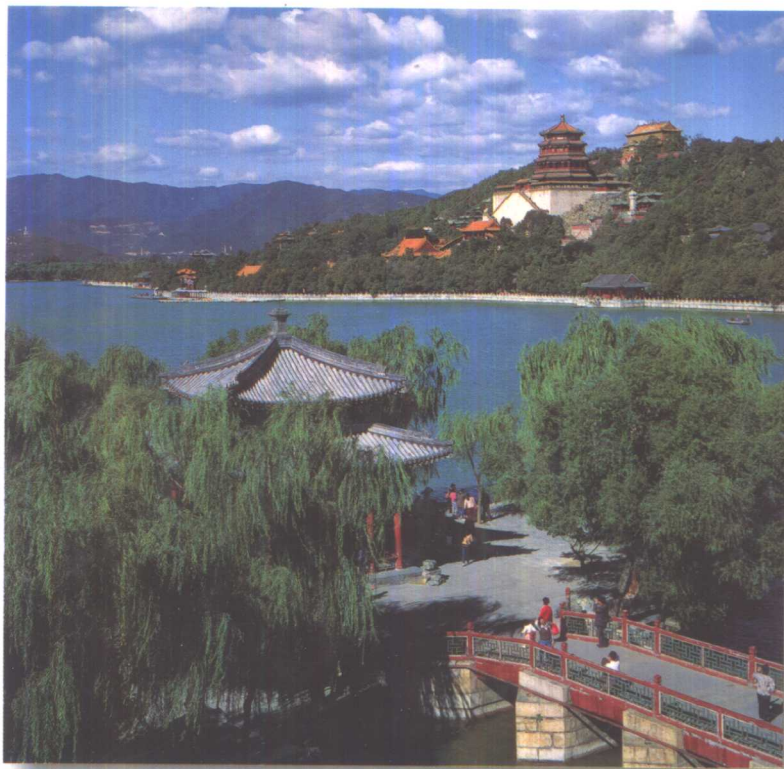




THE SUMMER PALACE

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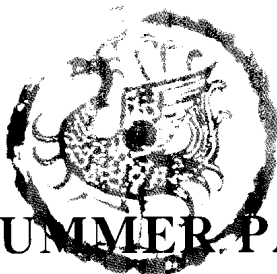
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THE SUMMER PALACE

Situated in the northwest suburbs of Beijing, the famous imperial garden Yiheyuan (Garden of Nurtured Harmony, known as the Summer Palace in the West) was originally called Qingyi yuan (Garden of Clear Ripples). It was constructed in 1750, the 15th year of the reign of Qing Dynasty Emperor Qian Long, under orders of the emperor to celebrate his mother's 60th birthday. In 1860, the 10th year of the reign of Emperor Xian Feng, Qingyi yuan was burned down by British and French allied forces. In 1886, the 12th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu, it was reconstructed on orders of Empress Dowager Ci Xi with funds meant for the navy, and was renamed Yiheyuan in 1888. In 1900 Yiheyuan was again devastated by the Eight-Power Allied Forces sent by Britain, the United States, Germany, France, tsarist Russia, Japan, Italy and Austria. It was restored in 1903 and officially opened as a public park in 1924.

The Summer Palace consists primarily of Wanshoushan (Longevity Hill) and Kunming Lake. Of its 2.9-square-kilometer area, water covers three-

fourths. The ancient buildings cover an area of nearly 70,000 square meters.

Based on the natural hills and water courses, most of the buildings in the Summer Palace reflect scenic spots and historical sites south of the Yangtze River. These colorful and majestic wonders include pavilions, bridges, corridors, halls and palaces.

On the south face of Longevity Hill, the glittering Paiyundian (Cloud-Dispelling Hall) complex topped with yellow glazed tiles and set among green pines and cypresses resembles the moon surrounded by a myriad of stars. This resplendent and magnificent group of buildings, from the shore to the hilltop, consist of a decorated archway, Paiyunmen (Cloud-Dispelling Gate), Ergongmen (The Second Palace Gate), Paiyundian, Dehuidian (Hall of Virtuous Light), Foxiangge (Pagoda of Buddhist Incense), and Zhihuihai (Wisdom-Sea Temple). The Pagoda of Buddhist Incense, a three-story octagonal building, sitting on the hill and facing Kunming Lake, dominates the entire garden. Zhuanlunzang (Revolving Scripture Repository) and the large stela dedicated to Longevity Hill and Kunming Lake stand on its east face; Wufangge (Five-Direction Pavilions) and the world-famous Baoyunge (Precious Cloud Pavilion), also called Tongdian (Bronze Pavilion), on its west terrace. Viewed from the Pagoda of Buddhist Incense, Xidi (West Causeway), which was constructed in imitation of Su Dyke on Hangzhou's West Lake, looks like a green ribbon unwinding from south to north on Kunming Lake. Each of the six bridges on the West Causeway has its own form and each is graceful in its own way. Looking like a rainbow, the Seventeen-Arch Bridge is captivating.

