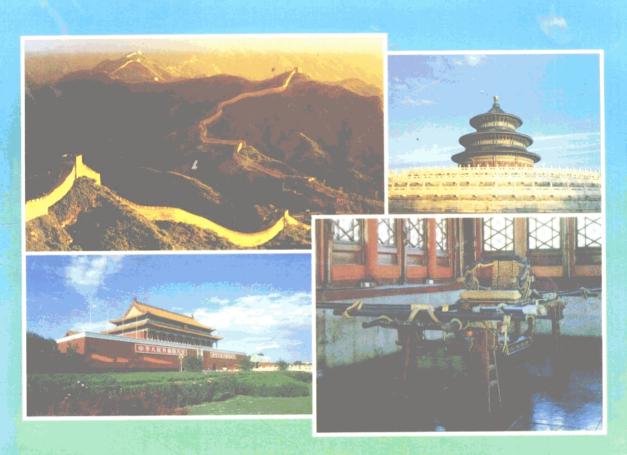
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# **BEST SIGHTS IN BEIJING**



China Esperanto Press, Beijing, China

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北京是中华人民共和国的首都,世界历史文化名城。

自70万年前"北京猿人"在这里繁衍、生息以来, 历经旧石器时代和新石器时代, 这里一直是中华民族文化的摇篮, 也是人类文明的发祥地之一。

作为城池,北京兴建于商代(约前 16 世纪——约前 11 世纪)后期,那时这里有燕和蓟两个自然形成的方国。公元前 1045 年,周(约前 11 世纪——前 256 年)灭商,分封诸侯,周武王封帝尧之后于蓟,封召公奭于燕,北京始为方国之都。三千年来,尽管朝代屡屡更迭,城名也多次更换,但北京一直是中国北方的军事重镇和贸易中心,在其发展过程中,由偏居一隅的封国都城,跃居为几代名声赫赫的帝都。

北京地处华北平原北端,西、北、东三面环山,东南为平原。地理学家把这块平原形象地称为"北京湾"。古人曾以"北枕居庸,西峙太行,东连山海,南俯中原"来说明北京地理位置的重要。

公元10世纪上半叶,崛起于中国东北方的少数民族契丹族兵强马壮,越过拱卫在北京湾三面的莽莽群山,举兵南下,进入华北北部,攻占了蓟城,并把它定为辽(公元907-1125年)的陪都,因为蓟位于它所辖区域的南部,所以改称南京,又称燕京。一个多世纪以后,中国东北方的另一个少数民族女真族起兵灭辽,建立了金(公元1115-1234年),并于1153年迁都燕京,改称中都。女真族在燕京整整统治了100年,后因受到新兴蒙古族的进攻,被迫迁都汴京(今河南开封),随后蒙古族铁骑入占中都。1267年蒙古族首领忽必烈下令在中都东北郊筑建新城,4年后这位首领即在兴建中的都城内登上皇帝宝座。又过了15年,新城全部建成,这就是意大利旅行家马可·波罗在他游记中称之为"世界莫能与比"的元大都。从此,北京取代了长安、洛阳、汴梁等古都的地位,成为中国的政治、经济、军事、文化中心,并延至明(公元1368-1644年)、清(公

元 1616 - 1911 年)两代。

公元 1368 年,曾经是和尚的朱元璋借助农民起义军的力量,推翻了元(1206-1368 年)帝国,建立了明王朝,以应天(今江苏南京)为京师。朱元璋做了 30 年皇帝,死后,其孙朱允炆继位,史称建文帝。可惜好景不长,他的叔父燕王朱棣在自己的封地北平府起兵,发动"靖难之役",经过三年的酷烈战争,于 1402 年攻入应天,夺取了帝位,翌年改元永乐,并诏"以北平为北京",决定迁都北京。从此,全国各地的能工巧匠云集北京,开始营建城垣、宫殿、坛庙和苑囿,工程浩大,其规模远远超过了元大都。至 1421 年,主要工程基本完工,朱棣正式迁都北京。

明代的北京城参照应天即南京城的规制而建,分宫城、皇城、内城和外城四重,整座城池方方正正。城的四周建有高大坚固的砖墙,四面对称地洞开 16 个拱形门,门洞上的城楼飞檐凌空。立于城楼,可以远眺数十里。在城的中央,至今仍保存完好的紫禁城是它的心脏。紫禁城的周围是整齐如畦、经纬分明的街巷,两旁排列着商铺、民居。弯曲的河流,美丽的苑囿,庄严神幻的古代祭坛和寺庙,戒备森严、建筑豪华的署衙官宅,错落其间,方直中融入环曲,对称中显现变化。这座具有恢宏气势和浓郁的东方色彩的古城,标志着中国的古代文明又进入到一个新的辉煌时期。

