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# 中国文化

## 英语80主题

段义涛 / 编著  
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# TALKING CHINESE CULTURE

超越“课文英语”的层次，深入英语社会的细微之处。

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 中国宇航出版社

# 中国文化

## 英语80主题



中国对外翻译出版公司

· 北 京 ·

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# 前言

“我为英文狂系列丛书”是一套面向大中学生及英语爱好者的中英文对照版的“英语话题百科全书”，共11个分册，首批出版《世界风情英语80主题》、《中国文化英语80主题》、《商界风云英语80主题》、《时尚生活英语80主题》、《大众偶像英语80主题》等5册，分别用来学习全球风土人情、中国文化、商业新闻和人物动态、流行时尚的生活情趣、大众崇拜的娱乐和励志偶像方面的英语主题。

本套图书将英文学习的触角伸向了真实生活和工作的方方面面，选取新潮、动感、实用的学习题材，配套外教标准朗读的MP3光盘，让读者读到英文媒体经常出现的英文主题，让读者可以和老外随心所欲地交流互相感兴趣的各个主题。

《中国文化英语80主题》选取中国文化和地理民俗中读者感兴趣的80个主题，包含了名扬海内外的旅游胜地、蜚声全球的杰出人物、活力四射的魅力城市、流传久远的传统文化和艺术、令人垂涎三尺的中国美食、热闹隆重的传统节日。所有英文素材均源于知名英美报刊以及中国权威对外文化传播媒体，内容准确生动、可读性强。每个主题由热点透视、额外收获、学以致用三个板块构成。

中学生学习本套图书，可以了解一些英美国家的基本常识，提升自己应对考试的阅读理解能力；面对老外可以进行基础的会话；拓展课本和学校之外的知识视野。

大学生学习本套图书，可以有效弥补英文课本的知识广度；结合配套MP3学习，提高应对四、六级考试的听力水平；让书本上的英语变成可以脱口而出的自然口语；通过学习来认识社会的方方面面，为步入社会打下良好的基础。

广大英语爱好者学习本套图书，可以轻松自然地重拾英语课本；培养自己阅读纯英文媒体的能力；提升面对外国人时的精确口语表达能力；增加自己的英文阅读量，培养新的阅读兴趣点。

本系列丛书部分原作者难以一一核实，可与中国宇航出版社联系支付稿酬事宜。

编者

2009年11月于北京公寓

# 目录

## Tourist Resorts 旅游胜地

- 1 The Miracle of All Times—The Great Wall  
永恒的奇迹——万里长城..... 1
- 2 The Ancient Centre of Power—The Forbidden City  
古代权力中心——故宫..... 6
- 3 The Imperial Garden—The Summer Palace  
皇家园林——颐和园..... 11
- 4 The Origin of Shanxi Business—Ancient City of Pingyao  
晋商的起源——平遥古城..... 16
- 5 The Must-see Sacred Mountain—Mount Huangshan  
游山胜地——黄山..... 21
- 6 The Alluring Xizi—West Lake  
迷人的西子——西湖..... 26
- 7 The Intoxicatingly Beautiful Jiuzhaigou  
风光醉人的九寨沟..... 31
- 8 Historic Potala Palace  
历史悠久的布达拉宫..... 36
- 9 Picturesque Lijiang  
风景如画的丽江..... 41
- 10 The Eighth Miracle—Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses  
第八大奇迹——秦始皇兵马俑..... 46
- 11 The Unique Karst Scenery—Guilin's Mountains and Waters  
独特的喀斯特景观——桂林山水..... 51
- 12 The Best of All Gardens—Suzhou Classical Gardens  
苏州园林甲江南..... 56

## Important Figures 人物

- 13 The Founder of Taoism—Lao-tzu  
道家的创始人——老子..... 61
- 14 The Founder of Confucianism—Confucius  
儒家学派的创始人——孔子..... 66

