

SKY TIMES

Inflight Magazine

014 NOV/DEC 2018

Achieving a Dream

**How Mankind
Learned to Fly**

**Discover the
Beauty of a**

Less-crowded Bali

99 Years Young:

KLM Gets Older, Wiser

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Editor's Letter

Ending the Year on a High

One year has passed in the blink of an eye, and the arrival of winter signals the end of 2018. When looking back on the past few-hundred days, can you say that you achieved most of the goals that you set at the beginning of the year? Have you made progress in comparison to last year? Are you going to write a year-end summary? There's still time left to attend to unfinished business, so go ahead and try your best to end the year on a high.

Do you appreciate how much the aviation industry has changed our lives over the past century? In 1912, the "unsinkable" Titanic would have taken 15 days to sail from Southampton, England, to New York, USA, if, of course, it had not struck an iceberg on the way. Nowadays, flying has made our lives much more convenient, and the distance across oceans will never seem so insurmountable ever again. Flying high above the clouds, a journey from London to New York now only takes eight hours. Technological progress has made our world seem much smaller. In our *Focus* section, we bring you the history of flying, following the steps of aviation pioneers to discover the new age of flying and life today above the clouds. (page 14)

The year 2018 has been a spectacular one for air shows — the Farnborough International Airshow was held on July 16-22, and Zhuhai Air Show is the highlight for November. For aviation enthusiasts, the significance of an air show is comparable to the World Cup for soccer fans. In our *Lens* section, we help you experience the wonder of exploring the world's greatest air shows. (page 46)

You cannot talk about air shows in China without mentioning Zhuhai, which hosts Airshow China. Zhuhai is also home to the largest number of islands and the longest coastline among the cities in the Pearl River Delta, which is why it is known as the "City of a Hundred Islands". In our *Travel* section, we introduce you to the attractions, local food and must-go locations in Zhuhai. (page 32)

Last month, KLM celebrated its 99th birthday. Following its inception on Oct. 7, 1919, the airline is now the world's oldest still in operation. On May 17, 1920, KLM pilot Jerry Shawflew a DH-16 from London to Amsterdam, completing the airline's first commercial flight. Due to KLM's color scheme, the airline is nicknamed "Big Blue" by China's younger generation. In our *People* section, we bring you an exclusive interview with Pieter Elbers, president and CEO of KLM, who talks about the glorious history, culture and strategic outlook of the oldest airline in the world. (page 58)

As always, discover the world with *Sky Times*. We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



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2018 Wuzhen Theatre Festival

The 2018 Wuzhen Theatre Festival will be staged in the water town from October 18 to 28. Since its first edition in 2013, the festival has grown to become one of the most influential frontier theater carnivals in Asia.

Playing Dead

Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a holiday celebrated throughout the Americas, which combines ancient Indigenous traditions and modern fanfare. For many Mexicans — and particularly Oaxacans — Day of the Dead is their favorite holiday of the year, easily surpassing Christmas. The dead are not remembered or commemorated. Instead they are considered present. This is a celebration not of the dead, but with the dead.



Dylan on Display

A collection of newly created handwritten lyrics and drawings of legendary United States musician Bob Dylan has gone on display in London.

The exhibition *Mondo Scripto* is currently on at the Halcyon Gallery before heading for a tour of Asia, the US and Europe, including a stint at Shanghai's Museum of Modern Art, giving fans a chance to view handwritten lyrics alongside original sketches by Dylan that illustrate the meaning or context of the songs.



Popular Pile Up

Spain hosted the Castells Competition in Tarragona in early October. A trembling tower of bodies rose tier by tier — the broad-backed men at the base sweating and shaking under its weight — until a tiny girl shimmied to the summit and raised her arm in victory. Central to Catalan culture, Castells has become increasingly popular and widespread since the 1980s, with Castells club having been established throughout Catalonia. The Catalan tradition is believed to have originated from human towers created by dance groups at the end of the 18th century.

Slavic Song and Dance

Hundreds of Belarusians marked the completion of the harvest season at the end of September with folkloric festivals replete with song and dance.

A *Dazhynki* festival, or harvest festival, held in the northern town of Myadzel was just one of many similar events taking place throughout Belarus. As part of the festivities, people took part in a procession through the town center, kitted out in traditional dress, carrying symbolic wheat sheaves and instruments to play. Harvest festivals are part of a long-standing Slavic tradition, celebrated in various European countries in the autumn after the gathering season ends.



WHAT CHINESE *Products* DO FOREIGNERS LIKE?



老干妈

Lao Gan Ma

Especially the chili-sauce flavor with a picture of a middle-age women printed on it. It is, literally, one of the best sauces, I think. Nobody who appreciates how I feel would be surprised to see me eating three piece of bread with a bottle of Lao Gan Ma.

@Hamlus Goodwin

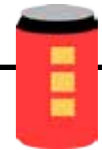


小米

Xiaomi

I would definitely have to say that I love my Chinese-brand Xiaomi Redmi Note 3 Pro. This phone is cheap, performs as if it costs twice its US\$280 price, is completely customizable, slick and has a whole lot of memory storage.

@Aiden Sampson



王老吉

Wang Lao Ji

I just love this drink. I can never get enough of it. Wong Lo Kat or Wang Lao Ji in pinyin, is a Chinese herbal tea, and one of the more popular tea drinks in China today. It is sold in many forms and different types of containers.

@Aashiq Iqbal



In China you can become a Panda-Nanny.

- You can barter on the price when shopping. "\$40 each? I'll give you \$100 for 3!"
- You can travel 1,000 miles in less than 7 hrs for US\$80 on a high-speed train.
- You can avoid paying taxes if your income is below average and still get free social benefits with apension.
- You can go back in time and experience ancient China.
- You can sue your children for not taking care of you.
- You can always find a place to hangout, 24/7.
- You can be a Shaolin Monk and learn the martial art from where it began.

..... and many many more.....

@Michelle Zhou



At the iStore, MacBook running on Windows happens only in China.

- McDonalds in China serves rice bowls for lunch.
- McDonalds can serve you rice bowls, but Starbucks takes it a notch higher and serves noodles. I kid you not.
- It's a common sight to see men roll up their shirt or T-shirt and walk on the streets bare-bellied during the summer.
- You'll find old men and women dancing in parks in the evenings as a form of exercise, or performing tai chi in the morning as a discipline ritual.



@Khushboo Khanna

Props to Refine Your Wine-tasting Party



Stölzle | POWER Series
Wine glasses

The Stölzle POWER series is all about the aroma of wine. The 100% lead-free crystal glasses are designed to maximize the flavor and aroma of wine. The pulled stem glasses are dishwasher safe and combine clarity and elegance with optimum durability. Stölzle draws on a regional tradition of glassmaking that goes back to the 15th century.



Eto | Eto
Wine decanter

Eto is an elegant wine decanter, which keeps wine fresh after decanting for at least one week, ensuring that no drop is wasted. This is made possible by a patented preservation system, which closes the vessel airtight. When the neck of the decanter is pushed down, the special valve automatically locks when it reaches the surface of the wine. When pouring another glass, the valve opens automatically. The precisely shaped spout guarantees drip-free use.

The Rabbit | VIP Rabbit
Corkscrew

The Original Rabbit Corkscrew pulls a cork out of a wine bottle in 3 seconds flat and then automatically releases the cork. Its user-friendly, ergonomic design opens any size of wine bottle, and all gears are made of hardened metal. Original Rabbit Corkscrews have been tested over 20,000 times by an independent laboratory, and all corkscrews include a 10-year warranty. This corkscrew comes in a clear presentation case and includes a foil cutter and extra spiral.



Sterling Brooke | Scales Corkscrew with Customized Engraving
Corkscrew

Sterling Brooke products are the fruits of a loving and devoted relationship. Classic stainless steel and hearty white oak make Sterling Brooke's wine opener durable, easy to use and beautiful. The scales design is burned/carved on the Florida coast, giving you a distinctive corkscrew worthy of any occasion — a gift, at home, on the boat or at a dinner party. Backed by a Lifetime Guarantee, the Scales Corkscrew with Customized Engraving features a scales design on Side 1 and your choice of customization in Carvers Favé Font on Side 2.



Menu | Wine Breather
Aerator carafe

Make room for spontaneity! New Norm Wine Breather decants your wine in an instant and even enables you to pour ready to drink wine directly from the bottle. Simply connect the unique wine breather to the bottle and turn it around. You can either serve the wine in the elegant carafe, or turn it around once more to let the wine run back into the original bottle. New Norm Wine Breather will mature and soften your wine as much as several months of bottle aging in less than 2 minutes.



RASTAL | Craft Master One
Beer glasses

Craft Master One — a modern glass for genuine craft beer enjoyment. Its sensorially well-conceived shape with the elegant bend serving as a visual fill aid, as well as its versatility for varied beer styles, brings functional appeal and thus added value to catering and hospitality venues.



Woori | The Cork
Cork speaker

The Cork is an innovative bluetooth speaker that boosts sound depth and quality by being placed on a bottle. With the bottle serving as resonance body, this speaker sets itself apart from other micro speakers that sacrifice sound quality in favor of a smaller construction size. The design of the speaker is reminiscent of a wine cork, alluding to its functionality. Moreover, the reutilization of a used object stands for sustainability.

Menu | Baggy Wine Coat
Wine bag

Baggy Wine Coat gives box wines a casual but stylish look. Simply take the inner wine bag out of the box, place it in the Baggy Wine Coat and close the flexible top. There is plenty of room for an ice pack to keep your wine chilled. A rubber bottom makes sure the Baggy Wine Coat does not tip over — neither on the dinner table, nor on the lawn. If you want to carry your wine with you, just grab the handle and go.



More Chinese on the road during 'Golden Week'

"Golden Week", or week long holidays that fall on Spring Festival and National Day, was first introduced in China in 1999 to boost tourism industry.



• Over **700 MILLION TRIPS** were made by Chinese travelers over this year's seven-day National Day Holiday. This is a year-on-year increase of **9.43%**.

• **730 MILLION TRIPS** were made by Chinese people within China over the past National Day holiday.



Travel and tourism revenue during the National Day holiday reaches **\$87 Billion.**



90% of tourists took part in cultural activities such as art festivals and music shows.



Retail and catering business raked in **\$203 Billion.**



40% went to museums, galleries, libraries or science and technology museums.



BEIJING



XIAMEN



SANYA

Sanya, Beijing and Xiamen are the top 3 destinations during the National Day holidays.

Source : Ministry of Culture and Tourism and China Daily

FOCUS

ACHIEVING A DREAM: HOW MANKIND LEARNED TO FLY



Rabindranath Tagore's poetic sentiment succinctly describes our lives in the era of modern aviation. Our journey through the skies begins from the moment the engine roars and the wings slice through the lowest layers of clouds. Flying high above the clouds, a journey from London to New York now only takes eight hours. A century ago, the "unsinkable" Titanic would have taken 15 days to sail from Southampton,

England, to New York, USA — if, of course, it had not struck an iceberg on the way.

In just 115 years, flight has made our lives much more convenient, and the distance across the oceans will never seem so insurmountable again. Technological progress in aviation has made our world seem a lot smaller. I can be in Beijing at 8 a.m., and in Mohe, which lies at China's northernmost extremity, by midday. I sometimes feel overjoyed to be living in such an age,

where for just a small price, I can travel above the clouds. Modern aviation engineers have proven with a dazzling array of airplane designs that ancient dreams of exploring the skies are now just a way of life.

The plane has now taken off. Let us relax for a moment and enjoy these few hours above the clouds with a cup of coffee and a snack or two, and admire the beauty of the clouds while 10,000 meters up in the sky.

*"I leave no trace of wings in the air,
but I am glad I have had my flight."*

HISTORY OF FLIGHT

Text Cao Shenshen

The history of flight is a story about mankind's dream of freedom.