明朝的统治延续了 270 多年。1644 年李自成领导的农民军打进北京城,皇帝朱由检走投无路,吊死在紫禁城后的煤山。同年,清世祖爱新觉罗·福临进关,入主北京,建立了清王朝。同历代王朝一样,新朝皇帝总是要对他居住的京城大兴土木。由于民族岐视的缘故,清代实行旗、民分城居住的制度。八旗官兵及其家属圈占内城民宅,原来的居民一律搬至外城居住,北京城因此不得不增建官邸,扩充民房。清顺治 2 年(1645 年),皇室重建紫禁城的太和、中和、保和三大殿。顺治 8 年重修承

天门,竣工后,改称天安门。其间,还开发和拓展了"三海"(南海、中海、北海)皇家园林。到了 18 世纪中叶,清代兴修园林之风大盛,仅在京城西北郊扩建和新建的大型园林就有 5 座。与此同时,信佛奉道流行,修庙造塔、建寺筑观成为普遍现象。据《乾隆京城全图》标绘,北京城有胡同 1400 余条,寺庙竟有 1300 余座。那时的北京城馆阁连绵,殿宇栉比,牌匾相望;市面店铺林立,商贾云集。清代国势达到极盛,成为亚洲最强大的国家。

但是,到了近代即1840年以后,清朝国势日衰,特别是在1860年第二次鸦片战争时期,英法联军攻入北京,许多宫殿和著名的"三山五园"被联军放火烧毁,无数珍宝被劫掠到异国他乡。如今要重睹旧时北京的全部风貌和这里曾经出现过的某些波澜壮阔的历史场景已不可能。然而,当人们置身于它的城区或郊野,面对那些触目皆是的历史遗迹,却会使你感到过去的事物仿佛又回到了眼前。一座巍峨耸立的古塔,常常凝聚着一代匠人的艺术精华;一块风蚀斑驳的碑石,或许记载着一件轰动一时的壮举;一片荒草丛生、瓦砾狼藉的宫苑废址,往往引发人们无限的忧思。当人们走进紫禁城太和殿的时候,不能不联想到皇帝的金冠龙袍和奢靡无度;当人们登上万里长城的时候,眼前似乎浮现出"烽火连天远,铁骑鏖战急"的厮杀场景;当人们在颐和园昆明湖荡舟的时候,面对湖光山色,会情不自禁地体味到"若道湖光宛似镜,阿谁不是镜中人"的佳境……北京是一座宏大的历史博物馆,走进去,就感到它的历史悠久;北京是一座巨大的游乐园,走进去,就会乐而忘返。

北京,作为几代王朝的都城和中华人民共和国的首都,其古迹胜景不胜枚举,我们从中精选13 佳景编辑成《北京名胜》,以飨读者。本画册是北京悠久历史和美丽风姿的缩影,也可作为来京观光者的导游手册。愿它给朋友们带来方便和愉快。

#### **Foreword**

Beijing, capital of the People's Republic of China, is a famous historical and cultural city. It is a cradle of Chinese civilization and one of the birthplaces of mankind. As early as 700,000 years ago Peking Man began to inhabit the region and lived through the Old and New Stone Ages.

Two dukedoms, Yan and Ji, were established and built the city of Ji during the late Shang Dynasty (c. 16th-11th century B.C.). The city was situated very close to the present city of Beijing. In 1045 B.C. the Zhou Dynasty (c. 11th century-256 B.C.) overthrew the Shang Dynasty and bestowed the land of Ji to a descendent of King Rao and the land of Yan to Shi, Duke of Zhao. The name of the city of Ji changed many times over 3,000 years, but it remained a strategic point and a trade center and kept growing in size. It was made national capital for several dynasties.

Beijing lies at the northern tip of the North China Plains. To its west, north and east are mountain ranges; to its southeast is flat land. Geographers call the Beijing area "Beijing Bay". An ancient book describes Beijing as such: "Its head rests on the Juyong Pass; the Taihang Mountains rise to its west; to its east are

mountains and the sea; and it overlooks a plain to its south."

