



ICOM-ITC April 2017 Training Workshop

My Museum, Your Museum: Developing Meaningful Experience for Visitors of All Ages

Apr. 2-11, 2017 Beijing, China



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Welcome Address

Dear lecturers, dear participants,

First of all, we would like to extend our warmest welcome to you on behalf of ICOM-China and the Palace Museum.

Established on July 1, 2013, the ICOM-ITC has organized seven regular training workshops in Beijing and a special one in Tanzania in September, 2015. It is dedicated to providing an efficient platform of communicating and exchanging ideas on present challenges and future directions for museum professionals worldwide with well-designed programmes in a rigorous yet pleasant way. By now, a total of 249 museum professionals from Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and Oceania have participated in the previous workshops and been trained in such aspects as museum management, collection, exhibition and education.

The theme of the ICOM-ITC April 2017 Training Workshop is "My Museum, Your Museum: Developing Meaningful Experience for Visitors of All Ages". According to the ICOM Statutes, adopted by the 22nd General Assembly in Vienna, 2007, "A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment." As education becomes the primary function of museum in the latest museum definition, the whole museum industry has entered a transitional period with a priority shift from "object to "human". The needs of audience become a significant aspect in the development of museums. If a museum meets the needs of audience or the society impacts the development of the museum a lot. Through this workshop, we hope to explore how museums, with audiences growing in number and diversity, can stick to its social education purpose, offer extensive experience to audience of all ages and realize its social values besides its functions of acquiring, conserving, researching, communicating and exhibiting.

The workshop benefits tremendously from the great dedication and active participation from all the experts, participants and faculty members. So, please allow us to extend our most sincere gratitude to you. We also hope it could provide assistance to and inspiration for your academic research and daily work.

In the end, wish you all a pleasant stay in Beijing and this workshop a big success.

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Guan Qiang

Chair

ICOM China

Apr. 2017

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Shan Jixiang

Director

The Palace Museum

Apr. 2017

Introduction to the Training Workshop

The ICOM-ITC was established on July 1, 2013 as a joint collaboration of ICOM and ICOM China, the Palace Museum. It is based on the purposes, missions and shared professional goals of ICOM and its Chinese national committee, and relies on the Palace Museum for its operation and management. Its main objective is to develop museum expertise and knowledge of young promising museum professionals in developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region.

The ICOM-ITC holds two workshops each year, one in April and one in November. Each workshop has a specific museum topic. The April 2017 workshop is to be held from April 2 to 11, 2017 under the theme of "My Museum, Your Museum: Developing Meaningful Experience for Visitors of All Ages". Seven museum experts from China, Canada, Singapore, Turkey and the United States, are invited as lecturers; and thirty-one participants are admitted, including sixteen from China and fifteen from other countries.

The Chinese participants are from 16 institutes of 10 provinces, including Beijing Auto Museum, Capital Museum, Chemical Industry Museum of China, China Maritime Museum, China Science and Technology Museum (CSTM), Chongqing China Three Gorges Museum, Fudan University, Guangdong Museum, Hunan Provincial Museum, Inner Mongolia Museum, Jiexiu City Museum, Nanjing Museum, Prince Kung's Palace Museum, Shanghai Science & Technology Museum, Yunnan Provincial Museum and Tianjin Hengda Wenbo S.&T. Co, LTD. The international participants are from fourteen countries of five continents, mostly developing countries, including Australia, Benin, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Mongolia, Namibia, Pakistan, Poland, Seychelles, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.

The theme of the workshop will be discussed and explored through diverse forms of programmes, like lectures, case studies, group discussions and museum visits. Lecturers and participants would discuss on the diversity of audience, challenges and strategies of museum education, theories of educational programme planning and implementing, as well as practical cases. Besides, the participants will visit three local museums or educational institutions to explore, observe and experience their educational theories and practices. In addition, the "Reading Artifacts" course will offer the participants a chance to observe the cultural relics of the Palace Museum closely, and help them make better use of museum collection and fully explore the educational function of a museum.

This workshop will promote exchanges and cooperations between different museums from different regions and offer the professionals a platform to make deep explorations and broaden their minds with an international perspective, extensive courses and diverse programme forms.