Just 300 years ago, we still believed that human-like supernatural beings inhabited the mountaintops above the clouds, and even lived on the surface of the moon. At that time, the term we used for such "aliens" was "immortals", because it was believed they could fly and "ride the clouds", drifting along on small cotton-bud-shaped clouds.

DARING TO DREAM

Humanity's earliest dreams of flight were about flying through the

sky like a bird.

The biological structure that enables birds to fly is the product of 100 million years of evolution. Over the ages, people have attempted to imitate the flapping motion of a bird's wings. In Greek mythology, Icarus once affixed bird feathers to his arms with wax and flew up into the sky, but having flown too high, the wax melted from the heat of the sun, causing him to fall to his death. The myth is symbolic of man's desire to imitate avian flight over the years — the difference now being that man has finally realized this dream.

The most famed example was Leonardo da Vinci, a master of art during the Renaissance in the 15th century. His achievements in the fields of mechanics and anatomy were impressive. He examined avian structure in painstaking detail, believing that only an ornithopter, which imitated the wings of a bird, could simultaneously provide enough lift and thrust. He therefore designed an elaborate winged flying machine with a mechanical structure. The flying machine's thrust was pilot powered. The pilot needed to drive the upward and downward flapping of the simulacrum



wings with his own physical energy. However, the power output of man is much lower than that of birds. The age in which Da Vinci lived lacked mechanisms which could provide sufficient thrust, so his designs never left the page.

It has been said that if Da Vinci had applied his understanding of the science of aviation to fixed wing airplanes, and not to flapping wings, then it is possible that the invention of the glider would not have had to wait another 300 years, and man's dream to reach the skies would have been achieved earlier.

A LOAD OF HOT AIR

It took the invention of the hot air balloon to propel man to the skies. In 1782, the Montgolfier brothers, who were employed in a French paper factory, accidentally discovered that air heated by a burning flame was able to lift scraps of paper and ashes skyward. That being the case, if hot air could be controlled, would it be possible to raise man to the heavens? The two brothers created a large balloon from hemp cloth and paper, and burnt wet grass and wool on the ground. The resultant hot smoke filled the balloon and caused it to rise, and once the hot air dissipated, the balloon returned to the ground. Their idea worked! On June 4, 1783, the two brothers gave a public performance of an even larger hot air balloon that was about 10m in diameter. Originally, people doubted the possibility of surviving a journey above the ground, and so the lucky passengers during the demonstration were a chicken, a duck and a goat. After the success of this experiment, more and more people dared to take to the skies in hot air balloons and fly to places further and further away.

My most abiding memory of the cartoon *Up* was the moment where a multicolored hot air balloon swept a house up into the sky, and



Leonardo da Vinci, a master of art during the Renaissance in the 15th century.



The Wright brothers' glider

the excitement of the unknown that lay ahead. The balloon symbolized hope and unrestrained imagination, freeing people to live a life of hope and vitality. I am sure that many people watching this scene would also have experienced an irrepressible sense of excitement.

Cavendish's discovery of hydrogen in 1766 allowed the people of that time to utilize the gas in the manufacture of air balloons, and hydrogen was later used in airships, also known as zeppelins. The interior of these airships were filled with hydrogen, and powered by an internal combustion engine that propelled the large air sac forward. The airship was the earliest aircraft to be employed for regular transportation. Airships were silent, stable and flew at a leisurely pace, giving the impression of supreme safety. However, the Hindenburg Disaster on May 6, 1937, when a gigantic German airship was involved in a tragic accident, led people to finally realize that the dangers posed by highly flammable hydrogen might have been somewhat overlooked. For this reason, hydrogen airships were gradually replaced by airships filled with the less flammable helium.

Both hot air balloons and airships are lighter than the surrounding atmosphere. The invention of aircraft heavier than air required the solving of two problems. The first was to develop a comparatively high power-to-weight ratio along with reliable power sources. The second was to design an aircraft exterior that conformed to the principles of aerodynamics.

By the mid-19th century, many people strove to realize the age-old dream of controlled, powered flight. At that time, the majority of designs revolved around steam power, but steam engines have extremely low power output for their weight, so were thus



Zeppelin Airship

unable to serve as the source of an air machine's thrust. In 1890, French flight pioneer Clement Ader designed a steam-engine-powered bat-like air vehicle, but the steam engine's low power output reduced it to only hopping and skating on the ground.

Aerial control was also a fairly thorny issue. The resolution to this problem is the work of the "Father of the Glider" — German aviator Otto Lilienthal — who conducted numerous experiments on gliders at the tail end of the 19th century and, in doing so, discovered the rules for aircraft control. He said: "Inventing an aircraft is nothing. Manufacturing one is also nothing special, but getting it to fly is a completely different story."

Lilienthal also said: "If you want to learn how to fly, you must make sacrifices." Unfortunately, he died during a crash while testing a glider in 1896, but not before he had established a foundation for the successes of those who followed him.

START OF A NEW AGE

The Wright brothers' powered glider was a successful milestone. Although their first flight had a

duration of only 12 seconds, it was still a magnificent feat that confirmed that man could provide the thrust for controlled flight. A new age beckoned.

Success always depends on a sprinkling of luck. At almost the same time as the Wright brothers, American astronomer Samuel Langley also designed a manned aircraft for use in war. This aircraft adopted a layout that featured wings from the front to the rear of the vehicle, and an internal combustion engine to provide thrust. It is a pity that, on each of the two test flights, small malfunctions of the catapult mechanism caused it to fall into the river below. The failure of the test flights led to tumultuous debate. At that time, an internationally renowned newspaper published a scathing editorial, attacking Langley's "idiocy". The editorial stated: "Langley has wasted the public's money on this absurd dream ... Even if a millennia of effort were invested, man would still be unable to fly". However, nine days later, the Wright brothers successfully flew their plane up into the sky.

"Faster, higher, stronger" not only defines the Wright brothers' spirit, but was also the holy grail

of aviation for those early intrepid pioneers. After the issue of getting off the ground had been resolved, these pioneers embarked on a new round of exploration, which was to find out exactly how far these aircraft could fly.

On July 25, 1909, French aviator Louis Bleriot flew his self-made Bleriot XI from Calais in France over the English Channel to England. This was a wood-en-framed, steel-wire-linked monoplane, and only weighed a total of 20 kilograms. The aircraft had no altimeter, speedometer or compass, so Bleriot flew almost completely based on his own senses. The arrival of dawn allowed him to make out the white cliffs of Dover on England's south coast, where a crowd of people welcomed him. A journalist brandishing a French flag guided him to a safe landing. Covering 41.9 kilometers in just 36 minutes, Bleriot had successfully crossed the Channel. This flight completely dispelled any doubts still harbored about the practical applications of flight, and led them to slowly realize that aircraft could fly much further than they had originally imagined.

Eighteen years later, in 1927, a young American called Charles Lindbergh successfully flew a custom-designed airplane over the Atlantic Ocean, proving that Trans-Oceanic flight was possible. Following the conclusion of World War I, surplus military aircraft began to be sold off to civilians — this was especially true in the United States — which hastened the growth of aviation in the civilian sphere. Many airplane manufacturers transitioned toward civilian aircraft production after the war, eventually leading to the emergence, during the 1930s, of the golden age of growth in civilian aviation. The ease with which we can enjoy modern flight is a direct result of the sacrifices made by those early, industrious and fearless pioneers.

FLYING HIGHER AND FURTHER

Text Cao Shenshen Photos Luo Tao

The history of aviation begins with man flapping his wings like a bird, and once that dream came true, a new dream of flying higher and further commenced.

In 1930, Sir Frank Whittle received a patent for a turbojet engine in Cranwell, England. This was the first aerial-based acceleration of any real significance, with a thrust so powerful that the aircraft could far exceed that of its predecessor (the piston engine). This led to the abandonment of the chronic yet indispensable handicap of the former — the propeller — resulting in huge performance gains.

After that came the jet passenger plane — the United Kingdom's

Comet, the Soviet Union's Tu-104 and the USA's Boeing 707. As the speed of civil aviation passenger planes soared, man's progress into the heavens seemed to shrink the world. Increased speed saved time and raised efficiency, accelerating the pace of society, providing both time and space for the evolution of the subsequent electronic age and even the post-industrial age. Aviation and civilization had become inextricably interlinked, heralding the fastest leap forward in the history of mankind.

This never-ending requirement and desire for ever-faster speeds quickly led to the development of supersonic flight, and the Concorde became the only





supersonic plane in the world. Thirteen years were invested from blueprint design to the completion of its maiden voyage. Then another seven years passed before formal passenger services launched on the Concorde in the skies over the Atlantic Ocean. Its maiden voyage took place in commemoration of Lindbergh, 50 years to the day of his own maiden flight over the Atlantic. The Concorde completed the journey in only 3 hours, 55 minutes — it had taken Lindbergh an arduous 33 hours, 9 minutes. In December 1986, 94 passengers from all over the world parted with US\$20,000 each to spend 18 days whizzing between the cities on Phileas Fogg's itinerary in *Around the World in 80 Days*. Total flight time was only 30 hours. It is a pity that the oil crisis of the 1970s and the deleterious impact that supersonic aircraft had on the environment led to the Concorde struggling to find a strong footing in the market. Production of the aircraft was halted upon the completion of the construction of the seven aircraft ordered by British Airways and Air France.

Although the US was unable to obtain victory in this competition for speed at the time, it followed

a different path — deciding that speed might not be the only consideration. The provision of expansive space and comfort were also options. Following this train of thought, Boeing developed the Boeing 747 in the 1970s. At less than half the speed (900km/hr) of the Concorde (2,100km/hr), it was what we now know as the wide-body aircraft.

The development of the civil aviation industry accelerated in the 1980s, when Boeing's two kinds of dual-engine aircraft — the twin-jet Boeing 767 and the single-aisle Boeing 757 — entered service in 1982 and 1983 respectively. Airbus, which began its rise in 1970, started delivery of the A310 in 1983, replacing the earlier A300. Five years later, Airbus brought a kind of narrow-body plane onto the market — the Airbus A320. This classic aircraft model further solidified Airbus's position as the second-largest civil aircraft manufacturer in the world. It was also the earliest aircraft worldwide to utilize digital electronic flying controls.

By the 1990s, Boeing's dominance was further consolidated, when it not only expanded upon its original Boeing 747, 767/757

and 737 series, but also released the even more technologically advanced Boeing 777 twin-jet passenger aircraft. In 1997, Boeing also acquired the weaker McDonnell Douglas, bringing to a close 80 long years of competition between the Boeing, Douglas and McDonnell companies.

As of today, the Jumbo Jet Airbus A380 has already broken the 40-year-long record held by the Boeing 747 as the world's largest passenger plane. The Jumbo Jet is bigger, quieter, more environmentally friendly and more comfortable, but does not travel at the fastest possible speed. There is a focus on the quality of the cabin, and on the world outside of the aircraft windows. There are people who have knowledge of the multifarious in-flight entertainment system on the Lufthansa's A380 aircraft, and some who cluck in admiration at the extravagance of the aerial bar and shower room on the A380s in Emirates' fleet. In a fast-paced world, understanding how to slow down is also a kind of philosophy. The dream above the clouds is no longer that of a hurried process of transportation, but a kind of lifestyle to be savored.

EVERLASTING COMMEMORATION

Text Wu Liu

We are often hell bent on making progress, and increased efficiency is something that we all strive toward. Centuries ago, people were envious of birds for their wings, and yearned for the day they could have wings of their own. In order to achieve this dream, countless pioneers pushed the boundaries. Men such as Wan Hu in the East and Da Vinci in the West are worthy of our everlasting commemoration. Wan Hu was brave, whilst Da Vinci was a genius, although neither of them were able to realize man's dream of reaching the sky.