lying on the lake in mists. Hanxutang (Hall of Forbearance and Humbleness), Zaojian Hall and Zhijing Hall stand like three legs of a tripod on the water, recalling the "three fabled abodes of immortals at sea" in Chinese folk tales. By the lake, the famous Marble Boat, the lifelike bronze ox, a symbol of successful flood control, and the Zhichunting (Pavilion Heralding Spring) are the major points of interest.

On the north face of Longevity Hill with its wavy terrain, luxuriant and well-spaced flowers and trees, winding hill paths, and towering pines and cypresses, the building complex designed in the style of Tibetan temples stands magnificently dignified. At the foot of Longevity Hill, the pure water of the lake flows east quietly and slowly. The replica of an old-fashioned business street laid out along the back lake, which follows the typical architectural style of market places along rivers in South China, contains a variety of orderly arranged commercial establishments, such as banks, drugstores, teahouses and pubs. If one samples a cup of top-grade tea in a boat on the lake while enjoying the story telling and ballad singing in Suzhou dialect, he will feel as if he was in old Suzhou in Jiangsu Province. Walking north along the creek to the end, one will find Xiequyuan (Garden of Harmonious Delight), an exquisite structure with buildings, halls, covered corridors and pavilions ingeniously interconnected around a pond formed by water from Kunming Lake.

The Summer Palace with its unmatched scenery is the most heart-cheering place in Beijing. It is a milestone in the history of Chinese garden construction, epitomizing the cream of Chinese gardening art.



颐和园位于北京市西北郊，原名清漪园，始建于公元 1750 年（清乾隆十五年），是清朝乾隆皇帝为其母祝六十寿辰而建造的一座以湖光山色蜚声于世的大型皇家园林。1860 年（清咸丰十年）清漪园被英法联军焚毁。1886 年（清光绪十二年）慈禧太后挪用海军经费，在清漪园废墟上重新修建并于 1888 年改园名为颐和园。1900 年，又遭英、美、德、法、俄、日、意、奥八国联军抢掠破坏，1903 年重修。1924 年正式辟为公园。

颐和园主要由万寿山和昆明湖组成，全园面积约 2.9 平方公里，其中水面占四分之三左右。园内古建筑 3000 余间，面积近 7 万平方米。

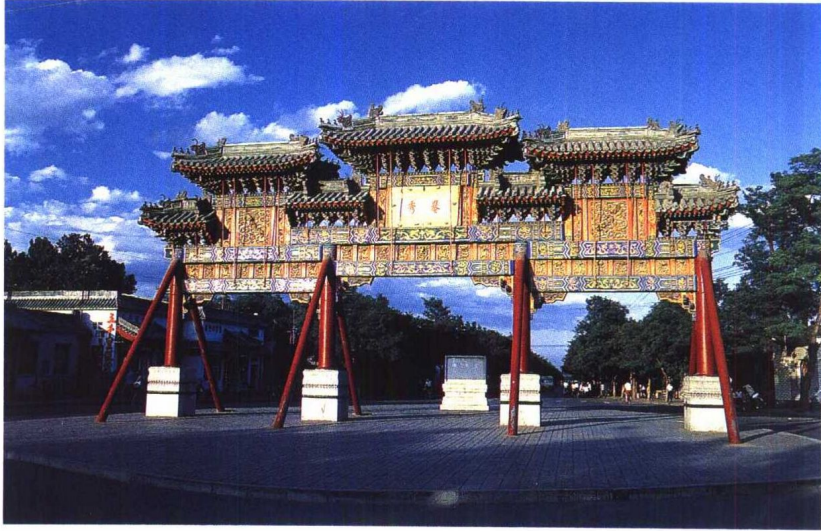
颐和园园林布局以自然山水为基础，其建筑结构多模拟江南名胜古迹，或肖其意，或仿其型，因地制宜地创建了众多绚丽多彩、壮丽恢宏的亭、桥、廊、榭、殿、宇、楼、台。

