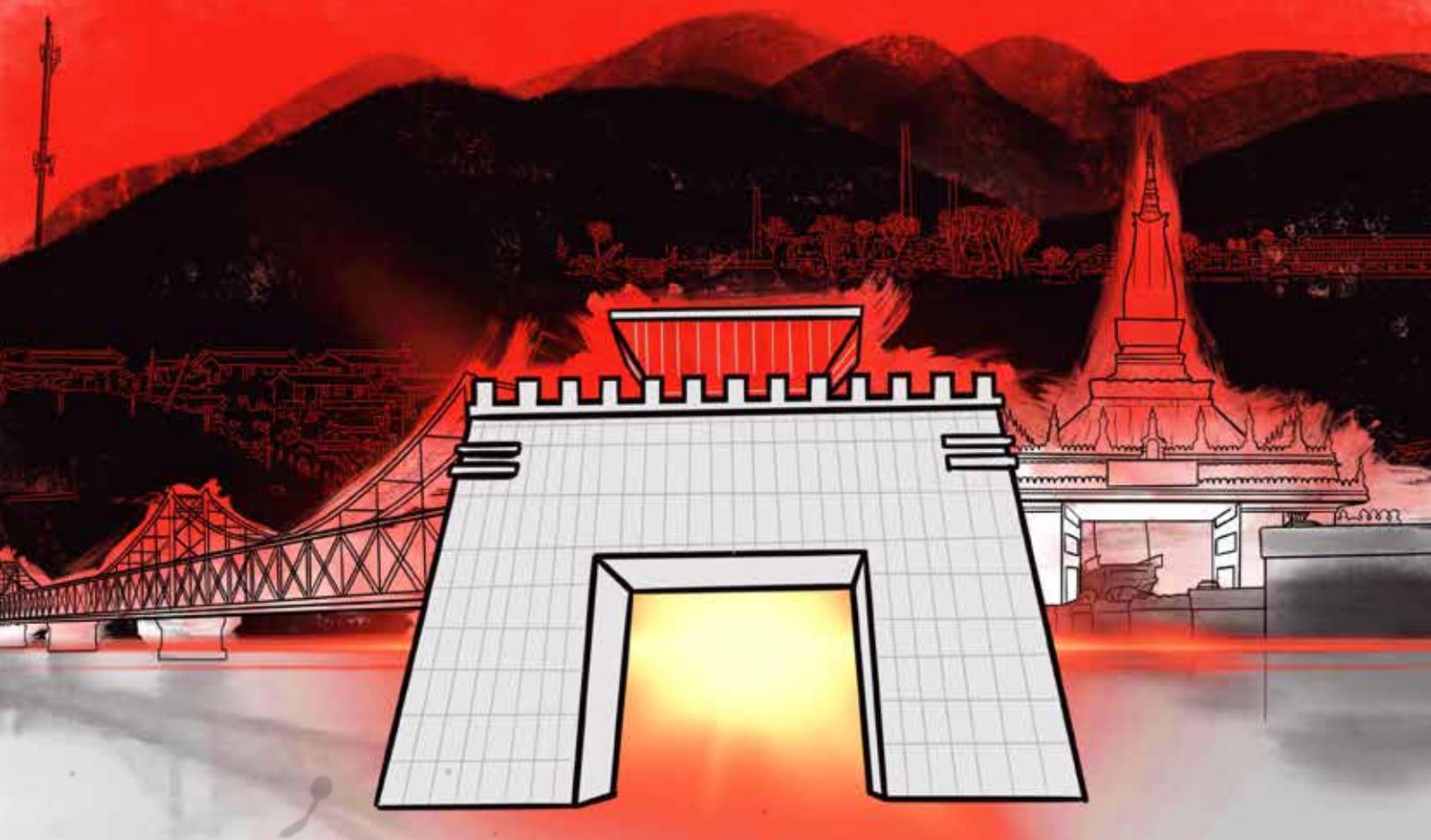


# BEIJING that's



## THE BORDERLANDS

Dispatches from the Edge of China



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英文版 11 月份  
国内统一刊号:  
CN 11-5232/G0

China Intercontinental Press

ISSN 1672-8025



9 771672 802049

NOVEMBER 2019

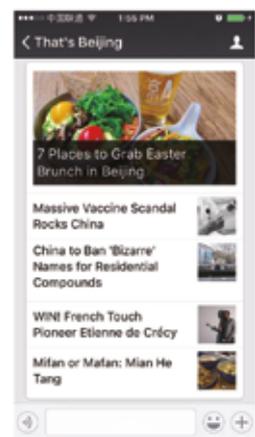


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《城市漫步》北京版 英文月刊  
中国传播出版社 出版发行  
CHINA INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS

主管单位：中华人民共和国国务院新闻办公室  
Supervised by the State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China  
主办单位：五洲传播出版社  
地址：北京西城月坛北街 26 号恒华国际商务中心南楼 11 层文化交流中心 邮编 100045  
Published by China Intercontinental Press  
Address: 11th Floor South Building, HengHua International Business Center, 26  
Yuetan North Street, Xicheng District, Beijing 100045, PRC  
http://www.cicc.org.cn  
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广告经营许可证：京海工商广字第 8069 号  
法律顾问：大成律师事务所 魏君贤律师  
Legal Advisor: Wei Junxian, Dacheng Law Firm  
国际标准刊号 ISSN 1672-8025

国内统一刊号 CN 11-5232/GO

定价：25.00 元

邮发代号：2-930

部分非卖品，仅限赠阅

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Remember when Lady Gaga sang, "I'm on the edge"? Well, she wasn't singing it from the outer edge of China, but she very well could have been – it's huge. The country's entire outline spans a whopping 22,000 kilometers, bordering a total of 14 neighboring states including India, Afghanistan, Russia, Vietnam, Laos, Nepal and more.

This month's cover story takes us exactly there: the borderlands of China. *That's PRD* Editor-in-Chief Matthew Bossons takes us to some of the border provinces of the Chinese mainland, from the Mongolian border in the North to the PRC-Pakistan border in the West. Flip to p. 40 for a look into what life is like on the line.

Elsewhere in the magazine, Bryan Grogan spotlights the filmmakers that are paving the way for art cinema in Tibet (p. 30); I chat with ever-charming indie rockers The Kooks before their Beijing gig (p. 34); and Mollie Gower pays a visit to a new casino-themed bar and restaurant (p. 54).

Until next month,



Valerie Osipov  
Editor-in-Chief

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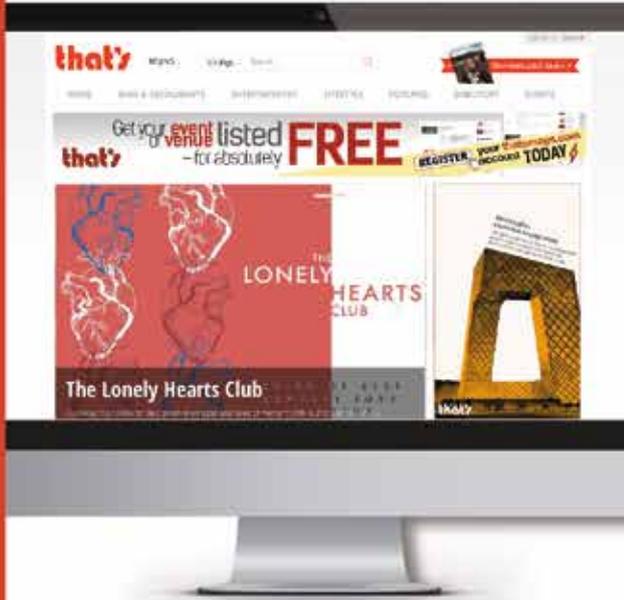
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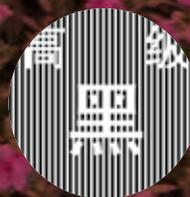
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# OVERSIZED OINKERS

## China Breeds Polar Bear-Sized Pigs as Pork Prices Surge

by Ryan Gandolfo

**A**frican Swine Fever (ASF) has taken a major toll on the nation's pork supply, leading some farmers to 'go big' and breed the heaviest swine they can manage.

According to *Bloomberg*, one farm owner named Pang Cong in Nanning, Guangxi is breeding pigs the size of polar bears. Pang's 'swollen' swine, which weighs approximately 500 kilograms, is a part of a herd that's expected to breed more giant pig. In some cases, farm owners can reel in more than RMB10,000 for these massive animals.

Over the past year, pig farmers around China have been feeling pressure to deliver on an increasingly meat-obsessed population. In August 2018, the first cases of ASF were reported in China, which has led to a significant drop in the country's pig population over the past 14 months. Beijing and local governments have taken measures to stabi-

lize the industry; however, pork prices are still increasing as a result of the virus.

In Jilin province, farmers are raising pigs 50 to 75 kilograms heavier than a normal pig's average weight (around 125 kilograms), with one farmer telling *Bloomberg* that the goal is to raise them "as big as possible."

Large-scale farms are also supersizing their swine, as Chinese protein producers try to increase the average weight of their pigs, which could raise profits by more than 30%, according to Bric Agriculture Group Senior Analyst Lin Guofa, cited by *Bloomberg*.

Chinese Vice Premier Hu Chunhua visited Shandong, Hebei and Henan provinces last month to encourage farmers to resume pig production to "ensure a stable market supply," according to an official announcement on the Central Government's website.

In response to the growing pork crisis,

officials in Guangdong implemented 10 measures to stabilize pork prices in September. One of the ways the southern Chinese city was looking to tackle the issue was by adding 1,600 tons of frozen pork reserves into circulation; this meat was discounted by 10% of the average market price.

As the swine population continues to fall as a result of a growing number of ASF-infected pigs, tapping into pork reserves and supplying the meat to supermarkets, schools and hotels, among other establishments, seems to be the main method of addressing demand.

# THE BUZZ

## GENERATION GAP

**The new Beijing Daxing International Airport officially opened last month. What do you think about the brand-new airline hub?**

**IKIKI, 26**



"I haven't gotten the chance to visit the new Daxing airport yet, but I would like to, you know, as a popular tourist destination. As far as I am concerned, just according to images and videos released by the media, the new airport seems pretty cool and attractive – the

architecture, the fancy restaurants, cutting-edge technologies (such as energy efficiency) and so on. Though here comes the downside: It will take more time and money to get there for me, since it's very far from my home. If I am going to catch a plane, I certainly prefer the Capital International Airport, though I am truly proud of the new Daxing airport. It's a great achievement."

**SUN, 75**



"I'm impressed at such great changes accomplished in a very short time... Time flies! I watched the new Daxing airport begin service live on television and got to know how all the difficult technical problems had been solved. To be honest, I am really proud of my country – it

has been very hard for a country as large as China to come all this way. My grandparents didn't have enough food when they were young and now I get my retirement pension every month. I still remember the very first time I tried on headphones, listened to the radio, used a computer and cellphone. Back then, I couldn't even imagine that I would be playing games on my phone every day! Even though I rarely take flights, I'd love to visit the new Daxing airport – if it doesn't bother my daughter too much to drive me there."

**As told to Liu Yang**

## SWEET SPOT

Passersby stop and stare at colorful treats at a small shop.

*See the full 'Beijing at Night' series by Andrew Braun at Zarah through Dec 12.*



## TECH ATTACK

Huawei's tech is in high demand. The Shenzhen-based technology giant recently claimed it experiences around one million cyberattacks each day. Last month, the company claimed that the US government has launched "cyberattacks to infiltrate Huawei's intranet and internal information systems," among other accusations, including starting investigations based on false media reports and leveraging its position as a world leader to lobby other governments to ban Huawei products.





## “Freedom of speech doesn’t mean freedom of consequences”

So said NBA Head Coach Doc Rivers when asked about the conflict between the National Basketball Association (NBA) and China last month, which started after Houston Rocket’s General Manager Daryl Morey tweeted about Hong Kong-related events. In response to comments made soon after by NBA commissioner Adam Silver, Chinese broadcaster CCTV decided to temporarily suspend the broadcasts of NBA preseason games and investigate all cooperation with the NBA. A number of high-profile Chinese celebrities and companies also came out in opposition to Morey’s tweet and Silver’s comments.

# 39 billion

... is how many US dollars Alibaba founder Jack Ma and his family are worth, according to the Hurun China Rich List 2019. The annual report on China’s wealthiest folks was published last month, and revealed quite a shakeup in the top 10. Hurun’s chief researcher referred to China’s wealthiest person spot as a “two-horse race,” as Tencent CEO Pony Ma was valued USD2 billion short of Ma.

# HARRY POTTER AND THE FAKE UK MARKET TOWN

China's Surreal Slice of Middle England on the Outskirts of Shanghai

words and photos by Aron Solomons

**T**hames Town is a place that I have wanted to visit ever since landing in Shanghai and reading about it in the deepest, darkest corner of the internet – Reddit.

For those that have better things to do than read about sub-par tourist destinations (joke's on you, you're doing it right now) Thames Town was built in 2006 as part of a series of luxury European-style towns for Shanghai elites. Unfortunately, despite the developer's best intentions, the rich of my beloved city had better ways to spend their money than on a mock Tudor house next to a knock-off version of a West England cathedral.

From what can be read online, it had become quasi-empty, except for the occasional couple shooting wedding photos. But this was all hearsay, because no one has ever wanted to go with me. Conversations with friends would go something like this:

**Polite But Disinterested Friend:** What is it exactly?

**Me:** It's a town on the outskirts of Shanghai that is designed to look like an English market town.

**PBDF:** Oh right, is there anything particularly impressive about it?

**Me:** No. Not really.

**PBDF:** Any interesting shops or restaurants?

**Me:** There are a few not terrible ones, according to Dianping.

**PBDF:** Is it easy to get to?

**Me:** About an hour by metro and then a 20 minute taxi.

**PBDF:** Anything else?

**Me:** I think it has a statue of Harry Potter.

**PBDF:** I think I'll pass. Thanks Aron.

It takes a certain type of masochist to actively seek out something that is seemingly pretty terrible. But a friend with a birthday and a lack of options was the catalyst to find out if we could really experience a taste of home just outside of Songjiang. So England shirts, bowler hats and full Harry Potter outfits prepared – a group of us made our way.



The lay of the land.



Possibly the only red telephone box with a China Telecom logo.



Better than German stand up comedy.

On arrival, having tormented our taxi driver with enthusiastic renditions of the Spice Girls and the Venga Boys (before someone pointed out that the latter was Dutch), there were a few immediate reminders of the UK. Random red telephone boxes dotted around, alongside strange statues of random white people sitting on benches and even a Mini Cooper. This was unfortunately offset by a bizarre two-meter-tall transformer next to it.

Our first mission was to get some real English food. I know what you're thinking – who wants English food? It's like requesting German stand up comedy. But sometimes a man wants fish and chips. However, similar to how it is in the UK, the majority of the restaurants in Thames Town turned out to be European.

After much searching we found an 'English style restaurant' – The Granger & Co. After ordering a few portions of palatable fish and chips, we were ready to see what the town had to offer.



Hoorah! We found fish and chips!

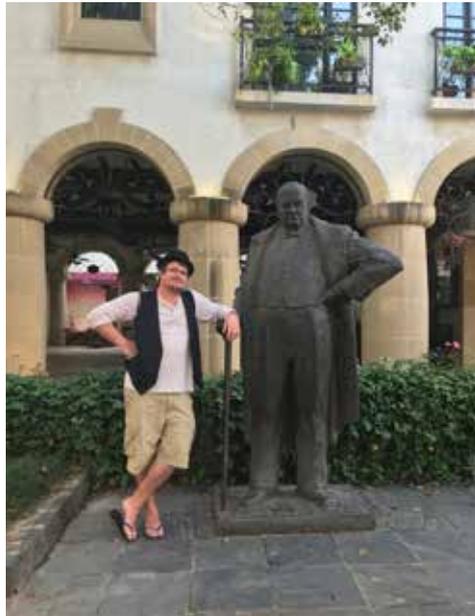
In defense of Thames Town, the streets did represent a typical English market town – even if ‘Oxford Street’ resembled more a side street in a village than the UK’s most popular shopping thoroughfare. There are also statues of famous Brits (both real and fictional) dotted around. So if you want to play ‘find the random statue of Winston Churchill,’ then this is the place for you. We managed to find both Winston and Harry Potter.

The tour de force is a church slap-bang in the middle of town. At first, I thought it was meant to be St Paul’s Cathedral, but after a bit of research I discovered that it is modeled off Christ Church in Bristol. Curious, and being a good God-fearing Christian (okay, apathetic Jew), I wanted to look inside. Would it be a real church? Or, like everything else here, a hollow tribute? Sure enough, inside were pews and, most spectacularly of all, a Chinese Jesus on the stained glass windows. Just like the inside of a church confessional booth, the dominant feeling in Thames Town is one of eerie quietness. Shanghai doesn’t do quiet. Shanghai does the opposite. And every tourist attraction is normally rammed on the weekend. Not the case here. If you look into the windows above the ground level shops, they are all empty. There is a shell of a theater that has clearly not been used in years.

After a few awkward group photos, and some more photos of couples taking wedding photos, it was time to go. If you have an inner masochist that likes trying to enjoy bad things in the name of irony then Thames Town is for you. We’d had fish and chips, posed for pictures with both Harry and Winston, but we can’t say any of us really felt close to home.

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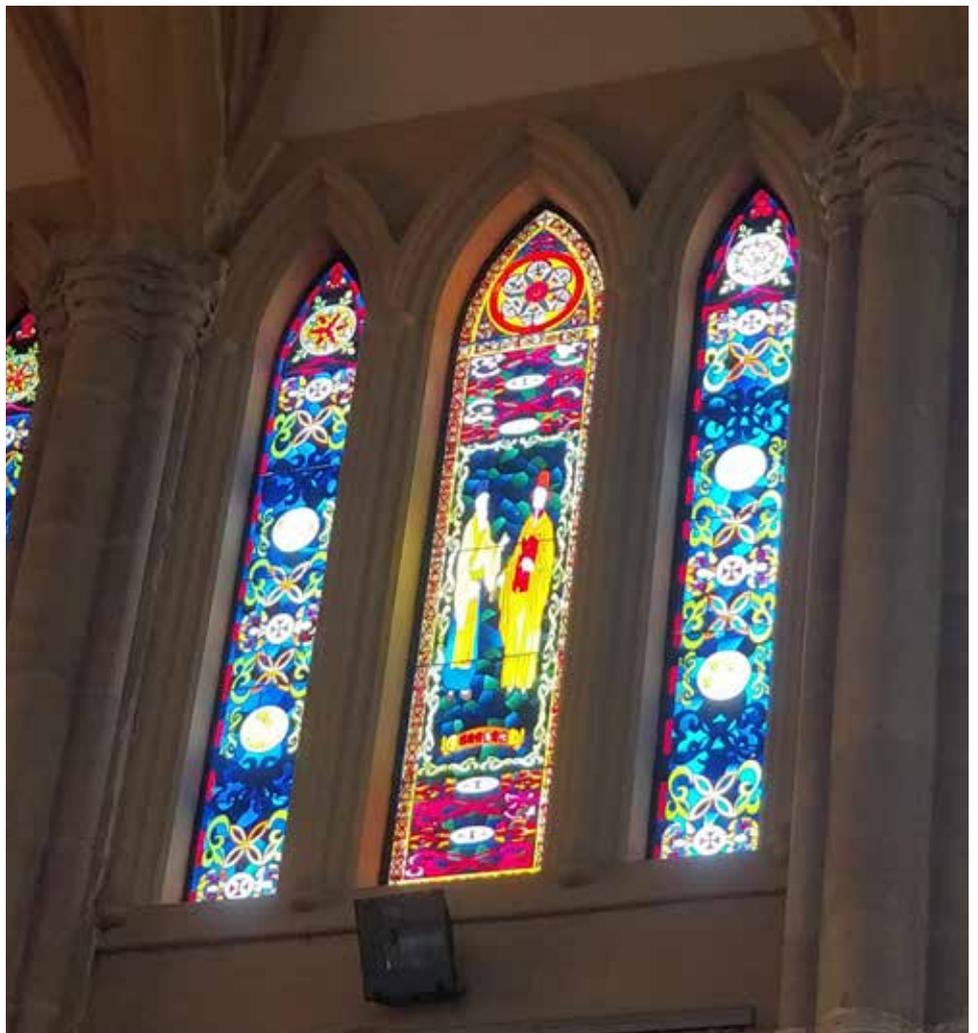
The nearest Shanghai Metro station to Thames Town is Songjiang Xincheng on Line 9. From there you can take a 15-minute taxi. A taxi from Shanghai to Thames Town takes about an hour and costs around RMB200.



Thames Town is the perfect place to play find the strange statue.



The Boy Wizard.



Look closely at the man in the yellow clothes and you can make out Chinese Jesus

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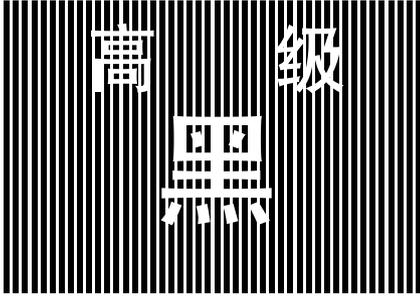
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**gaojihei / gāojíhēi / 高级黑** verb. to throw shade in a subtle and shielded way or even disguised as a compliment, to backhandedly diss someone

**A** How is your new boss?

He has such a talent for stringing together many expletives in one sentence.

**B**

**A** Is that gaojihei?

He is very talented indeed.

**B**

**D**isdain – we all carry so much of it going about our daily lives. We carry disdain like a tumbler filled with freshly-brewed coffee, dishing it out little by little when we small talk, or pouring a big chunk of it out when we meet those who despise the same things as us. We carry disdain for people, companies, brands, TV shows, musicians and even snacks.

Shared disdain helps us make friends, bond with each other, form communities and define identities. It is of the utmost importance that we communicate it effectively. There are times where we can openly show our disdain with statements such as “U2 is a disgrace to music” or “I just can’t be friends with people who like tomato-based hot pot,” while other times we have to be more tactful.

And that is when *gaojihei* comes in handy. Literally meaning ‘high level blackening,’ *gaojihei* is the sophisticated art of expressing disdain in a subtle or tightly disguised fashion. Instead of saying “This movie is stupid,” say “How wonderful of them to make a movie

just for imbeciles.” Instead of saying “I hate this album,” say “This album is so good, it redefines what music is.” Or “What a lovely dress, no wonder you continue to wear it so often.” You get it.

There are many theories as to why *gaojihei* became the default mode for expressing disdain, especially on the internet. Some say cultural emphasis on being nice forces people to shoehorn criticism into flattery, while others think the ‘manners education’ of “If you don’t have anything nice to say, then don’t say anything at all” is to blame. Either way, the result is that the language is always seemingly positive, but not the sentiment – and it’s important to listen carefully.

Conversation is the playground of the wits. Always playing it straight can get boring. So, the next time you feel like dissing something, approach it in a more creative way and add a few curve balls to keep your audience on their toes! **Mia Li**

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# LIFE & STYLE

## LAKE AND LAGHMAN

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*Explore China*, p22



Be Jordan  
p18



Frequent Collaborative  
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Boot Out  
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# DANIEL SUN

## Cofounder of de shanghai

by Phoebe Kut

There's a certain whimsy and nostalgia about vintage prints. Lifestyle brand de shanghai reproduces charming, Old Shanghai fabric prints onto an array of products ranging from enamel mugs, folders, stationery and more. We spoke with Daniel Sun, the cofounder and designer behind the brand.

### Can you tell us how the concept of 'de shanghai' started?

I came across these fabrics during a visit to Chongming Island, and was fascinated by how the fabric itself served as folk art that unfolded a unique story of Shanghai.

### How did your affinity for vintage Shanghainese prints come about?

Most of the fabrics I collected were hand-made during the Cultural Revolution. The colors were bright and bold, and the designs were very intricate! This bright, intricate boldness was a testament to the Shanghainese longing for a beautiful, modern lifestyle during the time when China was closed off to the world. The story of that desire was a direct and genuine one.

### How do you decide which products to release the prints on?

We have a cafe located in 'de shanghai home' and many of the products I design suit the cafe's environment and are meant to be used for daily life. I work mostly from my own intuition.



### What sets de shanghai apart?

It's different. De shanghai is not trying to be someone or follow a trend. In a fast-growing, compact city, it seems you can't go wrong with a monochromatic, minimalist style that is widely accepted as fashionable. But I believe memory plays an important role in our daily life. These beautiful patterns and floral curtains of our grandparents' homes have a way of evoking sentimental, sweet memories. I simply re-construct this kind of memory and feeling for modern use.

### Which products are currently most popular?

The shopping bag and the enamel mug – practical and chic.

### Who is the ideal de shanghai customer?

Everyone! We don't pick our customers. Our customers pick us.

### Do you have plans to expand outside of Asia?

I'd like to tell the stories of these special Shanghai floral patterns first, so I recently started a gallery and shop to showcase the history. I'm hoping more and more people can share the concept of 'de shanghai' – and decorate their lives with Shanghai's beautiful history.

[webdeshanghai.com](http://webdeshanghai.com)

# STYLE RADAR

HOT ON TAOBAO

## Double's Beer Mug

We all have a friend who has graduated from beer nursing school and transferred their skills to the real world. (If you're saying you don't, that's because it's you.) Don't get us wrong, drinking slowly is both responsible and better for your liver, but on some occasions, you just want to cut loose with the squad. Luckily, Taobao has the perfect product to get everyone at the party feeling a little tipsy. The double beer mug is designed to turn strangers into friends, friends into best friends and, dare we say, best friends to friends with benefits? Maybe that's a stretch, but we've heard worse love stories. Honestly though, this simple yet ingenious product was engineered for an extra fun time drinking with friends. Whether you're having a beer chugging competition or playing Donald Trump drinking games with a partner (Google it), this double beer mug can do it all. Bar owners have even boosted their revenue thanks to this tacky tool. A Taobao user submitted a review, writing, "After I received the product, I arranged it on top of the bar, patrons really like it and beer sales have increased. When customers use it to drink beer, they'll post it on Douyin and it goes viral. Everyone looks for my bar; it's clear that the number of customers has increased. One set isn't enough, I'm ordering 10." You can find double beer mugs in various shapes and sizes online – some even glow in the dark. We'll let you figure all that out for yourself, but remember – drink responsibly. The double beer mug is available on Taobao from RMB36-89.7.

[taobao.com](http://taobao.com)



COVER



## Harry Potter and the Order of the Peacebird

Founded in 2008, Chinese streetwear brand Peacebird has already made a huge splash on the scene, collaborating with major companies like Coca-Cola and Playboy. For its Spring/Summer 2020 season, Peacebird debuted a *Harry Potter*-themed collection on the Parisian runway. This ready-to-wear collection has a strong collegiate theme running throughout, with oversized cardigans, black

berets, over-the-knee socks and, of course, the respective crests of Hogwarts houses emblazoned on various pieces. Fans have been snapping up pieces quicker than you can say *wingardium leviosa*, and Weibo users have been leaving comments such as "Really love... the whole design of this series, it's very good!" So, *Harry Potter* fans, no need to wait for the Sorting Hat, go on and give your favorite pieces the summoning charm before the other muggles do!

[taobao.com](http://taobao.com)

UNDER THE LENS

## Anime Inspired

An unlikely duo or the perfect match? Michael B. Jordan, star of the *Creed* franchise and *Black Panther*, has just launched a capsule collection with Coach that is entirely *Naruto*-themed. This collection is more than just another collaboration; it is a personal statement for Jordan. The star and avid anime fan credited anime as a "big piece of [his] childhood, adult life and [source of] creativity" in an interview with Highsnobiety.

Jordan's menswear line features a T-shirt with the original Konoha trio characters of Jiraiya, Orochimaru and Tsunade. Additionally, backpacks, totes, boots, sneakers and fanny packs feature the Uchiha Sharingan.

"I wanted something that people who loved anime would be able to pick up on – small Easter eggs here and there that people really grab on to," says Jordan. "It's subtle. It's not over-the-top, but you still get it in the lining of certain jackets, or a print on some of the tote bags."

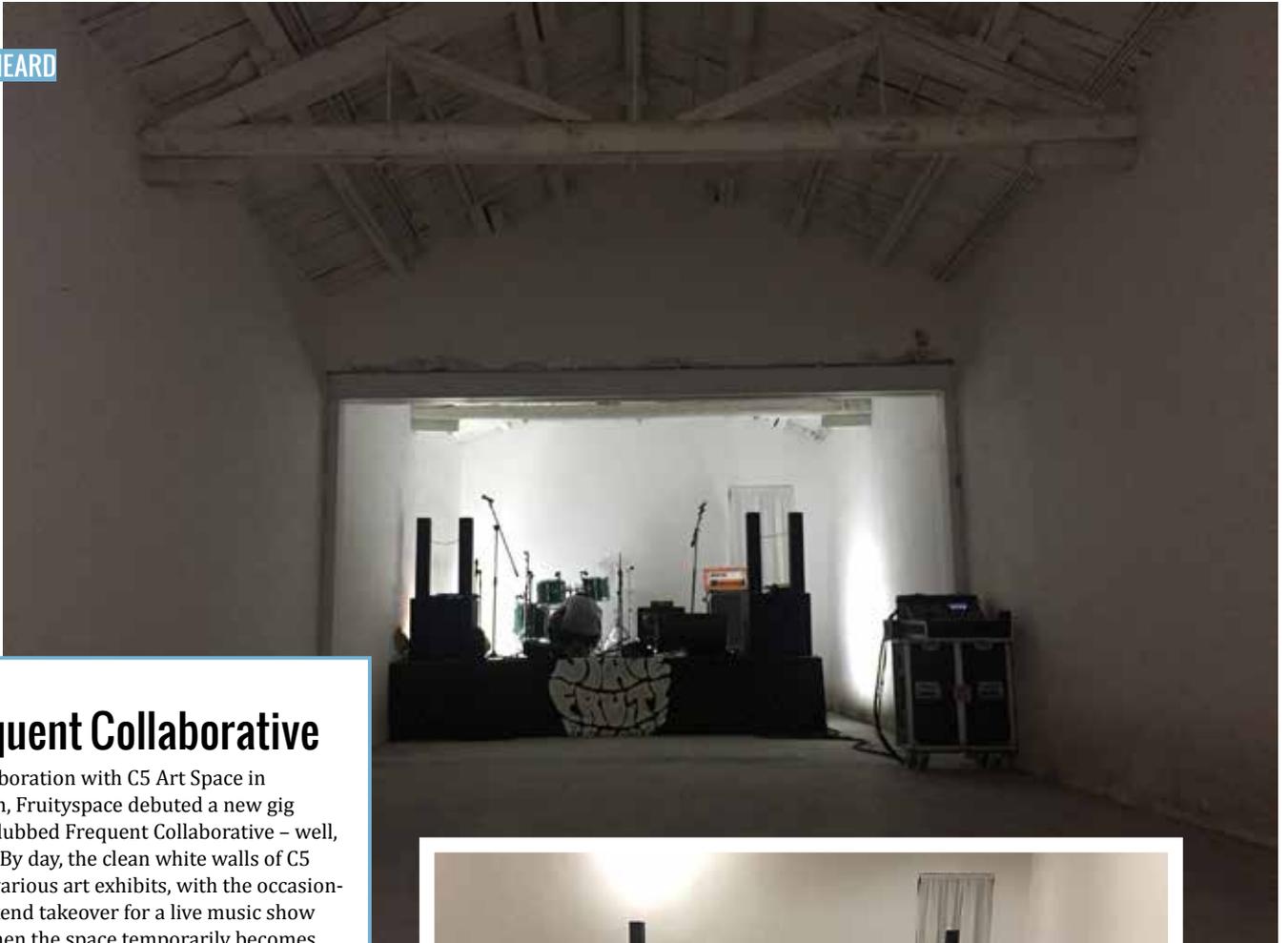
With Jordan bringing anime to the forefront of fashion, Viz Media's Alex Lee reflects, "It's completely validated anime for us. It makes people not want to keep it in their room; it makes them want to blurt it out and be proud."