It was not until Dec. 17, 1903, that the Wright brothers' first motor-plane took flight. It was a symbolic day for all of mankind.

Powered flight has been in existence for 115 years, and countless people have made enormous contributions to aviation since the Wright brothers. The pioneers who were engaged in aviation at the same time or earlier than the Wright brothers stopped just short of success. Those who were influenced by the Wright brothers and dedicated their lives to the pursuit of aviation, and who in the past century or more contributed to the science of flying and the commercial viability of flight, are people all worthy of our commemoration.



Wright brothers

The date Dec. 17, 1903 will be forever recorded in the annals of history. On a patch of open ground in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, USA, the Wright brothers successively flew their Flyer I four times, after four arduous years of research and development, successfully taking off into the sky. The fourth time was the most successful with an aviation time of 59 seconds, and a total flight distance of 260m. This successful flight symbolized how mankind's dream of conquering the skies had begun to become reality, and also symbolized our entry into the aviation age.



Feng Ru

Feng Ru was the first Chinese man to develop an aircraft capable of powered flight, and is therefore known as the "Chinese Father of Flight". The test flight of "Feng Ru No. 1" was successfully held on Sept. 22, 1909. The "Feng Ru No. 2" was completed in 1910, and Feng Ru piloted this plane during multiple aerial exhibitions, exceeding the achievements



of many foreign pilots. In February 1911, he brought two aircraft back to China. He died when his plane stalled and crashed during flight on Aug. 25, 1912 during an aerial display in Yantang, Guangzhou. He was buried in the Mausoleum of the 72 Huanghuagang Martyrs, Guangzhou.



Tupolev

People in China are as familiar with the "Tu" series of aircraft, such as the Tu-154, as they are with Boeing aircraft. The Tu series were designed by the renowned Soviet aircraft designer Andrei Tupolev. "Tupolev" is an extremely familiar name in global aviation circles. He was the founder of the Russian aviation industry, while the renowned Tupolev Central Aero-Hydrodynamic Institute and its predecessor — the Tupolev Experimental Design Bureau — were both named after him. Tupolev led the Aircraft Design Bureau for 50 years, and designed more than 100 types of aircraft, from early gliders right up to the supersonic bombers and supersonic passenger planes of the 1970s, with more than seventy models entering production. The aircraft that he designed set 78 world records, and completed 28 unequaled flights.



Sergey Vladimirovich Ilyushin

Ilyushin was the former Soviet aircraft designer of attack planes and bombers that performed admirably during World War II. Even more civilian aircraft were named after him in the post-war period, including the IL-12, IL-14, IL-18 and the IL-62, which entered extensive service in many other countries, including China.



Geoffrey de Havilland

De Havilland was recognized as the most outstanding aviation pioneer in the UK. He made his own aircraft and opened his own aircraft company. A number of aircraft he designed saw combat during both world wars. Following the wars, he devoted himself to the growth of civilian aviation, designing the "Comet" jet plane, cutting the time taken to cross the Atlantic in half. His final outstanding creation was the "Trident" triple-engine jet plane.



Amelia Earheart

Earheart was the most renowned woman in the history of aviation. She was only the second-ever person after Lindbergh, and the first woman, to fly solo over the Atlantic. In 1937, Earheart piloted an aircraft from Florida on an attempted circumnavigation of the world. However, when approaching her final destination, both Amelia and her plane disappeared — the location of which remains a mystery of modern aviation.



William Boeing

Boeing established the Boeing Company. In 1916, he manufactured the first B & W Seaplane with George Conrad Westervelt, a naval officer. Encourage by this success, Boeing then set up the Pacific Aero Products Co., which was later renamed the Boeing Airplane Company. After Westervelt's departure, Boeing employed Chinese designer Wang Zhu. The first aircraft model made by the company was a new model of seaplane, which Wang Zhu had designed based on the foundations of the original B & W model. It was called the Model C Airplane. Winning orders from the airmail market and establishing its own airmail business, it was known at the time as the "Lord of the Skies". In later years, after dedicating himself to the expansion of his Boeing empire for 18 years, he sold every single share he had in the company and retired to live a life of solitude in the countryside.



Henry Royce

The Rolls-Royce Company, founded by Englishmen Henry Royce and Charles Rolls, is one of three largest manufacturers of aircraft engines in the world. Today, there are more than 13,000 aircraft powered by Rolls Royce engines, and the company is also famed in the automotive industry. Royce was an engineering genius, and he applied his outstanding engineering standards to his company, making it so successful that the company remains the flag bearer for the British aviation industry to this day.



Henry Ford & Son

Henry Ford is credited with revolutionizing the automobile industry, but he was not just interested in cars. As early as the 1920s, when aircraft were still seen as "flying coffins" for aeronautical acrobatics, Ford realized that aircraft had the potential to serve as a future mode of transport. Ford did three things for the growth of the aviation industry: he advocated and promoted air transport, increasing public confidence in its viability; he manufactured a fully metal construction mono-wing passenger aircraft; and he took the lead in establishing a modernized airport, which would later lead to the establishment of an extensive aviation network in America.

Henri Ziegler

As the first CEO of Airbus, Ziegler was formerly a fighter aircraft pilot and test pilot for the French Air Force. He had also served as the CEO of Air France and the France Southern Aircraft Company. As such, he was well versed in all aspects of aviation, from flying to manufacture and air transportation. At the tail end of the 1960s, he expressed strong support for the wide-body aircraft project of the A300B. In January 1975, the 69-year-old Ziegler stepped down as CEO of Airbus, leaving the company to write a new page in its history.

Bernard Ziegler

In 1972, Bernard Ziegler was responsible for the test flights of Airbus' first model, the long-anticipated A300. Bernard Ziegler was the son of Henri Ziegler, and was known by the employees at Airbus as BZ. He once served as the technical manager and head of flight testing at Airbus. BZ's extraordinary convictions led to him personally making important decisions pertaining to the development of the aviation industry, with emphasis on the major technological breakthroughs of a "new generation" of aviation concepts.

WONDERFUL WORLD OF AIR SHOWS ATTRACTS ALL SORTS

Text Chen Xiao



Photo by Luo Tao

This year's Zhuhai Airshow will be held in November. Most visitors decide to attend a few weeks before the event, but there is one group of people who take the event much more seriously. These aviation enthusiasts devote themselves to every moment of the air show in their own ways.

FUN WITH FRIENDS

For these aviation enthusiasts, going to Zhuhai Airshow to take photos is an excuse rather than their real purpose.

Xuanzi, 26 years old, graduated from university three years ago. He went to Zhuhai for the first time to watch the air show in his

sophomore year. To save money, he sat on the train from Beijing to Zhuhai, which took the whole day to arrive.

He works hard for an internet company and has little time off, so he likes to use his annual leave for the air show, because there is nothing that gives him a bigger thrill.



Photo by Chen Xiao

What attracts Xuanzi most is not the air show itself, but the group of friends he meets in Zhuhai. With the event only occurring every two years, they have plenty to talk about each time they meet up, from aviation and photography to their personal lives.

FOCUSED ON FATHERHOOD

Dr. A is renowned in China's aviation photography community. Before I met him, I had heard about his achievements in aerial photography. He has outstanding photography skills and devotes himself to his passion.

I recently called to ask Dr. A if he would be going to this year's Zhuhai Airshow. He told me he was not sure due to work commitments and having become a father earlier this year, meaning his priorities had changed.

While Dr. A's focus might have

shifted, he's never too far away from this circle, and when he finds the opportunity, he will attend events and keep clicking away on his camera, creating stories for later generations.

THE FAMED FORTRESS

Huashan is an aviation reporter, who has reported on Zhuhai Airshow five times. Incredibly, he has never gone to the best shooting location of Zhuhai Airshow — the Fortress.

During Zhuhai Airshow, professional aviation news photographers work hard and are on the move non-stop. Huashan would love to spare a day during this year's Zhuhai Airshow to completely put aside his work and go to the Fortress, where he can snap some photos and chat with others.

AN ENTHUSIAST'S PERSPECTIVE

Wenjun is a huge aviation fan. Based on his experience at previous editions of Zhuhai Airshow, he plans to take photos at the Fortress on the day before and on the opening day of this year's show, as well as attending parties with friends in the evening. On the second public day, he will go to the exhibition halls and meet with his exhibitor friends to learn about the latest industry trends. On the third public day, he will continue to interact with exhibitors in the morning, and in the afternoon, he will watch the aircraft.

It can be a pricey passion to have, but luckily for Wenjun, he doesn't have too many financial constraints. In the next few years, he plans to write a book about his stories related to the aviation sector over the years, describing the development and changes of China's aviation industry from the perspective of an enthusiast.

THE HISTORY BEHIND THE WORLD'S GREATEST AIR SHOWS

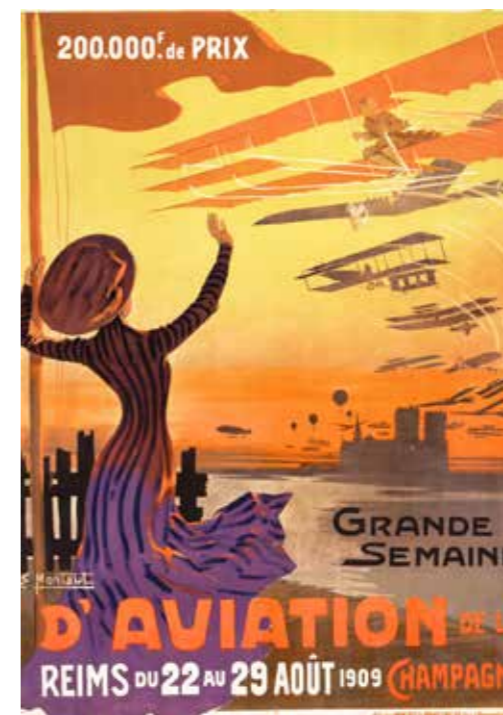
Text Cao Shenshen

PARIS AERIAL EXHIBITION

On July 25, 1909, French aviator Louis Bleriot flew his self-made Bleriot XI from Calais, France, all the way to England. It was a wooden-framed, wire-bound monoplane weighing just 20 kilograms. The aircraft had no altimeter, speedometer or compass, so Bleriot was completely reliant on his own senses throughout the flight.

It took Bleriot just 36 minutes to complete the 41.9-kilometer journey and successfully cross the English Channel. His flight completely dispelled any doubts about the practical applications of flight, and led people to realize that airplanes could fly much further than they had originally imagined.

During the same year, the first international aviation exhibition was held in France. The 1st Paris Aerial Exhibition took place at the Grand Palais near the Avenue des Champs-Élysées. The event lasted 23 days and there were 380 items on display, of which the highlight was the aircraft that Bleriot had used to cross the English Channel. From Sept. 25 to Oct. 17, 1909, a total of 100,000 spectators attended this stationary exhibition, which led to the launching of the



The Grande Semaine d'Aviation in Reims took place during August 1909, and attracted by over half a million spectators.

now venerable Paris Air Show.

Eighteen years after Bleriot successfully flew across the Channel, a young American named Charles Lindbergh flew a custom-designed aircraft across the Atlantic Ocean, landing at the Bourget Airport in Paris. His accomplishment proved that flight across the Atlantic was possible, and also made the Bourget Airport the most famous airport in the entire world at that time. In 2017, the Paris Air Show was held for the 52nd time, and the next meet (No. 53) is scheduled for June 17-23,

2019 at the Bourget Airport.

The 17th Paris Air Show, held in 1946, was the scene of the first aerobatic performance, with many aviation enthusiasts attending. The 28th Paris Air Show in 1969 marked the first joint photo of the Concorde and the Jumbo Jet.

The Boeing 747 was first manufactured in August 1968, and after entering active service in 1970, it remained the largest civil aviation passenger plane worldwide until the introduction of the Airbus A380.