Profile of Lecturers



Shan Jixiang (China)

Curator
Director, the Palace Museum
Senior Architect
Registered City Planner

Dr. Shan Jixiang has become the Director of the Palace Museum since January 2012. He has been the member of both the tenth and the eleventh National Committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), and is a member of the twelfth National Committee of the CPPCC, and the President of Cultural Relics Society of China.

As a student of China's renowned academician, Professor Wu Liangyong, Dr. Shan graduated from the School of Architecture, Tsinghua University and received the Eng. D degree. He is a doctoral supervisor and adjunct professor of a number of universities and colleges, including Peking University and Tsinghua University. In March 2005, Dr. Shan received the International Leadership Award issued by the American Planning Association (APA). In September 2014, Dr. Shan was awarded the Forbes Prize by the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

His published works include over a hundred academic theses and more than ten monographs such as Cultural Heritage-Thoughts and Practice, etc.



Guan Qiang (China)

Deputy Director and Member of Party Committee, State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH) After his graduation from the Department of Archeology of Peking University (BA) in 1985 and later from the Department of Archeology of Jilin University (MA) in 1988, Mr. Guan entered Exhibition Department of the Palace Museum in July, 1988. During his work, Mr. Guan participated in a language programme (English) in Predeparture Training Department at Beijing Language and Culture University and then pursued further education on Archeology at Cairo University in Egypt. From 1993 to 1996, he was temporarily transferred to Cultural Relics Division II of State Administration of Cultural Heritage.

In 1997, Mr. Guan started to serve in the SACH, and successively worked for Archaeology Management Division, Department of Cultural Relics Preservations, and Administrative Office. In April 2009, he took the post of the Chief of Department of Cultural Relics Preservations and Archeology (Department of World Cultural Heritage). Since December 2015, he has served as Deputy Director of the SACH and member of its Party Committee, in charge of the Department of Science and Technology (Department of Museum and Cultural Relics), Beijing Luxun Museum (New Culture Movement Memorial of Beijing), Cultural Relics Publishing House, and Art Exhibitions China.

With fairly long-time experience of working with museums and cultural heritage preservation, Mr. Guan published academic articles as follows, Study on the Archaeological Relics in "Hetao Region" of Neolithic Age, Theoretical Breakthrough on the Protection of Street Blocks, etc.



Guo Meixia (China)

Deputy Director of Publicity and Education Department, the Palace Museum Curator of Education Ms. Guo Meixia graduated and got her master degree in history from Capital Normal University. At present, she is also a doctoral candidate of Capital Normal University. She started her career in the Publicity and Education Department of the Palace Museum in 2003. In 2014, she attended the training at Getty Leadership Institute in America and has applied the theory learned from there into practice.

Her professional work focuses on museum exhibition promotion, education program planning, museum volunteer management and the organization of ICOM-ITC training workshops. With the help of her rich experience in developing and implementing museum education programs, the activities she and her team developed are welcome among visitors of all age groups, which raised the educational work of the Palace Museum onto a new level.

The main directions of Ms. Guo's researches concentrate on museum education and ancient cultural history of China. On museum theories and practices, she has published articles on the education work of the Metropolitan Museum, cooperation between museum and school, children education, museum education planning, museum volunteer management, etc. She has also published several books about museum education. On ancient cultural history of China, she has published articles on research on decorative patterns on the ceramics, clothes & accessories of China's court missionaries, Catholic Church dispatched painters to Qing court, and so forth.



Claude Faubert (Canada)

Museum Consultant ICOM-ITC Coordinator Mr. Claude Faubert is a museum consultant specialising in science and technology museums and exhibitions, cultural heritage as well as in museum training. Mr. Faubert was director general of the Canada Science and Technology Museum, Canada's largest and most comprehensive science and technology museum from 2001 to 2011, and its Vice-President of Collection and Research from 2011 to 2015.

Mr. Faubert was a member of ICOM's Executive Council from 2007 to 2013. He is a current member of the board of the Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM) and a voting member of Cimuset.

Since 2013, Mr. Faubert has been the coordinator for the ICOM International Training Centre housed in the Palace Museum, Beijing.



Asmah Alias (Singapore)

Senior Assistant Director for Education and Community Outreach, National Heritage Board Ms. Asmah Alias is a Senior Assistant Director for Education and Community Outreach at the National Heritage Board (NHB) in Singapore.