This is not the only anime project Jordan has been involved in; he also stars in an animated web series called *gen:LOCK*.



[Scan the QR code to shop.](#)

SCENE&HEARD



## Frequent Collaborative

In collaboration with C5 Art Space in Sanlitun, Fruityspace debuted a new gig venue dubbed Frequent Collaborative – well, sort of. By day, the clean white walls of C5 house various art exhibits, with the occasional weekend takeover for a live music show (aka when the space temporarily becomes Frequent Collaborative).

Stripped of any souped-up pretension, the mostly bare gallery space does its duty as an intimate listening environment for attendees. It's really just you and the music – what more do you need?

Over the past couple months, they've organized a handful of shows already, spotlighting brilliant acts like Eating Music, a Shanghai-based label with a focus on electronic music, Space Fruity Records' own surf rockers The Molds, and more recently, Beijing-based experimental rock project Dreaming Julie. Keep an eye out for more gigs and goods from the pop-up venue to come.



C5 Cafe, Bldg F, 5 Sanlitun Xiwu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯西五街5号F座C5Cafe

# THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKIN'

Nine Shoes to Fall Head Over Heels For

by Phoebe Kut

Pumpkin spice lattes, leggings, chunky knits and black boots. These are all the lovable cliches of autumn, so embrace the change in seasons and grab yourself some new fall footwear.



**Dr.Martens**  
RMB1,699  
Drmartens.com.cn



**Bershka**  
RMB429  
Bershka.cn



**Bershka**  
RMB359  
Bershka.cn



**Zara**  
RMB499  
Zara.cn



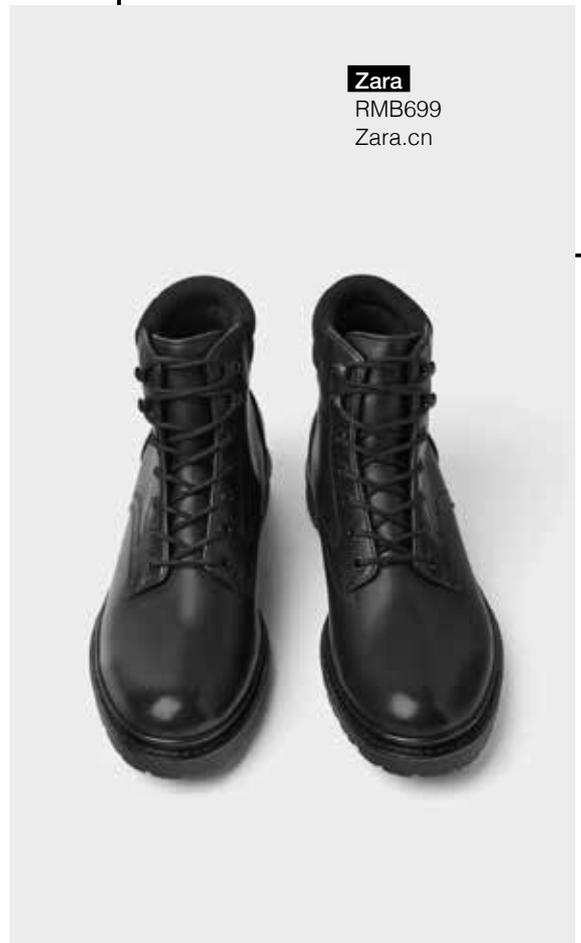
**Bershka**  
RMB379  
Bershka.cn



**Zara**  
RMB799  
Zara.cn



**Hunter**  
RMB1,250  
Hunterboots.com



**Zara**  
RMB699  
Zara.cn



**G-Star Raw**  
RMB2,198  
g-star.tmall.com

# URUMQI

by Daniel Plafker



Nestled in a valley amidst the majestic peaks of the Tianshan range of mountains, Urumqi forms the enigmatic capital of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and is a gateway for explorers to China's expansive Northwest.

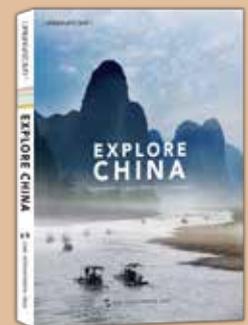
With a population of 3.5 million, the city, which takes its name from a Mongolian Oirats word for 'beautiful pasture,' boasts the title of largest urban center in all of Central Asia and stands as a melting pot of cultures that epitomizes the rich diversity of the region.

The northern half of the modern metropolis is home to an increasingly industrious CBD, along with many of Urumqi's Han Chinese majority. The southern quarter, meanwhile, tightly clustered around the lively Erdaoqiao neighborhood, is the traditional home of the city's Uyghur community and where many of the city's historic markets, mosques and scenic byways can be found.

Urumqi's vibrant ethnic diversity is mirrored by a varied climate that greets visitors with a different face depending on the season, from frigid, even snowy winters to bright and sunny summers that see the area's lushly forested hillsides and airy mountain meadows burst into bloom.

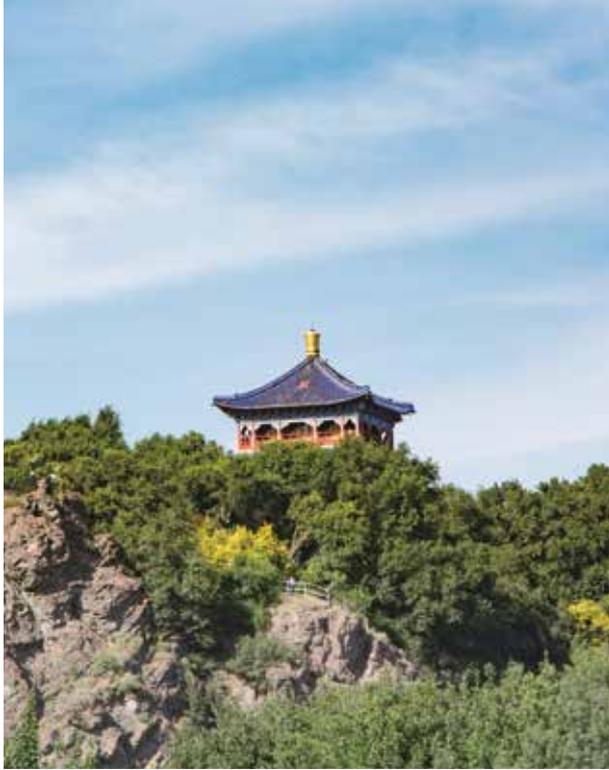
Visitors to the city can relish in varied and delicious cuisine at the innumerable evening street stalls, ride on the commercial currents of enduring Silk Road trading traditions at the iconic Grand Bazaar, enjoy moments of contemplative serenity in Urumqi's quiet parks and discover the region's fascinating history and

unique geography at the impressively curated Xinjiang Museum. Those who venture further afield to take in Xinjiang's pristine wilderness will be rewarded with crystal clear mountain lakes, rolling pastures and floral meadows difficult to find elsewhere in the realm.



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## Red Hill Park

Hongshan Park is centered around the magnificent Red Hill, a striking 1,391-meter-high cliff face that's so iconic it has become a symbol of Urumqi itself. A visit to this impressive topographical feature offers breathtaking views of the city, which, along with its central location, makes it a perfect first destination to ground and orient oneself on a visit to Urumqi or a contemplative sunset overlook to cap off a busy day of urban exploration. The hill is crowned by the handsome, 25-meter-tall Zhen Long Pagoda – a painstakingly preserved nine-story edifice dating back to the Yuan Dynasty that creates picture-perfect evening tableaux at dusk. Also on the hilltop is the historic Yu Huang Ge temple. Once home to hundreds of Buddhist monks, the now-quiet sanctuary remains a worthwhile touristic site. Though it may be hard to believe looking at the lush hillsides, Hongshan was once a brown and barren mountain, until a decades-long reforestation campaign by the local government transformed it into a bastion of greenery at the heart of the city.

## Grand Bazaar and Erdaoqiao Neighborhood

Don't be fooled by the admittedly impressive traditional Central Asian architectural features – while the Urumqi International Grand Bazaar is clearly meant to look historic, it was in fact built in 2002. In many ways, this complex of attractive brickwork buildings is all but designed to be an overpriced tourist trap, but that doesn't mean it isn't worth a visit. Wandering the numerous stalls and corridors is a perfect way to give yourself a primer on some of the wondrous things that the region has to offer. Raisins from Turpan, melons from Hami, lavender from Yili, instruments from Kashgar, knives from Yengisar and jade from Hotan are all sold under the same great roof. For a small fee, you can also ascend the handsome tower at the bazaar's center, which offers instructive views of the surrounding neighborhood. Rather than buying anything here at inflated prices, venture out of the bazaar for a wander of the surrounding streets and alleys. Here in Erdaoqiao, the geographic heart of Urumqi's traditional Uyghur community, a very different side of city life is on display. Furthermore, many of the same products on sale at the bazaar can be found at the local Erdaoqiao Market for a fraction of the price.



## Xinjiang Museum and Loulan Mummies

Each provincial-level administrative division in China has a dedicated museum in its capital city and Xinjiang is no exception. In fact, the Xinjiang Museum just north of Urumqi's center stands out for its comprehensiveness, modern design and impressive rigor. Entry is free, of course, and special care has been taken to translate many of the signs and plaques into English. The Silk Road Exhibit outlines the unique role of this region as a trade corridor and vital cultural link between East and West throughout the centuries. Meanwhile, the Ethnic Nationalities Exhibit lays out the histories, customs and daily lifeways of all 13 of Xinjiang's distinct ethnic groups. The main draw, however, is none other than the museum's collection of Xinjiang's world-famous mummies. Among them, the haunting, decay-defying figure of the 'Loulan Beauty' stands out. Excavated in 1980 from the hot, dry sands of Loulan, this ancient woman's body, which lies prominently displayed in a glass case, is one of the oldest and best preserved in the world. Unlike Egyptian mummies, which are the product of deliberate and complex procedures intended to combat rot, the Loulan Beauty owes her well-preserved hair and features to the bone-dry conditions of the desert sands that formed her final resting place.





## Yangrouchuanr

Few sensations are more evocative of Urumqi than the smoky whiff of street-side shish kebabs roasting over coals on a balmy evening. The long steel skewers of bite-sized mutton morsels alternate tantalizingly between lean meat and fat. Sprinkled decadently with powdered chili and aromatic cumin, these iconic meat batons set a global standard for pleasure-on-a-stick. Best enjoyed with a cool, salty glass of Uyghur yogurt or soothing camel's milk to quiet the oral fires that they tend to kindle.



## Laghman

A delicious tradition that many believe represents wheat flour elevated to its highest possible form, *laghman* are hand-pulled noodles served with meat and vegetables – a dish that proudly straddles Hui Muslim and Uyghur cuisine. Watching the chef expertly stretch, swing and slap the dough into heavenly strands of starchy satisfaction is half the fun in ordering this Northwestern specialty. Find yourself having slurped down the last of your noodles but still have a plateful of savory sauce? Holler at your waiter to 'jiamian' and most Urumqi *laghman* joints will top you up with a reinforcement of fresh noodles at little to no cost.



## Dapanji

Elsewhere in China, there are few dishes more closely associated with the exotic Northwestern frontier than big-plate chicken, or *dapanji*. Here in Xinjiang, the dish is available far and wide – both in halal restaurants catering to the region's Muslim residents and the Chinese-style eateries popular among Han transplants. Local legend has it that this savory stew of chicken, potatoes, bell peppers, tomatoes and onions, seasoned with chilies and cumin, was first concocted in the 1990s by a Sichuanese migrant as something to serve to passing truckers plying the regions highways. Best enjoyed with a side of local *nang* flatbread, which can be torn up into doughy shards to soak up the stew's rich juices.



# TIANCHI

For all of its charms, Xinjiang's busy capital city can start to feel like a heaving, stifling scrum after a few days of intense exploration. Luckily, one need not travel far from Urumqi to get a taste of the pristine natural beauty that the region is known for.

Some will scoff that Tianshan, the famed 'Heavenly Lake' that sits like a crater of placid crystal in the depths of the misty Tianshan Range, has become so canonical a destination on the Chinese tourism circuit that a visit here must be tantamount to masochistic self-smothering under the weight of selfie-stick-

swinging throngs. Tianshan's fame and popularity, however, are nonetheless well deserved, and with a little finesse and creativity, it is not hard to dodge the huddled masses for a taste of alpine serenity.

A two-hour drive from Urumqi's city center will bring you to the gate of the massive nature reserve that contains Tianshan. Here, visitors will need to pay a hefty entrance fee before transferring to electric buses for an equally expensive 30-minute bus ride to the top (though hiking enthusiasts can attempt a highly strenuous

8-kilometer uphill trek to the summit).

Regardless of your chosen mode of ascent, the last stretch of road will need to be done on foot, and once the final ridge is crested and the lake comes into view, it's easy to see what all the fuss is about.

The bright, clear waters of this nearly 2-kilometer high crater-lake were first given their 'Heavenly' title by a Qing Dynasty military commander garrisoned in the area more than two centuries ago. Tianshan's surface spans roughly 5 square kilometers of frosty aquamarine and is more than 100 meters deep at its deepest point.

Take time to wander the banks of this breathtaking mountain lagoon. It won't take long before the crowds are far behind you and the silence of the high forest comes into focus. Small paths lead off to various smaller ponds and waterfalls and a picnic lunch can be enjoyed in the stony stillness.

Alternatively, the Kazakh families who still call the nature reserve home offer traditional home-cooked meals (albeit for a

heavily-inflated price). Tempted to stick around? Some shrewd negotiation can secure a berth in a Kazakh yurt together with dinner. It's not the height of luxury, but it's sure to be warm enough, and sleeping in a nomadic dwelling on the slopes of the Tianshan Range is an unforgettable experience which, despite the seemingly mismatched price tag, won't set you back any more than a night at a hotel in the city.



## How to Get There

Seats on coaches to Tianshan can be secured on the spot at the gate of Urumqi's People's Park. The two-hour journey takes you east towards the town of Fukang and then south towards the foot of the mountain. Budget RMB280 per person for round-trip transport and park entry fees.



# ARTS



## CINEMA CULTURE

The Tibet filmmakers gaining global recognition, p30



New Movies  
p28



The Kooks  
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Pick of Six  
p38

# LETTER RECORDS

## Founder of New Underground Label, Nick Cao, Looks to the Future

by Bryan Grogan

Nick Cao is a fixture on the Shanghai music scene, having previously been a main force behind excellent indie label Shengjian Records, as well as guitarist with cultish band The Cheers Cheers and a music producer. Nowadays, he's working with a new underground label called Letter Records. The label has already put out four releases in 2019, including one by the dreamy lo-fi duo Peking Picnic (named after the Ann Bridge novel of the same name) and, more recently, a gorgeously constructed EP from Pocari Sweet singer Siyu. We caught up with Cao to talk about his decision to leave Shengjian Records, his opinion on bedroom rock in China and upcoming plans for Letter Records.



### Why did you choose to leave Shengjian Records and start Letter Records?

I always want to make music that is more underground. Shengjian Records became more interested in growing its bands right now, whereas I have a more underground spirit when it comes to music. So, our ideas about music development weren't exactly the same.

### How many people are working on the label?

Just two. Me and a Guangzhou friend, the guitarist from Pocari Sweet, Jueer. We connected with each other online. He's responsible for the art and design side of things, while I'm responsible for finding bands and organizing releases.

### How do you find bands for your releases?

Usually I pick from among my friends' bands that I like, and then I find other bands online. For example, we found 2-D Foil online and then we contacted them. If they are interested, we ask them to send us a demo of their music.

### What's your opinion on underground music in China?

Shanghai's scene is quite big. There's quite a bit going on and a lot of big bands from outside come to Shanghai regularly. In Beijing, it has its own strong scene as well, while Guangzhou, I'm not too sure of. Bands down there really like DIY music and quite a lot of Hong Kong bands make their way over to Guangzhou.

### How do you record the music on the releases?

I like to make music in my bedroom, but, on my label, some of the bands prefer to make music in a studio. So, it's sometimes a mixture of both.

### Can you talk about when you started Letter Records?

We founded Letter Records around May of this year. We wanted to make a platform for underground music so that more people can find this type of music. We wanted to make music that is easy for people to listen to, not because people like music that is easy, but because we like making that music.

### Could you talk a bit about what you have lined up for Letter Records in the future?

In December, we are planning a performance at Yuyintang in Shanghai, details to come. We're also planning to release some more music. The bands that have already released with us – from Beijing, Chengdu and Guangzhou – are going to come to Shanghai to perform. Your Summer Dream, 2-D Foil, The Cheers Cheers as well as new jangle pop band with a Sarah Records-style called All The Romantic Days.

To learn more about Letter Records, scan the QR code:



# COLLAGE

COMING SOON



★ NOV 8 ★

## Pets United

This animated co-production between Germany and China sees a group of pets fight to save their owners from an evil would-be ruler who wants to replace humans with robots. Sure, it's unlikely to be as good as *The Secret Life of Pets*, but hey, it's an unusually slow month for Chinese film, and this one represents the best opportunity to bring the kids to the cinema this month.



★ NOV 15 ★

## Hunt Down

This historical crime thriller, starring *When Larry Met Mary* actress Jiao Junyan, sees a female police officer investigating her father, a history professor. Reading like a cross between the Nick Cage film *National Treasure* and the *Ocean's Eleven* series, the film follows Jiao's character as she attempts to find stolen national relics, in a case which sees her father positioned as a prime suspect.

TRANSCRIBED

**"I can really celebrate the life of my motherland with so many people. I am really touched! Me and my country can't be separated for a moment"**

That's what one Douban user said about patriotic smash hit *My People, My Country*. The film, which is divided into seven parts, celebrates the history of the PRC and was released alongside another pair of patriotic films, *The Captain* and *The Climbers*. The three combined to take home RMB630 million on just the first day of their release, obliterating the previous record for September 30 (RMB280 million).



## Hao

*Ne Zha* was announced as China's selection for Best International Feature Film at the 92nd Oscars. The animated blockbuster, which has raked in almost RMB4.7 billion at the box office, got the nod as China's submission ahead of sci-fi flick *The Wandering Earth*. Ninety-four countries sent submissions to the Academy for this year's awards, with a record 93 submissions accepted for consideration. The films will be considered by an official Academy Award selection committee, which will vote in a secret ballot to create a 10-film short list, before selecting five official nominees for the Oscar. The 10 short-listed films will be announced on December 16, with the cut to five nominees coming in January.



## Bu Hao

Celebrated Beijing hutong gallery Arrow Factory closed its doors at the end of September after 11 and a half years. The news came as art districts and galleries are struggling to survive in the capital city, with a number of artists evicted from the popular Luomahu and Huantie art districts in July. July also saw the unfortunate closure of Pace Gallery in Beijing's 798 Art District.





## Jin Xing

Jin Xing, or Venus in English, is a celebrated and highly acclaimed transgender dancer and choreographer from China. Having received recognition as a talented and prolific modern dance choreographer on the international stage, Jin returned to China and hosted two popular talk shows in Shanghai. Today, television viewers can see her as a judge on various talent shows, where she is well-liked for her detailed comments. Below, we give you five facts about the famed dancer.

1

### Top-Notch Dancer

Jin started dancing with a People's Liberation Army troupe as a 9-year-old, and learned modern dance in New York in her 20s. She has enjoyed a lifelong career as one of China's first-rate modern dancers.

2

### First Marriage

Prior to transitioning, Jin married her female roommate at the age of 28 while studying in New York. The marriage lasted for 10 years.

3

### Talk Show Host

Jin has hosted two successful talk shows, *Venus Mars* and *The Jin Xing Show*, both of which were aired on Shanghai Dragon Television.

4

### Mother of Three

Together with her German husband, the dance phenom has adopted three children.

5

### Hukou Dilemma

Due to her spouse's nationality, Jin was unable to register her adopted children under her *hukou*, China's 'internal passport.' She eventually chose to divorce her husband, although the two continued to live together afterwards, and eventually remarried.

# A TIBETAN TEMPERAMENT

Pema Tseden Stands At the Forefront of a Growing Contingent of Tibet Filmmakers

by Bryan Grogan

Tibet, a region of undeniable beauty, soaring mountain peaks and harsh landscapes, is becoming a vital center for cinematic experimentation in China. With established names and young directors cropping up with celebrated films at international film festivals around the world, Tibet has contributed some of the best Chinese art films of the past five years.

At the forefront of Tibet cinema is Pema Tseden, Beijing Film Academy's first-ever Tibetan student. Tseden was born in Qinghai in 1969 and studied Tibetan language and literature at China's first higher institute for minorities, Northwest Minzu University, formerly known as Northwest University for Nationalities, before going on to pursue studies in cinema.

Tseden broke onto the filmmaking scene with a bang in 2002, with his first movie *The Silent Holy Stones*. Like many of Tseden's films, this sparse tale follows a curious and passionate lama (a teacher of the dharma in Tibetan Buddhism) based in the Tibetan region. *The Silent Holy Stones* picked up an award for Best Directorial Debut at the prestigious Golden Rooster Awards, while also snagging awards at smaller film festivals around China.

Tseden continued plying his trade in the industry, releasing a number of films following *The Silent Holy Stones*, but it was his 2015

feature, *Tharlo*, that catapulted him to global recognition, with the film premiering at the 72nd edition of the Venice Film Festival. While the film takes in topics ranging from solitude to modernization and beyond, it was notable for its low budget, a hallmark of Tibet filmmaking, which currently tends to revolve around arthouse cinema.

Speaking to this phenomenon, Tseden tells us, "Because of factors such as the market environment and the maturity of the film industry, the main body of filmmakers is still developing in the direction of art films."

This year, Tseden's new feature, *Balloon*, has been turning heads at film festivals around the world. Also debuting at the Venice Film Festival, *Balloon* has already picked up nominations at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards for Best Feature Film and Best Screenplay, joining other Chinese films like *So Long My Son* by Wang Xiaoshuai, *A First Farewell* by Wang Lina and *Dwelling in the Fuchun Mountains* by Gu Xiaogang. The film revolves around a farming family in the Tibetan region. The balloon in question is a condom, as the film takes place at the outset of China's one-child policy period in the early '80s, exploring complex questions of faith, family and society in the mountains of Tibet at the time. *Variety*, in its review of the film, called it poignant, vibrant and poetic with



literary strands, stemming from Tseden's background in literature. Tseden uses austere means to craft a gorgeous film based in a sparse region of the world. Talking about the story and the process behind making it, Tseden tells us, "The entire production cycle took more than a year, and the inspiration was accidental. One winter a few years ago, I was walking on the streets of Beijing and saw a balloon flying in the wind and I was attracted to it. It felt like a good one. The imagery of the film slowly made this image related to the Tibetan land and fictionalized the story."

While Tseden's name may be the most recognizable of those working with film in and around Tibet today, perhaps a result of profiles written on the director by the likes of the *New York Times*, *South China Morning Post* and more, his is certainly not the only one. A frequent collaborator with Tseden on his early films, cinematographer, screenwriter and director Sonthar Gyal has also been making waves for his own cinematic contributions since 2011.

Gyal's debut, *The Sun-Beaten Path*, tells the story of a guilt-ridden farmer who struggles after killing his mother in a road accident. The film was screened at the Vancouver Film Festival, and picked up the now-discontinued Dragons and Tigers Award for Young Cinema, which was given out to emerging directors from the Asia-Pacific region.





Fascinated by film as a child growing up in Tsolho Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Qinghai province, Gyal collected scraps of film as a youngster, even making his own makeshift projectors. He has also spoken about film culture in previous interviews, saying that there was just one cinema in his hometown while he was growing up.

This speaks to the idea that cinema and film culture in regions like Tibet and Qinghai province

is young and underdeveloped, with folks still experiencing a scarcity of cinemas. However, in recent years things have been improving dramatically, with more emphasis being placed on recording the life and daily rituals of people living in these areas, while also giving back to the community by way of festivals like First Film Festival, which takes place in Qinghai's capital, Xining, each year.





A previous participant at First Film Festival, Lhupal Gyal is another filmmaker who is shining a light on the culture of Tibetan minorities in China. Like Sonthar Gyal, Lhupal Gyal has previously worked with Tseden as an assistant director. His feature length debut came in the form of *Wangdrak's Rain Boots*, a story about the small joys of childhood. That film, surrounded by such simplicity, stole hearts around the world at globally renowned festivals like Berlin International Film Festival and Vancouver International Film Festival.

Lhupal Gyal's approach, creating a film that is distinctly about children and for children (and adults, as well), marks newer territory for Tibet film, straying away from more somber and austere topics explored by Tseden and Sonthar Gyal to create the lighthearted and bright *Wangdrak's Rain Boots*. A small step, but one that may prove influential in

opening up the scope of the region's minority art films. As we say, the number of filmmakers working on topics related to the Tibet region and people is by no means large, but those working within this small circle are optimistic for the future. Speaking to the continued development of Tibet film, Tseden tells us, "Tibetan film has experienced a development process from scratch in the past few years. Of course, this process is very difficult. But overall it is a very good thing. Now, some young people from different Tibetan areas are also working hard in this direction, hoping to use film as their future career, and hoping to gain some achievements and recognition in this field. This is good momentum for emerging Tibetan movies."



# RISE AND SHINE

Indie Rock Icons The Kooks Continue to Charm a Decade After Their Debut

by Valerie Osipov



The British rock renaissance that dominated the early 2000s gave birth to a number of iconic bands, such as The Libertines, Arctic Monkeys and Bloc Party. These groups have cemented themselves as essential 'landfill indie,' surviving the test of time and following us from playlist to playlist.

Among such groups is The Kooks. Formed in Brighton in 2004, the rockers first stole hearts with their debut album *Inside In/Inside Out* in 2006, which included darling tracks like 'Naïve' and 'She Moves in Her Own Way.' The pop record would come to define the feel-good sound of The Kooks, and was accompanied by such buzz (it went quadruple platinum in the UK) that the band went on to record a live acoustic version at Abbey Road Studios (you know the one) just a year later.

Their follow-up releases, 2008's *Konk* and 2011's *Junk of the Heart*, continued to charm, solidifying the band as a bright and breezy soundtrack for teenage youth, with upbeat guitar riffs and effortlessly catchy choruses about falling in and out of love.

Having gone through a few shifts in core members, including the departure of their original bassist and founding drummer Paul Garred, the band is currently comprised of vocalist Luke Pritchard, Hugh Harris on lead guitar and Alexis Nunez on drums.

After a decade of studio albums and experimenting with new sounds, followed by a three-year hiatus, the trio compiled a greatest hits record dubbed *The Best Of... So Far*, featuring sweet singles like 'Ooh La' and 'Junk of the Heart (Happy)'. Their latest album *Let's Go Sunshine*, which they put out last year, marked The Kooks' return to the spotlight and saw the beloved indie rockers continuing to experiment with styles.

This month, The Kooks embark on a China tour with stops in Beijing and Shanghai. We caught up with guitarist Harris to talk about the band's monumental music career and what it feels like being a glimmering emblem of indie rock nostalgia.

### What are you most excited for while touring in China?

This will be our third visit to China. [We're] looking forward to performing for all our fans and bringing love and positivity through our music. I also can't wait to eat traditional Chinese food and practice my Mandarin.

### Being a defining symbol of a nostalgic era of indie, how have you evolved as a band over the years?

It's an honor to be a source of nostalgia for a generation and we treasure that deeply, but it's also important to evolve and keep moving creatively. We have grown up with our fans and acquired some new younger ones along the way, but we have never sacrificed our identity to gain relevance to suit a new generation.

### Your first album, *Inside In/Inside Out*, was so formative and a smashing success. Do you often find yourselves trying to recreate that magic sound of your early material or embracing new directions?

That magic you speak of is something every artist tries to recreate. That's the juice and it needs squeezing regularly. Sometimes fruit is low hanging and sometimes it's not. This depends on many things being in place – mental health, a support network and inspiration.

### Speaking of *Inside In/Inside Out* – you recorded a live version of the album at Abbey Road Studios in 2005. Was that a dream come true for the band at that point?

Making an album as a band is a dream come true in any studio, and the opportunity to do so at Abbey Road was humbling. It's an expensive studio to work at, and you are consistently reminded of the achievements of projects that have happened there. It's sometimes hard to focus on what you are actually doing with all that looming in the background. It felt at times like we were recording in some kind of museum with a gift shop, not a studio. I would love to go back there 50 or 60 years ago and be a fly on the wall.

### *Let's Go Sunshine* came out just last year after *Hello, What's Your Name?* in 2015. What were The Kooks up to in that three-year gap between albums?

I spent that time traveling in India, meditating and doing yoga – getting the intention set in my life. I was young when we started the band, and I needed to do some catching up with things internally. I also worked lots on my solo record, which is going to come out early next year. It's kind of orchestral soul-pop music recorded in my spare time over eight years and across four continents.

### Most recently, you put out a new single titled 'So Good Looking' this summer, which undeniably captures that quintessential sound of your debut record. Tell us a bit about the track and what inspired it.

It's more of a return to format for us. We wanted to make something that was part of our refined essence and so we decided to almost pastiche ourselves. Our fans loved it!

### What was it like putting together a greatest hits album so early in your musical career?

It was surprising and exciting to be asked to do that by our label and also extremely hard to pick the songs! I guess that's a good thing. People listen to music in compilations these days anyhow, cherry picking their way through catalogues on streaming platforms. I do feel young compared to other greatest hits artists, but I wouldn't describe that as a negative thing.

### Are there any older tracks you get tired of playing live?

Honestly, I never get tired of playing any [of our] songs (except perhaps in rehearsals). I don't allow myself to get bored of them live and personally, if I feel that emotion coming on, then I change what I'm playing to keep it interesting. That's my duty as a performer.