In the early 10th century Qidan, a nomadic tribe in northeast China, grew strong, marched over the mountains into the north part of the North China Plains, took the city of Ji and made it secondary capital of the Liao Dynasty (907-1125). Because Ji was located in the southern part of their territory, the Oidan called it Nanjing, or South Capital, and also Yanjing. One century later, another tribe named Nuzhen overthrew the Liao Dynasty and established the Jin Dynasty (1115-1234). In 1153 they moved their capital to Yanjing and changed its name to Zhongdu. After another century, the Nuzhen were forced out of Zhongdu by the emerging power of Mongols and moved their capital to Pianjing (present-day Kaifeng in Henan Province). In 1267 Kublai Khan, chief of the Mongols, issued an order to build a new city to the northeast of the old city of Zhongdu. Kublai Khan ascended the throne in the new city four years later. But the new city was not totally completed in another 15 years. The new city was named Dadu, capital of the Yuan Dynasty, described by Marco Polo as a city "unmatchable in the world". Since then Beijing replaced Chang'an, Luoyang, Bianliang and other cities as the national capital and became the political, economic, military and cultural center of China through the Yuan (1206-1368), Ming (1368-1644) and Qing dynasties (1644-1911).

In 1368 Zhu Yuanzhang, once a poor Buddhist monk, led a peasant uprising to overthrow the Yuan Dynasty and founded the Ming Dynasty. He set his capital in Yingtian (present-day Nanjing in Jiangsu Province). He stayed on the throne for 30 years and was succeeded by his grandson Zhu Yunwen (Emperor Wen Di). Zhu Li, Duke of Yan, a son of Zhu Yuanzhang, launched a war to usurp the power from his nephew, the new emperor. After three years of bloody wars, his troops occupied Yingtian in 1402. Zhu Li became Emperor Yong Le and moved the national capital from Yingtian to his base in Beijing. He summoned craftsmen from all over the country to renovate the city wall and the imperial palace and build temples and gardens. The size of the city was greatly enlarged. By 1421 main projects had been completed and Zhu Li formally established his capital in Beijing.

The city of Beijing was a copy of the city of Nanjing. It was divided into four squares one inside another: the Imperial Palace, Imperial City, Inner City and Outer City. Sixteen gates in a symmetrical partern were located on the four sides of the Inner City. Standing on an imposing city gate tower one could see as far as several dozen kilometers away. The Imperial Palace, also known as Forbidden City, was located in the center of Beijing. Spreading from it in a neat pattern were streets flanked with stores and residential houses. Streams flew through lakes and gardens. Temples and official mansions had majestic buildings.

The Ming Dynasty lasted for 270 years. In 1644 Li Zicheng and his peasant rebels entered Beijing. Zhu Youjian, the last emperor of the Ming dynasty, hanged himself on a hill behind the Imperial Palace. In the same year, Aisin Gioro Fu Lin, the chief of the Manchus, came to Beijing from north of the Great Wall, chased away Li Zicheng, and founded the Qing Dynasty. As earlier emperors, he carried out a large scale renovation of the city. The troops of the Manchu Eight Banners were allowed to take any houses they liked in the Inner City. The original residents were forced to move to the Outer City. Many grand mansions were built to accommodate the new rulers. In 1645 the imperial court began to rebuild the Taihe, Zhonghe and Baohe halls in the Imperial Palace and in 1651 to rebuild the Chengtian Gate, which, upon completion, was renamed Tian'an-

men, or the Gate of Heavenly Peace. During the same period, the Nanhai (South Sea), Zhonghai (Middle Sea) and Beihai (North Sea) lakes were dredged and enlarged to become imperial gardens. Construction of gardens reached its heyday in the middle of the 18th century. Five large-scale gardens were built or renovated in the northeastern suburbs. Taoism was developing fast during the Qing Dynasty. A great number of Taoist temples were built. A map of the capital made during Emperor Qian Long's Reign marks out 1,400 side streets in Beijing and 1,300 temples. At that time, grand towers and halls stood one after another; stores lined many streets. China became the strongest country in Asia during the 18th century.

But the Qing Dynasty declined rapidly after 1840. In 1860, during the second Opium War, British and French troops invaded Beijing and looted and burnt the imperial gardens and palaces. Numerous treasures were taken out of China.