She started her career in the museum and heritage sector more than 10 years ago at National Museum of Singapore, Singapore's oldest museum. As a trained communications and marketing professional, she was then involved in marketing the museum's programmes and services as the grand old dame had just gone through major restoration works. As part of job rotation and career progression, Ms. Alias eventually took on other portfolios including business development which involved formulating business strategies in the areas of venue management, tenancy and product development.

In 2013, Ms. Alias moved on to the museum's headquarters: NHB, which manages the national museums, heritage institutions and precincts in Singapore. Her current role at NHB's Education & Community Outreach Division includes developing strategic policies for promotion of heritage to all schools in Singapore in collaboration with key education partners such as the Ministry of Education and Early Childhood Development Agency. She also leads the education team in conceptualising and developing education programmes to create and maintain interest in heritage and culture especially among the young ones. Ms. Alias also heads the Grants team which administers NHB's Heritage Grants scheme to provide funding support for interested individuals and non-profit groups seeking to develop and implement heritage-related projects that seek to preserve and promote Singaporeans' learning and appreciation of heritage.



Leslie Swartz (US)

Senior Vice President for Research and Program Planning, Boston Children's Museum Ms. Leslie Swartz, Senior Vice President for Research and Program Planning at Boston Children's Museum, is responsible for research and evaluation, museum-wide long-range planning and funding strategies.

Over her tenure at Boston Children's Museum, she has led many education and exhibition projects as well as the community outreach, and curriculum and professional development departments. She was the project director for Children of Hangzhou: Connecting with China, a traveling exhibit, and associated mobile app League of Extraordinary Bloggers, a game for exploring Asian cultures, and other educational programs.

Ms. Swartz directs the Harvard East Asian Program, which offers professional development, curricula and public programs focused on Japan and China. She co-authored Moonbeams, Dumplings and Dragon Boats: A Treasury of Chinese Holiday Tales, Activities and Recipes (Harcourt: 2002), a highly popular family book. She co-founded the Boston Dragon Boat Festival, the first in the U.S. She was also a co-founder of the Hangzhou Boston Sister City relationship, and has traveled extensively in China.

She holds a BA from Oberlin College, and an MA in East Asian Studies from the University of Michigan.

Workshop Agenda (Apr. 2-6)

| Date | Time | Lecture/Activity | Lecturer/Participant | Venue |
|-----------------|-------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | All day | Arrivals and registration | ICOM-ITC staff | |
| Apr.2 (Sun.) | 17:00 | Small Gathering | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Jade Garden Hotel |
| | | Dinner (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| | 9:00-9:30 | Opening Ceremony | Leaders, Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Zhaoxiang Residence |
| Apr.3 | 9:30-12:00 | The Development and Social Education Work of Museums in China | Mr. Guan Qiang | of the PM |
| (Mon.) | | Lunch (7 | The PM) | |
| | 14:00-17:00 | The Faces of the Palace Museum | Prof. Dr. Shan Jixiang | Zhaoxiang Residence of the PM |
| | | Dinner (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| | 9:00-12:00 | Families in Museums: Best Practices from the Boston Children's Museum | Ms. Leslie Swartz | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Lunch (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| Apr.4 (Tue.) | 13:30-17:00 | Working with Our Audience: Best Practices from Singapore's National Heritage Board | Ms. Asmah Alias | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Dinner (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| | 19:00-21:00 | Preparing Presentations | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Jade Garden Hotel |
| | 9:00-12:00 | Techniques for Engaging Visitors of All Ages and New Audiences | Ms. Leslie Swartz | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Lunch (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| Apr.5 (Wed.) | 13:30-17:00 | Developing Activities for New Audiences | Ms. Asmah Alias | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Dinner (Jade C | Garden Hotel) | |
| | 19:00-21:00 | Group Work and Discussions | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Jade Garden Hotel |
| | 9:00-12:00 | How to Develop a Museum Education Program | Ms. Guo Meixia | The PM Learning Centre |
| Apr.6 | | Lunch (7 | The PM) | |
| (Thu.) | 13:30-17:00 | Museum Visits | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Museums in Beijing |
| | | Dinner (On | your own) | |