15	The Representative Confucian—Mencius 儒家代表——孟子	71
16	A Great Militarist—Sun-tzu 伟大的军事家——孙武	76
17	The First Emperor of China—Qin Shihuang 中国第一个皇帝——秦始皇	81
18	Poetic General—Cao Cao 文武全才——曹操	86
19	Fairy Poet—Li Bai 诗仙——李白	91
20	The Loyal Patriot—Yue Fei 忠君爱国者——岳飞	96
21	A Heroic Man—Genghis Khan 英勇的成吉思汗	101
22	A Devoted Doctor—Li Shizhen 救死扶伤的李时珍	106
23	The Author of the Greatest Chinese Novel—Cao Xueqin 中国最伟大的小说家——曹雪芹	111
24	The Father of the Nation—Sun Yat-sen 国父——孙中山	116
25	The Outrunner of Vernacular Chinese—Hu Shi 白话文先驱——胡适	121
26	An Martial Artist and Actor—Bruce Lee 武术演员——李小龙	126
27	The Stuntman Never Used Stuntman—Jackie Chan 从不用替身的替身——成龙	131
28	Kung Fu Emperor—Jet Li 功夫皇帝——李连杰	136
29	Superstar Gong Li 巨星——巩俐	141
30	Famous Zhang Ziyi 名声远扬的章子怡	146
31	NBA's Chinese Star—Yao Ming NBA的中国明星——姚明	151

## Cities 城市

- 32 The Heart of China—Beijing  
中国的心脏——北京..... 156
- 33 A Symbol of China's Phenomenal Growth—Shanghai  
中国发展的代表——上海..... 161
- 34 Bustling Guangzhou  
繁忙的广州..... 166
- 35 The First Window to the Outside World—Shenzhen  
首扇开放之窗——深圳..... 171
- 36 A City Exalted by Marco Polo—Suzhou  
马可·波罗大力称赞的城市——苏州..... 176
- 37 Heaven on Earth—Hangzhou  
人间天堂——杭州..... 181
- 38 Mountain City—Chongqing  
山城——重庆..... 186
- 39 The Ancient Capital of Six Dynasties—Nanjing  
六朝古都——南京..... 191
- 40 River City—Wuhan  
江城——武汉..... 196
- 41 Ancient Capital—Xi'an  
古都——西安..... 201
- 42 One of the Highest Cities—Lhasa  
世界上最高的城市之一——拉萨..... 206
- 43 Pearl of the Orient—Hong Kong  
东方之珠——香港..... 211
- 44 The Biggest City of Taiwan—Taipei  
台湾省第一大城市——台北..... 216
- 45 An Idealistic Tourist Destination—Macau  
旅行的绝佳选择——澳门..... 221

## Art 艺术

- 46 The Needlecraft—Art of Embroidery  
女红——刺绣..... 226
- 47 Euphonious Peking Opera  
悦耳动听的京剧..... 231

48	Elegant Porcelains 优雅的瓷器	236
49	The Secret of China—Silk 中国的秘密——丝绸	241
50	Lives from the Tips of Brushes—Calligraphy 笔尖流出的生命——书法	246
51	The Art of Ink—Chinese Painting 水墨艺术——中国画	251
52	Breathtaking Acrobatics 扣人心弦的杂技	256

## Traditional Culture 传统文化

53	Ornate Chinese Clothing 华美的中国服饰	261
54	Flying Artwork—Kites 翱翔天宇的艺术品——风筝	266
55	Delicate Paper-cuttings 精致的剪纸	271
56	Creative Chinese Knots 奇思妙想中国结	276
57	The Combination of Power and Skill—Lion Dance 力量与技巧的结合——舞狮	281
58	Chinese Martial Art—Kung Fu 中国武术——功夫	286
59	The Art to Preserve Health—Taiji Quan 养生之道——太极拳	291
60	Mental Gymnastics—The Chinese Chess 思维的体操——中国象棋	296
61	The Chinese Four Great Classical Novels 四大名著	301
62	A Special Tableware—Chopsticks 特殊的餐具——筷子	306
63	Shining Lanterns 闪闪发亮的灯笼	311
64	Traditional Chinese Medical Science 中医	316

