were not able to be on show in the cinemas of mainland China.



## The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin will Launch an Unexpected Italian Food Festival

**From June 20,** The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin presented a delicate Italian Food Festival at ZEST, the city's most popular all-day-dining restaurant, offering guests in Tianjin an incredible dining experience.

Executive Chef Ornato from The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin invited the famous Italian Chef Stefano from Renaissance Beijing Capital Hotel and will present an anticipated Italian food event.

The 6-day event encompassed a pizza cooking class on June 20, and a grand master buffet dinner from June 21 to June 25 specialty based on Italian cooking traditions, ingredients, featuring a culture of Italian gourmets.



## 2015 Mooncake Launch Party @ TANGLA HOTEL TIANJIN

**Tangla Hotel Tianjin held** a moon cake launch party tonight at S6U Lounge located on 49F to commemorate the Mid-Autumn Festival 2015. Guests were charmed with the Excellence box set which is with combined the auspicious clouds and the creative Tranquility package.



### Shirley Liu Appointed Director of Sales & Marketing of Renaissance Tianjin Downtown Hotel



#### Renaissance Tianjin Downtown Hotel

has recently appointed Ms. Shirley Liu as Director of Sales & Marketing. Shirley started her career with Renaissance Tianjin Downtown Hotel and joined Beijing Marriott Hotel City Wall as Director of MICE. With over 10 years of hospitality industry experience and extensive understanding of

Tianjin market, Shirley will work together with the hotel team to target more business and leisure travelers.

### Wanda Vista Tianjin Appointed Allan Hao as Executive Assistant Manager



Recently, Wanda Vista Tianjin announced to promote and appoint Mr. Allan Hao as Executive Assistant Manager. Mr. Allan Hao joined Wanda Vista Tianjin since 2014. With 14 years of extensive experience in hospitality industry, Mr. Allan Hao served many global re-known hotel chains including Shangri-La, Marriott and more.

With his rich professional knowledge and administrative management experience, Mr. Allan Hao will assist General Manager Mr. Fabrice Collot to overall manage daily operations of Wanda Vista Tianjin, and keep being in charge of Sales & Marketing Department. We believe that Mr. Allan Hao will lead the team to achieve greater success.

### The St. Regis Tianjin Hotel Appointed Ms. Joyce Li Director of Marketing Communications



The St. Regis Tianjin, the most iconic hotel in town located along the Hai River, is delighted to announce the appointment of Ms. Joyce Li as Director of Marketing & Communications. Joyce Li started her career in hospitality after finishing her postgraduate study in 2009, and worked with a succession of international hotel brand, such as

Luxury Collection, Sheraton and Shangri-La. Over the past 5 years working with Starwood, her team was awarded The Public Relations Awards – Greater China (north) from 2012 to 2014 by Starwood Asia Pacific Regional Office with her remarkable leadership and talent on communications. She was previously Director of Marketing & Communications at The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin.

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Global Day of Discovery of Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel

On the 11th of June, 2015, Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel created a PINK Night at lakeside for all of their discoverers at its astonishing lawn garden! The night was ravishing in pink, and included live entertainments and various foods, the event combined with Amazing Race, Summer Wedding Show and Renaissance Night Market.



### Ascott Amazing Race Tianjin Chapter Season 2 Started

Ascott, the world's largest serviced residence owner and operator, recently held its own version of the "Amazing Race", in the city of Tianjin on 7th June 2015. This is the 2nd consecutive year for Ascott organizing such event in Tianjin. The first season in 2014 was a great sensation among the expatriate community and many companies. Now the 2nd season attracted nearly 200 Ascott residents and partners to join.





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An outside bar near the Ferris Wheel

# NO BORING SUMMER IN TIANJIN

by **Bryce Cristiano**  
photo by **Jane Liu**

**T**he months of heat and monsoons are now upon us in Tianjin. Gone are the days of snowmen, taking refuge in a cafe or a homely DongBei restaurant, and slipping over frozen splotches of spit on the sidewalk. All we're left with is long and tiresome summer days, headache inducing heat, and sweat by the bucket loads. For many foreigners in Tianjin, the winter and summer holidays may be a chance to return home to see family members or to chow down on some of our motherland food. For those wishing to avoid long durations of exposure to family or must remain in Tianjin for work or extra studies, they'll find themselves a bit more lonesome within their expat circles. Have no fear though, for there is plenty to do for the foreigners staying in China during the long holidays.