Thu Nov 14, 8.30pm; RMB320 (presale), RMB400 (door); Tango, 79 Hepingli Xijie, by South Gate of Ditan Park 东城区和平里西街79号 (近地坛公园南门) (tickets via 247tickets.com)

# INDIE FILMMAKER

Drago Lazetich Chats About His Projects, *Shanghai Story* and Blockbuster Film *The Eight Hundred*

by Bryan Grogan

Drago Lazetich, a Serbian filmmaker who grew up in the US, arrived in Shanghai for the first time in 2004. During his time in the city, he has worked on a number of projects, including the TV show *Wise Hit*, as well as the controversial *Little Milo*, which focuses on a gay man whose political opinions and erratic behavior stirs concern. Lazetich's approach to filmmaking, which he calls 'red pill filmmaking,' has also stirred controversy. While the term red pill has certain connotations, he maintains that this name is not political, but directly associated with *The Matrix*, and his own wish to make films that do not stray away from difficult topics. With the upcoming release of *Shanghai Story*, in which Lazetich plays the main role, and the expected release of epic war film *The Eight Hundred*, in which Lazetich plays the role of a journalist, we sat down to speak to him about his life in film and what we can expect from his new projects.



For *Shanghai Story*, my main role is as an actor. It originated as a short film about four years ago, and was really well received. Our director Andrej Iliev wrote the short, shot it, edited it and is the mastermind behind *Shanghai Story*. When we had the opportunity to do a feature film, he already had the script ready. For the feature we have a bigger budget; we actually have a crew now. The short was just me, Andrej and Emilie Ohana running around Shanghai. In the film, I play a writer that's unhappy with life, who's an alcoholic and is experiencing some internal demons, which we all have. He meets a lady who represents an angel. The film takes place over the course of one night.

The story represents a journey through Shanghai, and through this journey they're discovering each other and themselves. They talk about each other, about their personal lives and their problems. Regardless of whether the actors are foreigners or Chinese people, it's a human story, everyone relates to struggles and self doubts.

For *Little Milo*, I've heard people from left-leaning film festivals say that they can't take it because of the ending, because of what it is saying, and that's ok. I think in the future it will be a cult classic. And here's the thing – if you want to know if your film is good, and your art is good, don't ask your friends, don't ask your relatives, ask somebody who has no dog in the race. In other words, ask a total stranger.

I'm in a film called *The Eight Hundred*, which is based on the 1937 Battle of Shanghai. I play a journalist called Tony, who is recording the whole battle, I use my camera at times to block myself from Japanese soldiers that are trying to shoot me down. Honestly, I think that the fact it got pulled from the Shanghai Film Festival, and the whole media coverage that accompanied that, makes it a blessing in disguise. It's an amazing film. I was filming for 22 days for my role, it was amazing, because I was doing something I like. Since it was pulled I'm not sure what they've cut and how much I'll be in it, but I'm really looking forward to it.

## MUSIC CORNER

### Three New Homegrown Albums on Our Radar This Month

by Bryan Grogan

#### ***Phantom Rhythm* by Gong Gong Gong**

Made up of guitar and bass duo Tom Ng (The Offset: Spectacles) and Joshua Frank (Hot & Cold), Gong Gong Gong formed in Beijing in 2015, playing in DIY spaces around the city and building a cult fan base. *Phantom Rhythm* is the clearest representation and most digestible album that we have gotten from the pair thus far. They lock onto the mystique of blues here, grating the sound down to its bare bones at times, summoning the phantom sound of percussion throughout, with Tom Ng singing in Cantonese on all of the album's 10 tracks, adding again to the mystery that the band has built around themselves. Tracks like 'Some Kind of Demon' allow a certain space around Ng's vocals, so that they echo, as if from some desolate stage. This is beautifully done, considering the duo are beloved for their excellent live shows. Meanwhile, the interplay between bass and guitar, with the bass setting the tone for large portions of the album, is infectious, clear, minimal and easy to hang on to and never let go. They keep song lengths at around five minutes or less for the most part, and cram a bunch of quirky hooks into each song, making *Phantom Rhythm* an extremely enjoyable listen.

Scan the QR code to listen:



#### ***Fury* by C.O.W. 牛**

This enigmatic group made up of four artists from China and Germany are back with their latest EP, *Fury*, which is apparently the second element of an upcoming album, after their previous release, *Epic*. It's hard to find much information on the group, but they are signed to iconic German label Compost Records, and the four artists in the group have coagulated their personalities into one, which certainly is an interesting step in terms of building the group's brand. While the name of this EP, *Fury*, seems to indicate anger or disenchantment, it's not necessarily reflected in the music, which, although exciting and danceable, does not sound overtly menacing to us. The EP opener, 'General Ling' gets straight to the point with a few vocal strands playing over each other. They go between English and Chinese lyrics as they seem to build a personality around General Ling Da Jie (General Ling Big Sister). 'Gang Brain' goes in another direction, reveling in thick bass beats – there are no vocals on this one, which allows for some interesting kettle drum sounds and a certain sense of voyage, seemingly more concerned about depicting an atmosphere. It's a nice bridge to the record's final track 'Swear,' which again lifts the intensity, this time introducing a male vocalist rapping in Chinese. The album as a whole combines a variety of strands of music, like trap, grime, dancehall and EDM in parts, but is largely a snippet of what we should eventually find on their debut album when it comes.

Scan the QR code to listen:



#### ***Arthropods* by 33EMYBW**

What is an arthropod? For 33EMYBW it is the isolated form of a mythical Jewish figure called a Golem. Perhaps, then, we should view this release as a follow-up to the producer's excellent 2018 release, *Golem*, which, like *Arthropods*, appeared on Shanghai label SVBKVLT. Made up of seven tracks and three remixes by Hakuna Kulala's Don Zilla, NAAFI's Lechuga Zafiro and Hyperdub's Ikonika, a crop of producers that once again prove SVBKVLT's excellent outreach in global underground music, *Arthropods* is a gentle horror show, giving us gorgeous bell-sounds in parts and tortured screams in others. 33EMYBW is awesome at this, combining these bipolar ideas seamlessly, making an album that would get the dance floor hopping, but would also not feel out of place as a film score. 'Symmetry' opens *Arthropods*, looping gently at an easy pace, using robotic vocals and high-pitched synthesizers to set a bulbous oceanic scene. 'Tentacle Centre' follows and tears away this veil, immediately using hard, fast synthesizers to emote alarms, buttons being pressed, commotion, the arrival of something unfortunate. Later, 'Arthropods,' which features Li Jianhong, straddles a thin line, pacing us like victims in a dark and spooky hallway. While the album could certainly be read as a narrative, you can also take excellent tracks like 'Arthropods' and 'Adam Bank' as singular entities. The diversity that this album offers again affirms our love for 33EMYBW.

Scan the QR code to listen:





**Yan Bing, 'At First the Weather Was Fine'**

Through Nov 11, ShanghART



**Ma Kelu, 'Take a Vacation'**

Through Dec 31, EGG Gallery

# PICK OF SIX

# ART

# EXHIBITIONS

For gallery information visit [www.thatsmags.com/beijing](http://www.thatsmags.com/beijing)

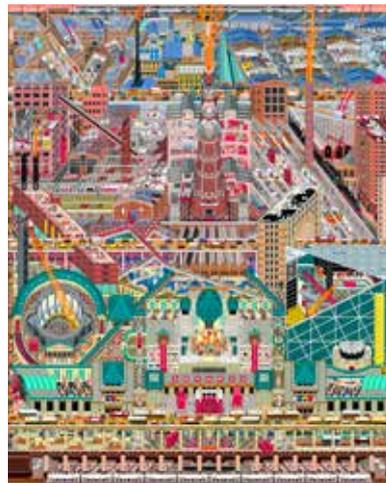
**Anish Kapoor, Solo Exhibition**

Through Jan 1, CAFA Art Museum



**Gao Yuan, 'Look Back into the Sun'**

Through Nov 16, Today Art Museum



**Group Exhibition, 'B-Side'**

Through Nov 27, George V Art Center



**Sarah Lucas, Solo Exhibition**

Nov 2-Feb 16, Red Brick Art Museum

# CITY SCENES



Hotel Jen Beijing recently collaborated with Beijing Design Week to launch the Jen-Why Art project. As one of Beijing Design Week's Chaoyang venues, the hotel worked with a number of young Chinese artists to create a project that focuses on dynamics between people and nature, showcasing the possibilities in art with detailed explanations for the audience.



Oktoberfest at Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center featured true traditions like a beer-tapping ceremony during opening night from a classic wooden keg, and evenings filled with pretzels, sausages and pork knuckles. The Alpine Bavarian Band from Germany provided comical interactive performances, folk tunes originating from Bavarian classics and even international pop songs in Chinese.



Founder Dr. Shaolin Hong announced that **Beijing Zell Cosmetic Clinic** will become one of the first clinics authorized to administer Restylane Lyft hyaluronic acid in China during a press conference at the Millennium Hotel in Beijing, marking its official entry into the Chinese market.



Before **Jing-A's 8x8 Brewing Project** at Langyuan Vintage last month, visiting breweries had the chance to do some sightseeing around the city. The brewers explored some of the most famous sites, took pictures with traditional architecture and enjoyed the last vestiges of summer before serving excellent brews to the craft beer lovers of Beijing.

# THE BORDERLAND

Dispatches from the Edge of China



# LANDS



China tops a lot of lists, from population to hydroelectricity production, longest high-speed railway to most Olympic gold medals in table tennis. Another category in which the PRC is undisputed champion is the world's longest continuous land border.

The Middle Kingdom's quasi-chicken-shaped outline stretches for over 22,000 kilometers and separates the nation from 14 independent states (another number one): Afghanistan, Bhutan, DPRK (North Korea), India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Vietnam.

China's borders, aside from being a literal political and administrative dividing line, tell stories of shared cultural practices, food-stuffs, history and – in more recent times – development. They are fascinating regions to explore and offer insight not only into the nuances of China itself, but also into life on the other side of the line.

In the pages that follow, we explore the PRC's borders with Mongolia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

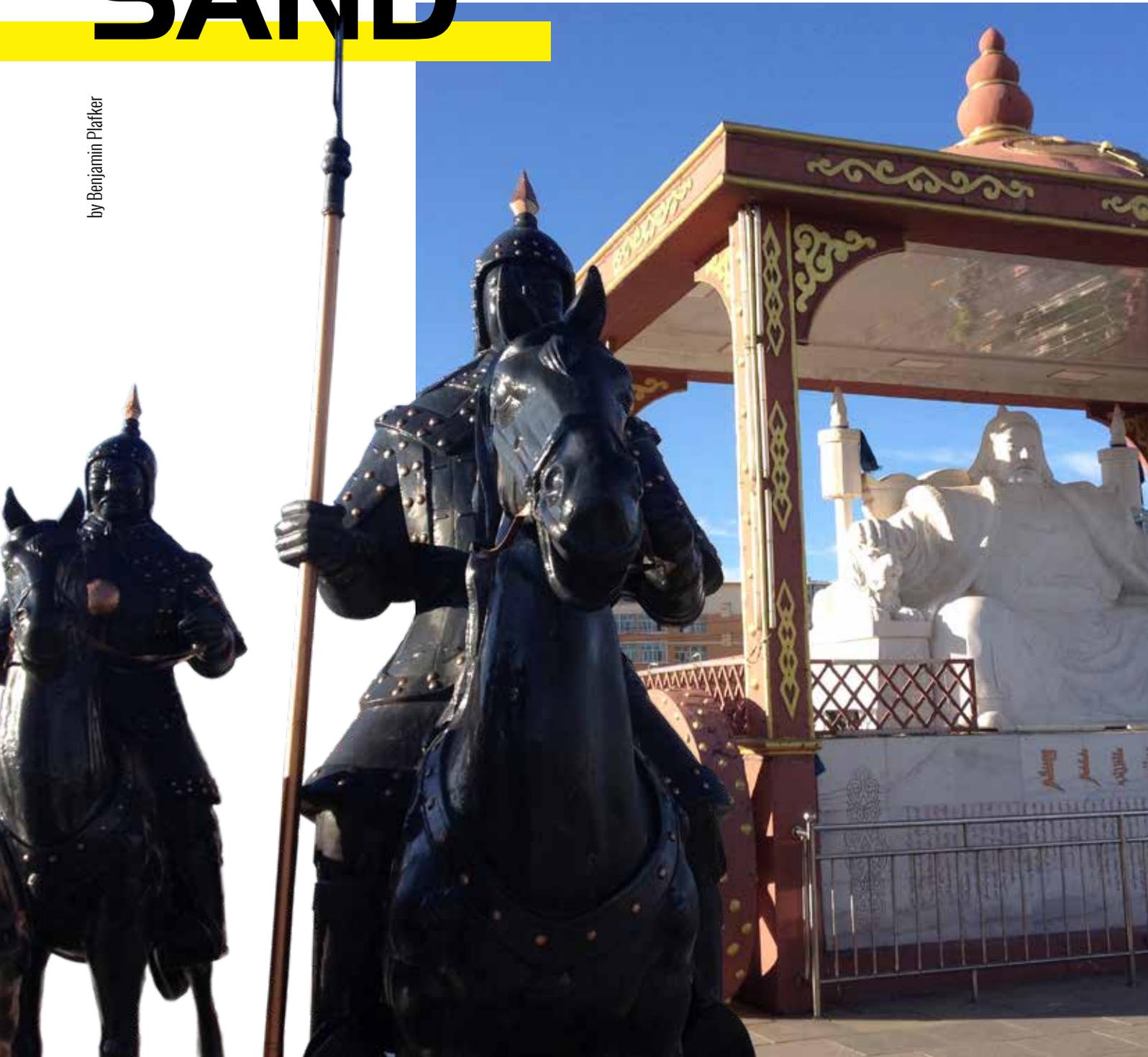
# A LINE IN THE SAND

by Benjamin Plafker

“

The border is quite literally a line in the sand, and the broad streets of Zamiin Uud seem to be in a constant tug of war with the Gobi Desert

”



## PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA – MONGOLIA

North Asia is big sky country, which, as it usually does in this world, goes hand in hand with being long-border country. Indeed, four of the world's 10 longest land borders are to be found here, including the 4,630-kilometer stretch that separates the People's Republic of China from Mongolia – China's longest land border.

The border is shared by three of China's administrative regions: Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Gansu province and, of course, Mongolia's main Chinese neighbor, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, where the crossing at Erenhot is located.

Erenhot, and its Mongolian neighbor Zamyn-Uud, are by no means nowhere, but the journey there certainly feels like that's where you're heading. My first trip there is a mostly successful hitchhiking journey from Zhangjiakou in Hebei province, a trek of nearly 500 kilometers, first through the vast expanses of Chahar Banner's Right Flanks, then through the vaster expanses of the western reaches of Xilingol League (the region's violent history of conquest and reconquest left its mark in the form of super cool administrative titles, with banners and leagues instead of counties and prefectures).

Rides are plentiful until arriving at Chahar Youyi Houqi (come for the China-Mongolia-Russia trade fair, stay for the beautiful sunset, and avoid the sheep-gut soup, if you please), where I am informed that I can either wait for the vegetable truck that ventures north once a week, or ride the night train to Erenhot. I choose the latter.

Erenhot is a trading town of 75,000 people that, as is often the case with border towns, feels quite different from other cities of its size. It is where the Trans-Siberian Railroad changes gauge, and indeed it gives the impression that it is a city accustomed to translation: Chinese, Mongolian and Cyrillic script can be found on most business signage in the city, and the *shushus* have a look in their eye that tells me I'm not the first foreigner they've encountered. Many speak Russian and have lived or done business internationally.

The city found its place on the map with the opening of the border to international trade in 1992, and in 2002 when the Dinosaur Fossil Museum was rebuilt and modernized. In that year, the Deputy Secretary of Inner Mongolia's Party Committee declared that "dinosaur culture is the pride of Erenhot." For an alternative tourist attraction, check out the trade center, where you can find myriad products from Russia and Mongolia conveniently located near a park with some dinosaur-shaped bushes, providing visitors in a hurry a quick taste of Erenhot's prehistoric pride.

It costs roughly RMB100 to ride a Jeep from the Erenhot train station to Zamyn-Uud. Drivers stop first at the Chinese border station (get your

official, mint-condition exit stamp, fellow tourist-visa holder!) and then at the Mongolian border station. In my transport, I am accompanied by university students from Mongolia who are studying in Beijing. When I ask about their lives in China their answers are confusing; as they rearrange the many domestic appliances they're bringing home as gifts from their lives south of the border, they struggle to describe their opinions of China. They tell me that in the past they'd have preferred to go to Korea, but in recent years China's advantageous position in the global economy is hard to ignore.

We arrive in Zamyn-Uud and the difference between a country of more than a billion and a country of three million is glaring. The border is quite literally a line in the sand, and the broad streets of Zamyn-Uud seem to be in a constant tug of war with the Gobi Desert. It is smaller and quainter than Erenhot, but a great window into Mongolia for those who do not wish to continue north through the desert.

There are a number of restaurants in the main plaza where you can buy *khoshoor*, Mongolia's fried version of *jiaozi*, filled with meat or potatoes, or, if you're lucky, somebody might whip you up a plate of *tsuivan*, a Mongolian thick noodle dish (similar to *chaobing* in China). If you prefer to take advantage of Mongolia's ample empty space, grab yourself some bread and cheese at the grocery store and you've got a picnic.

While Mongolia is famous for its meat consumption, in the summer months dairy is the main nourishment, and the variety of cheeses, yogurts, creams and butters is astonishing. Grab some *airag*, fermented mare milk, to wash it all down, or rub it into your skin if you want to trap some summer heat to last through the winter.

For those who do wish to continue on, the train to Ulaanbaatar departs in the evening and treats passengers to a glorious Gobi Desert sunrise upon awakening. Mongolia's train culture is quite different from China's: Cleanliness standards are higher, and I was treated to a Mongolian dubbed version of *Back to the Future*. But perhaps I got lucky.



# PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA – DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The People's Republic of China and Democratic People's Republic of Korea's diplomatic history dates back to October 1949, when the two newly founded republics established diplomatic relations. Roughly a year later, China would come to the aid of the DPRK during the War to Resist US

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There is simply the end of one country, a river, then the start of the other ”

Aggression and Aid Korea, a conflict more commonly referred to in the West as the Korean War.

Today, the PRC and the DPRK are two of five self-proclaimed communist states still in existence, and relics of the conflict still dot the two nations' 1,416-kilometer border.

Perhaps nowhere is this more apparent than in Dandong, a city of well over two million people that lies directly across the Yalu River from the Korean city of Sinuiju. Along the waterfront in Dandong, the famous Yalu River Broken Bridge (wrecked as a result of US bombing in February of 1951) stands as a stark reminder of the two countries' forged-in-blood relationship.

The Broken Bridge itself is something of a tourist attraction these days, with visitors from across China and Asia at large coming to gawk at the 108-year-old structure, which was built by the Empire of Japan, and catch a glimpse of life on the other side of the Yalu in the DPRK.

Tourists can also check out a number of Korean War-era anti-aircraft guns, along with a monument to Peng Dehuai, the Chinese general who led the People's Volunteer Army – the Chinese force that fought to aid Korea.

When I visit the bridge on a crisp and clear March afternoon, Sinuiju appears frozen in time. The city's iconic, unmoving Ferris wheel is visible from the viewing station at the bridge's abrupt, broken end, as is a giant, circular concrete structure that experts are speculating may one day be a hotel. A man rides along the Sinuiju riverfront on a bicycle, but aside from him, I see no other signs of life. There is, however, much more action on the Chinese side of the Yalu.

Situated roughly 100 meters upstream from the Broken Bridge is the Sino-Korean Friendship Bridge, which accommodates trains and vehicles traveling between the two nations. According to Simon Cockerell, the general manager and a tour leader at Koryo Tours – a leading North Korea travel company – this is the most popular crossing for tourists traveling overland into the DPRK. (Other crossings between China and North Korea do exist, while there is a single rail crossing between Russia and the DPRK.)

Next to the bridges, hawkers sell Korean trinkets, from Kim Il-sung and Kim Jong-il pins and DPRK currency to Korean cigarettes and booze, and slow boats depart from a dock to cruise the marine border between the two countries.

Along the road that runs the length of Dandong's riverfront, and on the roads immediately behind it, are a myriad of shops selling imported Korean goods, as well as a number of restaurants specializing in food from both the northern and southern portions of the Korean peninsula.

One of these restaurants is particularly conspicuous. The windows are blacked out with heavy curtains, and the only view inside from Binhai Gong Lu (which runs parallel to the Yalu River) is through the establishment's small rotating glass door.



# THE GREAT COMMUNIST DIVIDE

by Matthew Bossoris



When my wife and I enter the eatery for dinner we are immediately greeted by a tall, strikingly beautiful Korean woman proudly adorned with a DPRK flag pin. Inside the mostly empty restaurant, television screens play news programming from south of Dandong, with Marshal Kim Jong-un featured prominently in much of the reporting.

The menu features a mishmash of Korean fare; bibimbap, kimbab, kimchi and the famous 'Pyongyang cold noodles,' and dishes arrive quickly. Prices are reasonable and service is much friendlier than I'd been led to believe it would be for a Westerner. The staff, one in particular, are also extremely inquisitive, asking questions about my home country and 2-year-old daughter. Even marriage came up in conversation.

"Are foreign men nice – do they make good husbands?" our waitress asks my wife in Chinese. After explaining, in cliché form, that good and bad folks reside just about everywhere, my wife asks the server, who appears to be in her early 20s, if she can marry someone from outside her country. She silently shakes her head and our conversation comes to a close. I pay the bill and we head into the night.

A post-dinner walk along the riverside promenade lays bare the major difference in development and infrastructure between Dandong and Sinuiju. The Chinese side of the Yalu is brightly lit up, with restaurant signage, hotel lights and a steady flow of vehicle and human traffic. On the Korean side: complete and total blackness.

The following day, a hired car takes me along the border and out of the city. We pass a section of the Great Wall, followed by long stretches of metal fencing crowned with barbed wire. Occasionally,

signage informs people on the Chinese side of the border to refrain from interacting with folks on the other side of the line.

After driving for about half an hour, my driver stops to purchase cigarettes at a small house-cum-shop located directly across from the border. I take the chance to ask the smoke salesman about his interactions with DPRK residents at the border fence.

"I don't really see people coming to the fence from the Korean side very often anymore. In decades past, Korean people – including military personnel – would sometimes come to the fence to trade and sell stuff," the shopkeeper tells me. "Chinese people would sometimes cross over the fence into Korea to purchase goods. But not anymore; security is much tighter these days."

Another 20 or so minutes from the shopkeeper's abode and we arrive at a ferry dock, where boats regularly depart to cruise the rural Korean shoreline – away from the relative development of Sinuiju. We board one of the vessels and huddle on the top deck alongside a mishmash of Chinese and Japanese tourists.

The choppy boat ride – which some have fairly argued qualifies as a human safari – takes us distressingly close to the DPRK, at times coming within a couple of hundred meters of small villages and pastel-blue watchtowers. People too are visible, walking and biking along the small road that crosses the hilly terrain and connects the rustic settlements that line the Yalu River.

While already common knowledge, the boat ride confirms that life on the North Korean side of the border is vastly different from the PRC.

"[The DPRK and PRC] are completely different, frankly. There is not the kind of fade and gradual merging that defines the borders in most other places," says Cockerell. "There is simply the end of one country, a river, then the start of the other."

# BORDER BOOM TOWN

by Matthew Bossons

**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA – LAO  
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

“

Until 2011, Boten was a certifiable casino boomtown, with gambling halls, brothels, KTVs and nightclubs ”



When we arrive at the border post in Mohan, on the Chinese side of the China-Laos border, it is well after dark. The hustle and bustle of daily foot and vehicle traffic has slowed, and only a handful of women linger around outside the customs checkpoint, hawking SIM cards and offering currency exchange services.

And while the buzz of cross-border commerce and trade seems to have slowed by 8.30pm, a duty-free shop remains open, as does a large building packed with vendors selling jade jewelry and hand-carved wooden furniture. There are no customers though, just us.

Clearing Chinese customs is relatively quick, with the border agent asking the regular questions before stamping our passports and pointing us in the direction of the entry checkpoint for the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR).

On the 200- to 300-meter walk to the next checkpoint, it becomes abundantly clear that we're on the frontier. There are no street lights, and dense jungle-y shrubbery abuts the pot-hole stricken, occasionally unpaved road. Cell phone flashlights are essential.

Customs clearance on the Laos side is comparatively different: The clean and shiny customs hall, airport-style bag scanners and facial recognition tech we experienced leaving China are notably absent. Instead, we are greeted by a dimly-lit, musty customs hall and seemingly disinterested border agents. (The customs officers are so lax, in fact, that they *actually* let us walk back through the customs checkpoint after already entering Laos – to retrieve a forgotten bottle of duty-free vodka, of course.)

Outside the customs hall – which is ornately shaped like a giant golden stupa, we discover that it's even quieter than on the Chinese side. No hawkers, money changers or motor taxis, just a long, dark dirt road leading to the Laos border town of Boten.

Big things are happening in Boten, and it may very soon be difficult to refer to the settlement as a 'town.' Declared a 'Specific Economic Zone' (SEZ) in 2003, Chinese businesses have moved in to help develop the area





as part of Chinese President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative.

Considered a piece of President Xi's flagship infrastructure project, Boten will become the first stop inside Laos along the Laos-China railway network, which will connect Kunming to the Laotian capital of Vientiane. The route will be part of the Kunming-Singapore Railway, otherwise known as the Pan-Asia Railway Network, and is expected to eventually link China to all of mainland Southeast Asia. It is currently anticipated that the Lao section of the transportation network will be completed in 2021.

But there's more to Boten than railway construction; Chinese-financed hotels, apartment complexes and tourist attractions – including a jungle park and 'ancient city,' are all planned or currently under development, according to promotional brochures from Yunnan Haicheng Group, the SEZ's main developer.

As a result of the ongoing construction work, "80% of Boten's current population is Chinese," estimates a local bar owner we spoke with, who originally hails from Xi'an.

While there are a number of hotels scattered around the growing town center, the one we end up in is new, fancier than we're used to and clearly catering to Chinese visitors. Check-in staff are Chinese and rooms are paid for in *renminbi*. The only Laotian people we encountered in the hotel were working in the deserted breakfast buffet restaurant, which served – you guessed it – Chinese food.

The morning after our arrival, we set out to explore the SEZ in the light of day. The scale of the development is unquestionably massive, with towering, half-built apartment blocks wrapped in scaffolding dotted around town. Surrounding Boten, a massive swath of clear-cut red earth is traversed by excavators, tractors and trucks – presumably preparing the next stage of the settlement's building boom.

During our gallivant through town, we see the occasional group of Chinese tourists, and there are numerous small bars and Chinese restaurants catering to the visitors. But overall, there is a slightly sleepy feel to

Boten. It wasn't always this way, however.

Until 2011, Boten was a certifiable casino boomtown, with gambling halls, brothels, KTVs and nightclubs – all the trappings of a weekend getaway for cashed-up Yunnan residents looking for a walk on the wild side.

According to the *New York Times*, debauchery debuted in the city back in the early- to mid-2000s, when a company registered in Hong Kong signed a 30-year lease to develop the town into a tourist destination. This largely revolved around gambling, though, and by 2010 reports began to emerge that casino operators were locking up visitors who were unable to pay their debts. Government pressure mounted, and in 2011 the casinos were shuttered: Boten's 'betting boom' had gone bust.

There are still signs of Boten's seedier past today, in the form of a couple of questionable drinking establishments, but there's little doubt that Boten has moved on: We do not see a single slot machine on our visit and locals tell us the gambling is truly and fully done.

The future now: development. According to statistics from the Ministry of Planning and Investment of LPDR, a total investment of USD500 million has been made in the Boten Beautiful Land Specific Economic Zone (the region's official name) and 100% of the development is being managed by Chinese firm Yunnan Haicheng Group.

In addition to tourism, sectors being developed include agriculture, livestock and manufacturing, as well as distribution logistics, telecommunications and public healthcare services.

Like many before us who've traveled to Boten, our time eventually comes to leave – to the temples, night markets and waterfalls of Luang Prabang. We board a southbound bus near the LPDR customs house, and as we cruise through town one last time, we can't help but think that if we ever do return to this far-flung frontier town, it will likely be a very different place.





“ If you want to experience the glory of paradise, visit this route ”

**PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA  
– ISLAMIC  
REPUBLIC OF  
PAKISTAN**

“Traveling from Kunming to Kashgar via Urumqi is full of wonders,” Tamoor Malik tells me via email, recounting his July 2018 journey from Yunnan province to Pakistan. “At one point, we were passing through rocky and hilly terrain, and then starts the desert – with red sand and strong winds. Windmills and crude oil pumping stations were a very common sight along the way, [showing] how energy-rich the area is.”

Malik is a 31-year-old university student completing a Masters in Statistics in Kunming since 2016. He originally hails from Ghakhar Mandi in Pakistan’s Punjab province, and has traveled across the PRC-Pakistan border twice. When he first meets me at a hotel buffet in rural Guizhou, his cross-border adventures are among the first stories the passionate travel enthusiast shares.

The main route crossing from China into Pakistan is a stunning stretch of asphalt known around the world as the Karakoram Highway (though it’s known in China as Highway 314). The road, which runs over 1,200 kilometers from just north of Kashgar in China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region to Abbottabad, Pakistan, is occasionally referred to as the ‘Eighth Wonder of the World.’ The route is among the highest highways on the globe, and is surrounded by some of the most stunning and diverse scenery in Asia: Towering peaks and glaciers, roaring rivers, mountain meadows, you name it.

On the Chinese portion of the highway, travelers will pass two other international borders – the China-Afghanistan and China-Tajikistan lines.

The last notable settlement along the Chinese side of the Karakoram is Tashkurgan – the administrative seat of Tashkurgan Tajik Autonomous County. Set along the highway, Tashkurgan is inhabited by folks of the Tajik ethnicity, alongside a significant population of Han laborers, according to former *That’s* editor Daniel Plafker, who covered the region for our annual *Explore China* travel guide.

“The journey from Kashgar to Tashkurgan is like traveling in paradise,” says Malik. “It seems as if a painter has made a masterpiece with his eternal brush, containing trees, lakes, meadows, rivers and mountains.

“I traveled [the road] twice, once from China to Pakistan and once from Pakistan to China,” Malik continues. On his first grand overland adventure, Malik opted for the slow

# BORDER OF THE 'IRON BROTHERS'

by Matthew Bossons



train from Kunming to Urumqi, which took 45 hours. From there, he caught a 23-hour train to Kashgar.

"I was the only foreigner on board," says Malik, explaining that only himself and the train staff completed the entire journey. "All the locals were extremely excited to see me among them and everybody was trying to talk to me. They repeated the popular slogan 'Pakistan and China – Iron Brothers.'"

From Kashgar to the Pakistan border, he passed through Tashkurgan en route to Khunjerab Pass – the world's highest elevation border crossing. On the Pakistani side lies – *allegedly* – the world's highest ATM machine, a solar-powered cash dispenser operated by the National Bank Of Pakistan (NBP).

To cross the border into Pakistan from China, Malik notes that it is necessary to purchase an international bus route ticket with a passport, and that the Pakistan-China border crossing is closed on weekends (also public holidays in Pakistan and China, according to tour providers).

"You will have to show your ticket at [Chinese exit] immigration, which starts at around 10-11am," says Malik. "After you are done with immigration and have gotten the exit stamp in your passport, you will go to the other side of the customs hall, where your transportation will be waiting for you. You will have either a Pakistani or Chinese driver, depending on which ticket you have got."