The Airbus 300 was unveiled during the 30th Paris Air Show in 1970. It was a short-medium-haul wide-body passenger aircraft model designed and manufactured by the European company Airbus, and was also the first twin-jet wide-body passenger aircraft in the world. In 2011, the world's first completely solar-powered aircraft was

unveiled at the Paris Air Show. The Solar Impulse does not consume any fuel or discharge any pollutants while in flight.

FARNBOROUGH AIRSHOW

Farnborough Airshow was initially merely a stage for British aerospace manufacturers to display their wares, but it gradually evolved into a symbol of the post-war renaissance of Europe's aviation industry. Today, Farnborough Airshow is an international platform that brings

together the most advanced products in the global aviation and aerospace industries.

During the 51st Farnborough Airshow in 2018, aviation manufacturers, including Airbus, Boeing and Embraer, exhibited their exciting future plans for new technology. The American Boeing Company announced a new conceptual hypersonic passenger plane. Flight at speeds of five times the speed of sound would completely redefine the aviation industry, and bring the world closer together than ever before.

In 1908, adventurer Samuel Franklin Cody — the first man to fly a motor plane in England — took off from Farnborough. This small town was also where the inventor of the modern jet engine, Frank Whittle, initiated the majority of his research.

The first “Aerobatic Performance & Aviation Technologies Exhibition” was held at Farnborough Airport not far from London in September 1948. Almost 200 manufacturers attended the event, the exhibition area of which was distributed across the two famous black-roofed aircraft hangers. The largest British aircraft manufacturers attended the exhibition, displaying the most advanced products of the British aviation industry, including the first regional jet passenger plane in the world, the Vickers VC.1 Viking, with two Rolls-Royce Nene turbojet engines.

The air show in 1972 showed how much aviation in Europe had progressed in the 28 years since the end of World War II. In addition to the RAF’s “Red Arrows”, the French Air Force’s “Patrouille de France” and the Italian Air Force’s “Frecce Tricolori” also performed in the air that year.

Farnborough Airshow was originally scheduled for September each year, but London’s high rainfall in

that month often adversely affected the performances of the flying teams. Starting in 1998, the organizers decided to move the air show to mid-July, coordinating it with the Paris Air Show, which is held on alternate years.

SINGAPORE AIRSHOW

Since its first edition in 1981, the Singapore Airshow has grown rapidly over the past three decades into the third-largest aerial exhibition in the world. It will be held next on Feb. 11-16, 2020.

During the 2018 Singapore Airshow, Boeing announced service orders in excess of US\$900 million, including more than 10 agreements, and covering the following four areas: spare parts; engineering, refitting and repair; digitized aviation and analysis; and training and professional services. Airbus displayed its completely new A350-1000 aircraft, which was on an exhibition tour around the Asia Pacific region, as well as an innovative project concerning Singapore — the Skyways automated parcel delivery drone prototype.

More than 1,000 companies from around 50 countries and regions attended the 2018 Singapore Airshow, with Chinese exhibitors standing out from the crowd. From a military aircraft perspective, the Aviation Industry Corporation of China’s (AVIC) leading products were medium-range transport and drones, with the Y-9E and “Wing Loong” series a highlight of this year’s exhibition. Wing Loong I and Wing Loong II, full-scale models unveiled for the first time at the exhibition, stood proudly beside

other large aircraft. In terms of civil aviation, AVIC introduced the “Modern Arc” series and the Y-12 series, a new generation of civilian aircraft currently being developed. This exhibition also marked the 10th anniversary of the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China, with models of the ARJ21 regional jet passenger aircraft, the C919 large passenger aircraft and the long-haul Chinese-Russian wide-body CRJ929 also making appearances, much to the interest of the crowds.

MAKS

First held in 1993, MAKS, an air show just outside Moscow, is aimed at the comprehensive exhibition of the newest products and technologies in Russian aviation and aerospace as well as the national defense industry. With names such as Tupolev, Ilyushin, Mikoyan and Sukhoi reverberating like thunder, Russia’s aviation prowess can no longer be dismissed.

Russian planes are all named after their designers, such as the Tu- series, Il- series, Su- series and Mig- series. Tupolev designed more than 100 models of aircraft, from early gliders to the supersonic bombers and a supersonic passenger plane in the 1970s, with more than 70 entering production. The attack planes and bombers named after Ilyushin featured in World War II, and even more passenger aircraft bore his name in the post-war period, such as the Il-12, Il-14, Il-18 and Il-62. Meanwhile, the Mig- series of fighter aircraft and the Sukhoi series of aircraft are virtual synonyms for Soviet-era fighter planes.



TRAVEL



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China's Secret:

Meet Hainan, a Tropical Island with a Story to Tell

Text Nicki Johnson



Ancient China, boasting vast lands brimming with cultural traditions stretching back through the ages, is on the bucket list of countless travelers. What most of them don't know is that in the far south of China there lies a sunny island with beautiful beaches, mountains, rivers, lakes and rainforests — Hainan Island!

Hainan's long, sandy beaches are shaded by waving palm trees and caressed by gentle sea breezes. Year-round warm, hospitable weather produces luxuriant tropical plants that fill the rainforests with layer on layer of gigantic green leaves, thick twisting vines and bright flowers in every size and hue. Do you want to see something completely different to any other tropical island? Visit one of Hainan's countless Li and Miao ethnic minority villages and immerse yourself in the ancient traditions of these unique peoples.

Inheriting the Mysteries of the Ages — the Li People

The Li ethnic minority, Hainan's earliest inhabitants, live mainly in the center of the island.

The Li live only on Hainan, where they have preserved traditions passed down over thousands of years, including incredible skills and arts such as Li brocade, a true "living fossil", and one of China's very earliest cotton textiles.

Another fascinating art of the Li people is their traditional tattoo culture. Geometrical black lineal tattoos can still be seen on the faces and bodies of elderly Li women, a tradition that dates back to around 3,000 years. These tattoos were passed down from mother to daughter, making it easy to identify each woman's family.

You won't want to miss the Li people's traditional "Sanyesan" festival, celebrated every year on the third day of the third lunar month. The Li and Miao people wear bright, traditional clothing and gather to worship their ancestors, pray for the upcoming harvest, and hold traditional celebrations, bringing brewed shanlan rice wine, bamboo rice and *zongzi* to the feast.

Want more? Learn to dance the traditional bamboo pole dance, head to Baoting to join in the yearly Li and Miao Water Splashing Festival, and discover many more fascinating local traditions in Hainan!



Visit Hainan's Mysterious Ancient Villages

VISITING HAINAN'S MANY ANCIENT VILLAGES is like stepping into the island's past, into a simpler time, when life moved at a slower pace and happiness was easier to find.

A Southeast Asian Island Party: the Hainan Carnival!

IF YOU COME TO HAINAN IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER, in addition to the tropical island charm and traditional village life, you can participate in the island's most exciting event – the Hainan Carnival! This year marks the 19th Carnival, when different themed celebrations will be held in different parts of the island. With more than 100 Carnival activities, there's definitely something for everyone to enjoy, no matter your nationality, age, or personality type. Pick from folk festivals, food fairs, sports competitions, music festivals, fashion shows, beach parties and much more, or just stroll through the streets and join whatever random event you happen to discover!

ANCIENT TRADITIONS AND MODERN LUXURY COMBINE on this mysterious tropical island, where you can have a vacation like no other. Plan your trip today to China's sunniest island province – Hainan!



1 Fengtang Village: Emerald of Hainan's Volcano Villages
Several villages made of volcanic stone lie along Hainan's north coast, and Fengtang Village is one of the best to visit.
Fengtang Village is more than 400 years old. Due to a water shortage, every house in the village has a large barrel under the eaves to collect rainwater. In the village, everything is made of volcanic stone — the houses, the pots, the tables, the chairs, the tools, everything. At the village gate, a 300-year-old banyan tree shades the villagers as they gather daily to chat and drink tea in the heat of the day. On the west side of the village, a lush wetland attracts all kinds of local and migratory birds. Looking for a place to rest on your travels? Fengtang Village provides the perfect mix of peace and tranquility.

2 Liuke Village: Historic Home of South Seas Culture
Hainan was one of the earliest parts of China to send out travelers, and many of these found great success in their new homes. Soon they came back to build large houses and temples in Hainan.
Liuke Village is more than 400 years old, and is known as the hometown of overseas Chinese. The Cai Clan Residence is one of the best preserved historic buildings here. It was built in 1934 by the Singaporean Cai brothers, using a blend of Southeast Asian, European and Hainanese architectural styles. The large residence features over 80 doors and gates, 100 windows and around 50 rooms — a true spectacle! Enjoy a fresh, chilled coconut in the courtyard, and imagine that this is your family home!



3 Hongshui Village: Delve into the Mysteries of Hainan's Minority Culture
The thatched, mud-walled, boat-shaped homes of Hongshui Village stand as a living testament to the ancient way of life of Hainan's native Li people, which dates back to the time of the Ming Dynasty. These homes are cool in summer and warm in winter, perfectly suited to the local environment. These scattered homes, surrounded by forest-covered hills and rice paddies, look like a scene from a traditional Chinese painting, and the oldest women of the village still carry traditional Li tattoos on their faces and bodies — another style of traditional village "painting".



Hainan Travel Tips



Hainan has a tropical monsoon climate, and is sunny all year long. The average yearly temperature is 22-26°C, so don't forget your swimsuit!



Hainan currently has 57 international air routes to Asia, Australia and Europe. There are also 32 flights from Hong Kong to Hainan every week, with a flight time of just 1 hour!



Hainan has the most open borders of any part of China, and on May 1 of this year, Hainan implemented the 59 Country Visa Free Policy, making it easy and convenient for travelers from all around the world to come to Hainan. For information on how you can visit Hainan visa free, scan the QR Code.



Hainan Official Tourism Information Website



Hainan Visa Free & Visa on Arrival Policy Guide

How to Spend Time in 'City of a *Hundred* Islands'

Text Fannie

Zhuhai is home to the largest number of islands and the longest coastline among the cities in the Pearl River Delta. Known as the "City of a Hundred Islands", Zhuhai boasts picturesque landscapes, and being situated adjacent to Macao, it is also a designated special economic zone. Visitors can appreciate Zhuhai's subtropical scenery, serene mood and leisurely way of life.



Newspaper reporter Wang Jinghao expressed to *Sky Times* in words what he sees, thinks and feels about Zhuhai six years after moving there. He is familiar with everything about it, from local cuisines and scenic spots to old streets and ancient villages — he has become a "preacher" of the city's culture.

Which is the best season for visiting Zhuhai?

Autumn is the best season to visit Zhuhai, when one can feel comfortable in the warm sea breeze, with the temperature around 30 degrees centigrade.

What are the must-see scenic spots in Zhuhai?

The China International Aviation & Aerospace Exhibition, the China International Circus Festival, and the Wild Beach Music Festival used to be the three most popular attractions in Zhuhai. However, these days, Wanshan Archipelago, Tangjia Ancient Town and Beishan Village are becoming increasingly popular and attracting more and more visitors.

What is your favorite scenic spot that is not so widely known?

Each Year More Than 100 Million People Cross the border through Gongbei Port in Zhuhai, which is the key port city for entering and leaving Macao. Zhuhai is surrounded by more than 140 islands, the most well-known of which is Outer Lingting Island, which was mentioned in a poem by Wen Tianxiang (1236-1283), a scholar-general at the end of the Southern Song Dynasty.

The island is in Wanshan Archipelago and has distinctive characteristics. Visitors can see a power plant and skyscrapers on Lantau Island in Hong Kong across the sea. It used to be the frontline of China's coastal defense, and an abandoned military camp and fortress can be seen. A gigantic man-made lake in the middle of the island looks like a sinkhole, and was an important source of the stone used for reclaiming the land from the sea in the construction of Hong Kong International Airport. On the island there is a bookshop as well as a residential community built by Hong Kong people.