65	The Four Treasures of the Study 文房四宝.....	321
66	Four Great Inventions of Ancient China 古代中国的四大发明.....	326

## Chinese Food 中国美食

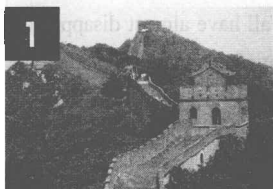
67	Tasty Chinese Cooking 美味的中国菜.....	331
68	Various Wheaten Food 花样百出的面食.....	336
69	Hot Sichuan Cuisines 火辣的川菜.....	341
70	The Fresh, Natural Flavors of Cantonese Cuisine 新鲜自然的粤菜.....	346
71	Palatable and Nutritious Dumplings 美味滋养的饺子.....	351
72	Refreshing Chinese Tea 爽口的中国茶.....	356

## Festivals 节日

73	The Beginning of a New Year—Spring Festival 新年伊始——春节.....	361
74	The Colorful Lantern Festival 缤纷多彩的元宵节.....	366
75	Rainy Tomb Sweeping Day 清明时节雨纷纷.....	371
76	The Day of Calamus—Dragon Boat Festival 菖蒲日——端午节.....	376
77	A Day of Romance—Double Seventh Festival 中国的情人节——七夕.....	381
78	Family Time—Mid-Autumn Festival 月圆人圆——中秋节.....	386
79	The Chrysanthemum Show—Double Ninth Festival 菊花秀——重阳节.....	391
80	The Celebration for More Sunshine—Winter Solstice Festival 拥抱阳光——冬至.....	396

# Tourist Resorts

## 旅游胜地



### The Miracle of All Times—The Great Wall

### 永恒的奇迹——万里长城

#### 热点透视 Hot Topics Perspective

——疯狂地听，盛情地读，刻意模仿并理解全文

Listed as a **World Cultural Heritage Site** by UNESCO in 1987, the Great Wall is a true marvel and a testament to the long history of the Chinese Civilization. The Great Wall stretches from ShanHai Pass in the east to Lop Nur in the west, along an arc that roughly **delineates** the southern edge of Inner Mongolia. The most comprehensive **archaeological** survey in April 2009, using advanced technologies, has concluded that the entire Great Wall, with all of its branches, stretches for 8,851.8 kilometers.

It's believed that the Great Wall was firstly built in Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.), and **primarily** strengthened in three dynasties: the Qin (221-206 B.C.), the Han (202 B.C.-220 A.D.) and the Ming (1368-1644). In the early days, the Great Wall was as much a **demarkation** of territory as a defense as such, but as the Great Wall became stronger, its defense role increased. The building styles of each dynasty added their own

World Cultural Heritage Site

世界文化遗产

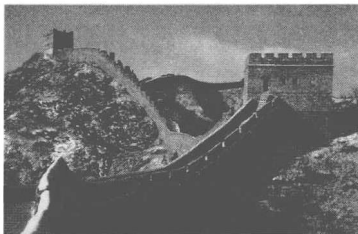
delineate 描绘, 勾勒

archaeological 考古学的, 考古

学上的

primarily 首先, 主要地

demarkation 划界, 界线



**flavor** and advanced the techniques learned from the previous. Where possible, natural barriers were **integrated** into the path of the wall. It's said that the length of natural defensive barriers such as hills and rivers is about 2,232.5 kilometers.

The first emperor, Qin Shihuang, who unified China by force set about constructing one Great Wall—by joining existing one and filling the gaps. There are no **surviving** historical records **indicating** the exact length and course of the Qin Dynasty walls. Some parts of the Great Wall have almost disappeared. Some parts have been overwhelmed by the elements. Some have been buried by the desert. Others **eroded** by local people recycling the wall's materials for constructions in their villages. Most of the walls that we are familiar with today were built in Ming Dynasty, which built the biggest, longest, strongest and most **ornate** Great Wall ever.

The Ming Dynasty Great Wall starts on the eastern end at ShanHai Pass, near Qinhuangdao, in Hebei Province, next to Bohai Sea. It once **spanned** 9 provinces and 100 counties, but the final 500 kilometers of the Great Wall to the west have all but turned to rubble. Today, the western end of the Great Wall **effectively** ends at the historic site of JiaYu Pass, in northwest GanSu Province, at the limit of the Gobi Desert and the **oases** of the Silk Road.