万寿山南麓，黄色琉璃瓦顶的排云殿建筑群在郁郁苍苍的松柏簇拥下似众星捧月，溢彩流光。这组金碧辉煌的建筑自湖边的云辉玉宇牌楼

起,经排云门、二宫门、排云殿、德辉殿、佛香阁,直至山巅的智慧海,重廊复殿,层层垒垒,气势磅礴。巍峨高耸的佛香阁八面三层,踞山面湖,统领全园。其东面山石上有转轮藏和高大的万寿山昆明湖石碑,西侧台基上是五方阁与闻名中外的宝云阁铜殿。登上佛香阁,凭栏纵目,碧波荡漾的昆明湖上,仿杭州西湖苏堤建造的西堤,犹如一条绿色的飘带,蜿蜒曲折,纵贯南北。堤上六座桥,造型互异,婀娜多姿。浩淼烟波中,十七孔桥似长虹偃月横卧水面,涵虚堂、藻鉴堂、治镜阁三座水中岛屿鼎足而立,寓意神话传说中的“海山三山”。在湖畔岸边,还建有著名的石舫,维妙维肖的镇水铜牛,赏春观景的知春亭等点景建筑。

万寿山北麓,山势起伏,花木扶疏,道路幽邃,松柏参天。重峦叠嶂上,仿西藏寺庙构筑的四大部洲建筑群层台耸立,雄伟庄严。山脚下,清澈的湖水随山型地貌演变成为一条宁静舒缓的河流,宛转而东去。河两岸模拟江南水肆建造的买卖街,铺面鳞次栉比,钱庄、药店招幌临风;茶楼、酒馆画旗斜矗。若轻摇画舫,品碧螺香茗,听一曲苏州评弹,使人如临姑苏之乡。沿河游览,水尽之处,有小巧玲珑的谐趣园,该园结构精致,楼堂廊榭皆环池而立,“一亭一径,足谐奇趣。”

“何处燕山最畅情,无双风月属昆明。”颐和园集中国历代造园艺术之精粹,是中国园林艺术史上的里程碑。古往今来,她以其杰出的园林艺术成就倾倒了无数中外游客,被人们赞誉为“人间天堂”。



Yanxiu Pailou (Gathering Elegance Archway)

Built in 1750, the archway has four pillars and seven roofs arranged in three layers. The Chinese characters inscribed on the horizontal stone tablet were written by Emperor Qian Long (reigned 1736-1795). It is the largest decorated archway surviving from the Qing Dynasty.

黉秀牌楼

建于1750年，四柱七楼，主楼石额题刻为乾隆皇帝(公元1736-1795年在位)御笔，是清代保存至今最大的一座过街牌楼。





◁ Donggongmen (Eastern Palace Gate)

This was the entrance to the Summer Palace used by the emperor and empress during the Qing Dynasty. A gold horizontal tablet is hung on the lintel above the gate inscribed with the three Chinese characters "Yiheyuan" in the calligraphy of Emperor Guang Xu (reigned 1875-1908). The stone carved with two dragons playing with a pearl inlaid in the footstep is from the remains of Yuanmingyuan (Garden of Perfect Brightness).

东宫门

是清代帝后出入颐和园的正门。宫门悬挂着光绪皇帝(公元 1875-1908 年在位)题写的“颐和园”金匾。台阶中间镶嵌的二龙戏珠石雕,是圆明园遗物。

Renshoudian

(Hall of Benevolence and Longevity)

This was the hall where the emperor and Empress Dowager Ci Xi conducted state affairs and received senior officials while staying at the Summer Palace. This seven-bay-wide structure was covered by a rooftop in *xieshan* style with grey tiles. Bronze phoenixes and dragons were placed in front of the hall to represent royal power.

仁寿殿

是清代帝后驻园期间听政理事之所,大殿灰瓦歇山顶,面阔七间,殿前月台上排列着铜凤、铜龙等吉祥物,具有权力的象征。





Inside the Hall of Benevolence and Longevity

While holding audiences with senior officials, Empress Dowager Ci Xi sat on the throne at the center of the hall with Emperor Guang Xu beside her on another chair. The red-crowned crane and censer are placed as they were in the Qing Court.