How do you spend a day of leisure in Zhuhai?

You can enjoy the unrivaled seascape from every angle when you are bicycling or walking on the round-the-island highway. It usually takes about three to four hours to cover the entire highway on foot. Be aware that the northern part of the highway has a slope of nearly 60 degrees, and there is no shade or source of water on most parts of the highway. However, completing the hike will give one a real sense of accomplishment.

How does one appreciate daily life in Zhuhai?

Go to an island and stay at a seaside hotel, some of which are only 100 meters away from the tourists pier. Looking from the balcony of a hotel room, one can command the view of gleaming ripples on the vast Lingting Sea, which glisten under the sunset. Ships glide through the water to their destination in Hong Kong, with sea spraying in all directions, creating a relaxing atmosphere. Ferries and fishing boats shuttle across the sea, while workers send freshly caught fish to waterfront restaurants. The authentic and harmonious side of the simple life of fishermen is on display. Looking out into the distance across the sea from a hotel balcony, one is likely to feel free from any worries.



WINE AND DINE AT Zhuhai's Finest

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

JIN YUE XUAN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

This Cantonese seafood restaurant is a local staple, and for a very good reason. Here you can taste a great variety of dim sum for lunch and superb seafood for dinner. The fantastically cooked, authentic local cuisine blends tradition with contemporary twists and is made with the freshest ingredients. It consistently serves top-quality seafood and there's no skimping

on portions. The best thing to do is to go to the market-style section of the restaurant and select your live seafood. Don't forget to order the daily soup, which has always simmered for the better part of the day. The simple but tasteful decor will ensure an all-round fantastic experience. Although there is always a long queue to get a table, it is certainly worth it.



📍 1-3F, District B, Rihua Commercial Plaza, No. 265, Qinglvnan Road, Xiangzhou District, Zhuhai

🕒 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. daily



**DRINKS WORTH SIPPING
HILL COCKTAIL**

The bar on the 19th floor of Harbour View Hotel is called Hill Cocktail, and its best feature is the sea view terrace, which allows guests to overlook Qinglv Road and the beach in front. The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the artificial island at the Zhuhai-Macao Port are well lit in the distance.

Sitting out on the terrace in the summer and autumn months leaves

you feeling relaxed and refreshed as the light, salty sea breeze blows through your hair.

The cocktails served on the 19th floor can be ordered without a menu. You just need to tell the waiter your preference of base spirit and what type of flavor your taste buds desire, and the bartender will concoct a cocktail to match your mood.

📍 19F, Harbour View Hotel & Resort, 39 Qinglv Zhong Road, Xiangzhou District, Zhuhai

🕒 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. & 8 p.m. – 2 a.m.

SIGHTS TO SEE

DONG'AO ISLAND

Known as "The Kingdom of Plants", Dong'ao Island in Zhuhai is a historical naval fortress with a history of more than 270 years. It is home to Nansha Bay, Dazhu Bay and Xiaozhu Bay.

The island served as a frontier garrison beginning in 1729, and the remains are well preserved. Rusted cannons still sit at the top of the city

wall, facing a rocky coast and the vast South China Sea. The coast was where the British unloaded smuggled opium in the 1800s. The island is also famous for its "Guanyin" (bodhisattva) sculpture reputed to bring fertility to those who pray there. Visitors to the beach can enjoy fishing, surfing, scuba diving and sailing in the ocean.



📍 Wanshan Town, Xiangzhou District, Zhuhai

🕒 Open around the Clock

Discover

THE BEAUTY OF A LESS-CROWDED BALI

Text Patsy Yang

Southeast Asia is peppered with beautiful islands, including a large number of tropical hideaways for city-weary travelers.

Bali, though, remains one of the most enchanting. The Indonesian island has been a hot destination for decades, because, although it is always in flux, it never ceases to amaze with its natural beauty and landscapes.

Bali is memorable not only for its stylish beach resorts, but also for its signature paddy fields, the holy temples that dot the island and its welcoming, smiling locals.

My first trip to the place commonly dubbed the “Island of Gods” was in 2011. I was enormously curious to discover Bali’s rich heritage, but found many parts of the island rather chaotic and too touristy, leaving little sense of uniqueness.

The biggest motivator on my most recent trip was the desire to have some traditional experiences and reconnect with the simplicity of life, so I tried to venture away from popular hotels and tourist trails, delving into the surrounding community and landscape instead.

TABANAN

I started my vacation in the quiet Kerambitan, Tabanan Regency, in Bali’s southwest at the only luxury resort for miles on the undiscovered coastline. Soori Bali is not easily accessible, but has seduced many discerning city dwellers to stay in its stress-free environment. Sandwiched between a sparkling volcanic black-sand beach and the UNESCO World Heritage protected lush rice fields, each pool villa is a retreat beyond comparison.

I signed up for a cultural excursion to gain a deeper understanding of what defines this destination.

Intent on fully enjoying the nature, a Segway ride was an exciting experience that required a certain set of skills and some courage.

The route was breathtaking and picture perfect: I rode through the paddy fields, passing farmers at work, until I reached the deeply spiritual village. Here, every home has a family altar and some of them share a small temple.

The prominent features are old architectural styles dating from the 17th century, evident through palatial buildings forming the complex of the Puri Gede and Puri Anyar royal palaces in the center of the village.

The condition of the royal palace of Kerambitan, built in 1650, is well preserved. I wandered inside the complex, which is divided into several sections. Each of the sections has its own function and purpose. The first six sections were used to host various religious and traditional ceremonies, while the seventh section was used solely as a residential area for the entire Puri family.

Not far from the former royal palace, the traditional market is where you will get a chance to witness the tricks of the trade. It’s not a tourist market filled with unnecessary trinkets, but a real market where locals shop for their everyday necessities, from food specialties to colorful tropical fruits and vegetables, and, of course, plenty of rice.

For those interested in the local rice culture, a full-day journey takes you on a learning expedition on how rice is cultivated, its religious significance and how rice culture is related to temple ceremonies. To the Balinese, rice is a direct gift from God, and consequently, it is treated with the utmost respect.

SEMINYAK

After three blissful nights at the secluded resort, I headed out into the cool and trendy town of Seminyak in the south of Bali. It may not be Bali's most visited area, but it is the uncontested leader when it comes to upscale accommodation, fine dining establishments, chic beach clubs and cool designer boutiques.

The social side of Seminyak can be a bit hectic, like Ibiza or St Tropez. Yet the truth is there's a lot going on, and it's all very chilled and without pretense. Despite its popular clubs like the Potato Head Beach Club, known for its all-night parties, Seminyak has a small-town feel to it.

The latest addition to its pristine, 8-kilometer beach is the new Alila property.

The Seminyak resort ensures that the accommodation dons an air of simple luxury. With a beautiful view of the sea, it is an ideal hub for those who want to dive into the lively part of Bali and the island's legendary nightlife.

On my second day at Alila Seminyak, I was sitting in the back of a fully restored vintage 1980 Volkswagen Kombi Limousine arranged by the concierge. The limo is an attraction itself, fully equipped with Wi-Fi, remote minibar and a wide choice of music albums. It gives some retro glam to the half-day safari that will see you wending your way to some of the best-kept secrets in Seminyak and beyond. Cruising away from the main roads, the surroundings quickly became bucolic, with farms, small villages and vast paddy fields.

The limo arrived at the first stop, Mozaic Beach Club, located on the secluded shoreline of Batu Belig Beach in Kerobokan, northern Seminyak. Kerobokan is gradually changing from a

farming area surrounded by rice terraces into a real-estate hub with large holiday villas. Mozaic, established in 2010 by chef James Ephraim, is a popular beach lounge hangout for expat travelers as it provides ultra-chic poolside gazebos and beachfront daybeds for sunbathing. A few hours can easily be whiled away here by sipping tropical cocktails and grazing on tapas.

After a frozen Margarita, I continued the limo cruise en route to visit a 17th-century fertility temple built on a rock in the ocean. The sense of peace and spirituality is palpable as you step inside Batu Nguas Temple. The temple is related to the birth of Cemagi Village and has been appreciated as a temple of prosperity and fertility ever since. Built on a rock, Batu Nguas is surrounded by coral reefs and crashing waves, and is not usually visited by tourists.

A short drive to Hotel Tugu in Canggu was an unexpected surprise. The hotel owner, Anhar Setjadibrata, a former medical student-turned lawyer, is the country's biggest antique collector. Each of his hotels is also home to some of his beloved treasures. The highlights include a private 1706 Kang Xi Chinese temple in Java that has been dismantled and reconstructed into a dramatic, deep-red dining room. Even if you're not staying at Hotel Tugu, a visit and a traditional Indonesian lunch is an unforgettable experience.

The Canggu region, northwest of Seminyak and Kerobokan, is the island's fastest-growing area. It is chilled, quiet and calm, with an undercurrent of cool. It is booming with new hipster hangouts, cool cafes and weekend markets ideal for the carefree crowd. Another hip spot to check out is La Laguna, a quirky

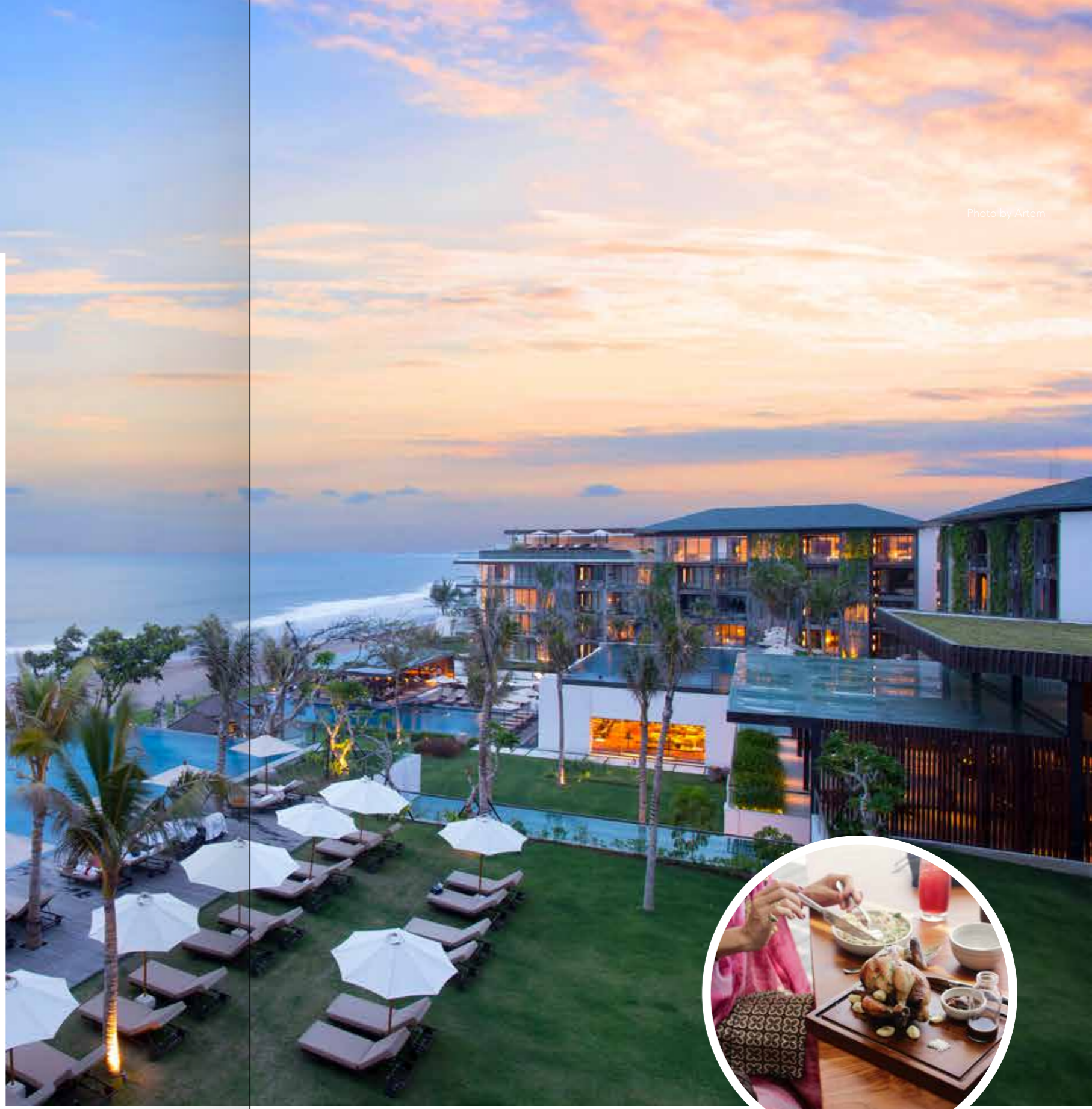


Photo by Artem



Photo by Oliver sjostrom

venue complete with gypsy caravans located only a 15-minute ride from Alila Seminyak.