The ShanHai Pass mentioned above is one of the most famous passes of the Great Wall. It's known as the First Pass under Heaven. To the east of it, there is a Meng Jiangnv Temple, which was built in memory of Meng Jiangnv, the heroine of the most popular **folklore** concerning the Great Wall of China. The husband of Meng Jiangnv was forced to go to the construction site for the Great Wall in the nuptial night. Meng Jiangnv waited for the return of her husband and months went by like centuries. When winter came, she decided to visit him and bring him some clothes. However, she arrived at the site only to find her husband toiled to death and buried under the Great Wall. She was so sad that she kept crying for 7 days and nights. Finally, part of the Great Wall fell apart and the body of her husband **appeared**.

flavor 滋味, 香料

integrate 整合, 使……成整体

surviving 存活的, 继续存在的

indicate 显示, 表明

erod 侵蚀, 腐蚀

ornate 装饰的, 华丽的

span 持续, 跨越; 跨度, 范围

effectively 有效地, 实际上

oases 绿洲

folklore 民间传说

appear 出现, 显得

Besides the ShanHai Pass, another famous part of Great Wall should be Badaling, which is the most representative and best-protected part the Great Wall in Ming Dynasty. More than 400 **celebrities** like Nixon, Margaret Thatcher and Vladimir Putin etc. have visited and 130 million tourists have been there. After the Beijing Olympic, you could visit there, being **greeted** by the Olympic structure “One World, One Dream”, which could be seen in the MV of *Beijing welcomes you*.

Today, more and more people from all over the world are visiting the Great Wall of China, to stand on a **watchtower** and view the wall **snaking** into the distance. Why don't you stand up, take a package with you and walk on the Great Wall? The one who has never been to the Great Wall is not a true man. You might take a photo with certain head of state, if you're lucky enough.

长城是一个伟大的奇迹,作为中华文明悠久历史的证明,1987年被联合国教科文组织列入世界文化遗产名录。它东起山海关,西至罗布泊,大致沿着内蒙古南部省界划出一道弧形。2009年4月,一项采用先进技术的考古学调查经过全面完善的计算,最终算出所有长城加在一起的总长度为8851.8千米。

现在人们普遍认为长城早在战国时期(公元前475~221年)就开始修建,主要在秦朝(公元前221~206年),汉朝(公元前202~公元220年)和明朝(1368~1644年)这三个时期得到重要发展。早期人们修建长城是为了分疆划界也为了防御外敌入侵,但随着长城的加长,它的防御功能也随之增强。每个朝代修建的长城都融入了该时期的建筑风格和特色,建筑技术也在前朝的基础上也有所突破和进步。凡是能“因地形,用险制塞”的地方,各朝代都会利用危崖绝壁、江河湖泊作为天然屏障与长城融为一体。据说整个长城天然险的长度达到2232.5千米。

中国第一个皇帝秦始皇在用武力统一全国之后便开始着手修建一个完整的长城。他命人将原先所有的长城都连起来,但是现存的史料里并没有记载秦长城的具体长度和线路。后来有些长城几近消失,有些被风雨侵蚀淹没,有些藏匿于沙漠之下,有些被当地居民拆掉用来建造自己的村落。直到明朝才又修建起最宏大、最绵长、最坚固而又最华丽的长城,现在我们所熟悉的大部分长城都是明长城。

明长城东起河北秦皇岛附近的山海关,紧临渤海,曾穿越9个省100多个城市,但西部最后的500多千米长城已经几乎成为碎石堆,所以现在明长城最西面实际上是中国西北部甘肃省的嘉峪关——丝绸之路上的绿洲,戈壁滩的尽头。

celebrity 名人,名声  
greet 欢迎,映入眼帘

watchtower 瞭望塔  
snake 蛇;蜿蜒

上文提到的山海关是长城多个关卡中最为著名的一个,素有“天下第一关”之称。在它的东部有一个孟姜女庙,是为了纪念孟姜女而修建的。孟姜女哭长城是中国家喻户晓的民间传说。相传孟姜女和丈夫新婚当晚,丈夫被官兵抓走修长城。孟姜女就在家一直等待丈夫回家,度日如年。等到冬天的时候,孟姜女决定去探望丈夫,给他带一些冬衣。结果等她赶到长城脚下时却发现自己的丈夫早已累死被埋在长城下。孟姜女伤心不已,在长城脚下连哭了7天7夜,终于长城崩塌,孟姜女丈夫的遗体出现在孟姜女眼前。