Interestingly, the China-Pakistan border is very different than the other crossings discussed in this story – traveling between Chinese customs and Pakistani customs will take two to three hours. There is no immediate entry on the other side. On the Pakistani side, the customs and immigration office is based in Sost (or Sust), the last town before the Chinese border.

"On the Pakistan side of the border, immigration is very simple; they just ask you to open your luggage and show what you bought for your 'cousins and relatives.' That's all, no scanning," says Malik. "One picture, one stamp and you are free from the entry process."

From Sost, most travelers will continue down the Karakoram Highway (known in Pakistan as N-35) to Gilgit, which serves as a center for hiking and mountaineering excursions in the Karakoram Range.

When I press Malik on why people should venture this route into Pakistan, he has a simple answer: "If you want to experience the glory of paradise, visit this route."

# EAT & DRINK



**GOING UNDERGROUND**  
Alternative nightclub Arkham lands in Beijing, p56



**Mifan or Mafan**  
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**Turkish Feast**  
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# GETTING MODERATELY DEEP WITH...

## The Owner of a Small Japanese Restaurant

interview by Liu Yang

This month we meet Da Quan, who owns a very small Japanese restaurant in the CBD that has been running for 10 years.

**What's the first thing you thought when you woke up this morning?**

New day, new beginning! *Jiayou!*

**What is your idea of the perfect day?**

For me, it can't be better than getting compliments from new customers.

**Who is your best customer?**

The ones who enjoy our new recipes and new dishes.

**Who is your worst customer?**

Those who really don't understand Japanese cuisine and refuse to take advice.

**How are you feeling today?**

Pretty good – it's nice to have some lovely sunshine on a Monday, especially after a chilly weekend.

**When and where are you happiest?**

Right here, working in my restaurant with my dedicated team, I am the happiest.

**Which talent would you most like to have?**

They say practice makes perfect, but it would be much better if I had slenderer hands for video shoots – you know, when making sushi.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

This small restaurant has survived for more than 10 years in the CBD and some of our earliest customers continue to visit once in a while even though they no longer work or live nearby. We share many moments together here.

**If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?**

For time to slow down a little bit.

**What is your most treasured possession?**

The craftsmanship I live by.

**What trait do you most value in a person?**

Kindness and confidence.

**What is it that you most dislike?**

I hate noisy surroundings.

**What is your motto?**

No pain, no gain.

**Which era of Beijing's history would you most like to have lived in?**

The '90s, the early stage of reform meant plenty of opportunities and possibilities.

**Who is your hero?**

People who have dedication.

You can find Da Quan's restaurant Daban Shousi (Hongmiao), beside the Ciyunsi Fire Department in Chaoyang (朝阳区慈云寺消防队旁边大板寿司红庙店).

# GRAPE VINE

## SNACKS AND THE CITY

Autumn is a season of changes, and Beijing's bars and restaurants are following suit. As we pile on the layers and wait patiently for central heating this month, there are plenty of places to keep warm – and most offer booze and food.

Over in Lido, **Annie's** upscale Italian restaurant **Ponte** has unveiled a small 'secret' bar in its venue, where you can enjoy classic cocktail like negronis and quality whiskeys – essential for a breezy fall night.

**Tease by Creatures** is moving into new territory too, with fresh Chinese fine-dining concept **Ling Long**, located on the third floor of co-living space Stey in Sanlitun. Get a taste of classic Chinese dishes reimagined by Chef Jason Liu (two words: roast duck).

**Tribe** is embracing the chilly weather outside with a new menu full of comforting guilt-free goodies, like a light tomato soup with herb-infused breadcrumbs, a tuna-cauliflower based grain bowl, topped with grapefruit, orange and avocado, and a gluten-free smoked salmon cauliflower pizza with cream cheese, dill and capers.

Over in Sanlitun, cocktail joint **50/50** is rolling out autumn specials featuring drinks like the Yuja Punch, made with chamomile-infused rye whiskey, yuja tea marmalade, pineapple, lemon and honey, as well as punch bowls (serves 10-15 people). After celebrating its one-year anniversary, the bar is looking to add weekly themed events geared toward creating safe spaces to get your drink on: a 'femme' night (for the ladies in the house) and an LGBT night. **VO**

## NEWS BITE

### World's Best

Beijingers will be delighted to hear news that the best restaurant in the world resides in the Chinese capital – at least on one measure. Based on user reviews, TRB Hutong was ranked best restaurant worldwide according to TripAdvisor's 2019 Travelers' Choice Restaurant Awards. The restaurant was listed as number seven of the Top 10 Fine Dining Restaurants in the World last year, so this is quite a swift leap to the top. Founder and owner of TRB Group, Ignace Leclair, had this to say: "This year's award is so meaningful to me because we really have to keep our internal motivation to provide the best possible service strong and memorable. Gratifyingly, the team rallied and we proved ourselves worthy. I am so grateful to all of our guests for the overwhelming support we have received and for the new opportunities and challenges that await us. We are ready!" **HL**



## OFF THE BEATEN PLATE

We have to give the caffeine chemists at Coca-Cola credit: Their new apple-flavored beverage is a home run. Coca-Cola Apple dropped in Japan and China in September, and has generated considerable buzz since its release. Ever curious, the editorial team at *That's* snagged one of the gold- and red-colored bottles (which are tastefully adorned with apples, as they should be) to see what all the hype is about. Here's the rundown, without the hoopla: Coca-Cola Apple has a pleasant – yet not overpowering – apple flavor, and has a similar flavor balance to Coca-Cola Vanilla or Coca-Cola Cherry. If you are a fan of sodas, you will not be disappointed (well, maybe by the hefty price tag) – it's a hell of a lot better than Pepsi's most recent outings: Pepsi Raspberry and Salted Caramel Pepsi... **BL**

RMB19.9, 7-Eleven



MIFAN/MAFAN



## H3 Bar & Grill

The recently closed Blue Marlin, opposite the South Korean Embassy, has undergone a light renovation to reveal H3 Bar & Grill. With ample seating space and a pool table on the second floor, H3 is a casual place to snack on tasty pub grub and watch the latest sports game or listen to live music in the early evening. The menu is mainly focused on Western fare with some Asian flair, with fun offerings like sriracha chicken wings (RMB72), coated in house-made sriracha, and durian pizza (RMB78), a mix of fresh durian and mozzarella served on a thin crust pizza made from specially layered dough that results in a perfectly crispy crust.



Daily, 11am-2am; 4 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路4号 (6462 9976)



## Elephant Grounds

Located in Sanlitun's Taikoo Li, new cafe Elephant Grounds is pretty hip. With menu items like avocado toast (RMB72), colorful acai bowls (RMB62) and oozy eggs benedict (RMB78), it's a chic little breakfast spot for when you're in a hurry, but still have enough time to Instagram your meal. Though, the small but bright space makes for a cozy longer stay too, especially since it's on the quieter side of the busy Taikoo Li. We choose a dainty macchiato (RMB36), a nice pick-me-up for a late afternoon, but the crunch cake (RMB35), a Beijing special, is special indeed. The tall slice of airy and moist sponge cake, liberally coated with silky cream and chunks of lightly crunchy honeycomb, is not too sweet – and best enjoyed while watching your Insta likes roll in.

Daily, 10am-10pm; S5-15, Taikoo Li South, 19 Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯19号院太古里南区S5-15 (6409 4833)

## Moscow Restaurant Ice Bar

For those that can't wait for temps to drop, get yourself to Moscow Restaurant over by the Beijing Zoo. The lavish (we're talking gargantuan chandeliers and over-the-top golden accents) Russian restaurant has recently opened an ice bar out front where you can sip on vodka and taste some caviar, all while sporting an enormous fur coat and hat. The catch? In order to get inside, we are told we need to choose from the set menu, which ranges from RMB168 (vodka served in a shot glass made of ice and a dainty spoonful of caviar) to the regal RMB1888. After that, you can order from an a la carte menu of Russia-inspired cocktails, like a Moscow mule, of course. The bar itself is tiny – like, a walk-in closet version of Siberia – but it makes for a pretty cool (er, freezing) drinking experience. Oh, and did we mention there's an ice throne?

Daily, 10am-10pm; West Gate, Beijing Exhibition Center, Xicheng 西城区北京展览馆西侧门



## Berry Beans

Regular Sanlitun strollers may have noticed that hole-in-the-wall coffee spot Chunli Coffee has been rebranded into the smallest home of Berry Beans. The charming coffee house has mostly the same aesthetic as the previous tenant (new additions include a light-up red sign that reads 'Espresso' in the back), just offering their own beans and brews, like the brown sugar cinnamon latte (RMB38) and lychee iced coffee (RMB48), with a few cocktails on the menu as well. Step up to the counter to place your order, and watch as it's served to you through a tiny window below. There is minimal seating nearby as it's designed to be an on-the-go spot, so don't plan to stick around.

Daily, 11am-9pm; Nan Sanlitun Lu (Left of Honghongrun Supermarket), Chaoyang 朝阳区南三里屯路鸿宏润超市左边 (13811156224)



## LUCKY

### Roll the Dice

words and images by Mollie Gower

There's a new cat in Sanlitun – and it has four Pink Panthers gazing off the balconies. Yes, Lucky is a restaurant and bar themed around a hip casino that, er, plays country music? Flashy murals accent the place, with a few options for games: pool, roulette and craps. If you aren't feeling so lucky, they also have sports playing on TV screens to keep you entertained.

Reading through the menu, we notice that the food offerings are definitely meat heavy, with options for muscle-building diners. (When we dine, we don't have a body builder with us, so we can't confirm if the food on offer actually helps with muscle building.) Prices range from RMB40 all the way to RMB318 for food, while drinks are normally priced for cheap cocktails and beer.

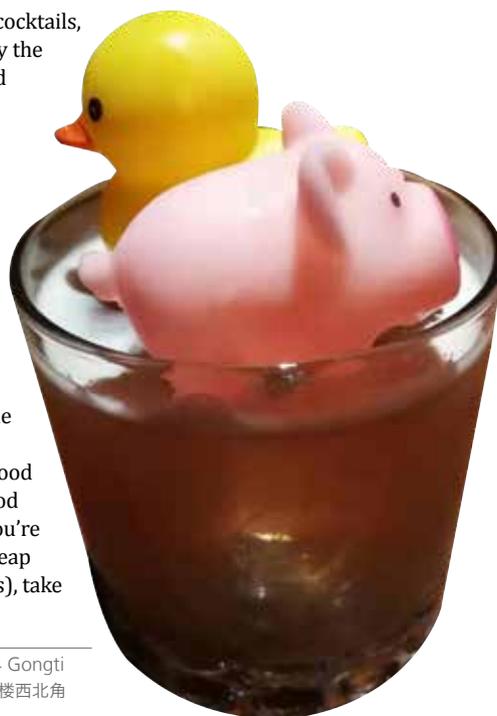
We try the mini burgers (RMB78), which boast four different buns: spinach, pumpkin, bamboo charcoal and beetroot. Overall, not bad. We're quick to move on to dessert and opt for the cheesecake (RMB58), our only complaint being that it had a bit too much crust. The food is alright, though we'll be tempted back for decked-out drinks like the Garbage Can (RMB158) – which says it's for two to four people to share – and the Bloody

Mary (RMB168), available in a variety of flavors and chock-full of appetizers.

The drinks range from standard cocktails, beers and nonalcoholic drinks. We try the Julia, the Lucky #8 (both RMB75) and a flight of local beers (RMB99) while we're at it. Both cocktails come with surprising extra garnishes: the Julia is served with squeaky toys, while the Lucky #8 features an edible design. The flight of beers comes in flasks that are more aesthetically pleasing than functional. The beer is tasty, but we highly recommend sampling the flight early on in the night.

Lucky has the potential to become a decent hangout. After all, it's got everything you need for a standard good time – boozy drinks, adequate bar food and a slightly funky atmosphere. If you're looking for a nice dose of Western cheap thrills (we're talking deep fried Oreos), take a chance on Lucky.

Daily, 10am-2am; 2F, Xibeijiao, Bldg 80, 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院80号楼西北角 2层





# TURKISH FEAST

## Sip and Dip

words and images by Curtis Dunn

The latest establishment to move into the trendy Xinyuan Xili complex in Liangmaqiao is Turkish Feast, a sister restaurant to the beloved Georgia's Feast. It's an excellent addition to the area that already features expat favorites boasting Japanese, Mexican and Peruvian cuisines.

The place itself is enchanting: The entrance is bejeweled with mosaic lamps and the entire decor has a strong Turkish feel. A blend of traditional and ostensibly Top 40 Middle Eastern songs blare throughout the restaurant, but it's hardly bothersome. Instead, it adds to the jovial atmosphere,

bolstered by TVs playing travel shows about Turkey and a staff of wonderfully kind men who seem to treat all of their patrons as family.

We start off with an assorted meze platter (RMB98) and chose a classic hummus, their spicy meze and, per one waiter's recommendation, the yogurt eggplant meze. All three would make any meze lover happy, but we especially enjoy the hummus, a relatively difficult product to find here in the 'Jing. Their spinach and feta pide (RMB78), flatbread made in their stone oven, is fine, although lacking in the feta department, and the chicken kebabs are served beautifully and taste even better, with a tangy side dish of yogurt that we end up dipping all of our food into. The highlight far and away is a Turkish-style lamb dish (RMB108) that nearly melts off the bone and is so well spiced and perfectly cooked that our mouths are still watering long after it's gone.

We sample some cocktails as well, with their signature Antalya (RMB78) and Passion Fruit Tequila (RMB68), highly recommended,

along with their delicious Georgian Saperavi wine (RMB 78 per glass). They even have traditional Turkish raki to sip on (although we don't necessarily encourage this one if you aren't familiar with the national liquor). The majority of the desserts were sold out, which speaks for itself, though they did have one in stock – semolina (RMB58), a sweet and simple sponge cake.

The prices edge toward unreasonable for the amount of food served (and beware: they charge you for extra bread, even when you are dropping nearly 100 kuai on meze,) but the food you get is fantastic. The atmosphere is unique and lovely, the food equally so, and with just enough kitsch to help it stand out in Beijing's crowded culinary scene, Turkish Feast is a feast well worth it.

Daily, 11am-10pm; 115, 1F, Shang, 20 Xinyuan Xili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源西里20号金尚一层115号





# ARKHAM

A New Beat  
by Valerie Osipov



Last year's import of hip-hop club Playhouse brought hope for a little more diversity to Gongti's oversaturated nightlife strip. Set next to all the seemingly identical hyped-up and ridiculously priced establishments, the newest landing is Arkham, an underground club from Shanghai.

The lit geometric and pink design of the exterior stands in stark contrast next to its grey neighbors like One Third and Sir Teen. Once inside, it's smooth sailing down the classic club checklist – a sizeable dance floor, lasers and flashing lights, tables with bottle service, an elevated stage, enthusiastic patrons dancing on unstable surfaces – you get it.

Arkham's main focus is to draw in more underground electronic artists and hip-hop acts than your typical club venue. The night we visit there's no one performing, but since its opening, the venue has reeled in up-and-coming hip-hop names like MadeinTYO and bigger fish like Jaden Smith, while its Shanghai counterpart has been graced with DJ sets by artists like Thundercat and Chromeo. We're hopeful.

The music is pulsing in every corner and the crowd seems to be full of young trendsetters and expats with money to throw around – the ideal scenario for people-watching. Prop yourself up at one of the sleek black tables with booth seating, which are scattered throughout the outer edge of the space, get comfy and watch your table fill with Jagermeister shots and fruit platters – a cosmopolitan pairing. Not to your fancy? Drink offerings feature liquor, champagne and cocktails of all kinds, from infused mojitos to classic sours (both RMB88).

There's also a labyrinth of VIP rooms in the back, though who are we kidding? We're not likely to be booking those anytime soon.

All in all, Arkham boasts a trendier edge – sure, it's not much of a departure from your generic club experience, but you can expect to hear more variety in the music selection and less of the tired Top 100 hits.



Daily, 9pm-6am; 6 Gongren Tiyuchang Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场西路6号 (6500 8888)

# BLUE FROG

## Dive In

**B**lue Frog is not an unfamiliar name for Beijing foodies. For more than a decade, it has been serving reliable burgers and happy hours in various locations throughout China. This autumn, a new contemporary American-style grill menu is on the table, offering creative combinations of dishes – in portions that are aplenty to share.

The Blue Frog grill festival platter is a feast with ribs, steak, salmon and many more. The beer-marinated ribs are fall-off-the-bone tender, the chicken stays juicy and the sausage succulent. Three kinds of homemade sauces bring new nuances to the flavors, a mix-and-match game that won't leave you bored.

The shrimp and cheese stuffed chicken breast is another surf-and-turf option worth trying. Sharp cheddar mixes with stretchy mozzarella, coating plump shrimps and juicy chicken, is a must to revisit if dairy is your weakness.

The Blue Frog homemade spicy beef burger turns up the heat with a Sichuan-inspired sauce, which gives an invigorating hit



as it mingles with the freshly grilled patties.

For lighter fare, the Thai-flavored roasted beef salad gives you more greens, in addition to crunchy shredded carrots and sweet cherry tomatoes, covered in Thai dressing and topped with tender steak slices.

The meat lovers in Beijing have plenty to choose from on this new menu, and those

looking for healthier dishes – like grilled miso salmon with steamed multi-grain rice – will be pleased to find lighter offerings served as well.

Daily, 10am-late; S2-30, 3F, S2 Tower, Taikoo Li, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号院2号楼3层 S2-30 (6417 4030)



# CRYSTAL BAR & LOUNGE

## Royal Tea

**W**hen we heard that The Palace Gift, a jewelry brand authorized by The Palace Museum Cultural Products and Services, has ventured out into the world of afternoon tea, we just had to see for ourselves.

Bringing the embodiment of Chinese royal flair, it has partnered with the pastry team from The Ritz-Carlton Beijing, Financial Street

to create delicious desserts inspired by pieces from The Palace Museum collection. The Palace Gift-themed afternoon tea (RMB599), available from 2-5pm daily until November 20, features four designs of sweet delights on silver tray, alongside the hotel's staple savory snacks.

Inspired by the Qing dynasty emperor's garment and hat, the banana hazelnut chocolate cake has a blue outer layer and golden 'pearl' balanced precariously on top of its red dome. The caramel cappuccino cream's light grey coating is based on the wall around Forbidden City, while the lady on chocolate tile on its side is inspired by a painting from the collection.

Another painted masterpiece has been recreated into the eye-catching cherry and lychee crèmeux, with meticulously detailed cheongsam buttons on its sides, the white chocolate and citrus mousse with apricot is complete with the most adorable little bird perching on its edge, accompanied by another golden 'pearl.'

All the dainty details make using a spoon seem barbaric, and breaking into the intricate desserts is almost painful. But the creamy texture and sophisticated flavors make it worthwhile, and the swallow necklace and earring set that comes with the afternoon tea doesn't hurt either.

2pm to 5pm daily, now to Nov. 20; 1F, The Ritz-Carlton Beijing, Financial Street, 1 Jinchengfang Dongjie, Xicheng 西城区金城坊东街1号北京金融街丽思卡尔顿酒店1层 (6601 6666 ext. 6231)



# CRU STEAKHOUSE

## A Prime Example

In a city where everyone is constantly on the move, it's crucial to find a little slice of luxury where we can unwind and treat ourselves to the finer things.

Located in the heart of it all – in the buzzing CBD – JW Marriott Hotel Beijing is just the spot to do so. And just in time for your sweet escape, the hotel's premier CRU Steakhouse is launching a new menu on October 21, full of rich offerings that are the perfect pick-me-up for the breezy autumn evenings.

Start light with an arugula salad, with fresh strawberries and Italian buffalo cheese (RMB108) and move on to more lavish plates like the CRU Prime Ocean Platter (RMB538 for two people), complete with grilled Jumbo Shrimp Alexander, tender deep-sea scallops, lush crab cakes and plump grilled oysters. It's meant for sharing, though we're not sure you'll want to once you feast your eyes on the decadent display.

A fragrant baked five-onion soup (RMB108) follows, enhanced with cheese and both red and white onions, and made more aromatic with a garnish of scallions. Every

simmering spoonful bursts with rich flavors. Looking for something a bit more filling? Opt for the delightfully creamy Lobster Bisque instead (RMB168).

CRU Steakhouse's pride and joy is its signature steak. Sourced from Australia, the thick and tender cuts of beef are just the prize we need at the end of a long day. This particular menu features a center-cut ribeye steak (RMB738/450g), served with a bold and peppery cognac sauce made from South Asian pepper and aged cognac, and a side of vegetables. The steak is in its most divine form, cooked to medium, and juicy with every bite.

Dessert comes with a live show – the chef lightly flambés our CRU Laska, a meringue drizzled with Grand Marnier, for a delicate crunch and serves it with cool vanilla ice cream. It's crispy and light, leaving us with some room for CRU's New York Cheesecake, topped with a tart raspberry sauce, fresh raspberries and blueberries.

Daily, 6pm-10pm; CRU Steakhouse – JW Marriot Hotel Beijing, 83 Jianguo Road, Chaoyang CRU扒房, 北京JW万豪酒店朝阳区建国路83号 (5908 8530)



# EVERYTHING FAMILY EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.



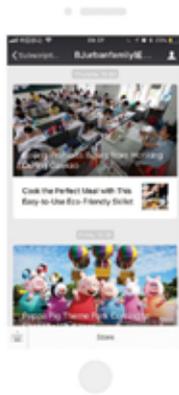
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TRAVEL



GUIDES



MUSIC



GIVEAWAYS

## GO ON, FOLLOW US.



urbanfamily  
BEIJING





### ● **BADBADNOTGOOD** Gig

Grounded in jazz but easily breaking down barriers to include hip-hop and electronica, Toronto's BADBADNOTGOOD is introducing their musical virtuosity to Beijing. They've counted Kendrick Lamar and Frank Ocean amongst their collaborators and can include Glastonbury and Coachella in their touring history. Words don't do them justice – let BADBADNOTGOOD's genre-bending jam session wow you. They'll be joined by supporting act BowAsWell, the first musician signed to the new label by party promoters Mastermind.

Thu Nov 21, 9pm; RMB180 (student), RMB220 (presale), RMB260 (door); Tango, 79 Hepingli Xijie, Dongcheng 东城区和平里西街79号糖果 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

### ● **Deafheaven** Gig



If you like your black metal with a side of shoegaze and garnished with post-rock, then Deafheaven is the band for you. Formed in San Francisco as a duo, Deafheaven has since grown into a quintet, releasing their landmark album *Sunbather* in 2013. The band's works have been critically and commercially successful, so join them on their tour as they mesmerize the crowd with screamo vocals and pounding beats with melodic guitars.

Tue Nov 19, 9pm; RMB160 (presale), RMB200 (door); MAO Livehouse, G23 Huaxing LIVE, 69 Fuxing Lu, Haidian 海淀区复兴路69号院2号136-G23 (tickets via showstart.com)

### ● **Yogee New Waves** Gig



Japanese quartet Yogee New Waves performs a sunny and funky brand of pop-rock. Having released their debut album in 2014, the band has since reached great levels of success – they were part of the Fuji Rock Festival line-up later that year and have completed a series of sell-out tours across Asia. Their consistently popular EPs have also delighted listeners around the world. Catch Yogee New Waves' shimmering guitar riffs and upbeat vocals at the Omni Space this month.

Thu Nov 21, 8.30pm; RMB200 (presale), RMB280 (door); Omni Space, B103 Tianqiao Arts Center, Xiachen Guangchang, Xicheng 西城区天桥艺术中心下沉广场B103 (tickets via 247tickets.com)



### ● **Jay Hardway** DJ



Climbing up the ranks of EDM stardom is Dutch DJ Jay Hardway. Signed on to the famous Spinnin' Records dance music label and with multiple collaborations with Martin Garrix, Hardway produces and mixes a summery style of melodic and progressive house. It's no surprise that he's been on DJ Mag's Top 100 DJs for the past three years. Prepare for a night of non-stop bangers on Sir Teen's dance floor.

Fri Nov 8, 10pm; RMB100; Sir Teen, 6 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体西路6号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

### ● **The Drums** Gig



The Drums are an NYC-based band and they're bringing with them a quirky blend of surf-rock, indie-pop, and catchy riffs. You'll be able to hear elements of their major influencers, such as The Beach Boys and The Smiths, in their discography. The Drums' latest album, *Brutalism*, is layered with emotional rawness and intricate lyrics, inviting audiences along on their China tour. Hear for yourself why this band has been shortlisted in several magazines' top bands in the past few years.

Fri Nov 15, 8.30pm; RMB300 (presale), RMB350 (door); Tango, 79 Hepingli Xijie, Dongcheng 东城区和平里西街79号糖果 (tickets via 247tickets.com)



## ● Titanic the Musical Theater

Direct from London, this musical take on the tragic sinking of the world's most famous ship brings passengers' stories to the stage. On April 14, 1912, the RMS Titanic departed with thousands of travelers aboard. Oblivious to the fate that awaited them, follow characters based on real people as they navigate the journey of their lives.

Tue Nov 12-Sun Nov 24, various times; RMB180-880; Tianqiao Performing Arts Center, Bldg 9, Tianqiao Nandajie, Xicheng 西城区天桥南大街9号楼 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## ● Matilda Musical



Roald Dahl's magical heroine arrives in China to delight audiences young and old. This multi-award-winning musical tells the story of an imaginative young girl who refused to back down when faced with adversity, and found laughter every step of the way.

Thu Nov 21-Sun Dec 1, various times; RMB280-1,080; Beijing Poly Theatre, 14 Dongzhimen Nandajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街14号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## ● Blue Man Group Theater



The world's wackiest blue-themed show makes its way to Beijing this month. Audiences of all ages and cultures can appreciate this show, which will be mainly in English with Chinese subtitles. Prepare for a truly indescribable musical, comedic and surprising experience as three bald, blue men will surely have you leaving without the faintest idea of what you've just watched.

Wed Nov 27-Sun Dec 8, various times; RMB280-880; Tianqiao Performing Arts Center, Bldg 9, Tianqiao Nandajie, Xicheng 西城区天桥南大街9号楼 (tickets via 247tickets.com)



## ● The Phantom of the Opera Ballet



The masked Phantom hides beneath Paris Opera House, besotted with the sound dancer Christine Daae. He plots and schemes to manipulate her career, horrifying those around the object of his affections and growing desperate as her affections for another become clear. This balletic take on the classic tale comes from the Spanish Ballet of Cuba and combines classical ballet with a vast repertoire of dance.

Fri Nov 8-Sat Nov 9, 7:30pm; RMB100-680; Er Qi Theater, 15 Erqijuchang Lu, Xicheng 西城区二七剧场路15号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## Anish Kapoor Exhibition



Anish Kapoor's major solo exhibition at Taimiao Art Museum of the Imperial Ancestral Temple will address the architecture and spiritual history of the site, reflecting and engaging with the spaces through a series of stainless steel and pigment sculptures. Key works from his innovative early pigment series *1000 Names* will be on display, alongside the next generation of sculptures including *Angel* (1990), and *To reflect an intimate part of the red* (1981).

Mon Nov 11-Sat Dec 28, 9am-5pm; Tiananmen Dongce, Dongcheng 东城区天安门东侧



### ● Sangria Wednesdays @ Migas Mercado Drinking

Ever since its opening at China World Mall, Migas Mercado has been the go-to place for Guomao urbanites to wind down after work. The Sangria Wednesday gives even more reason to take a break mid-week, while enjoying view of the CCTV building and the bustling hub downstairs. In addition to the classic sangria spices, three different kinds of Gran Reserva Sangria are infused with five Chinese spices and aged for three days for richer flavor, great to mix and match with Migas' food offerings.

Daily, from 9pm; 7F, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城7层 (6500 7579)

### ● Brunch Italiano @ Bottega Brunch



Italian favorite Bottega may be known for its Romana style pizza, but that's not the only thing drawing hungry diners to their weekend brunches. If free-flow prosecco, cocktails and spritz aren't enough to tempt you, their Italian brunch options should hit the spot.

Weekends, 11.30am-2.30pm; Bottega Xinyuanli, 1F, Shang, 20 Xinyuanli Xili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源里西里20号楼金尚1层 (6410 9800)

### ● New Menu @ TRIBE Dining



Tribe's 2019 Autumn/Winter menu is titled The Food Dynamic, inspired by life changes, keeping active through movement and seasonal ingredients. Salad tossing is no longer boring with dehydrated figs, purple cauliflower, orange and pecan bringing colorful, artsy mix to the table. Cauliflower also comes as cauliflower rice for grain bowls with prawns or tuna, and pizza crust topped with smoked salmon or orange. Yes, cauliflower crust pizza topped with orange. Try it.

Daily; Unit L-BS-51A, Bldg 9, Solana, Chaoyang 朝阳区蓝色港湾9号楼L-BS-51A号 (5905 6256); 1F, Bldg 3, China View Plaza, 2 Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路甲2号中国红街大厦3号楼1层 (8587 1899); 4F, WF Central, 269 Wangfujing Jie, Dongcheng 东城区王府井大街269号4层 (6526 2690)



### ● Taco Tuesdays @ Pebbles Dining



Loading up on tacos no longer needs to empty your wallet when you can get them for a fraction of their regular cost at Pebbles on Tuesdays. Try the barbaacoa, chorizo or woodfire mushrooms from the large selection (minimum order of three tacos), and add two salsas of your choice. Just what we need to get us through the mid-week slump.

Tuesdays, 5-10pm; Pebbles Courtyard, 74 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同74号 (8404 0767)

### ● 88 After 8 @ Burger Box Dining



China's luckiest number just got luckier. Nali Patio fast-food joint Burger Box is offering any two burgers of your choice for only RMB88 after 8pm – every night of the week. Wash it all down with a homemade pink lemonade (spiked with vodka, perhaps?).

Daily, 8pm-close; Burger Box, D102 Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Beijie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街81号那里花园D102 (6462 9897)



## ● The Hunchback of Notre Dame Theater

Witness the clash of bellringer Quasimodo and corrupt priest Claude Frolo as they vie for the attention of the beautiful gypsy Esmeralda. Situated in the late 15th century, this gothic-romantic tale by Victor Hugo will be staged in Beijing theaters this month. *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* has been adapted for the stage by TNT Theater, a popular international touring troupe established in Britain. Join them as they unify drama, music, and dance.

Thu Nov 14-Sat Nov 16, 7.30pm;  
RMB120-380; Nine Theater, 17 Jintaili, Chaoyang 朝阳区金台里17号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## ● A Floating Life Dance



Northeast Normal University presents an intense, haunting look back at the hardships that Northeast China had endured a century ago. Performed as an epic dance drama, *A Floating Life* offers a thought-provoking view into the nature of war and humanity in light of Sino-Japanese conflicts. Boasting meticulous preparation and choreography with group dance numbers, catch the cast at the NCPA this month.

Tue Nov 19, 7.30pm; RMB60-200; National Center for the Performing Arts – Opera House, 2 Chang'an Xijie, Xicheng 西城区西长安街2号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## ● Evita Musical



Don't cry for me Argentina! Follow the impactful story of Eva "Evita" Peron, wife of Argentine president Juan Peron, as she rises from humble beginnings to become the spiritual leader of the nation. *Evita* is a star-studded iconic work composed by Andrew Lloyd Weber, written by Tim Rice, and directed by Harold Prince. Journey into the canon of Broadway; don't miss this hit musical full of beloved songs and characters.