仁寿殿内景

当年慈禧太后接见大臣时,坐在殿内正中的宝座上,而光绪皇帝则坐在旁边临时安放的坐椅上。殿内安放的仙鹤、香炉等物品皆为清室原物陈列。

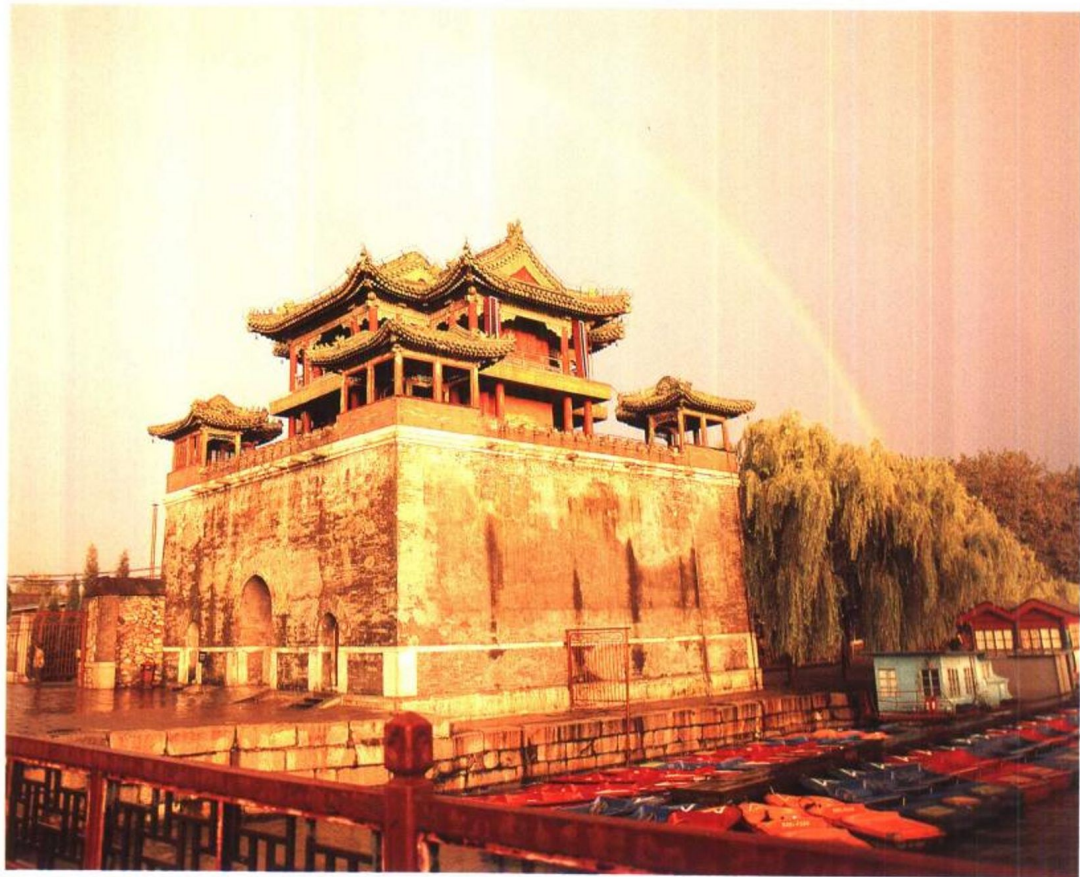


Zhichunting (Pavilion Heralding Spring)

Standing on an islet, this pavilion was built during the reign of Emperor Qian Long. In Emperor Guang Xu's reign, it was connected to the shore by a bridge. It is the best place to appreciate the Summer Palace in spring.

知春亭

乾隆时原是一座小岛，光绪时修桥梁与湖岸相连，是观赏园林春色的最佳处。



Wenchangge (Pavilion of Cultural Prosperity)

Located on the eastern bank of Kunming Lake, this is a two-story city-gate tower. Bronze sculptures of God of Literature (a god in Daoist legend) and his horse were placed here for worship.

文昌阁

位于昆明湖东岸，是一座两层楼阁式样的城关建筑，阁上供奉文昌帝君（道教神名之一）及其坐骑铜像。

**Long-distance view of Kunming Lake and Pagoda of
Buddhist Incense**
远眺昆明湖、佛香阁