除了山海关,另外一段有名的长城莫过于八达岭长城。这是明长城中保护最完善,也最具代表性的一段。至今共计有1.3亿多游客参观过这段长城,其中有400多位名人,比如尼克松、撒切尔夫夫人和普京等。北京奥运会过后,如果你再去八达岭,首先映入眼帘的便是那巨大的奥运口号“同一个世界,同一个梦想”,在《北京欢迎你》这首歌的音乐电视中就有这个镜头。

现在还有更多人从世界各地赶来一睹长城的风彩,站在瞭望塔上看长城蜿蜒到远处的山顶感受那份宏伟。你何不站起来,拿起背包也来爬长城呢?要知道,不到长城非好汉!如果你足够幸运的话,没准还能和某些国家元首合影哦!

### 额外收获 Know More

——拓展知识视野,掌握更多相关信息

1. The Great Wall is gasping under the burden of tourism.
2. The Great Wall speaks well for a growth in the mixed soil of peace and war.
3. Transporting the large quantity of materials required for construction was difficult, so builders always tried to use local resources.
4. The Wall falls into the scope of fortification, a military engineering science now still being researched that mainly deals with how to enhance the attack or defense capacity of a position to its terrain before or during the battle.
5. It was so big a project that it was impossible to build it in uniform forms and materials in different places.

1. 长城已经被旅游的重担压得喘不过气来。
2. 这片土地在战争与和平的相互交替中发展进步,长城是这进步的最佳佐证。
3. 从其他地方运输修建长城需要的大量材料很困难,所以工人们总是试图就地

取材。

4. 军事工程学一直在研究在战前或战时如何增强某地的进攻或防御能力, 长城就属于军事工程学研究的防御工事。

5. 修建长城的工程如此浩大, 很难在全国各地使用同样的材料按照统一的样式来建造。

## 学以致用 Training Camp

——将学到的知识应用到一个实景会话中, 体会其在口语表达中的实际用法

**Tom:** Any plan for the coming holiday?

**Jane:** Not yet. I'm tired from going to the beach every year.

**Tom:** If I were you, I would go to visit the Great Wall in Beijing. It's marvelous! Some of the walls have been more than 2,000 years old.

**Jane:** Yeah, I've heard about this. How did they do this at that time?

**Tom:** That's beyond my knowledge. You can stand on a watchtower and see it snaking into distance. At that moment, you can feel that you are a soldier guarding your country.

**Jane:** Wow, that's must be good! My husband would like it since he was once a member of the army.

**Tom:** Speaking of husband, there is a love story related to the Great Wall. It's about a girl named Mengjiangnv...

**Jane:** (Chime in) I know the story. I saw a movie at my friend's home months ago when she came back from China. There were so many people died for building the Great Wall.

**Tom:** Yeah, it's true. But the Great Wall has protected more people from being attacked by the bandits.

**Jane:** Well, isn't it horrible when you stand on the wall, thinking many bodies buried under the wall?

**Tom:** Many who haven't been there would believe that.

汤姆: 你假期有什么计划吗?

简: 还没有, 每年都去海边, 我都有点儿厌倦了。

汤姆: 如果我是你的话, 我一定会去看看北京的长城, 非常棒! 有些城墙都已经修了2000多年了。

简: 对, 这我听说过。那个时候的人们是怎么做到的呀?

汤姆: 这我可不知道。你可以站在瞭望塔上看长城蜿蜒到远处的山顶。那时候你真感觉自己就是一名守卫边疆的士兵。

简: 哇, 这感觉一定很不错! 我丈夫曾经当过兵, 他一定会喜欢这种感觉的!