Fri Nov 22- Thu Nov 28, various times; RMB280-1,180; Beijing Century Theatre, 21st Century Hotel, 40 Liangmaqiao Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路40号世纪剧院 (tickets via 247tickets.com)



## ● Chicago Musical



Murder, corruption, treachery and sass... what more do you need? Multiple Tony and Academy Award-winning musical *Chicago* is landing in Beijing for a long weekend of magic and thrills. Set in the Roaring Twenties of Jazz-age Chicago, this long-running production revolves around celebrity criminals Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly as they navigate the legal system with the help of smooth-talking lawyer Billy Flynn. Take a trip down to the cell block and enjoy a well-loved Broadway classic.

Thu Nov 28-Sun Dec 1, various times; RMB280-1280; Er Qi Theater, 15 Erqijuchang Lu, Xicheng 西城区二七剧场路15号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

## ● Don Quixote Ballet



Recognized as one of the world's greatest, the legendary Mariinsky Ballet has been at the center of the realm of ballet, featuring world-class dancers and a wide repertoire. At the end of the month, this leading ballet company is performing *Don Quixote*, an equally comedic and tragic study in idealism and chivalry. Be treated to dazzling costumes, a riveting narrative, and spectacular performance.

Thu Nov 28-Sat Nov 30, 7.30pm; RMB280-1,280; National Center for the Performing Arts – Opera House, 2 Chang'an Xijie, Xicheng 西城区西长安街2号 (tickets via 247tickets.com)

# LISTINGS

Expensive.....¥  
Expense Account .....¥¥  
Highly Recommended .....\*  
Top Ten .....\*\*

## OPEN DOOR



## RESIDENT LOUNGE

### Sausage Fest

Oktoberfest has come and gone, but if you want to extend the festivities through November, the Resident Lounge at The Imperial Mansion, Beijing Marriott Executive Apartments has the perfect offer for Beijing's Germanophiles.

As one of the six breweries providing beer for Oktoberfest, Paulaner sets the atmosphere for a German feast so good that you need to book it a day in advance. The German Sausage Plate (RMB198 for two) provides seven kinds of classic sausages, including Nuremberg sausage, Munich sausage, Thuringian sausage, cheese sausage and veal sausage.

With a gentle pop, the casing brings forth salty juices enhanced by spiced meat. A bite is not complete if the succulent sausage is not dipped in mildly peppery mustard and contrasted with a pinch of tart sauerkraut. Washing it all down with refreshingly fruity beer will keep your thirst quenched so you can continue to enjoy the feast.

> Daily, 11am-10pm; 2F, The Imperial Mansion, Beijing Marriott Executive Apartments, 1 Xiagongfu Jie, Dongcheng东城区霞公府街1号北京万豪行政公寓2层 (6564 9201)

## RESTAURANTS

### The Hot One Hundred

About This guide represents our editors' top 100 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Restaurants rated(\*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

### CHINESE

#### Contemporary & Mixed Cuisine

##### 8 Qi Nian 祈年8号 (Cantonese/Sichuan)

The New World Hotel's flagship restaurant has classic Chinese cuisine in abundance, as well as some vitality-restoring medicinal soups. (Their decent wine list is just as effective.)

> Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:15pm, 5:30-9:30pm, Sat/Sun 12:24-5pm, 5:30-9:30pm; 2/F, New World Hotel, 8 Qianian Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区祈年大街8号新世界酒店2层 (5960 8822)

##### Din Tai Fung 鼎泰丰 ¥ (Taiwanese)

This Taipei-based franchise impressed Ken Hom enough to call it one of the best 10 eateries in the world, back in 1993. Famous for its dependably delicious *xiaolongbao* or little steam buns. Book ahead, there's always a long wait.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-10pm, weekends 11:30am-10pm; 24 Middle Street, Xinyuanxili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源西里中街24号 (近渔阳饭店) (6462 4502) > Additional branches in Shin Kong Place; Parkview Green; Grand Pacific Mall Xidan; Modern Plaza Zhongguancun; see www.dintaifung.com.cn for details

##### Jing Yaa Tang 京雅堂 (Chinese, Peking Duck)

Resembling something between a nightclub and a theater, the Opposite House's basement restaurant proves to be more than just style over substance with their range of expertly prepared classic dishes.

> Daily 12-10:30pm, 81/F, The Opposite House, Sanlitun Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街11号院1号楼瑜舍酒81楼 (6410 5230)

##### Huang Ting

Huang Ting celebrates the sophisticated flavours of fine Cantonese cuisine in an atmospheric setting that recreates a Beijing nobleman's courtyard home. A new Tea Lounge decorated with Ming Dynasty-era tables and parasols serves traditional Beijing snacks accompanied by more than 50 types of premium Chinese tea.

> Daily, Lunch 11:30am-2:30pm; Dinner 6-10:30pm, 82/F, The Peninsula, 8 Jinyu Hutong, Dongcheng District 金鱼胡同8号王府半岛酒店地下2层 (8516 2888 Ext 6707)

### Peking Duck

##### The Horizon 海天阁 (Cantonese Beijing Duck) \*\*

Kerry Hotel's Chinese restaurant has widened its predominantly Cantonese and Sichuan horizons to include dim sum, double-boiled soups and Peking duck – and the roast bird here really is fabulous.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 5:30pm-10pm 1/F, Beijing Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心1层 (8565 2188)

##### Country Kitchen

The name 'Country Kitchen' may sound like a diner, but a diner this is not. Rosewood Beijing's resplendent Northern Chinese restaurant serves elegant Hebei fare unlike you've ever had. Excellent Peking duck is on offer as well.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm and 5:30-10:30pm; 3F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6597 8888)

##### Da Dong 大董

Among the city's most famous haunts, Da Dong guarantees slick cuts of Beijing-style roast duck and delectable wrap fillings. The venue's a class act and the plum sauce is hard to follow.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 22 Dongsishitiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十条甲22号 (5169 0328); see www.dadongdadong.com for more locations

##### Duck de Chine 全鸭季 ¥ \*

Good duck is meant to show your guests how wonderful you are, as much as the food. Duck De Chine does that in spades, with fantastic presentation of its crispy, succulent duck (RMB188).

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm; Courtyard 4, 1949 The Hidden City, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6501 8881); 98 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街98号 (6521 2221)

##### Xihe Village Restaurant and Bar

> Mon-Fri Lunch: 11am-2:30pm; Dinner: 5-9pm; Sun: 11am-9pm, 59-33, 3/F, South Area of Sanlitun Taikooli, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三层59-33(6417 6082)

##### Honglu 红炉

Quality Peking duck on the cheap? Oh yes, it's possible – thanks to Honglu. The popular restaurant serves traditional Beijing food with a stylish twist (which is exactly why it's so crowded at lunchtime).

> Daily 11am-9:30pm, Sanlitun: Daily 11:00am-10:00pm, 60 Meters Of No. 6 Building Sanlitun South Road, Chaoyang 三里屯店: 朝阳区三里屯南路6号南侧60米 (6595 9872; 6593 8970) Raffles: Daily 11:00am-10:00pm, 5 Floor Of Raffles shopping center Dongzhimen Dongcheng 来福士店: 东城区东直门来福士购物中心5层 (8409 8199; 8409 8234)

### Shanghai

##### Shanghai Min 小南国

Many swear this chain has the best Shanghai-style *hongshaorou* north of the Yangtze. The jury's out, but its popularity remains.

> 0505, 5/F Raffles City Mall, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心5楼0505号铺 (400 820 9777) > Additional branches in Financial Street; Jinbao Jie; Oriental Plaza; Sanlitun Soho; Xinyuan Nan Lu (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

##### Wang Jia Sha 王家沙

Modern Shanghai cuisine – popular with Hong Kong celebrities – famed for its crab-meat dumplings. Try the spiced-salt ribs (RMB62) for a bit of Adam action.

> Daily, 51-30a Taikoo Li Sanlitun (on the third floor of 1st shop) 朝阳区三里屯路19号院太古里1号楼3层51-30a号商辅 (6416 3469)

### Sichuan/Hunan

##### Chuan Ban 川办 \*

This bright, modestly decorated dining hall is frequently cited as Beijing's best Sichuan restaurant.

> Mon-Fri 7-9am, 10:50am-2pm, 4:50-9:30pm; Sat-Sun 7am-10pm; 5 Gongyuan Toutiao, Jianguomennei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区建国门内贡院头条5号 (6512 2277, ext. 6101)

##### Karaiya Spice House 辣屋 \*

Bold and fiery Hunan cuisine in the most serene of restaurant interiors. Don't miss the dry roasted duck with a dozen spices and stir fried bullfrog with shiso leaves and ginger. Peanut milk is there to soothe the palate: you'll need it.

> Daily 11:30am-2pm, 5:30-10pm; 3/F, Sanlitun Taikoo Li South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里19号院南区三层59-30 (6415 3535)

##### South Memory 望湘园

This restaurant chain is the Hunan staple in the capital. The trademark *shilixiang niurou* (fragrant beef), *duojiao shuangse yutou* (dual-colour spiced fish head) and meltingly tender frog dishes are among the favorites with locals.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 2/F, 230-232, Fenglian Plaza, 18 Chaoyangmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街18号丰联广场2楼230-232号 (6588 1797); see www.southmemory.com for more locations

##### Yu Xin 渝信川菜

Open since 1993, Yu Xin's authentic Sichuan dishes have earned a loyal fanbase. Their *liangfen* – a jelly-like substance cut into chunky strips and dressed in an addictive spicy sauce – hits the spot. The rustic, intimate setting of bamboo cubicles and swift, friendly service complete the experience.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 5A Xingfu Yicun Xili, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村西里甲5号 see www.yuxin1997.com for other locations.

### Yunnan

##### Dali Courtyard 大里院子 \*

If you like authentic Yunnanese food, you'll have to trust the staff: there's no menu, it all just arrives in an intimate courtyard setting. The price (RMB120/person) matches the rustic ingredients.

> Daily 12-2pm, 6-10:30pm; Gulou Dong Dajie, 67 Xiaojingchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街小经厂胡同67号 (8404 1430)

#### Lost Heaven 花马天堂 (Yunnan, SE Asian)

An emphasis on Yunnan characterizes this menu's fresh journey through the SE Asia passage, with a grandiose yet dark teak interior.

> Daily noon-2pm, 5pm-10:30 (bar open till 1am). Ch'ien Men 23, 23 Qianmen Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区前门东大街23号 (8516 2698)

#### Middle 8 Restaurant 中8楼 \*



An oasis at the top of Taikoo Li, Middle 8 is the go-to destination for fresh authentic Yunnan cuisine. The restaurant, stylish yet understated, has plenty of flavorful yet priced dishes and a killer view to boot.

> Sanlitun: Daily 11am-10pm, Taikoo Li Sanlitun South South Area F4, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区4层(6415 8858); Indigo: Daily 11am-10pm, Jiuxianqiao Road No.20 Indigo F2, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路20号颐堤港2层(8420 0883); Zhongguancun: Daily 11am-10pm, Zhongguancun Plaza Pedestrian Street, No.17, Haidian海淀区中关村广场步行街R17号(5172 1728); Fenglan: Daily 11am-10pm, Xizhimen North Street No.32 Maples International Center Blok B, 1 Floor, Haidian海淀区西直门大街32号枫蓝国际中心B座1层(6223 5583)

#### Youyun

> Daily, 10am-11pm, 63 Babaokeng Hutong, Beixinqiao, Dongcheng 东城区北新桥八宝坑胡同63号 6407 2050 / 185 1092 0709

#### Yun'er Small Town 云洱小镇

Folksy and affordable Yunnanese fare on Beiluoguxiang. Fragrant dishes including the jasmine bulbs with scrambled eggs, lemongrass shrimp and banana leaf wrapped bolete mushrooms will keep us crawling back.

> Daily 10am-11pm, 84 Beiluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷84号 (8404 2407)

#### Dumplings

#### Baoyuan Jiaoziwu 宝源饺子屋

Famous for their rainbow of dyed dumplings, Baoyuan have their *jiaozzi* (six, under RMB10) wrapped in a larger *yuانبao* silver-tingot shape, with creative vegetarian options and authentic Sichuan food.

> Daily 11am-10pm; north of 6 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街6号楼北侧 (6586 4967)

#### Mr Shi's Dumplings 老石饺子馆

Since receiving a *Lonely Planet* recommendation the prices have risen and the walls are covered in backpackers' scribbles, but the fantastic dumplings – boiled and fried – are still fantastic.

> 74 Baochao Hutong, Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街宝钞胡同74号 (8405 0399, 131 6100 3826)

#### Regional

#### Crescent Moon (Xinjiang) \*

Roast mutton enthusiasts go over the moon at this reputable Xinjiang Muslim restaurant. Eastern European and Central Asian influences are evident throughout, with peppery and cumin-spiced dishes living up traditional Chinese favorites.

> Daily 10am-11:30pm; 16 Dongsi Liutiao, Dongcheng 东西四六条16号 (6400 5281)

#### Jia by NUO Hotel

Featuring modern Ming elements with inspired paintings from Xu Wei, a painter, calligrapher and food and wine connoisseur, the quintessentially authentic house of agriculture produces, Jia Chinese restaurant serves exquisite traditional Cantonese specialties in their purest form with chefs hailing from Hong Kong. Using the freshest ingredients from NUO's very own green farms, NUO Hotel Beijing provides an alternative green gourmet option in town.

> Mon-Fri: 11.30am-2pm, 5.30-10pm; Sat-Sun: 11am-2.30pm, 5.30-10pm; 1/F, NUO Hotel Beijing, 2A Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号北京诺金酒店一层 (5926 8281)

#### Da Gui (Guizhou)

Guizhou's famed hot-and-sour cuisine nestled into a charming traditional alleyway. Munch happily into pickled greens and don't miss the salty-sweet deep-fried black sesame balls. They're sensational.

> Daily 10am-2pm, 5-10pm; 69 Daxing Hutong, Jiadaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口大兴胡同69号 (6407 1800)

#### Makye Ame (Tibetan)

Determined to prove that Tibetan cuisine consists of more than just yak-butter tea, the Beijing branch of this nationwide chain serves up nomadic classics such as curried potatoes and roast lamb.

> Daily 10-midnight; 11A Xiushui Nanjie, Jianguomenwai, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外秀水南街甲11号 (6506 9616)

#### Xinjiang Red Rose (Xinjiang) \*

One of Beijing's most famous Xinjiang restaurant, Red Rose serves some of the tenderest lamb skewers around, matched by enormous servings of classics like *dapanji* (a chicken, potato and pepper stew), *latiaozi* (noodles with a spicy tomato sauce) and *nang* (baked flatbread).

> Daily 10.30am-11pm; Inside 7 Xingfuyuan, opposite Workers' Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门对面幸福一村7巷内 (6415 5741)

#### WESTERN

#### Fine Dining

#### Barolo ¥¥ (Italian) \*

Average Italian abounds in Beijing: not here, though. Quite the opposite, in fact, meaning Barolo is as well-regarded as the Piedmont wine it is named after.

> Mon-Sun 11.30am-2pm, 6pm-10pm. Ritz Carlton Hotel, China Central Place, 83A Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路甲83号华贸中心丽思卡尔顿酒店内 (5908 8151)

#### Maison Flo ¥¥ (French) \*

Marble slabs, mosaic floors and brass fittings establish the Parisian bona fides; dishes like snails (RMB78), oysters (RMB48 each) and steak tartare (RMB158) confirm. The grandeur is matched only by the service, and the prices reflect the authenticity of the experience.

> Daily 11am-midnight; 18 Xiaoyun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区霄云路18号 (6595 5135)

#### The Georg \*\*

This hutong mansion has an elegant restaurant, leather-couched lounge area, sleek bar and sick location near Houhai. But most importantly, it has some of the most thoughtful, innovative cuisine in town. Go for a dinner you won't forget.

> 10.30am-midnight (dinner 6-10.30pm), closed Mondays; 45 Dongbuyaogiao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区东不压桥胡同45号 (8408 5300)

#### Héritage ¥¥

A French country-style chateau in the heart of Beijing. A chef de cuisine with Michelin star restaurant experience and an extensive wine cellar make this Sofitel Hotel restaurant one of the best French dining experiences in town.

> 6F Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

#### TRB Forbidden City TRB 紫禁城店 ¥¥ \*\*

> No.95 Donghuanmen, Dongcheng District 东城区东华门大街95号(故宫东华门东侧) (6401 6676)

#### TRB Hutong TRB 胡同店 ¥¥ \*\*

> No.23 of Shatan Beijing, Dongcheng District 东城区沙滩北街嵩祝寺23号 近五四大街/嵩祝寺及智珠寺 (8400 2232)

#### Mio ¥¥

Glitzy Italian fare at the Four Seasons, with a mobile Bellini cart, wheeled straight to your table. The Chef crafts a superb squash tortellini by hand, and pampers diners with desserts like the deconstructed tiramisu.

> Daily lunch 11.30am - 2.30pm, dinner 5.30pm - 10.30pm, Four Seasons Hotel, 48 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang, 朝阳区亮马桥路48号北京四季酒店 (5695 8888)

#### Grange Grill \*\*

Located in the Westin Beijing Chaoyang, Grange Grill serves up some of the city's best steak, seafood and grill offerings. The restaurant's welcoming decor provides a relaxing atmosphere to enjoy a cocktail or a glass of fine vintage from the extensive wine collection. Be sure to try the 'luxurious oyster feast', where you can enjoy the delicacy raw, grilled or with cheese.

> Lunch: Mon-Fri 11.30am-2.30pm, Sat and Sun

## OPEN DOOR



## ZARAH CAFE

### Get Cozy

As temperatures begin to drop in Beijing, laptop warriors might begin to feel a little chilly sitting by the window-side at Gulou cafe Zarah. But like the leaves outside, a new seasonal drinks menu brings a little color to the otherwise grey season.

The pumpkin spice latte is a classic for this weather, and Zarah's reiteration is not sickly sweet, so you can definitely taste the festive spices to the very last drop. However, it's the hot chocolate offerings that you'll really want to savor. The hot chocolate with spiced rum warms you right up as you sip, and the chestnut hot chocolate brings a different kind of coziness with its nutty and creamy notes.

And yes, the famous glühwine will also be on the autumn drinks menu, a secret mulled wine recipe that has become a staple of the chic cafe. These artisanal beverages are available until mid-December, with a daily happy hour from 6-9pm.

> Sun-Thu, 10am-12am, Fri & Sat, 10am-1am; 46 Gulou Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街46号 (8403 9807)

## OPEN DOOR



## XIHE YAYUAN

### Aristocrat Cuisine

In the south zone of China World Mall lies Xihe Yayuan, famed for their Peking duck (from RMB298 per whole set) – served with pop rocks. The intriguing mix of crispy, savory skin and sweet sugar takes hold of your taste buds, and sounds of sugar popping in your mouth always bring giggles around the table, taking your fun dining experience to another level.

For chilly autumn days, the Taste of Aristocrat Cuisine set menu (from RMB198 and up) offers a number of selected ingredients and different flavors in one series with mini soups and delicacies served in different bowls and jars to warm you up. Inspired by dishes served to the Chinese noble families, the offerings include stewed sea cucumber with pearl barley, braised fish snout in supreme sauce and braised sea whelk in sweet soy sauce.

The base of the gravies is made with premium chicken, duck, scallops and ham, stewed for over 17 hours to build a depth of flavor befitting its royal origin. The added ingredients in every dish are also complimented by this base. In the braised baby abalone in cream sauce, the cream soup does not distract, but instead highlights, the slight brininess of the abalone. For poached baby cabbage in broth, the crunchiness of the cabbage brings out the complexity of the broth.

Start with a cold dish platter (offered for free before the meal), and end with a dainty cup of smooth lemon sherbet. If warm soup and satisfyingly complex flavors are what you are looking for, a regal meal at Xihe Yayuan in the tranquil corner of China World Mall is just what you need on a brisk autumn day.

> Daily, 11am-9:30pm; SB128, B1, South Zone, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Chaoyang District 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城南区B1层SB128 (6505 6927)

## LISTINGS

11.30am-3pm; Dinner: Daily 5.30-10.30pm; The Westin Beijing Chaoyang 7 North East Third Ring Road, Chaoyang 东三环北路7号 (5922 8888)

### Contemporary Western

#### Bistrot B

Rosewood Beijing's exquisite French restaurant is the sort of place chefs like to eat. Expect lavish luxury.

> Daily, 11.30am-2.30pm and 5.30-10.30pm; 1F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6536 0066)

#### Caribeño (Latin)

Heavy Cuban influence, but there are dishes from all over the Latin continent here. The Ropa Vieja (shredded beef on potato) is excellent – as are the Mojitos.

> Daily 11:30am-9:30pm, 1/F, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东路8号中海广场北楼1层 (5977 2789)

#### Chi (Organic, Fusion)

Hutong set-menu dining par-excellence, with organic ingredients all locally sourced. From the owners of neighboring Saffron.

> Daily, opens 10:30am, last order 9:30pm, 67 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同67号 (6445 7076)

#### COMBAL 蚕 by Tiago

> 127-129, 1/F, Tower C, Cofco Plaza, 8 Jianguomen Neidajie, Dongcheng District 东城区建国门内大街8号中粮广场C座一层127-129单元 (6528 2280)

#### C Pearl (Oysters, Seafood) ¥ \*

This slick oyster restaurant imports fresh shells from Canada, South Africa, France, USA and more – and they are well worth the price. The fries are the best we've had in Beijing, beer and wine selection also excellent.

> Tue-Sun 5.30pm-2am; 14-2, Bldg 14, Shunyuanli, Xinyuan Jie, Yansha Qiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区燕莎桥新源街顺源里14号楼14-2号 (5724 5886)

#### Feast (Food by East)

Bustling café with a philosophy of 'Simple things, done well'. International favorites, using freshest ingredients, cooked on the spot.

> Daily 6am-10.30pm, 2/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 8414 9820

#### George's Bar & Restaurant

George's Bar offers specially handcrafted cocktails featuring admirable art masterpieces blending with copperish elements. Afternoon tea set for two at CNY288 is available from 3-5pm daily. Gentlemen's Night every Saturday that men enjoy Buy 1 Get 1 on drinks. George's Restaurant presents creative world classic cuisine that revolves around local ingredients with exquisite touch that introduces an authentic yet distinctive palette. Daily special menu awaits you.

> Daily 11am-2.30pm; 5.30-10pm, Hotel éclat Beijing, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号北京怡亨酒店L1 (8561 7758)

#### Grill 79 (Steak)

With views this good, Grill 79 would probably make it onto the list even if the food was terrible. It's something of a bonus then that the kitchen is superb, and supported by one of the most extensive wine lists in town.

> Daily 6.30-10.30am, noon-2pm, 6-10pm, 79/F, China World Trade Center Phase 3, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸大酒店79楼 (6505 2299 ext 6424)

#### Hulu Modern European Cuisine by TRB

琥祿 现代欧洲风格  
> S4-32, Taikoo Li South, 19 Sanlitun Road, Chaoyang District 朝阳区三里屯北路19号三里屯太古里南区3层 S4-32 (6512 5701)

#### JF Royal Teahouse

> Daily 10am-9:30pm; B215 China World Trade Center Tower 3, Jintong East Road, Chaoyang Beijing 北京市朝阳区国贸商城区域3 地下二层B215 (8535 1625)

#### Jing

Jing Restaurant is a unique dining venue, celebrating contemporary French dining with Asian inspirations by Chef De Cuisine Julien Cadiou in a stylish setting evoking a mystical Chinese garden.

> Daily, Lunch 12am-2.30pm; Dinner 6-10.30pm, B1/F, The Peninsula, 8 Jinyu Hutong, Dongcheng District 金鱼胡同8号王府半岛酒店地下一层 (8516 2888 Ext 6714)

#### Lin's Dining Lounge

> Daily 11am-10pm, 2/F, New Grand Dynasty Hotel, 58 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街58号新大京饭店二层 (6500 6766)

#### Mosto (European, South American) ¥ \*

A perpetually busy lunch and evening spot, thanks to chef Daniel Urdaneta's skill

for modernising South American-style dishes like ceviche and risotto in his open kitchen.

> Sun-Thu noon-2.30pm, 6-10pm; Fri-Sat noon-2.30pm, 6-10.30pm, 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6030)

#### The English Tearoom 英国茶房

> Daily 10am-9.30pm; 101, Bldg 10, North area of Xiangyun Town, 9 Antai Dajie, Shunyi 顺义区安泰大街9号院中粮祥云小镇北区10号楼101 (8047 9661 / 8047 9661); Daily 10am-7pm Creativity Garden, 1 Shunhuang Lu, Sunhe Xiang, Chaoyang 朝阳区孙河乡顺黄路甲1号创意园内 (8459 4407)

#### TrEat Restaurant & Bar.

Situated on the fifth floor of Oakwood Residence Damei Beijing with high ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows, fine city views complement the delicious a mixture of traditional European food and Western comfort foods, as well as Asia dishes.

> 5/F, Damei Center, Bldg 1, 7 Qingnian Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区青年路7号达美中心1号楼5层 (85142211)

#### Sizzler

Sizzler invented 'casual dining' in Australia when it introduced the first soup, salad, pasta and fresh fruit concept. Since those pioneering days, it has expanded its 'classic grill' to include, not only steak and seafood, but also delicious chicken dishes, BBQ ribs, combination meals and burgers. 'Variety' and 'freedom to choose' set Sizzler apart from other dining experiences. At Sizzler customers are free to control the volume, nutritional balance and variety of each meal by ordering from the grill and helping themselves to our famous soup, salad, pasta and fruits.

> All stores open daily, 10am-10pm: Wangfujing Oriental Plaza Store 王府井东方广场店 (8518 6315); Chongwenmen Glory Mall Store 崇文门国贸购物中心店 (6714 0399); Wangjing Capital Mall 望京凯德购物中心店 (6471 3876); Wantiu BHG 万柳华联商场店 (8258 9405); Wan Shoulu Crystal Capital Mall 万寿路凯德晶品店 (6826 086); Xizhimen Capital Mall 西直门凯德购物中心店 (5830 2199); Sanlitun Shimao Gongsan 三里屯世茂工三店 (8400 4014); Changying Paradise Walk 常营龙湖天街店 (8539 0438); Tianjin Joy City 天津大悦城店 (8728 1620)

#### Tomacado

Tomacado is indeed a mash-up of 'tomato' and 'avocado' – and while you'll certainly find these ingredients on the menu, you can also expect pleasant drinks, light soups and heartier main courses from this charming cafe. Fowers are also available for sale.  
> Daily 10am-10pm (Lunch start from 11am, 10am afternoon tea served on Mon-Fri 2.30-5pm), No. 19/20, B1/F, Jia Ming Center, 27 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路27号嘉铭中心地下一层 19/20号 (6500 3354)

#### VIC

Not to be confused with the notorious nightclub of the same name, this VIC is the Sofitel Beijing's casual dining restaurant. All the major world cuisines are in attendance here – make sure you pay special attentions to the French-inspired breads and pastries – as is the customary Sunday champagne brunch.

> Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

#### Yi House (Contemporary Western)

Nestled in the confines of 798, Yi's great tasting brunch is bettered only by their wide range of cocktails. Sundays offer jazz brunches with lobster and champagne.

> Daily 11am-3pm, 6pm-12am, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, 798 Yishu Qu, No.1 706 Houjie, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号院798艺术区706后街1号 (6436 1818)

#### Wood

> Daily 10.30am-11pm, Lakeside Gourmet Street, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园路6号蓝色港湾南边湖畔美食街 近南边地面停车场 5726 8255

#### Stuff'd (Contemporary Western)

The concept of Stuff'd is to simply stuff one kind of food in another. From sausage calzone pizzas (RMB68) to scotch eggs – it all works. On-site micro brewery a bonus.  
> Wed-Mon, 11:30am-2:45pm, 6-10pm, 9 Jianchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区箭厂胡同9号 (6407 6308)

### Café/Deli/Sandwich

#### Café Flatwhite

Hailing from New Zealand, Café Flatwhite uses fresh and healthy ingredients in its tasty selection of sandwiches, pizzas, salads and brunch options, all served alongside some of the best coffee in Beijing.

> Open Daily, Mon-Fri 8am-9pm, Sat-Sun 9am-9pm; 798 Dashanzi Art District Store: D09-1, No.4, 798 Dashanzi Art District, Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号 798艺术区D09-1 (5978 9067 / 13051771436); Jianguomenwai Media Center Store:

No.13 Bldg, Jianguomenwai DRC, 1 Xiushui Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓13号楼1层东北角 8532 2633 ; Jianguomenwai DRC Store: Building 7-1-11, 1 Silk Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓7-1-11 (85322633/18701092189); FFCStore-107/B1/F, Fortune Financial Center, 5 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东三环中路5号楼财富金融中心1层107 (65969108); China Central Mall Store L315, China Central Mall, Chaoyang District 朝阳区华贸中心写字楼三层L315单元 (85887978)/www.cafelatwhite.com, cafelatwhite@hotmail.com. WeChat username: Cafe-Flatwhite

### Café Zarah (Café) \*

A smart new interior and menu for this longstanding cafe has propelled it from hipster hangout to Gulou institution. Large, airy and with a terrace for summer, the only downside is it's always packed.  
> Daily 9:30am-midnight, 42 Gulou Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街42号 (8403 9807)

### Domain 域

A blend of café, business center and lounge, it has a gentle buzz all of its own. For privacy, Domain also provides workstations equipped with computers and iPads.  
> Daily 7am-8pm, 2/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 (8414 9830)

### Ricci

Named after a 17th century Italian Jesuit (duh), this creative café has a funky, kooky-meets-organic vibe and serves up some of the best casual western food in town, and a great brunch at the Wudaokou location (Chaoyang branch closed weekends).  
> 1/F, Building D, Tsinghua Science Park, 1 Zhongguancun Donglu, Haidian 海淀区中关村东路1号院清华科技园D座1楼 (8215 8826)

### The Rug (Contemporary Western, Organic) \*

With ingredients supplied by local organic farms like Dahe and De Run Wu, and an emphasis on sustainability, this café's wide-ranging menu has something for everyone, especially green types, bored foreign moms and freelance Macbook types.  
> Mon-Fri 7:30am-10:30pm, Sat/Sun 9:30am-10:30pm; Bldg 4, Lishui Jiayuan, Chaoyang Gongyuan Nanlu (opposite Chaoyang Park South Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区公园南路丽水嘉园4号楼(朝阳公园南门外对面) (8550 2722) > Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see online.thatsmags.com for details)

### TRIBE \*

Salads, wraps and sandwiches, and noodle and grain bowls are as tasty as they are holistic, and there are more superfoods in one single dish than we even knew existed. Come hungry, leave basking in the warm glow that comes from knowing that you are eating well. Kombucha is the icing on the (organic, locally-sourced) cake.  
> Daily 8am-10:30pm, 1/F, Building 3, China View Plaza, 2A Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路甲2号中国红街大厦3号楼1层大厅入口南侧(85871899)

### Wagas (Contemporary Western)

Quality eats with minimal pretension. This stylish, no-fuss Shanghai rival to Element Fresh offers some of the best and most affordable Western lunch options in town. The zesty carrot-and-zucchini cake is a crowd pleaser.  
> Daily 8am-10pm; 58-33, 3/F, Bldg 8, Taikoo Li South, 19 South Sanlitun Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区3层 (6416 5829) > Additional locations in The Kerry Center, Raffles Mall Dongzhimen (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

> Daily 8am-10pm; 58-33, 3/F, Bldg 8, Taikoo Li South, 19 South Sanlitun Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区3层 (6416 5829) > Additional locations in The Kerry Center, Raffles Mall Dongzhimen (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

### MOKA Bros (Contemporary Western) \*

Power bowls, salads and wraps are the kind of fare on offer at this trendy Nali Patio space, which also has a great selection of cakes and pastries if you're feeling more indulgent.