Workshop Agenda (Apr. 7-12)

| Date | Time | Lecture/Activity | Lecturer/Participant | Venue |
|------------------|-------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | 9:00-12:00 | Learning About and From New Audiences | Ms. Leslie Swartz | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Lunch (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | |
| Apr.7 (Fri.) | 13:30-17:00 | Reaching Out to Underserved Audiences and Building Capabilities | Ms. Asmah Alias | The PM Learning Centre |
| | | Dinner (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | 1 |
| | 19:00-21:00 | Conversations with the Lecturers | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | Jade Garden Hotel |
| | 9:00-12:00 | Mini Workshop :Transforming Your | Ms. Leslie Swartz | The PM |
| | 9.00-12.00 | Museum I | Ms. Asmah Alias | Learning Centre |
| Apr.8 | | | e Garden Hotel) | |
| (Sat.) | 13:30-17:00 | Mini Workshop :Transforming Your | Ms. Leslie Swartz | The PM |
| | 13.30 17.00 | Museum II | Ms. Asmah Alias | Learning Centre |
| | | Dinner (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | |
| Apr.9 | All day | Excursion | Lecturers, participants, and | |
| (Sun.) | | | ICOM-ITC staff | |
| (Buil.) | | Dinner (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | |
| | 9:00-12:00 | Reading Artifacts I | Mr. Claude Faubert | Zhaoxiang Residence of the PM |
| Apr.10 | | Lunch | (The PM) | |
| (Mon.) | 13:30-17:00 | Reading Artifacts II | Mr. Claude Faubert | Zhaoxiang Residence of the PM |
| | | Dinner (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | |
| | 9:00-12:00 | Normal Visit of the Palace Museum | Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | The PM |
| | | Lunch | (The PM) | |
| | 13:30-15:30 | Special Visit of | Lecturers, participants, and | The PM |
| Apr.11 | | the PM Learning Center | ICOM-ITC staff | Learning Centre |
| (Tue.) | 15:30-16:00 | Evaluation of the Workshop | Participants | - Zhaoxiang Residence |
| | 16:00-17:00 | Closing Ceremony | Leaders, Lecturers, participants, and ICOM-ITC staff | of the PM |
| | | Dinner (Jade | e Garden Hotel) | |
| Apr.12 (Wed.) | All day | Departures | ICOM-ITC staff | Jade Garden Hotel |

Chinese Participants



Du YingCapital Museum
Deputy Director of the
Research Department



Feng Qiaojuan
Beijing Auto Museum
Director of Public Education
Department



He Su Yunnan Provincial Museum The Identification of Responsibility Expert of National Heritage Entry and Exit Audit Yunnan Management Office



He Ye Hunan Provincial Museum Deputy Director of Information Center



Hu Yue Jiexiu City Museum Deputy Director of Social Education Department



Liu Hongxuan
Inner Mongolia Museum
Education Director of Social
Education Department



Wang Guangdong
Tianjin Hengda Wenbo S.&T.
Co, LTD
Deputy Manager of
International Division



Wang Zise
China Science and
Technology Museum
(CSTM)
Deputy Director of
Exhibition and Education
Program Department

Chinese Participants



Xiao Yun
China Maritime Museum
Deputy Director of
Education Department



Xie Shuo Chongqing China Three Gorges Museum Public Education



Xin Ge Shanghai Science & Technology Museum Director of Research & Design Institute



Xu Yue
Nanjing Museum
Deputy Director
of Society Service
Department



Yuan Xiao
Chemical Industry
Museum of China
Project Supervisor of
Education Department



Zhang Mengmeng
Prince Kung's Palace
Museum
Supervisor of Public
Education Department



Zheng Li Guangdong Museum Education Department



Museum of Fudan University, Fudan University Director Assistant, Associate Professor & Master Graduate's Mentor of Department of Cultural Heritage and Museum Curation

International Participants



Abdelrahman Othman Elsayed (Egypt) National Museum of Egyptian Civilization Curator, Head of Community Outreach Department



Cultural Heritage Division of Ministry of Tourism and Culture Head of Department for the Promotion of Museums and Educational Action

(Benin)



Alana Sivell (Australia) National Portrait Gallery of Australia Digital Learning Coordinator