For active adventurers, a cycling trip is recommended to explore the area of Pererenan on the west coast, where you can observe farmers going about their daily routine.

BALINESE BITES

One of Bali's biggest draws is its cuisine, and Seminyak is at the center of the culinary discovery of bold flavors.

Balinese cuisine is considered special due to its intense flavors based on an aromatic array of fresh tropical island spices and ingredients. Lime leaves, lemongrass, turmeric and wild ginger are commonly used, as well as

bird's eye chili.

Some of the most popular dishes here are babi guling (roast suckling pork), ayam betutu (Balinese roast chicken with spices inside) and ikan bakar jimbaran (charcoal-grilled fish with red spicy paste).

Most countries have traditional liquor that is often homemade, especially in rural areas of Southeast Asia. Bali is no exception. Balinese arak is a sweet wine made from the coconut palm flower. Traditionally made in an outdoor kitchen, a licensed version can be bought in stores now, which also makes for a great souvenir.



CULTURE



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The Incredible Construction of China's Hanging Roads

By

Text Feng Shuangqing

Driving on regular roads with GPS is a piece of cake. A road in the southern part of Taihang Mountain, however, is a headache for even the most experienced of drivers. Full concentration, a reduction in speed and two steady hands are required to successfully navigate the scenic spot's unique tracks.

Taihang Mountain descends from the north to the south, and slopes gently from east to west, where it is linked to the Shanxi Plateau. Cliffs along the fault line rise in many sections of the mountain's east at more than 1,000 meters above sea level. The valley runs as deep as 100 meters. Building a winding road up a mountain is a tough task due to the steep precipices on both sides of the valley. Today, we have modern

technology to aid such construction, but in ancient times, they had to use unique methods of creating passageways.

People retreated deep into Taihang Mountain during wartime to avoid conflict. After choosing to settle there, they bore children and toiled the land one generation after another. Gradually, primitive villages appeared, with inhabitants building ladder-like paths along the edge of precipices and around the mountaintops.

Since the 1960s, local people inhabiting Taihang Mountain have used traditional tools of production such as iron hammers and steel rods to dig holes and cut tunnels, finally building seven "hanging roads" in the steep cliffs, rising from Henan to Shanxi Plateau.

A typical hanging road is the one in the Xiyagou Village. This is the only village-level road recorded in the *Guidebook of Roads in China*. It starts on the eastern tip of Lingchuan, along the border between Shanxi and Henan. At the beginning of the 1960s, the then-secretary of the Chinese Communist Party committee of Lingchuan went to Xiyagou and found there was no road leading into the mountain at all, so it was impossible for them to ride horses into the mountain. He then allocated 3,000 CNY for road construction, with the villagers opening a small path through the mountain ridge. To begin with, the road was only as wide as a person's body, due to the basic tools used and lack of knowledge about road

construction. As a result, the road claimed the lives of many people who fell off the cliff edge while transporting pigs out of the mountain for sale. A bride even fell off the cliff and died on the way to her wedding ceremony. The road inflicted heavy losses.

The villagers living in the valley later hit upon the idea of opening a road by cutting tunnels through the mountain. However, they stopped this attempt when finding the subsequent engineering project would be impossible as there was nowhere to dispose of the excavated rock.

The accidents, one after another, did not dampen the

enthusiasm of the people living in the mountains. They started another round of road construction in 1982. That time, engineers were invited. Despite a lack of guidance on regulations or high-tech geological and hydrological equipment, the workers and villagers selected the right route for building a hanging road at Xiyagou based on their engineering experience and understanding of their hometown. Road construction experts came up with a solution to disposing of excavated rock through "sky windows" at set intervals in the cliff, which would help to accumulate then release the rock.

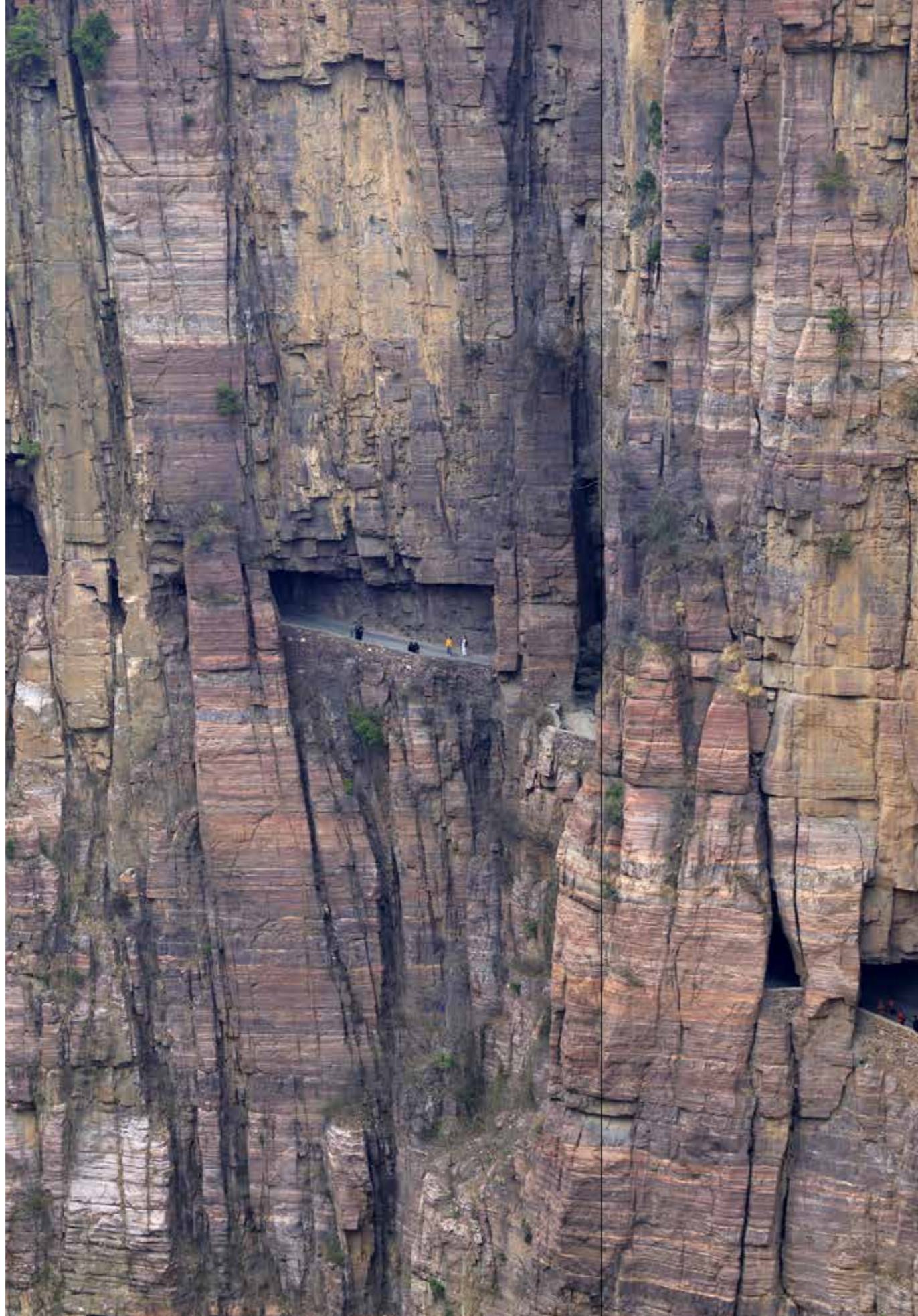
Today, these windows have become sightseeing platforms. Looking up, one can see the steep cliff rising above into the sky;



looking down, you will witness the bottomless abyss beneath your feet. When observing from the foot of the mountain, people can see that the windows outline the direction of the tunnel road. It winds its way upwards to the mountain top, bypassing the sections that are difficult for digging due to unfavorable geological conditions. The hanging road at Xiyagou, which is 7.5 kilometers long in its entirety, took 30 years to complete. In the words of the locals, this is a tunnel “dug by people with their hands”.

In 1976, a Japanese film company shot a feature film entitled *People Exploiting the Taihang Mountain*. The Guoliang Tunnel, described in the film as the “Ninth Wonder of the World”, is located in Guoliang Village, Shayao Town, which is part of Huixian County in Henan’s Xinxian City, and is less than 10 km from Xiyagou. Each hanging road is linked to a village, each of which has experienced hard times. Guoliang is situated beside a mountain cliff that has a vertical height of 200 meters. Villagers dug a row of grooves along the stone crevices in the steep cliff, and nicknamed it “Heaven Ladder”. For hundreds of years, it was the only channel for villagers to get in and out of Taihang Mountain.

In the 1970s, 13 men from Guoliang collected money by selling goats and Chinese yams to purchase steel hammers and steel files to build a tunnel to help villagers get in and out of the mountain. They dug a stone tunnel measuring 5 meters high, 4 meters wide and 1,300 meters long with neither electric power nor mechanical tools. Blood, sweat and tears ensured the completion of the manually construction tunnel, during which 12 tons of steel hammers were blunted, 2,000 iron hammers were broken, and 24,000 cubic meters of excavated rock were cleared. Large rocks were carried out by hand, while smaller ones were piled into



baskets before being removed.

The precipice of the Guoliang Tunnel is composed of sedimentary rock, whose hardness reaches 8.2 (out of 10) on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness, which is harder than iron and steel, and is comparable with that of engineering alloy. Layer upon layer of a flat, rippled pattern can still be seen on the surface of the tunnel wall, evidencing how hard it was for villagers to dig the tunnel with their hammers. Each meter of Guoliang Tunnel, which is now a popular destination for self-driving tours, reflects untold suffering, indomitable spirit and intuitive wisdom.

It takes extraordinary courage to drive through Guoliang Tunnel at night, as the only source of lighting, apart from car headlights, is the moonlight shed through the few sky windows. Restricted by geological conditions, it is still impossible to install guardrails along many sections of the hanging road. Despite the spectacular view of precipitous mountains outside, the sharp twists and danger of falling into the abyss strike fear into many drivers who take on the task.

It was embarrassing for villagers living in Shanxi’s Kunshan Village in Gujiao Town to use the roads in Henan when they traveled out of the mountain. In 1992, when a traffic project named “Accessing all Villages” was launched in Shanxi, the province was determined to build a road leading out of the mountain in the north of Wangmang Ridge for the villagers of Kunshan. The conditions of constructing such a road were extremely difficult, as the village is enclosed by steep cliffs, and it was impossible to transport large-scale equipment into the village to build a road by blasting through the rock. Moreover Taihang Mountain is mostly of a fault plane structure, meaning it is not possible to use explosives to blast through rock

for fear of causing a devastating landslide.

