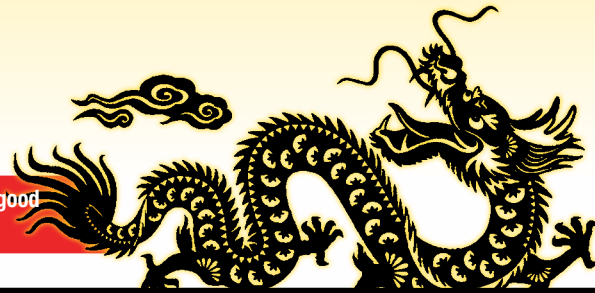


20 Fascinating FACTS About China



- ① China is the 3rd largest country by area at 3,747,879 sq mi.
- ② Twenty million trees are cut every year to meet Chinese demand for chopsticks.
- ③ Ice cream was invented in China around 2,000 BC. The first ice cream was soft milk and rice mixture packed in the snow.
- ④ China is close in size to the continental U.S. but has just one time zone.
- ⑤ China's food system feeds nearly 25% of the global population on just 7% of its crop land.
- ⑥ China's natural gas reserves are equivalent to about 1.24 billion Olympic-size swimming pools.
- ⑦ China has planted the biggest artificial forest in the world to stop the spread of the Gobi desert, and plans to expand it to 2,800 miles by 2074.
- ⑧ In 2010, China had a traffic jam that lasted 12 days and spanned 62 miles.
- ⑨ Chinese woman traditionally marry in festive red – a lucky color. White symbolizes death.
- ⑩ One in five people in the world are Chinese.
- ⑪ Ketchup originated in China as a pickled fish sauce called ke-tsiap.
- ⑫ China began drilling for natural gas before the 4th Century, 2,300 years before the Westerners.
- ⑬ One-fifth of the world's population lives in China and it's estimated that thirty-four babies are born each minute.
- ⑭ China is home to Ginkgo, the oldest tree in the world. It has remained unchanged for more than 200 million years.
- ⑮ As of July 2012, China has the largest population in the world with over 1.3 billion people.
- ⑯ The Great Wall of China is the largest man-made structure in the world, extending 8,850 km (5,500 miles).
- ⑰ The celebration of the Chinese New Year lasts 15 days.
- ⑱ There are 32 million more males than females in China.
- ⑲ All of China's railway lines put together could loop around the earth twice.
- ⑳ The oldest piece of paper in the world was found in China. Chinese paper was so long lasting that it was sometimes used for clothing and even as body armor.

