

Roam Around the World Roam Around the World  
世 界 漫 游 小 丛 书

# 漫 游 加 拿 大

Roam Around Canada

王云英 葛丙辰



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## 前 言

在改革开放的今天,中国青年的目光已不再是仅仅盯着我国的长城内外、大江南北。他们渴望了解世界,尤其是发达国家。他们想了解那些国家的历史、现状、政治制度、生活习惯、文学艺术、自然风貌。看到中国的长江,他们就会想起美国的密西西比河;看到中国的黄果树,他们就会想起加拿大的尼亚加拉瀑布;看到中国的洞庭湖,他们就会想起新西兰的陶波湖;看到中国的苏州,他们就会想起意大利的威尼斯;看到上海的东方明珠,他们就会想起法国的埃菲尔铁塔。特里尔的马克思故居,伦敦的威斯敏斯特教堂,纽约港的自由女神像,巴黎的凡尔赛宫,罗马的斗兽场,悉尼的歌剧院,温哥华的唐人街,蓝山的三姊妹峰……这些闻名遐迩的世界名胜无不吸引着他们年轻的心灵。他们的兴趣广泛得很,想象力丰富得很。他们迫切需要营养丰富的精神食粮,来满足他们如饥似渴的求知欲。

“我们何不编一套英汉对照世界漫游丛书呢?”大象出版社编辑贾凡、董涛二位女士建议道。“一则可以扩大青年人的视野,二则可以帮助他们学习英语。两全其美,何乐而不为呢?”

此言不谬。于是,经领导批准,她们便委托我组织编写。这可是个苦差使,因为她们的要求十分苛刻:丛书内容要广泛,语言要浅显,既有趣味性,又有资料性,情趣盎然,图文并茂,每个分册 10 万字左右,三个月交稿。

领了将令,我不敢怠慢,立即组织一批编写人员。其中有教授、副教授、讲师,还有在校硕士研究生。在统一了格式之后,两人一分册,分头编写。具体分工如下:

美国分册:刘云波,虎松菊

英国分册:刘榜离,吴 真

法国分册:靳 锐,王大智

德国分册:王 东,陈异慧

加拿大分册:王云英,葛丙辰

意大利分册:黄 燕,陈保蓉

新西兰分册:索成秀

澳大利亚分册:叶定国,康建明

经过几个月紧锣密鼓的工作,第一批八个分册终于完成。其间编写人员查资料,找图片,编写及翻译的辛苦自不待言。尽管如此,由于时间仓促,资料匮乏,加之编写者文风各异,书中难免有诸多不尽人意之处。令人宽慰的是,精美的印刷与装帧将给这套丛书增色不少。究竟内容如何?还是请我们的青年朋友读读看吧。

刘云波

1997 年 12 月 1 日于郑州大学

# CONTENTS

<b>A SURVEY OF CANADA</b> .....	( 1 )
<b>CHIEF CITIES</b> .....	( 13 )
OTTAWA .....	( 13 )
TORONTO .....	( 15 )
MONTREAL .....	( 17 )
VANCOUVER .....	( 19 )
VICTORIA .....	( 21 )
CALGARY .....	( 22 )
EDMONTON .....	( 25 )
WINNIPEG .....	( 26 )
HAMILTON .....	( 28 )
QUEBEC .....	( 30 )
HALIFAX .....	( 32 )
CHARLOTTETOWN .....	( 34 )
<b>SCENIC SPOTS AND HISTORICAL PLACES</b> .....	( 35 )
ATTRACTIONS IN OTTAWA .....	( 35 )
TORONTO'S WATERFRONT AREA .....	( 38 )

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM .....	(41)
ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE .....	(42)
STANLEY PARK .....	(43)
HISTORIC S.S. MOYIE BERTHED AT KASLO .....	(45)
QUEBEC'S CITADEL .....	(48)
L'ANSE AUX MEADOWS .....	(48)
LANGLEY .....	(49)
LOUISBOURG .....	(50)
GRAVENHURST .....	(52)
NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK .....	(53)
BANFF NATIONAL PARK .....	(55)
KOKANEE GLACIER PROVINCIAL PARK .....	(56)
HOME OF DINOSAURS .....	(58)
NIAGARA FALLS .....	(60)
GREAT SLAVE LAKE .....	(61)
ROYAL LONDON WAX MUSEUM .....	(61)
BUTCHART GARDENS .....	(62)
SEVEN NATIONAL WONDERS OF CANADA .....	(62)