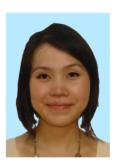
Aleksandra Glowacz (Poland) Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów Head of Education



Alisa Saisavetvaree (Thailand) Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles Curator



Carmen Cordero (Ecuador) Museum of Aboriginal Cultures Deputy Director



Gong Panpan (Singapore) National Museum of Singapore Manager (Visitor Experience)



Helen Kate Marais Harris (Namibia) The National Art Gallery of Namibia Exhibitions Curator

International Participants



Maintsetseg Choinzon (Mongolia) Mongolain Theatre Museum Researcher and Educator



Nguyen Ngoc (Vietnam) Vietnam Fine Arts Museum Museum Educator and Communicator



Nicole Barreau (Seychelles) Seychelles Natural History Museum Senior Museum Assistant



Pham Thi Mai Thuy (Vietnam) Vietnam National Museum of History Deputy head of Department of Education and Community



Rafaqat Masroor (Pakistan) Pakistan Museum of Natural History, Ministry of Science and Technology Associate Curator (Mid-Management)



Reena Dewan (India) ArtsAcre Museum Director



Souyeon Woo (South Korea) National Museum of Korea Museum Educator

ICOM-ITC Staff



Yan Hongbin
Director of Publicity and
Education Department



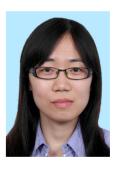
Guo MeixiaDeputy Director of Publicity and Education Department



Fan Xuechun
Publicity and Education
Department



Tan YaoPublicity and Education
Department



Wang QianhuiPublicity and Education
Department



Li YingchongPublicity and Education
Department

Information about the Participating Museums

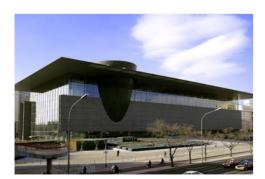
Capital Museum of China

The Capital Museum of China was opened in 1981 in Confucius Temple and moved into its present building in 2006. It houses a large collection of ancient porcelain, bronze, calligraphy, paining, jade, sculpture and Buddhist statues from imperial China as well as other Asian cultures.

With its magnificent architecture, abundant exhibitions, advanced technology and complete functions, the Capital Museum, large and modern, makes its contribution to the titles such as "famous historical and cultural city", "cultural center" and "international metropolis" of Beijing and ranks among the first class museums both at home and abroad.

The social education work of the Capital Museum is mainly combined with the recent exhibition and museum collections, has three basic programme forms, which are interpretation, hands-on activities and lectures. The main purpose of the Capital Museum's social education work is to popularize and promote traditional culture and local custom. Besides traditional museum interpretation, the museum holds several traditional Chinese cultural education programmes regularly, e.g. Chinese Opera Mask Painting, New Year Picture Printing, Stone Rubbing Experiencing and so forth. The museum also cooperates with communities and schools, and creates several brand education projects, like Museum Adventure, etc.

Address: 16 Fuxingmen Outer Street, Xicheng District, Beijing Access: Walk to Tiananmen West Station, take Subway Line 1 to Muxidi Station (Exit C1); the museum is 500 meters to the east.





China National Museum of Women and Children

China National Museum of Women and Children is the first state-level museum of China which focuses on women and children. The museum has six exhibition halls of General History of Women and Children, one International Friendship exhibition hall, and one Female Art exhibition hall. It also holds temporary exhibitions about family tradition, history and revolution, national culture and fork custom.

Serving women and children is the main purpose of the museum's social education work. Its social education programmes are not only combined with the exhibitions of the museum, but also concerned with the core work of All-China Women Federation and the common social issues. Currently, China National Museum of Women and Children has many education programmes, such as patriotic education programmes, traditional women handcraft experiencing, art initiation activities, family activities, and science education activities. The museum also holds interpretation training courses for child interpreters and public welfare activities for children in need.

Address: No.23 Jianguomen Inner Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing Access: Walk to Tiananmen East Station, take Subway Line 1 to Dongdan Station (Exit B); the museum is 800 meters to the northeast.





Youth Lake Primary School

Youth Lake Primary School was founded in 1980. There are 52 faculty members and staff, and 550 students in 16 classes in the school.