> Sanlitun: Sun-Thru 11am-10:30pm, Fri/Sat 11am-11:30pm, B101b Nali Patio South, 81 Sanlitun Beilu Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯电报81号B101b南楼 (5208 6079); Solana: Solana Lakeside Dining Street, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区湖畔美食街 朝阳公园路6号院蓝色港湾 (5905 6259)

### American/BBQ/Grill

#### Eudora Station 亿多瑞站

> (Near Lidu place) No 6, Fanyuanli Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园西里6号(丽都广场对面)(6437 8331, 6437 8334)

#### Home Plate BBQ \*

Scruffy looks and laid-back staff belie the popularity of this entry-level brick-smoker barbecue joint, that blossoms in the sunny months. Pulled-pork sandwiches are the favorites, followed by baby-back ribs racks. Beer and bourbons are taken care of, too.  
> Daily 11am-10pm. 35 Xiaoyun Lu courtyard (20m north of Xiaoyun Lu intersection, first right), Chaoyang District 朝阳区霄云路35号院过霄云路路口, 往北走20米, 到第一个路口右转(5128 5584)

> Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

### NOLA

N'Orleans finds a dark-wood home in the leafy embassy area, with a jazz soundtrack, shrimp and grits, gumbo, fried chicken, jambalaya and decent-enough po'boys – yes'm. Excellent Cajun snacks, craft beers and cocktails also make NOLA a popular watering hole.

> Mon-Fri 8am-11pm, Sat-Sun 10:30am-11pm. 11A Xishui Nanjie, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水南街11号 (8563 6215)

### The Big Smoke \*

Taking the Home Plate BBQ concept and upscaling was a gourmet masterstroke. Full menu evenings only (also delivers rotisserie chicken via Uncle Otis).

> Daily Mon-Sat 11am-midnight, Sun 11am-10pm. First Floor, Lee World Building (opposite Frost Nails), 57 Xingfucun Zhong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路57号楼利世楼 (6416 5195, 6416 268, www.uncle-otis.com)

### The Woods \*

New York native-owned, Manhattan-style restaurant, tucked in amongst the skyscrapers of CBD: you can't get more Big Apple than that.

> Daily 12pm-10pm, Central Park Tower 1, Suite 101, No. 6 Chaowai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新京城国际1号楼101 (6533 6380)

### Burgers

#### Blue Frog

Blue Frog is pleased to introduce a creative new Drinks Menu. As the new year begins, this new menu will wake up everyone's taste buds with a bevvy of specialty and original cocktails, mocktails, shots, beer, wine and healthy drinks inspired by popular ingredients.

> All open Daily 10am-late; 52-30, Level 3, 52 Tower, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三楼52-30 (6417 4030) ; No.167, 1/F, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号1层167号 (8426 0017) ; No.125, 1/F, Bldg 1, Sanfeng(North), Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北里1号楼1层125号 (85612665) ; Unit 15-16, 1/F, Bldg AB, Ocean International Center, 10 Jintong Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心AB座一层15 16单元 (8590 3168)

#### WT& BAGELS

Salads, Sandwiches & Pizza, Super price Mojito, Daily fresh Handmade Bagels. Small Café & Bar from Jacky's.

> Daily 9am-midnight, 1/F, FX Hotel, 39 Maizidian Xijie, Chaoyang District 朝阳区麦子店西街39号嘉驿酒店一层 185 1119 5551

### German

#### Drei Kronen 1308 \*

Authentic (truly – when they say 1308 they mean it) displays of armour and brewing kits draw regular evening crowds for the superb pork knuckle and heavy-duty helles (pale lager), wheat and dark beer (brewed on-site).

> Daily 11am-2am. 1/F, Bldg 5, China View, Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路中国红街5号楼1层 (6503 5555)

#### Bodensee Kitchen

Bodensee Kitchen is a new German Restaurant in Beijing, located at the 2nd Floor at South German Bakery (Lucky Street). At Bodensee Kitchen, two Germans, and one Austrian, aim to bring back authentic, traditional, home made German-Austrian-Swiss cuisine from around the beautiful Lake of Constance region. You will find top quality German-Austrian-Swiss cuisine and a large variety of German beer and wines. And all this in a traditional and comfortable German restaurant setting with friendly and warm service. Bodensee Kitchen also offers great Catering Packages and Offers – no matter whether you need a small or big Catering, Bodensee Kitchen can help you out!

>2/F, South German Bakery, 27 Lucky Street, Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang District 朝阳区朝阳公园路好运街27号德南面包房二楼 (1314 685 2613)

#### Brozeit German Bier Bar & Restaurant 博粹德国啤酒餐厅

Brozeit offers its customers a unique experience with authentic German cuisine and world famous German beers in a casual environment. Coupled with its contemporary setting and unique brand appeal, Brozeit is distinct from the traditional-style German restaurants still seen in Germany and other parts of the world.

> NL7006 Guomao Phase 3B, Building 17, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号17号楼国贸商城北区7层NL7006(65056068); F109, 1/F, Grand Summit, Building 5, 19 Dongfang Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东方东路19号外交公寓南区1层 F109 (8531 5166)

#### Hacker-Pschorr Brauhaus

If you're looking for authentic German fare and, most importantly, German-style beer, then you can't go wrong with Hacker-

Pschorr Brauhaus. Made from centuries-old recipes – and in accordance with the 1516 German Beer Purity Law – the brews here are some of the finest in Beijing. Prost!

> Room 3, Building 3, No. 12, Xindonglu Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路12号院3号楼3门(5323 3399)

#### Paulaner Brauhaus

The grand old man of Beijing brauhauses, Paulaner delivers the Teutonic goods in the hands of lederhosen-clad staff from the provinces. It can be pricey but is usually worthwhile, especially during Oktoberfest.

> Daily 11am-1am. Kempinski Hotel, 50 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号凯宾斯基饭店 (6465 3388 ext. 5732)

### Italian

#### Bocca Della Verità ¥

Good-value heritage Italian is the order of the day at this little-known spot in Beixinqiao.

> Dinner: 5-10pm; Lunch: 10am-3pm; 3/F, 277 Dongzhimen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门内大街277号三楼 雍和宫大街和北新桥头条交叉处的四层商业楼三楼 (6455 3832, 1391 0969 240)

#### Annie's ¥ \*

Now a certified Beijing institution, Annie's serves up the city's most reliable Italian fare. Delivery is free anywhere between Line 5 and the the Fifth Ring Road (call for delivery prices outside this area), and can be ordered in English between 10.30am and 10.30pm from www.annies.com.cn. Alternatively, drop in to your local branch.

> All open Daily 10:30am-11pm; Beijing Riviera: opposite west gate of Lane Bridge Villa, Shunyi 朝阳区来广营东路5号长岛澜桥别墅西门对面古城楼一 (8470 4768); Lido: Jianguai Lu, opposite United Family Hospital 朝阳区将台商业街4号楼2楼和睦家医院对面 (6436 3735); Wangjing: 2F, beside the Daimler Tower, LSH Plaza, 8 Wangjing Jie 朝阳区利星行广场A座戴姆尔大厦裙楼2层近望京商业中心 (84760398); Chaoyang Park: West Gate of Chaoyang Park 朝阳区朝阳公园老西门南侧 (6591 1931); Sanlitun: China View Building, opposite East Gate of Workers' Stadium 朝阳区工体东门对面中国红街一 (8587 1469); Ritan Park: Ritan High Life, 3/F, north of Ritan Park 朝阳区神路街39号日坛上街3-108号 (8569 3031); The Place: East of the Place, south of Central Park 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心AB座1层 (8590 6428); Guomao: Ruisai Business Building (southeast of Guomao subway) 朝阳区东三环南路2号瑞赛大厦商务楼1层 (6568 5890); Sunshine 100: Guanghua Lu, opposite Sunshine 100 Building 朝阳区光华路阳光100公寓对面首经贸南门 (858 9836)

#### Assaggi ¥ \*

This fine Italian spot in the leafy embassy district has one of Beijing's best terraces for summer dining. The tagliata steak is worth a return visit.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6pm-11:30pm. 1 Sanlitun Beixiao-jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街1号 (8454 4508)

#### Bene ¥ \*

Chef Ricci will have you singing like a soprano with his pork ravioli and prize-winning tiramisù. Excellent set menus (RMB588) and extensive wine selection.

> Daily 11am-2:30pm, 5:30-10:30pm. Sheraton Beijing Dongcheng, 36 Northeast Third Ring Road, Dongcheng District 东城区北三环东路36号(5798 8995)

#### BK's Tavern

BK's Tavern shares your tiredness and serves you leisure with surprises. Good drink for an old friend of sinec.

> Daily, Mon-Sun 11am-10:30pm, 39 Maizidian Street by the side of Liang Ma River, Chaoyang District 朝阳区麦子店街39号亮马河南畔(8595 9609)

#### Cepe ¥

In a city inundated with Italian offerings, Cepe manages to stand out thanks to its attention to the smallest detail – everything from the vinaigrette to the Parma ham is import quality, and the wine is superb.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm. The Ritz-Carlton Financial Street, 1 Jinchengfang Dongjie, Jinrong Jie, Xicheng 西城区金城坊东街1号北京金融街丽思卡尔顿酒店大堂 (6601 6666)

#### Daccapo Italian Restaurant

An irresistible warmth of traditional Italian hospitality combines with the best in contemporary Western cuisine to offer a versatile meeting and dining area for friends, family and business associates on the 2nd floor of our the Regent Beijing.

> Lunch: Mon-Fri, 11.30am-2pm; Dinner: Mon-Sun, 6-10pm, Regent Beijing, 99 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng District 东城区金宝街99号北京丽晶酒店 (8522 1888)

#### Florentina 翡冷翠意大利餐厅

Florentina serves authentic Italian fare in low-key, yet elegant surrounds. Cuisine is high-end, the environment is relaxed. A beautiful outdoor terrace makes this place a godsend for Lido residents.

> Daily 11-late (kitchen serves until 10pm), 1/F, Bldg 2, No. 6 Yard, Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园西路6号院2号楼1层(8431 0027)

### WorldCafe ¥ \*

Mercantile family charm in an intimate hutong setting. Time (and, occasionally, service) slows with a rustic menu from Bologna offering an assortment of homemade pastas and seasonal mains.

> Tue-Sun 6-10:30pm. 4 Fangzhuangchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方厂胡同4号 (8402 5098)

#### TIAGO Home Kitchen

Even the most exacting palettes are delighted by TIAGO, whose team prepares globally sourced ingredients and sustainably grown produce. TIAGO's dining experience is distinctly Italian, but its menu also offers such classics as Australian steaks and Boston lobster – plus a wide selection of salads, pizza, pasta and desserts.

> Indigo: Daily 11.30am-10pm, Shop L173, Indigo Mall, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤港购物中心L173商铺(64388772); Chaoyang Joy City: Daily 11am-10pm, 5F50/6F, Chaoyang Joy City, 101 Chaoyang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳北路101号朝阳大悦城5F50/6F(8558 3892)

#### Opera Bombana ¥

Head chef Umberto Bombana boasts three Michelin stars to his name, earned at his wildly successful Hong Kong restaurant Otto e Mezzo. He's the only Italian chef to do so outside of his native land, and certainly the only to have opened a restaurant in Beijing.

> Daily, 12pm-10:30pm; LG2-21 Parkview Green Fangcaodi, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草地下2层21号 (5690 7177)

#### Ponte

A cozy and vintage ambient to enjoy a more high level take on Italian and European cuisine. Ponte Deli offers a rich choice of imported Italian cheese and cold cuts, but also freshly baked bread and viennoiserie. Italian aperitif every Friday and Saturday evening from 6:30pm till 8:00pm.

> Daily 6:30am(for breakfasts in Ponte Deli) - 10:00pm, 1-06, 1/F, Bldg 15, Zone 1, 6 Dongshihuan Beilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东四环北路六号上东商业广场 滨河花园 一区15号楼1层1-06 (6591 1931)

### Pizza

#### La Pizza

Among the upper echelons of Beijing pizzerias is this Sanlitun goldfish bowl with a wood-fired oven and Neapolitan manners. Further branches in Solana and pasta/salad/mains-buffet restaurant in Sanlitun 3-3

> Sanlitun Branch: daily 10.30am-3pm, 6-11pm. 1/F, 3-3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号.3服装大厦西北角底商(5136 5582); Solana Branch: SA-48, 1/F, Bldg 3, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳公园西路6号蓝色港湾3号1层 SA-48 (5905 6106) > SOHU Shanguo Branch: SH1112, SOHO Shanguo, 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东大桥路8号SOHO尚都SH1112号(5900 3112); La Pizza Buffet: 4F, Sanlitun 3.3 Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯3.3服装大厦4层 (5136 5990)

#### Tube Station

Nowhere does gigantic toppen-laden pizza quite like Beijing, and these guys claim to be the biggest in town.

> Sanlitun 3.3 Branch: Mon-Fri 10am-10pm, Sat/Sun 10am-11pm, delivery Mon-Thu 11:30am-10:30pm, Fri-Sun 11:30am-11pm 3/F, 3.3 Building, No. 33 Sanlitun Beije, Chaoyang 三里屯北街33号3.3服装大厦3层 3008号 (5136 5571, delivery 8989 177) > Additional branches in Gongti, Beida, Beitai, Yancun, Solana and Weigongcun, see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

### Mexican/Tex Mex

#### The Mission

The Mission Mexican Grill is on, well, a mission – to bring quality grab-and-go burritos and tacos to the good people of Chaoyang. Stop by for tasty, fresh Mexican dishes using high-quality ingredients, and customize your order at their burrito bar.

> Daily 10am-10pm, China World Mall store: NL4020, L4 North Zone, China World Mall 朝阳区国贸商城北区L4层NL4020(8535 1191); Central Park Plaza store: 7-9, 1/F, Building 7, Central Park Plaza, 10 Chaoyang Park South 朝阳公园南路中央公园广场A7-109 (6586 1180); Wangjing store opening soon: 206, 2/F, RADIANCE, 6 Wangjing Dongyuan, Chaoyang District 朝阳区望京东园6号楼金辉大厦2层206单元 (6478 8660)

#### Taco Bar

Rising from the ashes of its deceased hutong location, the new Taco Bar is hip, popular and able to produce some of the most authentic Mexican fare in town. Only RMB45 for three and great cocktails to complement.

> Tue-Thu 5:30pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5:30pm-2:30am. Sun 11am-12am. 1/F, Unit 10, Electrical Research Institute, Sanlitun Nan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南路机电研究院内10号1层 (6501 6026)

#### Q Mex Bar & Grill

> Sanlitun Courtyard (across from Salsa Caribe, nearby Bookworm), Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东4号院

## LISTINGS

机电研究院餐饮内 6585 3828

### Palms L.A. Kitchen and Bar \* (Korean-Mexican fusion)

Tucked away near Gulou, this hip little hutong concept is truly one of a kind in Beijing. Quesadillas with kimchi and bibimbaps with melted cheese and hot sauce. Guess what? It works. Killer range of classic Cali cocktails, too.

> Daily 11:30am-midnight (closed Mondays); 14 Zhangwang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区旧鼓楼大街张旺胡同14号 (6405 4352)

## Steak

### Char Dining Room & Lounge

Char is a Premium Steak house; a lifestyle concept, modern with live entertainment to fascinate customers with a hint of class and flair. Exceptional quality to truly reward guests and makes Char Dining Room & Lounge the place to be seen.

>Daily, Lunch: 11:30am-2:30pm; Dinner: 5:30-10:30pm; Bar: 10pm-1am. 3/F, InterContinental Beijing Sanlitun, 1 South Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区南三里屯路1号北京三里屯通盈中心洲际酒店三层 (8516 0065)

### Morton's of Chicago (American) \$\$\$ \*

Meat so tender the knife falls through it: ritzy Morton's deserves the worldwide praise. Expensive, but where else are you going to get steak this good? (Try the RMB550 set menu if you want to save cash) > Mon-Sat 5:30-11pm, Sun 5-10:30pm; 2/F, Regent Hotel, 9 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街99号丽晶酒店二层 (6523 7777)

### O'Steak

A well-cooked steak in Beijing isn't all that rare anymore, and here we have affordable but quality cuts. Don't be fooled by the Irish sounding name, it's an authentic French bistro – not a Guinness in sight.

> Daily midday-midnight, Xingfu: No.55-7 Xingfucun Zhonglu, opposite of April courtmet, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中街55-7杰作大厦底商绿叶超市斜对面 (8448 8250); Central Park: No.0103 building 20, Central Park, No.6 Chaowai Avenue, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际20号楼103 (65336599); shunyi: No.11-102 Shine Hills, No.9 Antai Avenue, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪安泰大街9号祥云小镇南门 11号楼102 (8048 5080)

### 29 Grill (Contemporary Western) \*

Top-notch steak, along with just about every other cut of meat found in the barnyard in this well-priced meat-eaters' mecca. > Mon-Fri lunch: 11:30am-2:30pm; Mon-Sat dinner: 6-10:30pm (closed Sundays); Conrad Beijing, 2/F, 29 North Dongsanhuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路9号2层 (6584 6270)

## Spanish

### Agua ¥ \*

Occupying the high end of Nali's Spanish invasion, Agua excels with reasonably priced classics like suckling pig, chorizo and jamon. Winner of the 2014 Golden Fork Editors' Pick for best restaurant.

> Daily Midday-2pm, 6pm-10pm. 4/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园 (5208 6188)

### Casa Talia by Tiago

>Daily 11:30am-9pm, 01B, 4/F, Raffles City, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心4层01B 8409 4009

### Niajo ¥ \*

With homely Mediterranean influences and a charming management, Niajo is prime Sanlitun smart-casual dining. Order the paella (their star dish) together with some tapas and be automatically transported to Spain (minus the constant sunshine).

> Daily noon-10:30pm. 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6052)

### Migas Mercado ¥ \*

A place to dance and rowl, perhaps, rather than a drinks destination, TBAM, as on one calls it, focuses on upscale local DJs to get the party started. Good-enough cocktails are offered but mostly it's about the music, man >Daily 11:30-3am, 7th Floor, North Zone, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城三期北区7层(65007579)

## Asian

### Indian

### Raj

Tucked away in dusty old building just underneath the drum tower, this curryhouse may look Chinese but everything on the menu is authentic Indian, especially the rather fine naan.

> Daily 11am-2pm, 5pm-11pm, 31 Gulou Xidajie Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼西大街31号 (6401 1675)

### Ganges

We'll take the risk of making a bold state-

ment: Ganges Indian Restaurant has one of the best menus in town. At Ganges, every dish comes with a story, taking diners on a culinary journey through the flavors of India with its original and authentic offerings. Sample the huge menu with our buffet lunch at the Sanlitun and CBD locations for just RMB60 per person.

> Daily 11am to 10:30pm; Dongzhimen Branch: 2/F, 28 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号2层 (6417 0900); Lidon store: 38 Fangyuan Xilu, Jiuxianqiao, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥方圆西路38号 (5135 8353 / 8430 8700); CBD: 138A, B1/F, The Place, 9Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang District朝阳区光华路9号世贸天阶1号楼 (6587 2999); Shimao Dept Store: Room 202, No.1 Shimao dept store, Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang District朝阳区工人体育场北路十三号院一号楼世茂工三二202(64160181);Haidian:6-02-01 Wudako U Center, 28 Chengfu Lu, Haidian District海淀区成府路28号优盛大厦6-02-01 (6262 7944)

### IN-KITCHEN

The go to curry house among Beijing's homesick Indian community, this ever popular no-nonsense restaurant has built up a solid reputation thanks to its wide range of quality dishes and particularly friendly service. Looking good after a recent renovation and very available on JiNhiSong online delivery.

> Daily 11am-2:30pm, 5:30-11pm, Mon-Fri lunch buffet for RMB78. 2/F 2 Sanlitun Beixiaoje, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街2号楼 (6462 7255)

### The Lobby

The Lobby is the heart of every Peninsula hotel, and the restyled Lounge at The Peninsula Beijing presents an impressive setting to share the celebrated Peninsula Afternoon Tea with family or friends accompanied by live music. The Lobby also serves an a la carte breakfast, plus an eclectic selection of international and Asian favorite dishes.

>Daily, 11am-11pm, After Tee 2pm-6pm 1/F, The Peninsula, 8 Jinyu Hutong, Dongcheng District金鱼胡同8号王府半岛酒店一层 (8516 2888 Ext 6764)

## Japanese

### HAGAKI 叶书 \*

Serves up a selection of signature maki rolls, as well as classics like tonkatsu, tempura and udon, Hagaki specializes in Californian-inspired Japanese cuisine and has a lively sushi bar.

>Daily 11am-2:30pm, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu,Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 8414 9815

### Hatsune ¥ \* (California Japanese)

As much a California roll joint as true Japanese, Hatsune is now an old favorite among the sake-swilling, sushi-swallowing set, though less so among sashimi purists. > Daily 11:30am-2pm, 5:30-10pm; 2/F, Heqiao Bldg C, 8A Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路甲8号和乔大厦C座2层 (6581 3939) >Additional locations in Sanlitun Tai Koo Li South; Kerry Centre Mall (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

### Inagiku \*

This Beijing branch of one of Tokyo's oldest and most celebrated restaurants is as near to perfection as you're likely to find. Deceptively simple yet finely crafted, the handmade Inaniwa udon (RMB80) is not to be missed.

> Daily 11am-3pm, 6-10:30pm; Rm 315, 3/F, Park Life, Yintai Centre, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号银泰中心悦生活3层315室 (8517 2838)

### Sake Manzo \*

The barmen here are serious about their sake. Boasting one of the best stocked drinks cabinets in town with over 60 different sakes on offer, this super-cool little eatery is the perfect place to unwind after a hard day's toil. The sashimi is fresh to the cut, and the beer-marinated chicken is out of this world. One of the very best and least appreciated restaurants in town.

> Daily 6pm-midnight. 7A Tuanjiehu Beisiantiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区团结湖北三单甲7号(6436 1608)

### Yotsuba \*\*

It doesn't come cheap (tasting menu RMB1,000), but what would you expect from some of the best sushi in town? Buttery and meaty fatty tuna sashimi is a cut above.

> Dongcheng: Tue-Sun 11:30am-11pm. Sanlitun branch: 2 Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街2号 (6464 2365); Lido branch: 2F, No.9-3, Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-3号2层 (8420 0998)

### Sui Ka

Is this what after-work hangouts are like in Japan? We're not sure, but we hope so. This charming izakaya nails it when it comes to sake selection and fried delights to munch alongside it.

>Daily 5pm-1am, Ichibangai First Avenue Food

Court, Zaoying Nanli, Maizidian, East 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环农展馆北路宾都苑东侧一层底商一番街区 (137 1692 7543)

## Korean

### Ai Jiang Shan

This upscale seafood restaurant proves that chargrill and composure can go together. Their RMB58 bibimbap lunch is an absolute bargain.

> Daily 11am-10pm, Sat and Sun until 9:30pm; 5/F, LG Twin Towers (East Tower), 12 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街乙12号双子座大厦东塔5层(51096036/6037) see www.thatsmags.com for other locations)

## South-East Asian

### Cafe Sambal (Malaysian)

When it comes to Malay-style food in a hutong, nowhere does it better. Admittedly, it's something of a niche category, but then so is the food on offer. The spicy Kapitan-style chicken is pricey, but worth it.

> Daily 11am-midnight. 43 Doufuchi Hutong (just east of Jiugulou Dajie), Xicheng 西城区豆腐池胡同43号旧鼓楼大街往东走(6400 4875)

### 4Corners (Vietnamese, Fusion)

The definitive hutong bar/restaurant? Chef Jun Trinh took a break from his celebrity TV work to host this part-Vietnamese venue, serving up steaming bowls of pho with zesty, fresh rolls, as well as a great bar, with frequent live indie performances.

> Tue-Sun 11am-2am, 27 Dashibei Hutong (near west end of Yandai Xiejie), Xicheng 西城区大石碑胡同27号烟袋斜街西口附近 (6401 7797)

### Purple Haze (Thai)

Given Beijing's lack of white sand beaches and backpacker bars, Purple Haze has to make do for the best Thai experience in town. Has all the classics like veggie spring rolls (RMB40), papaya salad (RMB46) and curries (RMB44-180) – but our pick's the seafood pad Thai (RMB45).

> Daily 11am-11pm, 55 Xingfu Yicun, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村55号 (6413 0899)

### Nyonya Kitchen (Malaysian, Nyonya)

This chain specializes in Nyonya style cooking – ostensibly Malaysian but with a mix of Chinese, South-East Asian and European influences resulting in lots of bold flavors and bright colors. The interiors are just as loud as the flavors – this place is colorful – and we love it. Nyonya goes beyond the requisite laksa and satay.

>NL5008, 5/F, North Phase, Bldg 17, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District 朝阳区建国门外大街1号楼17楼国贸商城北区五层 NL5008 (8415 0863)

### Malacca Legend

Malaysian food with a view, this spacious and airy restaurant sits on the banks of Shunyi's Roma Lake and at a new unit in the heart of the city at The Place, making a great spot for their beef rendang or green curry prawns.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 6 Roma Lake: 6 Luodong Lu, Luozhengzhuang Village, Hoshayu Town, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪镇罗各庄村罗马湖东北三路6号C院 (80498902); Signature: Shop L203, 2/F, The Place, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路9号世贸天阶L203 (6587 1393)

### Makan Kitchen

A unique restaurant offering varied Southeast Asian flavors and Chinese cuisines. Tuck into a buffet featuring regional Asian stations, a dedicated fresh juice bar and live stations to whet your appetite. With a beautiful private dining room for functions or meetings in comfort and style, Makan Kitchen is the perfect venue for a relaxing get-together or a delightful weekend brunch.

>Mon-Fri, Breakfast: 6-10am, Lunch: 11:30am-2:30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm; Sat-Sun, Breakfast: 6-11am, Lunch: 12-2:30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm, 2/F, Main Tower, Hilton Hotel, 1 Dongfang Lu, Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路东坊路1号北京希尔顿酒店2层 (5865 5020)

### Singapore Seafood

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: Daily 11am-10pm, NL4010, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4010 (8595 0251/8595 0361); Parview Green Branch: Daily 11am-10:30pm, 1/F, Tower C, Parkview Green, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草地购物中心C座1层(东大桥地铁站) (8518 8811)

### Susu (Vietnamese)

The first step is finding it. Follow that up with a dreamlike renovated courtyard, extensive wine list and a listing of top-notch Vietnamese curries, banh mi sandwiches, stews, soups and la Vong fish.

> Tue-Sun 11:30am-11pm; 10 Qianliang Hutong Xixiang, Dongcheng 东城区钱粮胡同西巷10号 (8400 2699)

## Vegetarian

### Lotus 莲花空间

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: NL4006, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4006 (8527 4868); Financial Street Branch: Daily 11am-9pm, L220, 2/F, Seasons Place Mall, 2 Jinchengfang Jie, Xicheng 西城区金融街2号金融街购物中心2层东层L220 (6622 0515)

### Tianchu Maoxiang (Asian)

Like many arrivals to Beijing, this place started out in Wudaokou and it's since made a successful migration to Chaoyang. Great range of veggie fare, reasonably priced and they offer cooking classes as well.

> Daily 10am-10pm; 19 Rm 0260, 2/F, Bldg D, Chaowai SOHO, 6B Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区门外大街乙6朝外SOHO大厦2层0260(59001288)(see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

### Veggie Table (Western, Asian) \*

Proving that Beijing-style vegetarian cuisine is by no means the exclusive preserve of Buddhist monks and sorry Jack Johnson fans, this superbly honed eatery offers some of the very best sandwiches – vegetarian or otherwise – found anywhere in the city. > Daily 10:30am-11:30pm (last order 10:30pm); 19 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同19号 (6446 2073)

## BARS

### TOP 40 BARS AND CLUBS

About This guide represents our editors' top 40 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Bars rated(\*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

### Arrow Factory

The newest craft beer taproom on the block, Arrow Factory is a rustic hideaway brimming with good Anglo-Scandinavian vibes (courtesy of the brew-masters) and the brand's distinctive Chinese brewed ales. A winning combination

> 38 Jianchang Hutong, Dongcheng District 东城区前厂胡同38号 (6407 6308)

### 8-Bit

Drinking alongside multiplayer retro gaming – why didn't anyone do this sooner? Megadrive, Super Nintendo, N64... some real gems make up an ever-growing collection. Draft Kirin goes for a reasonable RMB25 a glass.

> Daily 1pm-2am; 13 Beiluoxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷13号 (159 1025 6538)

### China Bar ¥¥

Top views from the 65th floor and flash drinks are the attractions on offer at this hip hotel bar.

> Sun-Thu 5pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5pm-2am. 65/F, Park Hyatt, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号柏悦酒店65层 (8567 1838/40)

### First Floor

First Floor is like that friend who's too popular to properly enjoy their company. At weekends, it gets aggressively full, with regulars and the passing tourist trade all baying at the bar. A good place to meet new friends, perhaps.

> Daily, 4pm-late, Sanlitun Beixiaoje, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街 (6413 0587, first.floor@beijing.com)

### El Nido \*

The first hutong hang-out to patent the fridge-full-of-cheap-imports formula, El Nido inspires a loyal following, particularly in summer. The roast leg of mutton place next door is one of the best locally.

> Daily 6pm-late, 59 Fangjia Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同59号(158 1038 2089)

### Great Leap Brewing 大跃啤酒 ¥ \*

The bar that began the whole Beijing microbrewing frenzy (yes, frenzy) specializes in idiosyncratic, local-style brews (RMB25-40) with intriguing flavors – their Sichuan peppercorn ale was memorably good. Reservations used to be recommended for their original hutong brewhouse, but the opening of a wildly popular new pub on Xinzhong Lu has shifted most drinkers there instead.