# 目 录

加拿大概况 .....	(65)
-------------	------

主要城市 .....	(74)
------------	------

渥太华 .....	(74)
-----------	------

多伦多 .....	(76)
-----------	------

蒙特利尔 .....	(77)
------------	------

温哥华 .....	(79)
-----------	------

维多利亚 .....	(80)
------------	------

卡里加里 .....	(81)
------------	------

埃德蒙顿 .....	(83)
------------	------

温尼伯 .....	(85)
-----------	------

汉密尔顿 .....	(86)
------------	------

魁北克 .....	(88)
-----------	------

哈里法克斯市 .....	(90)
--------------	------

夏洛特市 .....	(91)
------------	------

## 名胜古迹

渥太华的旅游景点 .....	(93)
----------------	------

多伦多的滨水区 .....	(96)
安大略皇家博物馆 .....	(98)
安大略省科学中心 .....	(99)
斯坦利公园 .....	(100)
泊于凯斯罗镇的历史名轮“莫伊号” .....	(102)
魁北克的城堡历史公园 .....	(104)
伊安斯奥克斯草地公园 .....	(105)
朗利堡国家历史公园 .....	(105)
路易斯堡要塞 .....	(106)
格雷文赫斯特 .....	(108)
纳汉尼国家公园 .....	(109)
班夫国家公园 .....	(111)
可可尼冰川省立公园 .....	(112)
恐龙之乡 .....	(113)
尼亚加拉瀑布 .....	(115)
大奴湖 .....	(116)
伦敦皇家蜡像馆 .....	(116)
布查特花园 .....	(117)
加拿大的七大自然奇观 .....	(117)

# A SURVEY OF CANADA

Canada is situated in the northern half of the North America Continent in the West Hemisphere. It stretches over 5,500 kilometres from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific and over 4,600 kilometres from the northern tip of Ellesmere Island to the United States border. The country occupies an area of 9,970,000 square kilometres, which is a little bit larger than China.

The United States, the only country adjacent to Canada on land, is to the south of Canada. The borderline shared by the two countries is as long as more than 5,500 kilometres, and this borderline is undefended. Citizens of both countries can cross the border without a visa. On the other three sides Canada is surrounded by water. To the east of the country is the Atlantic Ocean, and to the west, the Pacific

Ocean. The Arctic Ocean is to the north of the country.

Canada is a country with a large territory, but with a small population. The population of the country is only 30,000,000 people. Since Canada is a country made up mainly of immigrants, its people have diversely different ethnic origins. The two largest groups are made up of people of the French and English origins. Indians and Inuit, the native people, made up only 1.2% of Canada's total population. Most Canadians believe in Catholicity and Christianity. English is Canada's first official language, and the next is French.

Canada composes ten provinces and two territories. And it is a federation of provinces. The capital of Canada is Ottawa.

The title of the National Anthem of Canada is "O, Canada".

The national flag of Canada is popularly called the Maple Leaf Flag. That's because its most outstanding feature is the large red maple leaf in the middle against a snow-white background.

There are actually two national emblems of Canada. The first one is the Canadian beaver, a clever and hardworking semi-aquatic animal. Its use as the national emblem can date back to the early seventeenth century. The second national emblem of Canada is the Canadian maple leaf, which, used as the national symbol, has a shorter history, dating back only to the midnineteenth century. In Canada, you may find that there is always a maple leaf symbol on their business cards of most Canadian government officials.

As Canada is a member of the British Commonwealth, the Queen of the United Kingdom, Queen Elizabeth II, is also the Queen of Canada and the Head of the Commonwealth, i. e., the

Head of State of Canada . Actually, the Queen is away from Canada most of the time. During her absence, the Governor General represents her as the Head of State.

The Head of the Canadian Government is the Prime Minister.

Canada was originally inhabited by Red Indians. It was said that Jacques Cartier, the first European navigator who discovered what is now Canada, went ashore at a spot later to be known as Quebec City. There he asked some local Indians what that place was called. The Indians, thinking that he meant their little town, replied, "Kanata", meaning in the Huron-Iroquois Indian language, "a settlement". On returning to Europe, Cartier announced that he had discovered a new land named "Kanata". Thus, in misunderstanding, the place later became known as "Canada".

In 1867, when Canada achieved independence within the British Commonwealth, the title "The Dominion of Canada" was granted to the country. According to the British North American Act of 1867, the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick formed one dominion under the name of Canada. This historic event can be regarded as the beginning of the official use of the word "Canada" to mean the present country. And the year 1867 has since been considered to be the year in which Canada was founded.

The eastern part of Canada, the country's industrial area, is a plain. It is cold here and the coast is zigzag. The middle western part of the country is a prairie, and the climate in this area is typi-

cally continental. It is the major agricultural area of the country, which people used to call the "granary" of Canada. Western Canada, which is an area for timber, mining and fishing, is not very cold. Water freezes in rivers and lakes for most time of the year in Northern Canada, where the population density is very low. The area is mainly inhabited by Indians and Inuit. The Northwest Territories, which stretches from the Yukon border in the west to Baffin Island in the east, is now regarded as the roof of Canada. The country's highest mountain, Mount Logan, which has a height of 5,951 metres, is situated in here. The region's most northerly islands reach within 820 kilometres of the North Pole.

The surface of Canada is well-marked with lakes and rivers. Water surfaces account for almost 10% of Canada's total area. Besides the Great Lakes, of which Canada's share is nearly 88,060 square kilometres, there are more than one hundred large and medium-sized lakes with areas between 4,140 square kilometres and 260 square kilometres. It is estimated that there are tens of thousands of lakes of all shapes and sizes in Canada.