As an experimental school of Calligraphy Education Division of the Chinese Society of Education, while practicing the concept of culture education and improving its education quality, Youth Lake Primary School has held a series of calligraphy-related cultural practical activities, like papermaking, mounting, seal carving, and rubbing.

Besides those school activities, the school also holds several calligraphy education activities outside, with the Palace Museum as one of its out of school education base. The school also compiles some calligraphy textbooks and activity handbooks based on its practical experience of calligraphy education.

Recently, calligraphy education activities have become the school's education specialty, and been highly regarded. Youth Lake Primary school has been entitled with "World Heritage Education Base for the Teenager and the Youth of World Heritage Institute of Training and Research-Asia and Pacific of UNESCO", "Experimental School of Calligraphy Education Division of the Chinese Society of Education", "Standard Chinese Character Writing Education School of Beijing", "Comprehensive Practice Model School of Beijing" and so forth.

Address: No.13 Duck Bridge Road, Xicheng District, Beijing

Access: Walk to Xihuamen Station, take Bus No. 5 to Baizhifang Bridge North Station, the school is about 200 meters to the south.





Useful Information

Training Venue

The Palace Museum

Address: 4 Jingshan Qianjie, Dongcheng District, Beijing

Hotel

Jade Garden Hotel

Address: 1 Nanheyan Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing

Meals

In most days, the Training Centre offers three meals a day to all the lecturers and participants.

Breakfast: Jade Garden Hotel

Lunch: Jade Garden Hotel or the Palace Museum

Dinner: Jade Garden Hotel

Transportation

The training centre provides each lecturer and participant from outside Beijing with a public transport card. You can take bus and subway with this card.

The nearest stations:

Subway: Tian'anmen East Station (Line 1), Wangfujing Station (Line 1)

Bus: Donghuamen Station (2/82)

Tip: You can find English spoken staffs in most of the big hotels, fine dinning restaurants and shopping malls. Most of the taxi drivers do not speak fluent English, therefore we suggest you ask the hotel staff to write down your destination in Chinese before going out. Please make sure to carry the hotel information (in Chinese) with you.

Currency

The currency used in China is CNY.

The exchange rate of CNY and USD is approximately 1USD= 6.87 CNY. Most hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, and shops accept international credit cards.

Electricity

The voltage in China is 220 Volt, with 50Hz frequency.

Telephone

The country code for China is 86; the city code for Beijing is 010 and for Beijing local calls just dial the eight digit number. To make an international direct dial call from Beijing, use the international access code "00". Local SIM cards are easily available.

Climate

According to weather statistics, Beijing's average temperature in April is around 18°C (64.4°F), with considerable day/night temperature difference.

Shopping

Wangfujing Shopping Street

The Jade Garden Hotel is near to Wangfujing Shopping Street which is one of China's most attractive and modern shopping streets. Now much of the road is off-limits to cars and other motor vehicles, and it is not rare to see the entire street full of people.

How to Get There

On foot: walk along the Donghuamen Road. In about 10 minutes (approximately 500 meters) you will see an Apple Store and Wangfujing Shopping Street is on your right.

Xidan Commercial Street

Xidan Commercial Street is a favorite shopping area among locals, especially young people, as it is a fantastic combination of shopping, dining, entertainment, culture and commerce.

How to Get There

By subway: take Subway Line 1 at Tian'anmen East Station and get off at Xidan Station. By bus: take Bus 2/82 at Donghuamen Station and get off at Tian'anmen East Station, transfer to Bus 52/1/99 and get off at East Xidan Lukou Station.

Places to go in the evening

Nanluoguxiang Hutong

Nanluoguxiang, one of the best preserved historical areas in downtown Beijing, is famous for its hutong and siheyuan courtyards, as well as the bars, cafes, clothing and handicraft shops there. This 768-meter-long south-north central lane has 16 hutong branching off the central lane, giving each side 8 hutong. Located between Gulou East Street and Di'anmen East Street, this quaint street boasts many cool shops offering silk shawls, handicrafts designed by local artists, and trendy T-shirts featuring images of everything. It is more than just a chic place to buy some Chinese-inspired gifts for friends, but also a mirror perfectly showing Chinese architecture of the Yuan Dynasty.