The present Beijing offers many places of historical significance. The ancient pagodas show the high artistic skills of the Chinese; inscriptions on stone tablets record major events; the ruins of looted imperial gardens bring back sorrowful memories; and the Forbbiden City tells visitors how extravangant the life of emperors had been. One may envision the battle scenes when he stands on the Great Wall. Beijing is like a giant museum of history and a great amusement garden.

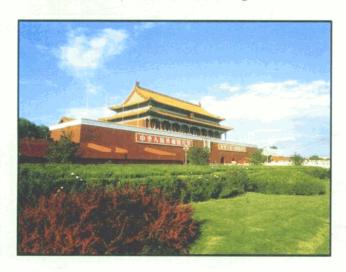
We present in this picture book 13 best sights in Beijing, representatives of Beijing's beauty.

#### 天安门

天安门原为明清两代皇城的正门, 始建于明永乐 15年(1417年),称"承天 门"。历史上曾几次被焚,1651年重修后 改称"天安门"。天安门在明清两代是皇 帝颁发诏令的地方,每逢冬至皇帝去天 坛祭天,夏至到地坛祭地,仲春至先农坛 亲耕,皇帝大婚和出兵亲征等重大活动, 都要从天安门出入。因此,它的建筑规 制甚高,5洞城门,重楼9楹;在中间门洞 的前后各立汉白玉石华表一对,华表顶 蹲石兽,柱身遍雕祥云腾龙,另有两对石 狮前后镇守。新中国成立后,门前左右 增设了观礼台,台前置花坛,每当春秋季 节,这里花团锦簇,人头攒动,热闹非凡。 观礼台前是原皇城的御河——金水河, 河上横跨汉白玉石桥 5座, 桥栏上雕饰 着精美的图案和花纹。天安门城楼前是 世界上最大的广场——天安门广场。

天安门的设计和建造是一完整的艺术杰作,端庄秀丽,雄伟壮观。1949年10月1日,毛泽东主席在天安门城楼上宣告了中华人民共和国的成立。

#### Tian'anmen Square



天安门城楼 为重檐庑殿顶,面阔9间深5间,朱柱黄瓦,美丽壮观。城楼已对公众开放,登楼远眺,更觉天安门广场宽广博大。

**Gate Tower of Tian'anmen** The grand city gate tower is open to the public. From it one has a whole view of the Tian'anmen Square.

Tian'anmen was the front gate of the Imperial Palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Originally built in 1417 and named Chengtianmen, it was burnt down and rebuilt several times. The present gate tower was rebuilt in 1651 and renamed Tian'anmen. Ming and Qing emperors would issue decrees from the gate tower and pass through it when they went to the Temple of Heaven in early winter, the Temple of Earth in early summer and to the Temple of Agriculture in early spring, or when he led troops on an expedition. The gate has five openings and nine tiers of eaves. Two pairs of white marble pillars stand inside and outside the central opening. Each stone pillar has a stone beast crowching on top and carvings of clouds and a dragon around it. There are also two pairs of stone lions inside and outside of the gate. After the founding of new China in 1949 reviewing stands were built on the two sides of the gate. In spring and autumn flowers in front of the reviewing stands attract many visitors. Five white marble bridges span the Golden Water River which flows in front of the Tian'anmen. In front of the gate is the world's largest open ground in the city -- the Tian'anmen Square.

天安门前华表 在中国古代,华表多设于桥梁、宫殿和城垣前作为装饰和标志。天安门前后的华表是整块汉白玉石雕凿而成的,造型精美,纹饰生动,是华表中的代表作。

Huabiao in front of Tian'anmen In ancient China ornamented stone pillars were often erected by a bridge, palace hall or city wall as an ornament or landmark. The huaobiao in front and behind Tian'anmen were carved out of a whole piece of white marble and bear exquisite carvings in relief. They are the best of huabiao in the country.







天安门广场 是北京的中心广场,面积为44.5公顷。它的北侧屹立着天安门,中央为人民英雄纪念碑,碑南是毛主席纪念堂和正阳门,东西两侧有中国历史博物馆和人民大会堂。广场布局严整,气势宏伟。

Tian'anmen Square The center of Beijing occupies 44.5 hectares. Tian'anmen stands to its north; the Monument to the People's Heroes rises in the middle; south of the monument are the Memorial Hall of Chairman Mao Zedong and Zhengyangmen Gate; and to the east is the Museum of Chinese History and to its west is the Great Hall of the People.