Canada also has many rivers. The largest and longest river in the arctic drainage area is the Mackenzie River, measuring 4,320 kilometres. The largest rivers draining to the Pacific Ocean are the Yukon, the Fraser and the Columbia. The largest river in the Atlantic drainage is the St. Lawrence River.

Of all countries the world over, Canada has probably the most extensive and irregular coast line. On the three oceans and Hudson Bay, it totals 100,000 kilometres.

The climate of Canada is under the influence of three great air masses: cold, usually dry air from the arctic region; warm moist air from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean; and the mild, moist air from the North Pacific Ocean. Sometimes, a fourth air mass, originating over the deserts of southwestern United States, may invade southern Canada in midsummer, causing extended hot dry periods in this area.

On the basis of temperature and moisture conditions, and the length of the growing seasons, Canada can be divided into several climatic regions: the Arctic Region, the Northern Region, the Prairie Region, the Cordillera Region, the Pacific Region and the Southeastern Region.

Generally speaking, Canada is a country with four comparatively clear-cut seasonal variations. Spring is short and usually begins in mid-March and ends in mid-May. It is regarded as a transitional season in Canada. Summer is longer than spring, lasting for about four months in places near the U. S.-Canadian border, from mid-May to mid-September. Summer is considered to be the golden time for travelling and vacation in Canada. Autumn is brief but spectacular, beginning from mid-September to mid-November. Winter is the longest season in most of Canada, prolonging from mid-November to mid-March the next year. But in some places winter can last for as long as eight to ten months.

Canada is rich in natural resources, especially rich in forests.

The forested area of Canada has been estimated at about 4,403,000 square kilometres, which is about 44% of Canada's total area. These forests rank as the third largest in the world, although environmental conditions have prevented forest growth over more than half of the country. The most important forest products are pulp and paper. Canada, the largest producer of newsprint, provides close to 40% of the world total.

Canada is a country with a large territory. Although only about 7% of the land is suitable for farming, there are still millions of hectares of fertile soil. About 80% of Canada's farm land is in the prairie, which is considered to be one of the world's largest granaries. The western provinces of the country also have ranches for raising beef cattle. Mixed farming is found in the St. Lawrence lowlands.

Almost all minerals necessary to modern economy are found in the Canadian subsoil. Canada is a major world producer of nickel, zinc, asbestos, potash, gold, copper and iron ore. It is also a major world supplier of uranium and is virtually self-sufficient in coal. For reasons of geography and economics, Canada is a net exporter of energy but also a net importer of oil. But recently, petroleum and natural gas have been found in Alberta Province of the country.

Canada is also rich in water resources. About 70% of all electric power in the country is generated by water. It is estimated that Canadian rivers carry one-tenth of the water carried by the world's waterways, and this has enabled Canada to become a leader in the design and construction of hydroelectric power stations and electrical

transmission and distribution systems.

Since Canada is a country rich in forest, where many animals dwell, it is also rich in wild animal resources, particularly in fur-bearing animals. And this enables the country to become one of the world-known fur-trading countries.

Canada also has good fishing grounds off the coasts both of the Atlantic Ocean and of the Pacific Ocean. The country is rich in fish resources.

In Canada, agriculture is still of great importance to the various regional economies and to the economy as a whole. Following the mechanization and enlargement of farms, the number of persons engaged in agriculture has steadily declined. As in the United States, greater production has come from fewer persons, owing to improved varieties, better tillage practices, chemical weed killers and increased use of fertilizers. It is said that the grain which one Canadian farmer can produce is enough to feed fifty-five people.

Canada's major industries include forest industry, fisheries, mining and metallurgical industry, petroleum industry, electric power generating industry and manufacturing industries.

Because of Canada's rich forest resources, the forest industries play an important role in the country's economy. The major aspects of forest industry include logging industry, lumber and plywood manufacturing industry and pulp and paper industry.

Owing to the good fishing grounds off the coasts both of the Atlantic Ocean and of the Pacific Ocean, Canada's fishery is quite developed. It has a fishing fleet of about 40,000 vessels, most of which

operate in the sea fisheries. The total amount of yearly fish landing is about 1.5 million tons.

Besides, the electric power generating industry and the manufacturing industries are also of great importance in the country's economy. The total generating capacity of Canada's power stations and plants, including hydroelectric power stations and the various types of thermal generating plants, is about 100,000 MW per year, among which about 65% are generated by the hydro-power stations. The most important manufacturing industries in Canada are the petroleum refining industry and the motor vehicle manufacturing industry.

Canada has a network of transportation routes that is as impressive as it is indispensable to a continent-wide country with a highly mobile population.

Linking the two coasts is the Trans-Canada Highway, some 9,600 kilometres long. The ships on the St. Lawrence Seaway and the railway (95,000 kilometres of track) continue to be the bulk carriers. Buses and private cars dominate passenger travel of shorter distances, while airlines now provide the principal means of travel across Canada.

The country's "nervous system" today is its highly sophisticated telecommunications web. The Canadian telephone network operates the two largest microwave circuits in the world. Besides, there are also hundreds of television and radio stations originating programs in Canada with several hundred more rebroadcasting stations.