About 15 percent of the road construction was undertaken on the cliffs. Seven construction teams dug the Kunshan Tunnel at different worksites. After a cable was fixed to the mountaintop, workers attached cables to themselves and were lowered to halfway down the mountain, where they built operating platforms at 10-meter intervals. There they first dug a small hole for themselves to carry out the work, then they began cutting into the tunnel horizontally in both directions until the worksites were connected. After that they moved to another mountain, where they repeated the same work. The excavated rock was carried to the mountaintop via hanging baskets, and then carried away manually.

The three-wheeled farm trucks carrying goods and materials for the villagers of Kunshan are usually driven through the tunnel, with locals observing an unwritten rule that those driving to the village should yield the right of way to those driving from the village. When vehicles going in opposite directions meet in the narrow tunnel and cannot pass each other, the vehicle driving to the village has to reverse, sometimes for as long as hundreds of meters.

The hanging roads running through the regions where precipices are connected by deep valleys, or the valleys crisscross each other, represent the distinctive scenery of Taihang Mountain — the coarse rocks, the vast expanse of grass and woods, and the strong scent of flowers. Compared with the magnificent Taihang Mountain, humans appear so small and insignificant. But it was the people inhabiting the barren land who “dug the tunnel with their hands” and who still place their hopes on the roads leading to the outside world.

THE SOARING SIGNIFICANCE OF

Air Shows

Text Chen Cheng

For aviation lovers, the significance of an air show is comparable to the World Cup for soccer fans. The 2018 Farnborough International Airshow was held on July 16-22, and while fanatical soccer supporters swarmed the streets of Moscow, we went to the United Kingdom to enjoy the air show, which is held every two years.

My first experience of an air show was Airshow China in Zhuhai in 2004, when I was overwhelmed by the roars of fighter jets passing overhead. However, what attracted me most at that time was the stunt flying performances, from the Pugachev's Cobra maneuver by single Sukhoi Su-27 aircraft to the flying formations of the Russian "Swifts" aerobatic team, not to mention the performance by the People's Liberation Army Air Force's the Bayi (August First) aerobatic team.

I then made it my goal to visit internationally renowned air shows, including the Paris Air Show and Moscow Airshow, which are held on odd-numbered years, and the Farnborough International Airshow, which is held on even-numbered years. I have now attended the UK event four times and the Paris event three times.

Paris Air Show is now the largest air show in the world, and visitors can observe cutting-edge fighter jets from France, the United States and Russia in action. The Sukhoi Su-35 fighter jet and Kamov Ka-52 coaxial twin-rotor armed helicopter are fan's favorites.

Farnborough International Airshow is held in the town of Farnborough, which is southwest of London. Most of the airplanes on show come from the UK and the US.

Having visited so many air shows, I have witnessed the development of the global aviation manufacturing industry. I have also



seen the constant improvements in the civil aviation industry worldwide in addition to the progress made in manufacturing aircraft weaponry. The global civil aviation industry has developed rapidly in the past decade, which is mirrored in a concentrated way at the air shows—a barometer of the global aviation industry.

In 2011, Airbus—one of the two civil aircraft manufacturing giants—sent an A380, its largest passenger plane, to the Paris Air Show. Seeing the gigantic 500-ton plane gliding calmly across the sky was proof of the incredibly technological progress mankind has made. A380s have now become a key feature of modern air shows, with one sent to perform a stunt flying performance at Airshow China in 2014. Farnborough International

Airshow and Paris Air Show are the world's most notorious events, where bulk purchasing, trading and business negotiations take place. Simply put, these air shows are aviation markets, providing a platform for the buying and selling of aviation products.

In the US, there are many privately-held aviation festivals, which are usually themed.

The US takes pride in the “Thunderbirds” and the “Blue Angels”—the respective flying performance teams of the US Air Force and the US Navy. These two teams put on performances each month all over the country at local airports or even military bases, with the Thunderbirds performing against the background music of the US national anthem.

In 2015, my friend and I flew to Dayton in Ohio to watch a



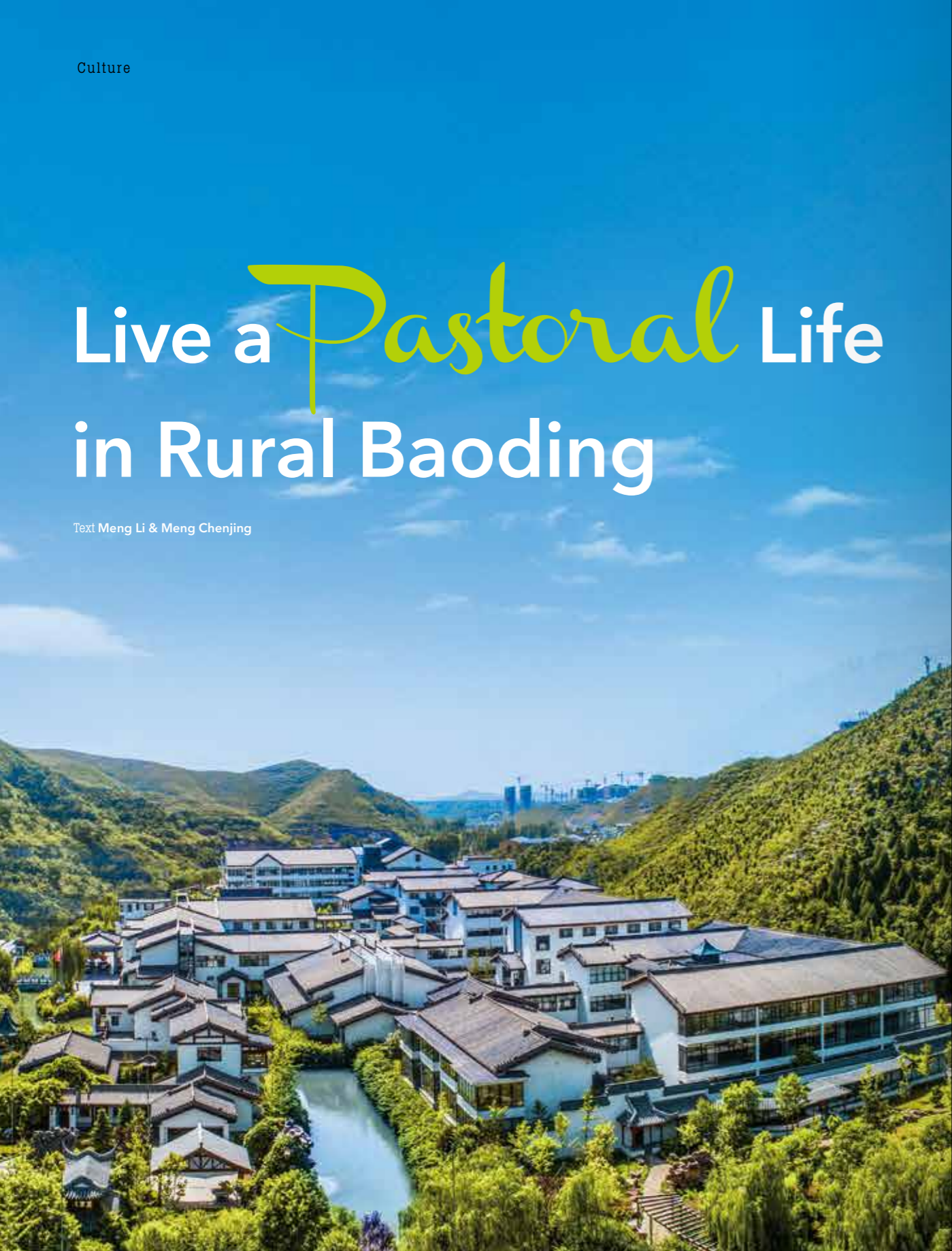


performance by the Thunderbirds. Six F-16 fighters performed for half an hour, while rock-and-roll music was played. The spectators at the air show were so impassioned that they burst out in thunderous applause upon the landing of the performing aircrafts. After the planes landed, pilots of Thunderbirds mixed with spectators, signing autographs, giving out gifts to children and answering questions.

I recall a story told by a female American aviator of F-16 fighter jets. When asked why she became an aviator, she answered that as a child, she was taken by her parents to an air show. There she was allowed to sit in a cockpit, which was when she first developed her passion for piloting. This story of a dream being born and eventually fulfilled is just one example of the significance of air shows.

Live a Pastoral Life in Rural Baoding

Text Meng Li & Meng Chenjing

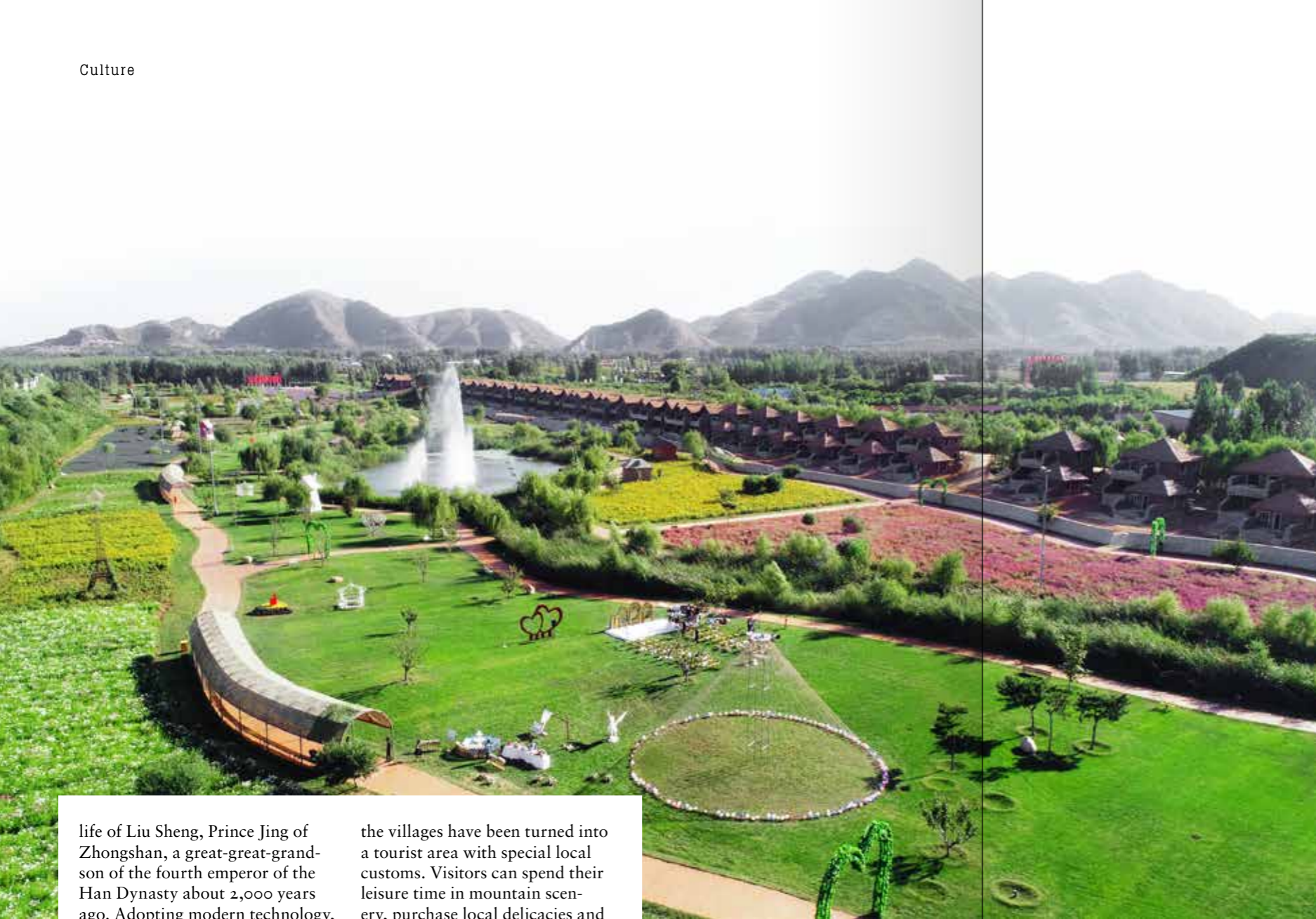


The golden autumn is a season full of the fragrance of flowers and the flavors of fruits, when the mountains and rivers present pastoral scenery in the city of Baoding.