> Gulou: 5pm-late, Tue-Fri, 2pm-late Sat-Sun 2-10pm, 6 Doujiao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区豆角胡同6号 (5717 1399); Sanlitun: Daily 11:30am-2pm; Sun-Thu 5pm-midnight, Fri/Sat 5pm-1am, B12 Xinzhong Street 新中街乙12号 (6416 6887, www.greatleapbrewing.com)

### Heaven Supermarket

A purgatory of bottles, bongs and bedraggled English teachers, Heaven sells the cheapest alcoholic takeaways in town. You

can also hang around and appreciate the afterlife (clientele) if you want. Caveat: the food is straight from Hell's own kitchen.  
> Daily 11-4am. 14 Xindong Lu (next to The James Joyce), Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路14号 (6415 6513)

#### Hidden Lounge \*

Although frustrating to find, Hidden Lounge rewards the intrepid with good artwork and comfortable seating, suggesting a Kasbah, plus well-made drinks at great prices (wine from RMB100 a bottle, mix drinks from RMB25). You'll probably have to call them to find it, though.  
> Daily 6pm-1am. Room 101, Bldg 8, CBD Apartments, Shuanghuayuan Nanli Erqu, Chaoyang 朝阳区双花园南里二区CBD公寓8号楼101层 (8772 1613)

#### Jane's & Hooch ¥ \*

Acclaimed by some foreign press as one of the best bars in the world (cough), this not-so-plain Jane has been at the vanguard of the South Sanlitun gentrification. It serves RMB60-80 measures of your favorite Prohibition-era hooches in a fanstastic speakeasy atmosphere, with attentive staff and unimpeachable cocktails.  
> Daily 8pm-2am, Courtyard 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6503 2757)

#### Jing-A Brewpub \*\*

In just a few years, these guys developed from shady guerrilla brewers to upstanding publicans with their own range of souvenir T-shirts. Their bar is a peach: a bricks-and-mortar brewpub, which is large, warm and sociable, and has up to 16 different beers on tap.  
> 57 Xingfucun Zhong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路57号

#### Mao Mao Chong \*\*

The cocktails at Mao's – such as their sublime 'Mala' Mule, a Sichuan peppercorn-infused vodka drink that's a long way from Moscow – are unique infusions using local ingredients and know-how. Grungey without being grimy, Mao's eschews flash while still keeping it real. And those pizzas.  
> 12 Banchang Hutong, Jiadaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街广胡同12号 (6405 5718, www.maomaochongbeijing.com)

#### Mesh ¥

Whether it's an early evening cocktail or a late-night infusion, Mesh's moody interior and underground soundtrack draws the bright young things (and on LGBT Thursdays, quite a few old things, too).  
> Daily 5pm-2am. Building 1, 11 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号院1号楼 (6417 6688)

#### Maggie's ¥

A notorious sausage fest (we refer, of course, to the hot-dog stand outside), Maggie's has been providing its special comforts for so long, it's practically a time-honored Beijing brand – although it's also a bastion of Mongolian culture.  
> Sun-Thur 8pm-4am, Fri-Sat 8pm-5am, Ritan Park South Gate, Chaoyang District 朝阳区日坛公园南门 (8562 8142)

#### Parlor

Learn a few quotes from *Gatsby* before heading to this 20s Shanghai-style speakeasy and you'll fit right in.  
> Daily 6pm-2am, 39-8 Xingfucun, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路幸福村29-8 (8444 4135)

#### Mai Bar \*

Understated hutong hideaway with a long list of some of the best cocktails in town.  
> Daily 5pm-late, 40 Beiluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷40号 (6406 1871)

#### Revolution \*\*

Sanlitun doesn't really do hipster bars but if it did, this cramped ode to Maamorabilia would be it. The East may be red but their cocktails (RMB45) are fit for a Chairman.  
> Daily, 12pm-late, west of Yashow, Gongti Bei Lu, 朝阳区工体北路秀秀市场西侧 (6415 8776)

#### The Brick

A Cheers-style atmosphere ensures you'll find this neighbourhood drinking hole-in-the-brick-wall faux dive bar either cliquy or inclusive. The heavy-duty cocktails (including the devastatingly boozy RMB80 Terminator) are probably needed for the bizarre Wednesday pub quiz.  
> Daily 4pm-late. Unit 2-11, Bldg 2, Tianzhi Jiaozi, 31 Guanggu Lu (northeast corner of Shuangjing Qiao), Chaoyang 朝阳区双井桥东北角广渠路31号院天之骄子2号楼底商2-11 (134 2616 6677)

#### The Irish Volunteer

Everything – from the red-faced tinger to the grub – is authentically Irish: tinged with alcoholism, doggerel and drunken regret. A good place to down a pint and a pizza before heading into town, then.  
> Daily 9pm-2am. 311 Jiangtai Lu (opposite Lido Hotel East Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路311号 (6438 5581)

#### Slow Boat Sanlitun Brewpub \*\*

This popular microbrewery is a Beijing classic (if you haven't tried the Zombie Pirate Pale Ale yet, then what are you doing?). Other things to love: quality ales that change each season, a massive three-story space, and some of the best burgers in town.  
> Daily, 11am-late; 6 Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路6号 (6592 5388)

#### Glen ¥

Experiences can vary at Glen (we've endured poor service and drinks that are scandalous at the price), which is located in a decidedly downbeat compound. But whisky lovers have been known to swear by its selections and dark, intimate atmosphere. See for yourself.  
> Daily 6:30pm-2am. 203, 2/F, Taiyue Suites Hotel Beijing, 16 Nansanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路16号泰悦豪庭2楼203室 (6591 1191)

#### Glen Classic ¥

Tucked away in the grounds of Face hotel, Glen Classic is a Japanese-owned whisky bar where discerning drinkers can sink into an arm-chair, glass in hand, and while away the hours. Huge range of whiskeys and rums are personally selected by expert owner Daiki Kanetaka – let him recommend you something special.  
> Mon-Sat, 7pm-2am, reservation required, minimum spend RMB200, Face Hotel Courtyard, 26 Dongcaoyuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体南路东草园26号 (6551 6788)

#### Trouble Bar

Beijing's leading venue for imported craft beers. Stocks a large draft selection and an even larger selection of bottles. Also does a nice line in creative cocktails, if brews aren't your thing. Conveniently located next to Gung-Ho, hosts a full-sized foos-ball table, darts, and plenty of TV's to accommodate any event, meetings, and gatherings.  
> 2-101, China View Building, 28 Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang (Next To Gung-Ho) 朝阳区工人体育场东路22号中国红街2-101叫板比萨隔壁 (8590 0390, trouble-bar@gmail.com, www.trouble.bar)

#### Yun Summer Lounge

The only open-air roof lounge in Wangfujing gets set for sunset with hand crafted cocktails paired with beautiful Beijing views, modern Mediterranean sharing plates and chilling DJ tunes.  
> Mon-Thur, 5pm-midnight, Fri-Sat, 5pm-1am, 15/F, The Peninsula Beijing, 8 Jinyu Hutong, Dongcheng District 东城区金鱼胡同8王府半岛酒店15层 (8516 2888)

## 10 Best Livehouses

#### Dusk Dawn Club (DDC) 黄昏黎明俱乐部

Great little livehouse near Meishuguan with a focus on jazz, folk and indie rock. Craft beer and whisky means you won't get bored of the drinks list quickly.  
> Tue-Sun 1pm-2am; 14 Shanlao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区美术馆后街山老胡同14号 (6407 8969)

#### School Bar 学校酒吧 \*

Crap drinks and regular, unscheduled fights: no wonder the cool kids adore this alternative livehouse/DJ bar, founded by Beijing and Shanghai rock n' rollers.  
> Daily 8pm-late. 53 Wudaoying Hutong, Chaoyang 朝阳区五道营胡同53号 (6402 8881, 6406 9947)

#### Jianghu 江湖酒吧

This former Qing Dynasty courtyard home is exactly where you'd take that friend from out of town to prove you're cool. Its cozy atmosphere is also its downfall – any show with under 40 people and you're stuck looking through the windows. Hip and casually familiar, the jazz and folk bookings keep things low-key enough for the get-home-for-the-babysitter crowd.  
> 7 Dongmianhua Hutong, Jiadaokou Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街东棉花胡同7号 (6401 5269, site.douban.com/jianghujubar, jincanzh@gmail.com)

#### Hot Cat Club 热力猫

A true stalwart of the Beijing scene, Hot Cat is the type of hard-working venue that helps cement a city's music scene.  
> Daily 10am-late, 46 Fangjia Hutong (just south of Guozijian Jie), Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同46号 (6400 7868)

#### The Post Mountain 后山

Built into a man-made hill in the center of the MOMA Complex, this new addition to Beijing's growing livehouse empire is The Hobbit meets Manhattan. With as much vibe as a sterile modern-art gallery. Its imported sound system and ramped floor makes for decent sound and sightlines.  
> Bldg T8, MOMA, 1 Xiangheyuan Lu,

Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng (next to MOMA Cinemateque) 东城区东直门外香河园路1号当代MOMA园区T8楼北百老汇电影中心北侧 (8400 4774)

#### Temple \*

Probably the manliest venue in town, this dimly lit and unventilated space is owned by rockers (Gao Xu, Gao Jian and Clement Burger) and known for late sets of hard rock, punk and ska, with weekend gigs and DJ sets every fortnight. It offers a long drinks menu, with plenty of cheap pastis and shooters, but you'll probably stick to the RMB15 draught.  
> Daily, 7pm-late. Bldg B, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B楼202 (131 6107 0713)

#### Yugong Yishan 愚公移山 \*

We've lost more body weight than we'd care to remember in YY's mosh pit. Fortunately, almost all the acts – usually hip-hop DJs, emo rocks and obscure indie outfits from across the globe – were worth it. The upstairs bar area is a refuge from the sweat glands below.  
> Daily 7pm-late. 3-2 Zhangzhizhong Lu (100m west of Zhangzhizhong Lu subway station), Dongcheng 东城区张自忠路3-2号(6404 2711)

## Hotel Bars

#### Atmosphere ¥¥

Beijing's highest bar, on the 80th floor of the 1,082-ft China World Tower, offers 300+ swanky cocktails from RMB65 with 360-degree views of the 700AQ PM2.5.  
> Mon-Fri noon-2am, Sat and Sun noon-4am. 80/F, China World Summit Wing, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号北京国贸大酒店80 (6505 2299 ext. 6433)

#### Centro ¥

Although it's no longer quite the go-to place for beautiful people it once was, Centro still draws a cute crowd with its nightly jazz performances, spacious and recently renovated lounge areas and classic drinks like the blue-cheese martini.  
> Open 24 hours. 1/F, Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号北京嘉里大饭店1层 (6561 8833)

#### MEI

One of the livelier hotel bars in town, MEI has a nightly band, serves creatively delicious cocktails and overlooks the CCTV 'trousers'. Don't leave without trying the frightfully delicious Panjiayuan Bramble.  
> Mon-Wed 6pm-2am, Thu-Sat 6pm-3am, Sun 5pm-midnight; 5F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang District 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6536 0083)

#### O'Bar

With both a fantastic cocktail menu and one of the finest terraces in the city, NUO Hotel's O'Bar is a sure bet for classy evening drinks in the city.  
> Sun-Thur 6pm-1am; Fri-Sat 6pm-2am; 2 Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号 (5926 8888)

#### Xian 仙

Bold multi – element bar Xian on the ground floor mixes a pub, whiskey bar, live music venue and games room into one vibrant entertainment hotspot.  
> Daily 5pm-2am, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxiangqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 (8414 9810)

## Nightclubs

#### Chocolate

It's impossible to discuss Chocolate without mentioning gold leaf, dwarves, cabaret dancers and oddly-friendly Russian women. Timed right, a visit can be raucous fun, with bottles of spirits from around RMB200, cocktails under RMB50 (including the absinthe-based Flaming Armageddon) and regular floor shows.  
> Daily 7pm-6am. 19 Ritan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区日坛北路19号 (8561 3988)

#### Dada \*

It hasn't been on the Beijing scene for too long, but already Dada is the hippest hangout in town. Their cosy Gulou confines under rock house Temple offer an intimate place to nod along to an eclectic range of all things electro from the best names on the underground scene.  
> Daily 9pm-late, Rm 101, Bldg B, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B栋101室 (183 1108 0818)

#### Lantern \*

Founded by now-defunct Acupuncture Records, Lantern is a beacon of light in the strip of truly gangster nightclubs and bars known as 'Gongti'. Serious about its music, it also makes good drinks and attracts international electronic DJs.

> Thurs-Sat 9pm-6.30am. 100m north of Worker's Stadium West Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场西门向北100米 (139 119 77989)

#### MIX

A bit like a trip to the Forbidden City, Mix is one of those places in Beijing you have to experience before you leave. Not much is forbidden in this underground hip-hop disco palace and if you don't leave with hook-up in tow then you're doing something very wrong.  
> Daily 8pm-6am, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门外 (6506 9888, 6530 2889, 150 1138 2219, mixclub@sohu.com)

#### Vics

Separated at birth from its identical twin brother, Mix, this is the definition of Gongti sweatbox meat-market chic at its very finest. The Chinese love it – as do moody Russians and jailbait students – helping Vics to become one of the most infamous clubs in the capital.  
> Daily 8.30pm-late, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门外 (5293 0333)

## Sports Bars

#### The Local \*

Formerly Brussels, this beery bar has come into its own, with large (yet strangely unobtrusive) screenings of sports and political events, a pub quiz, quality fare and a nice selection of draughts and cocktails. Try the Bourbon Street Ice Tea – you won't need another.  
> Daily 11-2am. 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6591 9525)

#### Paddy O'Shea's \*

An entire Irish-themed pub, which could easily be transported, untouched, from a back alley in Limerick and gently deposited in central Beijing. With plenty going on, including pub quiz and sports.  
> Dongzhimen: Daily 10am-late, 28 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号 (6592 6290); Sanlitun: 2/F, Tongli Studio, Sanlitun Back Street 三里屯北路43号同里二层 (6415 0299)  
V Sports Spacious, comfortable, huge screens and no rowdy drunken cretins, V Sports makes a claim for the champion of Beijing sports bars.  
> Daily 5.30pm-6am. Gongti North Gate East side, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北门外东侧 (5293 0333)

## HAIR SALONS



**CATHERINE DE FRANCE**  
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**Best Expat Hair Salon**  
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北京市朝阳区新东路10号逸盛阁首层 (裕信银行楼下)  
East Avenue, 10 Xindong Rd, Chaoyang Dist, Beijing

#### Catherine de France

Awarded best expat salon in 2014/ 2015, with a trained team of international and local stylists, colorists and beauticians, this salon welcomes all ages and budgets in a modern and relaxed atmosphere for a wide range of hair and beauty treatments, include manicure, pedicure and waxing. Wella, Sp, INOA, TIGI  
Language: French, English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian.  
> East Avenue BLD Ground Floor, No.10 Xindong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路10号逸盛阁首层 (8442 5120, 135 2147 3492, eastavenue@catherinedefrance.com, Wechat: CDFSalon, www.catherinedefrance.com)

**Blow+Bar**

This salon is equipped with more than shampoo — the team here provides haircuts, dye, updos, hair treatments and more. With prices for almost everything listed under RMB1,000, Blow+ is a haven of reasonably priced good taste in Sanlitun's 3-3 Mall. They have champagne and a well-stocked bar, so bring your friends and make a night of it.

> 3/F 3-3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号3层3/F (for appointments, call 5136 5432)

**Laurent Falcon**

As China's first REAL French hair salon we promise each and every one of our customers that we'll treat your hair like it's our own. We use only the finest imported products to guarantee that your experience with us is as relaxing and professional as possible. Come in and meet our specialist stylist and visit our facilities. Your hair deserves a true touch of French sophistication. Man cut 120RMB up; Women cut 180RMB up; Color 580RMB up; Highlight 680RMB up.

> SanLiTun salon: No.43 Building, SanLiTun Beijing South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街43号楼 (64094243, 13501372971); GuoMaoSalon: CB1007, B1, Middle Zone, China World Shopping Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城中地区地下一层CB1007

**BEAUTY & FITNESS****Black Golden Tanning Studio**

Beijing is hardly the best place to pick up a natural tan. When it finally reaches the warm summer, the sun's rays struggle to penetrate the smog. Thankfully, Black Golden Tanning Studio is on hand to give you that golden glow with its quick, safe and effective technology. With a membership card, enjoy a 50-minute session for RMB400 and come away with natural, healthy-looking color.

> Sanlitun: 11am-9pm, 2/F, Bldg 3, Sanlitun SOHO, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路三里屯Soho3号楼2层217 (5785 3711, jusonghao@hotmail.com); Wangjing: 11am-9pm, Rm 15, 3/F, BOTAL International Building, 36 Guangshun Bei Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区望京广顺北大街36号博泰国际商业广场3层1-5 (8472 2855)

**Alona Pilates Studio**

Pairing up traditional Pilates with an innovative, full-body workout, Alona Pilates offers classes designed to tone and whip you into shape fast. It also provides a personalized experience for all its students, regardless of fitness, strength and flexibility levels.

> Daily, 7:30, late 5/F at Heavenly Spa by Westin, 1 Xinyuan Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源南路1号威斯汀酒店五层 (139 1029 0260, www.alonapilates.com)

**Beijing Hikers**

Want to experience the wild, unrestored Great Wall, away from the tourist masses? Or do you just want to get out of the city for some exercise? Beijing Hikers offers hikes in the countryside of Beijing every week all year round. Hikes for all fitness levels! Regular hikes are priced from RMB380, with discounts for members. Cost includes hiking guide, transportation, tickets, food and water. We've also got adventures all over China.

> For more information, visit www.beijinghikers.com

**Lily Nails**

Lily Nails is a high-end nail salon chain. Founded in 2001, there are now 15 shops in Beijing. In addition to manicures, pedicures and eyelash extensions, there are massage for the head, back and shoulders. Prices have also been favored by many foreign friends, with RMB168 for pedicure, RMB98 for the manicure and a half-hour massage just for RMB100. One-time promotion: Take a photo in front of any Lily Nails

**shop and get a discount!**

> Daily, 10 am-10pm; Sanlitun: Shop 3008, 3F, Sanlitun 3, 3 Building, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号3层3008号 (51365919) Dongzhimen: Shop 11H, B1, Ginza Mall, 48 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街48号东方银座B1-11H号 紧邻名创优品 (8447 7178) Wudaokou: 4F, Wudaokou Shopping Center, 28 Chengfu Lu, Haidian

海淀区成府路28号五道口购物中心4楼 (62666070) Blue Harbour: B1, Blue Harbour Chaoyang, 6 Chaoyangongyuan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园路6号蓝色港湾B1 YanSha: Shop 9, B1, International Finance Center, West of YanSha Bridge, Dongsanhuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环燕莎桥西平安国际金融中心B1层09号 (8444 2483) Fenglian: Shop 29, B1, Fenglian Square, 18 Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳门外大街18号丰联广场地下一层B129号 (6588 3633) Yutang: 4019B, 4F, Yutang Shopping Center, 2 Sanfengbeili, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北里2号悠唐购物中心一期4层4019号 (8561 5875) Shimao: Shop 301, 3F, 13 Shimao Square, 13 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路13号三里屯世茂工三购物中心广场3层301号 临近凯撒旅游 (8590 0569) Hesheng Hui: Shop 19, B1, Hesheng Hui Shopping Center, Xi Dawang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区西大望路合生汇购物中心负一层19号 (6772 2530) Changtian: Shop 16, 2F, Changtian Street Shopping Center, 1 Changtong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区常通路1号院1号楼长楸天街购物中心西区2F-16 (132 6978 7832) International Trade: B1, South Bldg, Beijing Jiali Center, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号北京嘉里中心南楼B1层 (8590 3082) Haidian Kaide Crystal Mall: Shop 9, LG Lower Layer, Kaide Crystal Mall, Haidian 海淀区凯德晶品Mall负一层 LG层下一层 09号 (8819 7078) Wangjing Kaide Mall: Shop K01, 2F, Kaide Mall, 33 Guangshunbei Dajie, Wangjing 广顺北大街33号凯德Mall望京店2层K01号 (5602 0736) Sun Palace: Shop 15A, B1, Kaide Mall, Taiyanggong Zhonglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区太阳宫中路太阳宫凯德Mall负一层15A (8443 0639) Wanliu: Shop 19, 4F, Hualian Wanliu Shopping Center, 2 Bagou Lu, Haidian 海淀区巴沟路2号华联万柳购物中心四层F419 (8258 9517)

**Daisy's Beauty Salon**

Since 2001, Daisy's beauty salon has catered to thousands of Beijing expats and locals and is renowned for its premium waxing services and imported wax that smells like hot chocolate. If waxing isn't your thing, the salon also specializes in an array of other treatments including IPL Facial Rejuvenation and lifting, a 90-minute treatment that uses a laser to stimulate collagen production and soften lines. Laser and IPL permanent hair removal treatment is also proving popular and effective.

> Daily, 10am-8:30pm, Rm301, Building B, Sunshine100 International Apartment, Guanghua Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东路2号阳光100国际公寓B座301室 (5100 0556 / 0557, www.daisysbeautysalon.com)

**Narcisse Beauty Brands Encompassed**

One of a kind! A 600 m<sup>2</sup> brand-new concept of beauty salon — Narcisse, encompassed with professional brands on skincare, manicure and hair removal. Not only can we guarantee to give you the highest quality of products and treatments, but also an impressive one-stop beauty experience.

**Brands inside Narcisse:**

**Youngfo: Facial Cleansing Center:** Clean Out What's Deeply Buried In Your Skin; **10+10: Minimal-Design Nail:** Chic Workaholic's Luvi!; **Edelweiss: Laser Hair Removal:** Latest Technology, Safe&Permanent

**Deep Facial Cleaning** —— 880rmb/once > 10:30am-10:30pm, Bldg. 1, No.6 West Fangyuan rd, Chaoyang (inside Narcisse Beauty Brands Encompassed) 朝阳区芳园西路6号院1号楼水仙美容品牌集合店内 (5365 9418)

**Shang Xia**

> L118 & 119, Li China World Mall, China World Trade Center 1, Jianguomen Waidajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号中国国际贸易中心国贸商城1楼L118 & 119 (6505 3446)

**Zell Cosmetic Clinic**

Founded by renowned dermatologist Dr. Shao Lin Hong, Zell uses recognized international cosmetology techniques to perform services including laser cosmetic surgery, minimally invasive cosmetic surgery, medical skincare and anti-aging.

> Room 2002, 1/F Building AB, Wantong Centre, 6 Chaowai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号万通中心1/F, 2002 (400-696-3390, www.zellbeauty.com)

**Sport****Yihe 42° Hot Yoga**

2 locations in Beijing: the best Yoga for Beginners! No previous experience necessary - and if your body is a bit stiff - that's okay! Yihe knows it can be a little intimidating to begin your journey into Yoga, so they are available to answer any questions you may have. It's a great workout for the body and calming for the mind. Call them today on (5905 6067, 8599 7395)

> Daily 10am-8pm, 3/F, No. 2 South Building, Blue

Castle, Dawang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区大望路蓝堡国际中心南写字楼2座3层 (8599 7395/96, www.yh42.com); 3/F, Bldg. 14, Solana, No. 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园西路6号, 蓝色港湾14号, 3层 (5905 6065/67, www.yh42.com)

**Broadwell International Tennis Academy**

Located inside Chaoyang Park's Tennis Center, this indoor club boasts a complete state-of-the-art air-supported structure for all-weather year-round indoor tennis, with an advanced lighting system and controlled climate. Ideal for peeps looking to perfect their service and batting a few balls.

> Nongzhan Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区农南路1号 朝阳公园网球中心 (400 6406 800/ 6595 8885, www.broadwell.cn1)

**California Fitness Beijing Club**

California Fitness Beijing's Group X program is among the best in the region, and with membership you have access to over 150 weekly Group X classes and a team of professional personal trainers in Asia. Your membership also includes free towel usage and a fitness assessment.

> South Tower, 14, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang (4008 100-988, www.californiafitness.com)

**Cycle China Inc. 北京非常之旅**

Cycle China provides organized cycling and hiking tours in and around Beijing as well as longer tours throughout China. Some of their more popular tours take cyclists through the Olympic Green, Tian'anmen Square, and Beijing's traditional hutongs.

> 12 Jingshan East Street, Dongcheng 东城区景山东街12号 (6402 5653, 139 1188 6524)

**Heyrobics**

"Sweet like a Swede!" they say with annoyingly smug grin and toned abs. The only fitness craze worth following in Beijing, Heyrobics is all about a punishing full-body workout set to pumping beats - not forgetting the fluorescent spandex. Differing classes for all abilities, check online for the full schedule.

> www.heyrobics.com, info@heyrobics.com

**HEALTH SERVICES****American-Sino OB/GYN/Pediatrics Services**

北京美华妇儿医院  
> 18 anyuan road, chaoyang district, Beijing 北京市朝阳区安苑路18号 (8443 9666, bj.americannobgyn.com)

**Amcare Women's & Children's Hospital**

With a zero waiting-time policy, top-quality inpatient facilities, home visits, night services and transportation assistance, Amcare provides a trustworthy experience. English-speaking services include pediatrics, gynecology and obstetrics.

> 9 Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区芳园西路9号 (6434 2399, 24hr hotline 800 610 6200, www.amcare.com.cn)

**Beijing International Medical Center**

(IMC) 北京国际医疗中心  
Established in 1993, the International Medical Center-Beijing counts on an expert team of foreign doctors, offering a wide range of medical services, including family medicine, psychological services, dental, ob/gyn, pediatrics and TCM. Drop-in services for travelers; x-rays and ultrasounds are also available. English, Farsi, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic and Russian spoken.

> 24hours. Room 1106/111 Luffthansa Center, 50 Liangmahe Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号 燕莎中心写字楼1层S106 (6465 1561/2/3, 6465 1384/28, www.imcclinics.com)

**Beijing United Family Hospital and Clinics**

北京和睦家医院  
> Wi-Fi internet. Lido, Emergency Room is open 24/7/365, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm; 2 Jianguai Road, Chaoyang District, 朝阳区将台路2号. (5927 7000 / 5927 7120 Emergency Hotline); United Family CBD Clinic and和睦家朝外诊所 Mon-Sat, 9:30am-6:30pm, Suite 3017, Building AB, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street, Chaoyang, 朝阳区朝外大街6号万通中心A8座2层3017室 (5907 1266); Jianguomen Health and Wellness Center and和睦家建国门保健中心, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Sun 8:30am-5pm, 21 Jianguomen Dajie, B1, The St. Regis Residence, St. Regis Hotel 朝阳区建国门外大街21号北京国际俱乐部饭店 (8532 1221 / 8532 1678 Immigration Clinic); Shunyi Clinic and和睦家顺义诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5:30pm, Sat and Sun, 9:30am-4:30pm, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 806, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi District, 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场806号 (8046 5432); Shunyi Dental Clinic 顺义牙科诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Sat, 9:30am-7:30pm, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 818, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场818号 (8046 1102); Liangma Clinic 亮马桥诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm, 2nd Floor Grand Summit, 19 Dongfang East Road 朝阳区东方东路19号1号楼会所27号 外交

人员公寓B区官舍16号 (5927 7005 www.ufh.com.cn, patientservices@ufh.com.cn)

**Raffles Medical**

International SOS and Raffles Medical Group have formed a joint venture to enhance and expand the services of its China Clinics. From March 30 the International SOS clinics in China will be branded and operated by Raffles Medical with expanded services to all patients and privileged access for International SOS members. Patients of the clinic will continue to have access to the same doctors, the same facilities and same level of high quality care.

Raffles Medical Group is a leading medical provider in Singapore and has been operating for 40 years with over 100 clinics and hospitals in Asia. The joint venture is committed to maintain the high standard of quality with a focus on innovative and expanded clinical services and excellent patient care.

> Suite 105, Wing 1, Kunsha Building, No.16 Xinyuanli, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源里16号琨莎中心1座105室 (6462 9112 / 6462 9100, www.international.sos.com)

**OASIS International Hospital**

OASIS International Hospital specializes in serving the expatriate community with the latest world-class technology and a broad range of services, all in a pristine facility designed to provide patients with the utmost comfort, care and privacy.

> Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5:30pm; Sat-Sun, 8:30am-12:30pm; 24 Hour Emergency Bldg C1, 9 Jiuxianqiao Beilu Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥北路9号C1栋 (400 876 2747, 5985 0333, www.oasishealth.cn)

**Beijing HarMoniCare Women and Children's Hospital 北京和美妇儿医院**

> Wi-Fi available. Chaoyang: 2 Xiaoguan Beili, Beiyuan Lu 北苑路小关北里甲2号 (6499 0000, contact@hmcare.org, en.hmcare.net)

**Hongkong International Medical Clinic, Beijing 北京港澳国际医务诊所**

> Dongshihitao: 9/F, Office Tower, Hongkong Macau Center-Swiss Hotel, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie 朝阳门北大街2号 港澳中心瑞士酒店办公楼9层 (6553 9752, 6553 2288/2345/6/7; service@hkclinic.com; www.hkclinic.com)

**DENTAL****Pu Jing Dental Clinic 浦京口腔门诊**

Pu Jing dental clinic is located on the second floor of Nuo office building in Lidu business district of Beijing. P.J dental has become one of the most trusted dental care providers for the embassies, international schools and foreign companies. P.J Dental has cooperated with many insurance companies to provide directly billing service.

We are committed to helping you achieve and maintain optimal oral health. > Rm. 201, 204, 2nd Floor, Office Building of Nuo Hotel, No. 2A, Jianguai Rd. Chaoyang District, Beijing 北京市朝阳区将台路2号 诺金酒店写字楼2层201 204室 6471326/6473128, 24hr hotline 4000508988/www.pjdental.cn

**Arrail Dental**

Affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania, Arrail Dental has access to top-class equipment. Its well-trained staff, multiple locations across town and excellent facilities make it one of the best dental providers in Beijing. English-speaking staff. Dental services including examinations, whitening, root-canal treatment, orthodontics and implants.

> Rm 201, the Exchange-Beijing, 118B Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路乙118号国贸桥东南角京汇大厦201室 (6557 5670); Rm 208, Tower A, CITIC Building, 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街19号国际大厦A座208室 (6500 6473); Rm 308, Tower A, Raycom Info Tech Park 2 Kexueyuan Nanlu, Haidian 海淀区中关村科学院南路2号融科资讯中心A座308室 (8286 1956); Rm 101, Bldg 16, China Central Place, 89 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路89号华贸中心公寓16号楼101室 (8588 8550/6070); 1/F, Somerset Fortune Garden, 46 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路46号燕莎东侧盛捷福景苑1层 (8440 1926)

**Beijing Passion International Medical Center**

This full-service international clinic provides 24-hr general medical care and a patient-centered attitude. Beijing Passion International Medical Center is equipped with the latest in medical technology and is designed to support the comfort, safety and privacy of patients.

> 24hours, B1/F, Borui Building, 26 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路26号博瑞大厦B1层 (6517 7667, www.passion-medical.com)

**Joinway Dental**

A reputable and trusted dental practice, Joinway Dental provides the perfect combination of cutting edge technology and com-

fortable treatment, while maintaining the strictest sanitary and sterilization processes. The clinic uses high-quality imported materials, and its professional, US-trained staff offers a personalized and private service.

> Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm; 11D, Building D, Oriental Kenzo Plaza (Ginza Mall), 48 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街48号东方银座D座11D (8447 6092/93, mobile:1326 181 6708, joinway@dentalcn.com, www.dentalcn.com)

#### PrettySmile Dental

If you are looking for professional and comfortable dental care, PrettySmile Dental is highly recommended by many patients. The clinic is standing out because of the professional team, all doctors are from the dental hospital of Peking University and most of them got professional training in USA. The strictest sterilization processes and high-end imported equipment and materials all help guarantee the highest quality of all dental services.