How to Get There

By subway: take Subway Line 1 from Tian'anmen East Station, transfer at Dongdan Station to Subway Line 5. Get off the train at Dongsi Station, transfer to Subway Line 6, and Nanluoguxiang Station is only one stop away.

By bus: take bus 60 from Donghuamen Station and get off at Luoguxiang Station (about 20 minutes), Nanluoguxiang is two minutes' walk away.

Houhai Bar Street

Houhai (literally: "Rear Sea") refers to a lake and its surrounding neighborhood in Xicheng District of central Beijing. Houhai is the largest of the three lakes, along with Qianhai (lit. the "Front Sea") and Xihai (lit. the "Western Sea"), that comprise Shichahai, the collective name for the three northern-most lakes in central Beijing. In the last 200 years, many governmental

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officers, celebrities, monks and nuns chose to build mansions, temples and nunneries in it. Thus, its attraction lies not only in its natural beauty, but also in the historical value of its architecture. Since the early 2000s, the hutong neighborhood around Houhai has become known for its nightlife as many residences along the lake shore have been converted into restaurants, bars, and cafes. The area is especially popular with foreign tourists visiting Beijing and is also often visited by the expatriate community and the younger generations of locals.

How to Get There

By bus: take bus 2/82 at Donghuamen Station, and get off at Gulou Station.

Tian'anmen Square

Located at the center of Beijing City, Tian'anmen Square covers an area of 440,000 square meters. Thousands of people come here every day. It is a must-see place in Beijing. At the north end of the Square is Tian'anmen Tower. The most important use of it in the past was to declare in a big ceremony to the common people who became the emperor and who became the empress. Until 1911 when the last feudal kingdom was over, no one could enter the Tower except for the royal family and aristocrats. The granite Monument to the People's Heroes is just at the center of the square. Built in 1952, it is the largest monument in China's history. "The People's Heroes are Immortal" written by Chairman Mao is engraved on the monument. Eight unusually large relief sculptures show to the people the development of Chinese modern history. Two rows of white marble railings enclose the monument, simple and beautiful. West of the Square is the Great Hall of the People. This building is the site of the China National People's Congress meetings and provides an impressive site for other political and diplomatic activities. Memorial Hall of Chairman Mao is at the south side of the Square, and National Museum of China the east side.

How to Get There

By bus: take bus 2/82 at Donghuamen Station, and get off at Tian'anmen East Station.

Excursion

Mutianyu Great Wall

Located in Huairou County about 45 miles from Beijing, Mutianyu Great Wall enjoys a long history and is part of the glorious culture of China. It connects Juyongguan Pass in the west and Gubeikou Great Wall in the east. The wall was first built in Northern Qi Dynasty (550-557). In Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), Tan Lun and Qi Jiguang, two famous patriotic generals, rebuilt it in order to strengthen its defensive potential when they guarded the strategic pass. It served as the northern protective screen, guarding the capital and imperial mausoleums for generations. Besides its strategically important location and compact layout, the Mutianyu Great Wall is also famous for the breath-takingly beautiful scenery. There is steep climb from the main gate but there is a chairlift to make it easy. A good place for views across the ridges and down the valleys.

Summer Palace

Situated in the Haidian District northwest of Beijing City, the Summer Palace is 15 kilometers (9.3 miles) from central Beijing. Being the largest and most well-preserved royal park in China, it greatly influences Chinese horticulture and landscape with its famous natural views and cultural interests, which also has long since been recognized as 'The Museum of Royal Gardens'.

The construction started in 1750 as a luxurious royal garden for royal families to rest and entertain. It later became the main residence of royal members in the end of the Qing Dynasty. However, like most of the gardens of Beijing, it could not elude the rampages of the Anglo-French Allied Force and was destroyed by fire. According to historical documents, with original name as 'Qingyi Garden' (Garden of Clear Ripples), the Summer Palace (Yiheyuan) was renamed after its first reconstruction in 1888. It was also recorded that Empress Dowager Cixi embezzled navy funds to reconstruct it as a resort in which to spend the rest of her life. In 1900, the Summer Palace suffered another hit by the Eight-Power Allied Force and was repaired in the next two years. In 1924, it was open to the public. It ranked amongst the World Heritage Sites by UNESCO in 1998, as well as one of the first national AAAAA tourist spots in China.

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