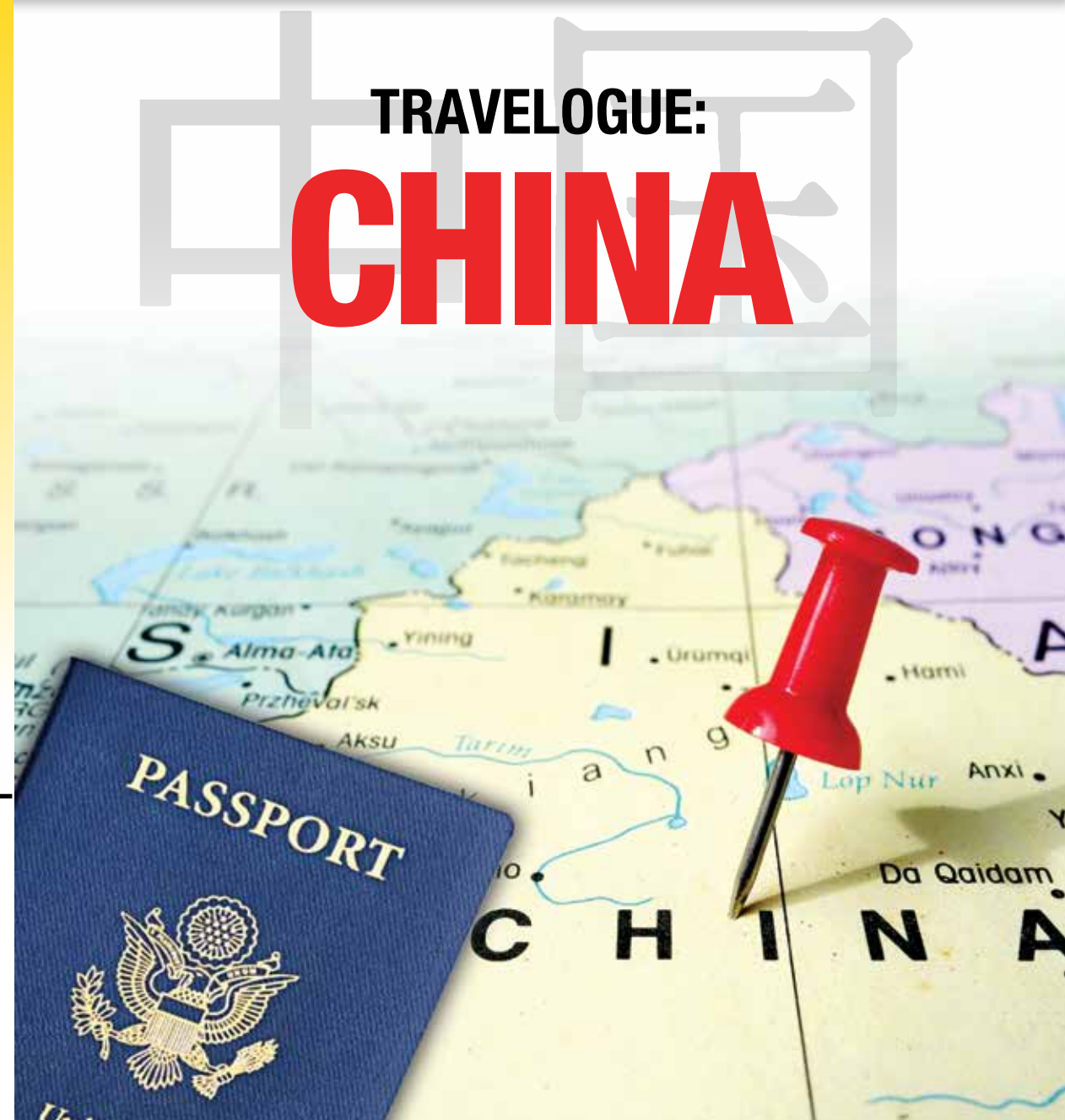


In Chinese mythology, dragons represent power, strength and good luck. They are symbols of powerful people such as emperors.



encores

TRAVELOGUE: CHINA



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L&M TRAVELOGUE: CHINA



Earlier this spring we had the opportunity to visit China to meet with both existing and potential customers. We either flew through or stayed in Shanghai, Nanjing, Changsha, Xiangtan, Bautou and Beijing.

Xiangtan was our first extended stay city. We are not sure how many foreign visitors get to Xiangtan, but based on the looks we would get while out walking, or out for meals, our conclusion was not many. During our four-day stay there we only saw one other Westerner. The people were very friendly. Full of curiosity and beaming with excitement, young children out with their parents would approach us and say hello, while their parents watched and smiled. Just as quickly they would dart back to their parents.

Street traffic was crazy in both Xiangtan and Beijing. Crossing the street was at times like playing 'Frogger', only in real life. Ok - we just dated ourselves. We also noticed that Audi and Volkswagen seemed to be popular car makes. It seems that poor air quality in Beijing continues to be in the international news, but our day there was beautiful - clear blue sky.

Bautou, Inner Mongolia, was a very interesting city. A lot of green - many parks along with tree lined streets. Bautou is Mongolian for 'place where deer live' and is home to the largest inner city park in China - Saihantala Grassland (5.65 square kilometers). A small herd of captive deer live within the park. Our hosts took us to a traditional Mongolian hot pot dinner - thinly sliced raw beef and lamb along with vegetables served family style on a large lazy Susan in the center of the table. You drop the raw food into a boiling soup broth to cook. It was an excellent meal!

Our hosts also explained that some of the industry in Bautou was initiated in the 1950s as a joint venture between what was the Soviet Union and Chinese - tank and missile manufacturing. Evidently these facilities are still active.

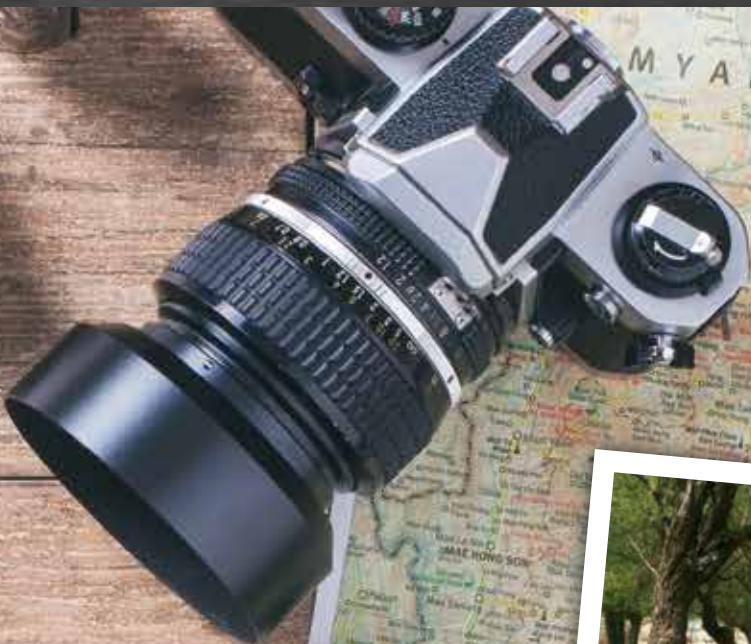
We were not sure what to expect in China, but it was much more consumer commercialized than anticipated. Very nice shopping plazas with department and specialty stores along with food courts and restaurants very similar to shopping malls here in the U.S. Cell phones were everywhere! Looking forward to a return visit.

Row Chislow



Be sure to visit us at Mine Expo in Las Vegas in September. You will find us in Booth #1135. Stop by and place an order!

PASSPORT



Main entrance to shopping center in Xiangtan



Deer herd in Saihantala Grassland, Bautou, Inner Mongolia



View from hotel overlooking a park Bautou, Inner Mongolia.