> Mon-Fri, 9:30am-6pm (closed Thu); 5-105, 1F, Bldg 5, Sanlitun SOHO Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯SOHO 5号商场1层5-105(57853689/57853898, www.prettysmiledental.cn, psd3898@163.com)

#### Parkway Health Clinic

> Mon-Sat, 10am-7pm; CBD, 1-2/F, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street 朝阳门外大街六号万通中心A座一二层 (4000 662-882, 24hrs; enquiry@parkwayhealth.cn; www.parkwayhealth.cn); No.101-201, Beijing link, block2, No.6 Yuan, Jing Shun Dong Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区京顺东路6号院2号楼北京Link.101-201室

#### United Family Dental



For over 20 years, United Family Dental has offered quality dental care in China with internationally trained healthcare providers. The scope of services includes dental cleanings, oral surgery, fillings, crowns, dental implants, orthodontics, and pediatric dentistry. United Family Dental has clinics conveniently located in the Lido, Shunyi, Financial Street and Jianguomen areas of Beijing. Our staff of dental professionals would like to welcome you with our mission of becoming Asia's Premier Standard Setting Healthcare System.

> Beijing United Family Hospital Dental Clinic, 2 Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路2号; Beijing United Family Shunyi Clinic - Dental, 806, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 806, Yuyang Lu, Tian Zhu, Shunyi 顺义区天竺镇榆阳路荣祥广场818号; Beijing United Family Financial Street Clinic, 109 Taipingqiao Avenue, Xicheng 市西城区太平桥大街109号; Beijing United Family Jianguomen Clinic, Jianwai Diplomatic Residence Compound (DRC), 1 Xiushui Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门秀水街1号建外外交公寓14和15号楼之间(24/7 Service Center: 4008-919191)

#### SDM Dental 固齿齿科

The full spectrum of dentistry. Services include teeth cleaning, root-canal treatment, porcelain crowns, dental implants, orthodontics, cosmetic dentistry, fillings, pediatric dentistry, extraction, teeth-whitening and veneers. Credit cards accepted.

> Mon-Fri 9am-9pm, N8210, B2/F, CBD, Guomao, China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie 建外大街1号国贸商城地下2层 (6505 9439/3193, www.sdmdental.com); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Olympic Area, F-0186B, Sunshine Plaza, 68 Anli Lu (east of Sunshine Plaza) 亚运村安立路68号阳光广场东侧 (6497 721 73, 6498 2173); Mon-Sun 10am-10pm, L07-08, Euro Plaza, No.99 Yixiang Road, Shunyi 北京顺义区天竺镇裕翔路99号欧陆广场L07-08号 (80466084); Mon-Fri 9am-9pm, Fc222, 21st Century Hotel, 40 Liang Maqiao Lu, Sanyuanqiao 亮马桥40号21世纪饭店2层 (64664814, 646612745); Mon-Fri 9am-9pm, 40768, 4/F, New Yansha Mall, Yuanda Lu, Haidian 远大路金源燕莎购物中心Mall4层40768 (8959 6912/13); Mon-Sun, 10am-7pm, Rm 5, 3/F, North Tower, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli 北京朝阳区光华东路8号中海广场北楼3层05号 (59772488)

#### Vista Medical Center 维世达诊所

> 24hours, Wi-Fi Internet, 3/F Kerry Center, 1 Guanghua Lu 光华路1号嘉里中心商场3层 (8529 6618, vista@vista-china.net, www.vista-china.net)

#### Beijing New Century Harmony Pediatric Clinic

> Shunyi, K-01, Building No.19, Harmony Business Center, Liyuan Street, Tianzhuo Town 天竺镇丽苑街英和商业中心19号楼K-01 (6456 2599; harmonyped@ncich.com.cn, www.ncich.com.cn)

#### IDC Dental

> Daily: 9am-6pm, Room 209, Bldg 7, Richmond Park Clubhouse, Fanyuan Nanyi, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园南里丽都水岸会所209 (6538 8111, info@idcdentalbj.com)

## EDUCATION

### Mandarin Schools

#### The Frontiers School

Join the friendly and professional team at Frontiers, who've been teaching Mandarin for 11 years.

> 3/F, Bldg 30, Dongzhongjie, Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外东中街30号三层 (6413 1547, www.frontiers.com.cn, frontiers@frontiers.com.cn)

#### Beijing Mandarin School

Established in 1998, Beijing Mandarin school is the city's top institute for teaching spoken and written Mandarin as a second language, more than 5,000 students from over 66 countries and more than 80 companies and embassies have successfully learned with us each year. Also recognized and recommended by BBC News as one of the most professional Chinese language school. Also awarded as the 'best Mandarin school in Beijing' by That's Beijing magazine.

> E-Tower School (Guomao Area): Room 904-905, 9/F E-tower building 数码大厦904-905 (65081026/1126); Guangming Hotel School (embassy area): Room 0709, 7/F, Guangming Hotel (near US embassy) 光明饭店7层0709室美国大使馆附近 (8441 8391, info@beijingmandarinschool.com, www.beijingmandarinschool.com, Skype ID: beijing-MandarinSchool1998, Wechat: BIMS-Etower)

#### Gloria Chinese School

Focusing on teaching Chinese, making sure your improvements, organizing task-based, practical activities and providing 180-day student visa.

> R202 East Building, No.78 Maizidian Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街78号一幢二层202室 (6500 8201, WeChat: 1381 186 4656, www.gloriachinese.com)

#### Hutong School

Learn Mandarin with Beijing's best Mandarin school, Hutong School. Our experienced teachers will customize your classes and help you learn in a fun environment.

> Room 1501, 15/F, Zhongyu Plaza, A6 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦1501室

#### The Bridge School 北京市朝阳区桥汉语言培训学校

> The Bridge School Head office, Room 503, 5/F, Guangming Hotel, 42 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路42号光明饭店写字楼5层503室 (84517605)

#### Beijing Juncheng Language School 北京君城语言学校

> Room 208, 1 Panjiapo Hutong, Chaoyangmenwai, Dongcheng District 东城区朝阳门外潘家胡同1号东城区职工大学208办室 (6525 9932/6526 7539); 15 Chugang Village, Huosha Lu, Houshayu Town, Shunyi District 顺义区后沙峪镇火沙路古城段15号 (8049 0307)

### International Schools

#### Canadian International School of Beijing 北京加拿大国际学校

Located in the Third Embassy Quarter of downtown Beijing, the Canadian International School of Beijing (CISB) opened its doors in September 2006. This world-class facility offers an internationally recognized Canadian & IB PYP, IB MYP and IB DP education. The Canadian International School of Beijing develops the whole child in an environmentally sensitive school within a kind, caring community to become a citizen of the world.

> 38 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路38号 (6465 7788, www.cisb.com.cn)

#### House of Knowledge 好思之家学校及幼儿园

In their Elementary school and three kindergartens House of Knowledge features a project-based approach to learning. Guided by the Reggio Emilia philosophy, Early Years learners follow the International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC) and Elementary student follow the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). Both curricula apply best practices in 21st century education and offer a truly international learning experience for children from age 18 months to 11 years.

> Chaoyang Park Campus: Victoria Gardens, 15 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳公园校区: 朝阳区朝阳公园南区15号维多利亚花园公寓 Shunyi Campus: North gate of Quanfa compound, 18 Maquanying Lu, Chaoyang 顺义校区: 朝阳区马泉营路18号泉发花园北门 Xinglong Campus: Block A, Unit 8, Xinglongzhuang, Chaoyang Road, Chaoyang District 兴隆校区: 朝阳区朝阳路辅路兴隆庄甲8号A座 (admissions@hokschools.com, 4006507747, www.hokschools.com)

#### Springboard International Bilingual

**School 春诚国际双语学校**  
Springboard International Bilingual School is a place where children, staff and parents work in partnership to enable all their students to realize their full potential. They are offering a stimulating and full international curriculum as well as an exciting after school program, which will include Kung Fu, calligraphy, health and fitness and football.

> 15 Gucheng Duan, Huosha Lu, Houshayu Town, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪镇火沙路古城段15号 (8049 2450; www.sibs.com.cn, office@sibs.com.cn)

#### The British School of Beijing 北京英国学校

The British School of Beijing, established in 2003, has campuses in Shunyi (primary & secondary) and Sanlitun (primary). BSB offers an enhanced English National Curriculum to 1,500 expatriate students, aged 1 to 18, beginning with Early Years Foundation Stage, Primary, Secondary, IGCSE exams in Year 10 and 11 and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma programme in Year 12 and 13. Admission & Fees: RMB102,993-246,057. Contact our Admissions team to arrange a school tour.

> Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, South Side, 9 Anhua Jie, Shunyi 顺义区安华街9号南侧 (8047 3558, www.britischool.org.cn, admissions@britishschool.org.cn)

#### Western Academy of Beijing 京西国际学校

The Western Academy of Beijing (WAB) is a creative and innovative IB World School built upon a solid foundation of core values and our mission to Connect, Inspire, Challenge; Make a Difference. Our students exemplify these values through their awareness of the world around them, service to others, can-do spirit and commitment to excellence. WAB graduates are accepted into world-class colleges and universities across the globe.

> 10 Lai Guang Ying Dong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区来广营东路10号 (5986 5588)

#### Beijing City International School

北京乐成国际学校  
Located in Beijing's Central Business District, Beijing City International School (BCIS) lives by its motto: "Empowering and Inspiring through Challenge and Compassion." This non-profit, independent co-educational day school offers an international curriculum under the International Baccalaureate (IB) World School system and is authorized to teach all three IB programs (Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programme).

> 77 Baiziwang Nan'er Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区百子湾南二路77号 (8771 7171, www.bcis.cn)

#### Beijing BISS International School 北京BISS国际学校

> Building 17, Area 4, Anzhen Xili Chaoyang 朝阳区安贞西里4区17楼 (6443 3151 www.biss.com.cn)

#### 3e International 北京3e国际学校

Since its founding in August 2005, 3e has grown into one of the leading bilingual international schools in Beijing with students from Nursery through Grade 6. Tuition: RMB 162,800-185,500/year.

> Kindergarten Campus: 9-1 Jiangtai Xilu, Lido, Chaoyang District 朝阳区将台西路9-1号; Elementary Campus: 3 Xinjin Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区新锦路3号 (6437 3344 ext. 100, admissions@3einternational.school.org, www.3einternationalschool.org)

#### The International Montessori School of Beijing 北京蒙台梭利国际学校

Founded in 1990, MSB is Beijing's first fully registered international Montessori school. The school also boasts an unsurpassed dual Mandarin/English program geared towards helping students achieve fluency in either language from an early age. Curriculum aside, MSB boasts spacious classrooms, a high teacher-student ratio and impressive staff longevity. Tuition: RMB98,000 - RMB177,000/year.

> Bldg 8, 2A, Xiangjiang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区香江北路甲2号院8号楼 (6432 8228 ext. 800, www.msb.edu.cn, admissions@msb.edu.cn)

#### Beijing World Youth Academy

Beijing World Youth Academy (BWYA) is an international school for students of all nationalities ages 6 to 18, offering programs on its campuses conveniently located in Wangjing and Lido. An IB World School since 2001, BWYA values holistic education and seeks to give students ample opportunity to develop as globally-aware critical thinkers. A wide variety of co-curricular activities are offered to further enrich student life. Graduates of BWYA have been accepted at prestigious universities around the world. Age range: 6-18. Tuition: RMB 100,000- 140,000/year.

> Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm. 18 Huajidi Beili, Wangjing, Chaoyang (Inside 94 Middle school) 朝阳区望京花家地北里18号 (6461 7787 ext. 32, 8454 3478/0649, admissions@ibwya.net, www.ibwya.net)

#### Yew Chung International School 耀中国际学校

Located in downtown Honglingjin Park since 1995, Yew Chung International School of Beijing (YCIS Beijing) offers a truly international curriculum for children of foreign nationals in China. The school follows the National Curriculum for England but also integrates an extensive Chinese language and culture program, allowing foreign nationals to get the best out of their time in China. YCIS Beijing is one of only five schools in China accredited by three separate accreditation organizations and has a 100 percent pass rate within the IGCSE and IB programs. In addition, YCIS Beijing is the only international school in China to receive the Cambridge Award for Excellence in Education from the University of Cambridge International Examinations.

> Honglingjin Park, 5 Houbaizhuang, Chaoyang 朝阳区后八里庄5号红领中心公园 (8583 3731, www.ycis-bj.com)

#### La Maison Montessori de Pekin

北京中法双语蒙氏儿童之家  
The first bilingual French-Chinese Montessori kindergarten in Beijing, it welcomes children between ages 2 to 6 years old. The kindergarten is located in a beautiful courtyard in the hutongs. Schedule: Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 3:30pm. After class activities also offered.

> 50 Dongsi Shisitao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十四条50号 (131 2025 0341/ 8401 3974; lamaisonmontessoripk@gmail.com; www.lamaisonmontessoridepk.com)

#### Harrow International School Beijing

北京哈罗国际学校 www.harrowbeijing.cn  
Harrow International School Beijing prides itself on its high academic standards, a close-knit school community, a rich extra-curricular activity program and the quality of its pastoral care provision. Leadership skills are promoted school-wide, with a range of enrichment activities to help students develop teamwork and creative thinking skills, as well as independence and responsibility. Students graduating from Harrow Beijing have won places at a range of universities across the world including Princeton, Yale, Oxford and Cambridge.

> Address: 287, Hegezhuang, Guojiazhuang County, Chaoyang 朝阳区崔各庄乡何各庄村 287号 (8610 6444 8900 Ext. 6900 Fax: 10 6445 3870, enquiries@harrowbeijing.cn)

### Kindergartens

#### EtonKids International Kindergarten 伊顿国际幼儿园

> Lido/Room C103 Lido Country Club, Lido Place Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路丽都广场 (6436 7368 www.etonkids.com) /3/F, Block D Global Trade Mansion Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路世贸国际公寓D座3层 (6506 4805) / Southwest corner of Beichen Xilu and Kehui Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区北辰西路与科荟路交汇西南角 (8437 1006); Kehui Lu, Chaoyang, Beijing 朝阳区科荟路大屯里社区 (8480 5538); 8ldg 19, Central Park, 6 Chaowai Dajie Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际19号楼 (6533 6995); Palm Springs International Apartments 8 Chaoyang Park Nanlu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳南路8号棕榈泉国际公寓 (6539 8967); Bldg 21, Guangqu Jiaoyuan, Guangqumen-wai, Dongcheng 东城区广渠门内广渠家园21号楼 (6749 5008); Baoping International Phase 2, Wangjing 朝阳区望京宝星园国际社区二期 (8478 0578); Block 1, Arcadia Villas, Houshayu Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪罗马环岛北侧天北路阿凯迪亚庄园1座 (8047 2983); 20A Xidawang Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区西大望路甲20号首府社区内 (5870 6779)

#### Beanstalk International Bilingual School 青普国际双语学校

> Kindergarten 1/F, Tower B, 40 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路40号座一层 (6466 9255); Primary School: Block 2, Upper East Side, 6 Dongsihuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东四环北路6号阳光上东二期 (5130 7951); Middle & High School: 38 Nan Shitijiu, Chaoyang 朝阳区南十里居38号 (8456 6019)

### Bookstores

#### Page One

The go-to shop for new releases and special requests. With sister venues in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore, and two locations in Beijing, its network allows for fresh authors whilst upholding an extensive collection of titles.

> Daily 10am-9pm. Shop 3B 201, Zone 3 China World Mall, No.1 Jian Guo Men Wai Avenue, Chaoyang 朝阳区国贸商城三期地下二层3B201 (8535 1055, www.pageonegroup.com); Page One Indigo, Shop LG50, INDIGO, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤港商业中心B1楼50号 (8426 0408, www.pageonegroup.com)

# CLASSIFIEDS

## ACCOMMODATION

### Ascott Beijing

> No.108B Jianguo Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 北京市朝阳区建国路乙208号 (6587 0888)

### Ascott Raffles City Beijing

Located in Dongzhimen, one of the most vibrant areas, Ascott Raffles City is near the second embassy district, which is rich in cultural heritage and is only a 15 minute drive to The Forbidden City.

Other nearby leisure attractions include Food Street (Gui Jie) and Sanlitun nightlife district.

> No.1-2 Dongzhimen South Street Dongcheng District Tel: 8405 3888

### Ascott Raffles City Chengdu

> No. 3, Section 4, South Renmin Road, Wuhou District, Chengdu 610041, China Post code: 610041, Telephone: (86-28) 6268 2888, Facsimile: (86-28) 6268 2889, GDS Code: AZ, Reservations Telephone: 400 820 1028 (China toll-free) (86-512) 6763 1021 Email: enquiry.china@the-ascott.com

### Ascott Riverside Garden Beijing

With a stunning east-meets-west architecture, the residence provides spacious studios, stylish one-bedroom apartments as well as unique two-bedroom penthouses and luxurious three-bedroom premiers. The lifestyle amenities and unparalleled recreational facilities offer the residents various options for relaxation and entertainment

> No.33A Zhou Zhuang Jiayuan Dongli, Chaoyang District, Beijing Telephone Number: (86-10) 8783 1666 Website: www.ascottchina.com Email: enquiry.beijing@the-ascott.com

### Beijing Kerry Residence

Whether you're a single business executive or a busy family, Beijing Kerry's fully-furnished 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments will feel just like home. As well as enjoying all the comforts of modern living – including a well-equipped kitchen, entertainment systems, high-speed broadband and much more – residents are just moments away from the Kerry Centre's shopping mall and sports facilities. The rest of the CBD is on your doorstep too.

> 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号 (8535 6888, www.beijingkerryresidence.com)

### Lee Garden Service Apartments

A newly renovated high-end premier living residence in a central location next to the shopping and cultural sites of Beijing's Wangfujing, suites range from studios to 4-bedroom apartments (60-610sqm in size) and are tastefully furnished with specially selected materials.

> 18 Jinyu Hutong, Wangfujing, Dongcheng (100m East of Sun Dong An Plaza) 东城区王府井金鱼胡同18号 (新东安东侧100米); 24hr front desk: 6525 8855, Fax: 6525 8080, general.manager@lgapartment.com, www.lgapartment.com

### FraserSuite CBD Beijing

The ultimate luxury in apartment living, Fraser Suites CBD Beijing epitomizes style and comfort, that surpasses the service level of many Beijing hotels. The 357 Gold-Standard Beijing apartment features contemporary concepts designed for luxury living.

> 12 Jintong Xilu Chaoyang District Beijing Tel: 5908 6000

### GTC RESIDENCE BEIJING

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Unique sky garden with golf practice field and barbecue area is another symbol of GTC Residence.

> sales@gtrresidence.com, website: www.gtrresidence.com Tel: 56756666

### Beijing Lianbao



### Lianbao Apartments 联宝公寓

Lianbao Apartments is near Sanlitun Street, next to the second Embassies area. The apartments here rent out very quickly because of the wide space and reasonable prices. People who live here can enjoy satellite TV, including CNN, HBO, TV5, BBC etc.

2Br.	174m <sup>2</sup>	¥15,000
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Hotline: 64190001 / 13810976118  
E-mail: hanxingyue1127@126.com

> Unite 1C, Building 7, Xingfu Yicun Xili, Chaoyang District 朝阳区幸福一村西里7号楼1C (6415 8001, 138 1093 6118, hanxingyue1127@126.com)

### Lusongyuan Hotel

A traditional compound of quadrangle composing of 5 courtyards which lies in the "hutong" area of Beijing. The hotel building is famous for its imperial living taste of the Qing Dynasty with a history of nearly 170 years. The original owner of this large private house was the Grand General Sengge Rinchen, who lived here while he carried out top official duties, such as defense minister.

> Tel: (86 10) 6404 0436, Fax: (86 10) 6403 0418, Address: No.22 Banchang Lane, Kuanjie, Dongcheng District 东城区宽街板厂胡同22号 www.the-silk-road.com, E-mail: webmaster@the-silk-road.com

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> Gate, No. 1 Xiagongfu Street, Dongcheng District Tel: 6564 9999

### The Millennium Residences of the Beijing Fortune Plaza

The Millennium Residences of the Beijing Fortune Plaza is located in the heart of the Beijing CBD which bears the most momentarily potential of development and value elevation. While 25 minutes away from the Beijing International Airport, the Millennium Residences is walking distance from nearly all Embassies.

> 7 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu Chaoyang District. Tel: 8588 2888

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Nestled within the landscaped gardens of the Ocean Express commercial and residential complex, Oak Chateau Beijing is very close to the third Embassy Area and shopping and dining services at the Beijing Lufthansa Center. There are only 19 kilometers to the Beijing Capital Airport.

> 北京市朝阳区东三环霞光里66号远洋新干线D座 邮编 100027

Block D, Ocean Express, 66 Xiaguang Li, Third East Ring Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100027, P.R.C  
Tel: (86-10) 84465888 Fax: (86-10) 84465999 Email oak.chateau@oakchateau.com Website: www.oakchateau.com

### Oakwood Residence Beijing

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> No. 8 Dongzhimenwai Xiejie, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100027, China reschaoyang@oakwoodasia.com Website: www.oakwoodasia.com/resbeijing Tel: 5995 2888 Fax: 5995 2999

### Oakwood Residence Damei Beijing

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The 171 stylish contemporary serviced residences range from studios to three-bedroom apartments and offer an elegant range of amenities and facilities to ensure each resident's stay is comfortable and well taken care of.

Building No.1 Damei Center, 7 Qingnian Road, Chaoyang District Beijing 北京市朝阳区青年路7号达美中心1号楼  
Tel: 86-10 8585 2211 (8:30am-5:30pm)  
86-10 8585 2888 (5:30pm-8:30am)  
Fax: (86-10) 8585 2666  
website OakwoodAsia.com

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> Email: reservation.beijing@westin.com  
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5/F, Tower C, Lei Shing Hong Plaza, No.8 Wangjing Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区望京街8号利星行广场C座5层

### Sun Dong An Plaza [New]

北京新东安广场  
7/F, Office Tower 2, Sun Dong An Plaza, No.138 Wangfujing, Avenue, Dongcheng District 北京市东城区王府井大街138号新东安广场写字楼2座7层

### Zhongyu Mansion [New]

北京中宇大厦  
6/F, Zhongyu Mansion, No.6 North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦6层

### Diplomatic [New]

北京亮马桥外交办公大楼  
17/F, Tower E, Liangmaqiao, Diplomatic Office Building, 3rd Embassy District, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区第三使馆区亮马桥外交办公大楼E座17层

### Kerry Centre - South Tower [New]

北京嘉里中心-南楼  
10/F, South Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心南楼10层

### Landgent Building [Coming Soon]

北京乐成中心  
5/F, Block A, Landgent Center, No.20 East Middle 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区东三环中路20号乐成中心A座5层

### China World Tower 3

北京国贸三期  
15/F, China World Tower 3, No.1 Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸中心3座15层

### China Central Place

北京华贸中心  
9/F, Tower 2, China Central Place, No.79 Jianguo Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国路79号华贸中心2号楼9层

### Lufthansa Centre

北京燕莎中心  
C203, Lufthansa Centre, No.50 Liangmaqiao Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区亮马桥路50号燕莎中心C203

### Kerry Centre

北京嘉里中心  
11/F, North Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心北楼11层

### Pacific Century Place

北京盈科中心  
14/F, IBM Tower, No.2A North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区工体北路甲2号IBM大厦14层

### Parkview Green

北京侨福芳草地中心

15/F, Office Building A Parkview, Green, No.9 Dongdaqiao Road, Chaoyang District  
北京市朝阳区东大桥路8号芳草地办公楼A座15层

#### China Life Tower 北京中国人寿大厦中心

5/F, China Life Tower, No.16  
Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District  
北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦5层

#### China Life – West 北京中国人寿大厦西

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Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District  
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#### IFC

北京财源国际中心  
10/F, IFC East Tower, No.8 Jianguomenwai  
Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国  
门外大街甲8号财源国际中心东座10层

#### Prosper Center 北京世纪财富中心

6/F, Tower 2, Prosper Center, No.5 Guang  
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光华路5号世纪财富中心2号楼6层

#### Financial St. Excel Centre

北京金融街卓越中心  
12/F, Financial Street Excel, Centre, No.6  
Wudinghou Street, Xicheng District 北京市  
西城区武定侯街6号卓越国际金融中心12层

#### NCI Centre

北京新华保险大厦中心  
15/F, NCI Tower, No.12A Jianguomenwai  
Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国  
门外大街甲12号新华保险大厦15层

#### Taikang Financial Tower 北京泰康金融大厦

23/F, Taikang Financial Tower, No.38 East  
Third Ring Road, Chaoyang District 北京市  
朝阳区东三环北路38号泰康金融大厦23层

#### Zhongguancun Metropolis Tower

北京中关村欧美汇大厦  
7/F, Metropolis Tower, No.2 Dongsan Street,  
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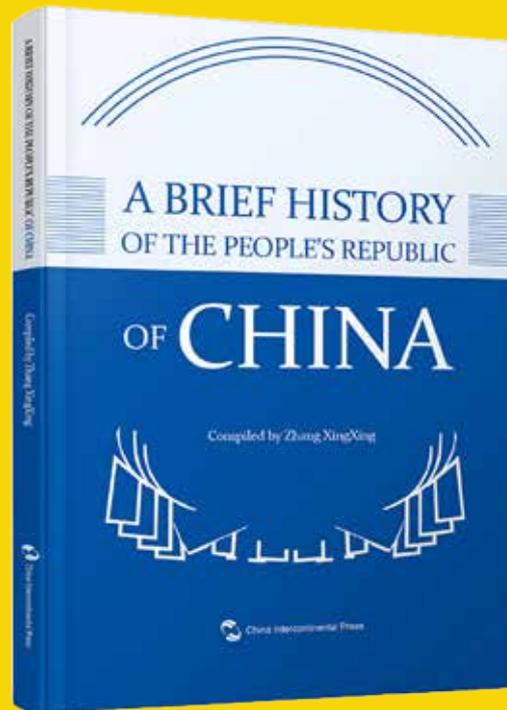
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## The Time-Honored Chinese Civilization and History

### The Long History of Chinese Civilization Comes Down in One Continuous Line

Chinese civilization has a relatively early origin. Archaeological findings have proven that humans, ranging from the Yuanmou Man in Yunnan Province, who lived about 1.7 million years ago, to the Upper Cave Man in Beijing, who lived about 14,000 to 16,000 years ago, constituted part of the history of Chinese civilization.

After the attachment of the Yangtze and Longshan cultures, China experienced six periods from the emergence to the gradual formation of civilization. The documented history of Chinese civilization began with the emperor Yao and Shun. The first dynasty was the Xia Dynasty, which gradually evolved into a class society. Feudal society lasted its own 2,000 years, starting from the Qin (221 BC–206 BC) and Han (206 BC–AD 220), dynasties and ending in the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911). In 1911, the Yin Hai revolution



Chou Yuanmou tooth



"The ancient proverb said there is a dragon in every Chinese." Chinese civilization, with its long history, is one of the world's best ancient civilizations and has played a prominent role in the history of human civilization.

After its founding, the Communist Party of China (CPC), united the people and led them through 29 years of arduous struggle, setting out the general path of the new democratic revolution led by the proletariat and supported by the people step by step, to open, exploration, innovation and successful completion. China embarked on the right revolutionary path, using great courage to break the old and write new poems with reality. Over a series of decades, from the New Democratic Revolution, the Agrarian Revolutionary War, the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the Liberation War. The first generation of exploration, innovation and successful completion that was supported by the Chinese people was to support the People's Republic of China (PRC) was founded in 1949, marking China's great transition from a millennia-old feudal monarchy to a people's democracy. The founding of the PRC marked a new historical era in the development of the Chinese nation.

That's Beijing

# Horoscopes

Finally, a horoscope that understands your life in China.

by Karen Toast



**Scorpio**  
10.24-11.22

Pack your bags and get them triple plastic-wrapped at the airport because you're going on holiday! An extravagant trip is in your future - Macao perhaps? Take out some loans from friends and win big at the casino so you can pay them back. Guilt-free vacation, sorted.



**Sagittarius**  
11.23-12.21

You've been feeling a bit distant from your previously hip and happening hutong life recently. Worry not, dear Sagittarius, your social life is about to kick up a few kilometers. Whip out whichever Chinese alternative smoking device you've been using recently and get yourself to a club.



**Capricorn**  
12.22-1.20

Planning a drastic life change? Moving out of your apartment? Moving out of the COUNTRY? Jupiter is rising, the moon is in Aquarius and there's a total eclipse in Chaoyang - a celestially auspicious time to make a big change. Don't forget to get a lucky pig tattoo to cement these auspices.



**Aquarius**  
1.21-2.19

11/11 is upon us and you're about to get the single greatest bargain of your entire life. Bide your time, consider wisely and do not be hasty. You did not need to knock over that elderly ayi to get the last pair of Miniso children's sunglasses last year and you know it.



**Pisces**  
2.20-3.20

The holidays are over and you're back to work (ugh). Whether it's the trade war giving you a headache at the office or your ill-advised hangover really not tolerating the kids that are treating you like a climbing frame at your school, know there is most certainly no end to this until December.



**Aries**  
3.21-4.20

The stars have offered you some feedback on your life, because seriously, you need it. It's time to accept you can't possibly lead the same lavish lifestyle outside of China, so you're clearly staying in Beijing. Brunch every day of the week is simply too sweet, so get a dog and deal with it.



**Taurus**  
4.21-5.21

This will be a wild month for the newly available Taurus. Newfound professional autonomy? Recent bachelor or bachelorette? The stars are spelling out your WeChat handle and CV and you'll have inquiries raining on you before you know it.



**Gemini**  
5.22-6.21

Is the dating scene in Beijing getting you down? Don't stress about it because there's a two-meter tall stranger in your future. Get to as many coffee shops and hutong bars as you can - we augur they're waiting patiently for you in one of them.



**Cancer**  
6.22-7.22

Your dominant emotion this moon cycle will be hunger. Bad food luck will follow you and you'll have to get up three hours early to catch the jianbing man and leave work just after lunch before Meituan shuts down for the evening. Be sure to keep a stick of chuanzi in your pocket just in case.



**Leo**  
7.23-8.23

There's an ancient Chinese saying: 'Why eat one pizza when you could eat two?' There's something so fulfilling about assimilating to the local culture, and you'll feel it particularly keenly this month as you do your best to abide by this proverb while strolling around the traditional streets of Sanlitun and Guomao.



**Virgo**  
8.24-9.23

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and just like many of us here, Beijing locals have no idea what you're clucking on about. Grab the biggest chicken you can find, boil it up (you seriously need to get an oven) and your turkey feast is complete.



**Libra**  
9.24-10.23

This month you'll feel inspired to express yourself in a fun and creative way. Try not to let your mischievously devilish mood get out of hand. Releasing one of those yellow-bellied weasels in your friend's flat? Kind of hilarious. Jumping in front of a bus and pretending to be injured? Unnecessary.



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