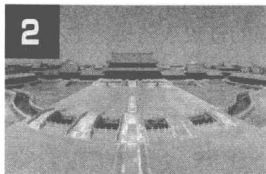
汤姆: 说到丈夫么, 中国有个关于长城的爱情故事。故事的女主角叫孟姜女……

简: (插嘴) 我知道这个故事, 几个月前我朋友从中国回来时, 我在她家看到过一部电影。为了修长城死了那么多人。

汤姆: 嗯, 的确。但是长城也保护了很多, 让他们免于土匪强盗的袭击。

简: 当你站在长城上想着脚下埋着那么多人的时候, 不会觉得恐怖吗?

汤姆: 很多没去过的人都会这么想。



2

## The Ancient Centre of Power— The Forbidden City 古代权力中心——故宫

### 热点透视 Hot Topics Perspective

——疯狂地听，盛情地读，刻意模仿并理解全文

Located in the center of Beijing, the Forbidden City, named Gu Gong in Chinese, was the **imperial** palace to 24 emperors from the Ming Dynasty to the end of the Qing Dynasty. It is the best preserved imperial palace in China and the largest ancient **palatial** structure in the world. Thus, the Forbidden City was listed as a World Cultural Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987. It's a real treasury **vault** of Chinese cultural and historical relics.

The Forbidden City is the world's largest palace **complex**, which covers 72 hectares with a total floor space of **approximately** 150,000 square meters and consists of 90 palaces and courtyards, 980 buildings and 8,704 rooms. It is recognized as one of the most important five palaces in the world with the Palace of Versailles in France, Buckingham Palace in the UK, the White House in the US and the Kremlin in Russia.

The **gorgeous** architecture of the Forbidden City speaks well for the **essence** and **culmination** of traditional Chinese architectural accomplishment. The grand palace took millions of people including one hundred thousand **artisans** 14 years (1406-1420) to finish its construction. Stone were **quarried** from the suburbs of Beijing. Some are as heavy as hundreds of tons and it was said a well was dug every fifty meters along the road in order to pour water onto the road in winter to slide huge stones on ice into the city. Large amounts of timber and other materials were **freighted** from provinces in Southern China like Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangdong and Guangxi, etc.

There are entrances to the Forbidden City in all four directions and it's suggested to enter the Forbidden City from the Tiananmen Gate, the traditional "front door" to expe-

imperial 帝国的

palatial 宏伟的, 宫殿般的

vault 地窖, 地下室

complex 复合体

approximately 大约

gorgeous 华丽的, 辉煌的

essence 本质, 精髓

culmination 中天, 顶点

artisans 工匠, 手艺人

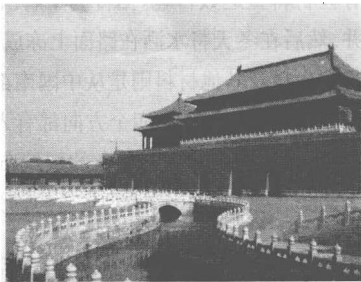
quarry 开采, 采石场

freight 运送

rience the carefully laid out complex to best effect. The Forbidden City can be divided, by the Gate of Heavenly Peace, into two parts: The southern section is the “Outer Court” and the northern part is the “Inner Court”. Walking straight ahead northwards, you will reach the main entrance to the palace, the Meridian Gate, where the Emperor announced the new **lunar calendar** on the winter solstice. Enter the Meridian Gate, and go across the Golden Stream Bridge you will arrive at the outer court.

The Outer Court consists of three halls used for ceremonial purposes and other state affairs. You will be greeted by the magnificent Hall of Supreme Harmony, in which there is the emperor’s **Dragon Throne**. The next is the Hall of Central Harmony, the resting place of the emperor before presiding over grand events held in the Hall of Supreme Harmony. The last hall is the Hall of the Preserving Harmony used for banquets and later for imperial examinations.