Most of Chinese civilization finds itself either living on the East Coast or along the rivers, meaning that wherever you are in China, odds are you're near a large body of water. For us in Tianjin, the port city to Beijing, it should come as little surprise that we live next to the Bohai Sea. Now, I simply wouldn't advise taking a bus out to an outlying portion of Tianjin like, DaGang, and hoofing it to the coast line, but a few hours on a train and you could find yourself in many scenic beach locations. A three hour train ride north can land you right in the popular BeiDaiHe beach town which is usually swimming with locals

and Russians around this time. Other than that you could always take a longer train ride down south to Qingdao city for a pleasant weekend vacation.

If you simply want to see the ocean without actually diving in, a great option would be to take Line 9 to TEDA (Tianjin Economic Technological Development Area), also known as BinHai New Area. Here you'll find not only the ports of Tianjin but many foreign restaurants, bars, and an old USSR Kiev-class cruiser which has been turned into an amusement park. From time to time, there have been events and parties hosted on and around this old decommissioned Soviet cruiser such as beer festivals. The fare to TEDA will only set you back about 8rmb and the ride itself only takes an hour from end-to-end with the train going at 100km/h.

If you're looking to save some cash, it might be best to stay within the city, even though the accommodation at places like BeiDaiHe is actually quite affordable. For those not wanting to leave Tianjin, there is plenty to do within the city. Many expats who are new to Tianjin enjoy visiting all the popular tourist destinations such as the Gulou Drum Tower, the Ancient Cultural Street (GuWenHuaJie), BinJiangDao, The Five Avenues (WuDaDao), and the Italian Style Town. For all those interested in photography, Tianjin has scores of beautiful and historic scenery to capture under the summer skies. Many foreigners

**FOR ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY, TIANJIN HAS SCORES OF BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC SCENERY TO CAPTURE UNDER THE SUMMER SKIES.**

might choose to take refuge in an air conditioned mall, which are abundant along the roads of BinJiangDao. Another option might be to hunker down in a bar for a night of drinking with friends, the area around Tianjin University and Nankai University offers a great selection of bars and restaurants catering to Western tastes.

It's quite hard to pinpoint exactly what it is that people will be doing this summer season, so be sure to keep in touch with classmates and colleagues to get a scope of the activities if you're uncertain. It might just be best for most people to stay in their house, have a pint, and wait for all of this to blow over.

## 夏天不寂寞

天津正在经历一年中最炎热的几个月，我们每天忍受暑热带来的困乏和黏腻。很多老外选择在这个季节回国探亲，给自己放个假。不能放假的老外可能会觉得天津的夏天有点寂寞，但不怕，天津的夏天其实非常多彩。

中国的很多文明都起源于水畔，无论你到中国哪个地方，你都会发现有江河邻近或从中穿过。天津作为一个北方港口城市，守着大海一点也不稀奇。但是我并不是要建议你坐长途车到大港看海。但如果你坐上几个小时的火车，你能领略到非常好的海滩。比如北戴河或青岛，这两个地方都能让你过一个有海风有沙滩的周末。

如果你只是想看看海而不一定要去游泳，你可以坐天津轻轨九号线到泰达站，这周边有一些货运港口，中心区域也有很多适合外国人口味的餐厅和酒吧。位于汉沽的基辅号航母主题公园很值得一去，时不时会有一些派对在船上举办，非常酷。坐轻轨到泰达单程只有8块钱。

如果你不想出城，那也有很多地方可逛，尤其是刚到天津的外国人，不能不去鼓楼、古文化街、意大利风情街和五大道这些标志性观光胜地。摄影爱好者们在晴好的夏日可以出来采风，在蓝天白云的映衬下，天津这座城市美得令人窒息。家里太热？为什么不去滨江道的商场里蹭空调？夜猫子们到了晚上可以去天南大周边的酒吧，每天那里都聚集着大量的外国留学生。

当然每个人都有自己的选择，你最好和同学同事保持联系，他们会告诉你最近都有哪些活动可以参加。也许你坐在家里喝着小酒，就会有人打电话约你了。



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