The northern section, the Inner Court, was where the emperor lived with his family, **eunuchs** and maid-servants. The first part of the Inner Court is a series of three halls: the Palace of Heavenly Peace, which was the emperors’ sleeping quarters, the Palace of Union and Peace, where the imperial **seals** were kept and the Palace of Terrestrial Tranquility, the emperors’ wedding room. Besides the three main buildings there are the six eastern palaces and six western palaces, where the emperor and concubines were living. Those palaces have been converted into exhibition halls.



Exiting and going further north, travelers will find the Imperial Garden, behind which there is the main exit gate of the Forbidden City, the Gate of Divine Might. For security the Forbidden City is **enclosed** by a 10 meters high and 3,400 meters long outer wall. There is a watchtower at each corner of the Forbidden City and around the city there is a six meter deep, 52 meter wide **moat** as the first line of defense.

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Nowadays, any tour of Beijing would be incomplete without a visit to the grand palace. The introduction here about the Forbidden City is just the tip of an iceberg. You would never realize how great it is unless you visit there by yourself to enjoy the **splendid** painted decoration, the grand and **deluxe** halls, with the surprisingly treasures.

lunar calendar 农历

throne 王座

preside over 主持, 主管

eunuch 宦官

seal 印章; 海豹

enclose 围绕

moat 护城河

splendid 极好的, 壮观的

deluxe 豪华的, 高级的

故宫,又名紫禁城,位于北京市正中心,是明清两代共24位皇帝的皇宫。它是  
中国至今保存最完善的皇家宫殿,也是世界上最大的古宫殿建筑群。因此,联合国教科  
文组织在1987年将故宫列入世界文化遗产名录。这是一座真正的中国文化和历史文  
物宝库。

故宫是世界上最大的宫殿建筑群,占地72万平方米,建筑面积约为15万平方米,  
有大小院落约90座,各类建筑980余座,共有房间8704间。它与法国凡尔赛宫、英国白  
金汉宫、美国白宫和俄国克里姆林宫并称为世界5大宫殿。

故宫豪华壮丽的建筑是中国传统建筑工艺的巅峰之作,它完美体现了中国传统  
建筑艺术的精髓。这座雄伟的宫殿从1406年开始建造到1420年竣工,历经14年,动用  
数百万人,其中各类工匠达数十万人。建筑需要的石材都是从北京郊区开采出来的,  
有些石料重达数百吨。据传为了解决这些石块的运输问题,人们每隔50米就挖一口  
井,然后在冬天将水洒在路面上冻成冰,然后从冰上将这些巨石送进至北京城。而大  
量的木料及其他材料则是从中国南部的云南、贵州、广东和广西等省长途运输进京。

故宫的东西南北四个方向都有入口,但是建议从天安门这个“传统门”进入故宫  
游览,这样可以对故宫复杂的建筑布局有绝佳体验。整个故宫以乾清门为界分为两  
个部分:南边的叫作外朝,北边的称为内廷。穿过天安门径直向北走,就可以看到故

宫的入口——午门,这里是以前皇帝在冬  
至时颁布次年历书的地方。进入午门走过  
金水桥就到了故宫的外朝了。

外朝主要是举办庆典和处理国事的  
地方,由三大殿组成。第一个看到的是雄伟  
的太和殿,皇帝的龙椅就放在这里。下一个是  
中和殿,是每次皇帝去太和殿主持大典之  
前休息的地方。接着是保和殿,主要用于举  
办宴会,后来也是殿试的考场。

乾清门以北的内廷就是皇帝及其嫔妃,还有太监、宫女居住生活的地方。这里也  
有三个宫殿:封建皇帝的寝宫——乾清宫,存放玉玺的交泰宫和皇帝大婚用的坤宁  
宫。除了这三个宫殿还有东西六宫,也是皇帝和嫔妃的居所,现在都已经开辟成为各  
种展览馆。

出了坤宁宫继续向北走,游客们就到了御花园。御花园北面便是故宫的主要出  
口——神武门。出于安全考虑,故宫四周围绕着10米高3400多米长的宫墙,四个角  
落都有警戒塔。宫墙的外面是故宫的第一道防线,一条6米深52米宽的护城河。