On Sept. 20, the “International Pastoral Leisure Zone” — a project put on by the Second Conference of Baoding Tourism Industry Development — was open to tourists. Mountain and water scenery was transformed into several thematic experience zones, such as Shizigou Pristine Tourist Area, Gaoshi Ecological Water Town and the love-themed “Romantic Dream and Flower Languages” area. The zones provide tourists with an intoxicatingly beautiful “new pastoral dream”, where they can experience “new ways of leisure, a micro holiday and a slower pace of life”. The project displays the unique charisma of tourist resources in Mancheng District, Jingxiu District and Shunping County in Baoding City.

At Xiulan Cultural Town in Mancheng, the main venue of the conference, there is a holiday and leisure resort characterized by the garden style seen on the southern bank of the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. The resort was built on an abandoned mine to restore ecology. Combining scenic spots and supporting service facilities, it highlights the traditional Chinese concept of filial piety. The resort includes a circular travel route themed on culture and health preservation, Xiulan Health and Culture Community, a convention center, Nanshan Sports Experience Zone and an ecologically friendly residential community.

Moreover, there is a thrilling performance entitled “Dream of Zhongshan”, which recounts the



life of Liu Sheng, Prince Jing of Zhongshan, a great-great-grandson of the fourth emperor of the Han Dynasty about 2,000 years ago. Adopting modern technology, the performance presents spectacular pictures one after another. At Weiyang Square in the scenic spot of the Han Tomb in Mancheng, 2,000 people do square dancing to the energetic beat of music entitled “China Style”. At this entirely new scenic spot, water runs along the mountain; flowers, grass and trees set off each other; paths wind their way into the distance; and elaborate stone sculptures of different styles line both sides of the pathway.

Walking northward, tourists will reach Shizigou Pristine Tourist Area. Originally surrounded by mountains and persimmon trees,

the villages have been turned into a tourist area with special local customs. Visitors can spend their leisure time in mountain scenery, purchase local delicacies and reside in the well-equipped homes of villagers. At Taihang Folk Arts Museum, tourists will find an interesting display of “old articles of daily use”. Meanwhile, they can catch sight of a row of recreational vehicles at Gengdu Taihang RV Bivouac Area.

A sightseeing bus service is provided at Gaoshi Ecological Water Town in Mancheng’s Liujiatai Township. Located at Gaoshizhuang Village, which has rich natural scenery resources, Gaoshi Ecological Water Town provides leisure and sports activities, and a cultural experience in picturesque scenery.



In an eye-catching water show, suspended in midair, the performer walks on a pair of water wheels, striking a pose of Nezha, a divine warrior portrayed as a boy walking on two flaming wheels in Journey to the West, a Chinese classic. He gives a thrilling performance. A hot-spring hotel, a restaurant themed on underwater sights, a villa-style hotel built beside the mountain and a waterfront street featuring local customs are among the projects to be completed in Gaoshi Ecological Water Town.

The purple verbena swaying in the wind alongside other flowers in bloom, such as garden cosmos, sulfur cosmos and sage, are just part of the sea of flowers at the small hot-spring town called “Magic Lake in Four Seasons”. More than 30 kinds of flowers are planted here, covering an area of more than 1,300 square meters, and they bloom at different times, enabling tourists to enjoy different floral scenery over an 8-month period from early spring to early autumn.

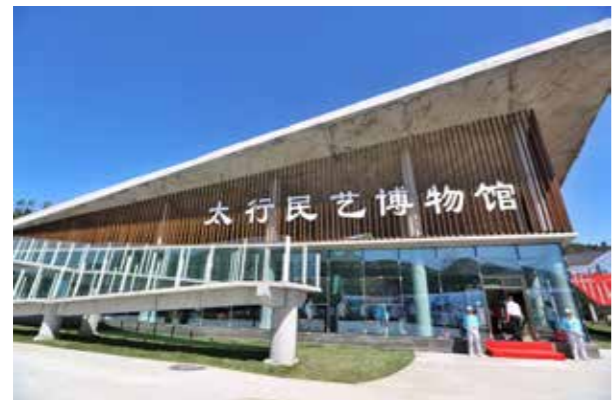
The Bannongshan New People’s Commune in Mancheng is a tourist complex themed on farming culture. It displays folk arts and crafts with the characteristics of traditional culture, and provides tourists with an opportunity to experience a pastoral lifestyle. Projects like the cottages of the commune, Bannong Academy, a farming workshop, an exhibition center of farm products, and an art crop circle all enable visitors to fulfill their dreams of living a pastoral life, savoring cornmeal mush and local distillery liquor,

and picking fresh fruits and vegetables on the farmland.

Deep in Xiangshuixi River Tourist Resort in Shunping, tourists can see gurgling water on both sides of the sightseeing bus, a wonderful waterfall and the river flowing over a little stone bridge. With rivers, mountains and farmland as the background, a tourist resort for people to fully enjoy life in the mountains has already taken shape.

At the entrance of Xingtanggou Tourist Resort, there are rows of stilted houses reminiscent of those lived in by ethnic minorities in southern China. At the “Space of Rice Dreams” creative park on both banks of the Tanghe River, tourists can take their children to explore the labyrinth of paddy fields, 3D art of paddy fields and a scarecrow amusement park. They can also experience rafting in caves, hiking mountains, exploring the woods and camping outdoors. Surrounded by the enchanting scenery of Taiji Bay Wetland Park, while looking at the azure sky and green lake, will leave you feeling like you have become part of the scenery.

Walking through the Dajidian Music Cultural Town in Jingxiu, visitors will experience the charm of traditional culture and the slow tempo of life in this small town, where a cultural and creative zone is established. Visitors can enjoy local intangible heritage, delicacies, creative products and performances of classical arts, as well as take part in farming activities. They will be amazed by the music and folk customs in an ecologically friendly environment.



The water show “Legend of Dajidian” is staged here, with the melodious music striking the hearts of the audience.

The “Romantic Dream and Flower Languages” experience zone in Jingxiu is an ideal place for those who are in love. The scenic spots here, such as the flower language magic cube, the colorful flower field, the art corridor, the eye of sound dreams, the tent hotel, the tree house hotel, the lawn of happiness and the sacred place for declaring one’s love, along with the night lit by fanciful lights in the field, will make tourists feel as happy as a protagonist in a fairy tale. The scenic spots here will become part of visitors’ best memories.

PEOPLE



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Pieter Elbers
President and CEO of KLM

99 Years Young

KLM Gets Older, Wiser

Text Guang Qining

KLM recently celebrated its 99th birthday.

Following its inception on Oct. 7, 1919, the airline is now the world's oldest still in operation. On May 17, 1920, Jerry Shaw, a pilot for KLM, flew a DH-16 from London to Amsterdam, completing the airline's first commercial flight.

Due to the airline's color scheme, KLM is nicknamed "Big Blue" by Chinese netizens. As part of its most recent birthday celebration activities, KLM announced the latest version of its Delft Blue miniature houses — given as special gifts to passengers in Business Class. The prototype of this year's new series of products is the first Douwe Egberts cafe in Joure. KLM also announced that from Oct. 28 onward, it would provide Douwe Egberts' UTZ certified coffee on its European and intercontinental flights.

At the unveiling ceremony of the prototype of the No.99 Delft Blue miniature house, Pieter Elbers, president and CEO of KLM, said that "upholding the concept of 'prioritizing quality', two classical Dutch brands with a long history of

working together had achieved win-win cooperation". Working with other established partners is indeed an important reason for KLM's 99 years of successful operations.

Details make a difference

Prioritizing quality and attending to details to attract and retain customers is how a company can stand out in a market full of fierce competition.

"The biggest secret of KLM's success is our customers. I'm very glad that we always try to put our customers at the heart of what we are doing. The customers pay for tickets and we are very happy that they choose KLM. So one of the airline's key assets is customer loyalty. Another is the size of KLM's network. We have a really rich and extensive network of long-haul destinations, as well as a broad European network, where we operate in 170 destinations," Elbers said in an exclusive interview with *CAAC News* and *Sky Times*.

At present, KLM operates more than 200 aircraft, with its route network covering 88 European

cities and 71 intercontinental cities. In 2017, KLM transported around 32.69 million passengers.

When it comes to the airline's efforts to attend to details, the Dreamliner Boeing 787, the flagship aircraft of KLM, is a striking example.

On the Boeing 787, the bowls and plates are all made of blue-and-white China porcelain for Chinese dishes, while the condiment containers are in the form of Dutch wooden clogs, and chocolates are served in the form of Dutch residential houses. What is also worth mentioning is that the cosmetic bags used in Business Class are designed by Jan Taminiau, a gifted Dutch fashion designer. Even the toilets are decorated with tulips, the national flower of the Netherlands. These details all display KLM's service philosophy that "the more national characteristics are highlighted, the better the services are received worldwide".

At present, KLM operates all five of its Chinese routes with Boeing 787. The airline launched its Beijing-Amsterdam route in 1996, its Shanghai-Amsterdam route

in 1999, it's Chengdu-Amsterdam route in 2005, its Hangzhou-Amsterdam route in 2010, and its Xiamen-Amsterdam route in 2011.

"We have a lot of positive feedback on the Dreamliner, in China and other markets. Any airline can operate a flight route, but it's the small details that make the difference. We put a lot of effort into the finer details, which is noticed and appreciated by our customers. Secondly, we are a very reliable airline, flying 17-18 hours a day, with a good utilization rate. The load factor is in the range of 85 percent globally and China is no exception. Of course, there are some variations according to the season. Chinese New Year is busier and other times are less so, but on average, I would say an 85 percent load factor is quite high," Elbers said.

The low fuel consumption of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner also helps KLM acknowledge its corporate social responsibility by reducing the impact on the environment, thus making it a more environmentally friendly airline, according to Elbers.

Good old friends

The 99-year successful operation of KLM would not have been achieved without cooperation with well-established partners, especially in the fast-growing Chinese market.

The past decade witnessed the rapid growth of the China-Europe air transport market, with the monthly number of flights increasing from 1,300 to 2,600 and the number of airroutes between China and Europe rising from 30 to 76.

For KLM, China has replaced Japan to become the biggest market in the Asia-Pacific Region. KLM's market share in China has been growing since the carrier

opened its routes there. Globally, China is the second-largest market, behind only the United States.

"The Chinese market is attractive as it has great potential for growth. We have established close cooperation with China Eastern, China Southern and Xiamen Airlines, who are our good old friends in the Sky Team Airline Alliance," said Elbers, who is well versed in Chinese culture and used a Chinese expression fluently to describe the close relationship between KLM and these Chinese airlines.

Such cooperation with well-established partners has been further enhanced since China Eastern purchased an 8.8-percent stake in Air France-KLM in October 2017, and had a representative take a seat on the board of directors of Air France-KLM.

"China Eastern has been a shareholder in Air France-KLM since last year. We have already had many years of a healthy working relationship with both China Eastern and China Southern, and both carriers are our partners on the Sky Team. Our cooperation with them is very much focused on passenger transport. We have expanded to the field of engineering maintenance, so we have some great technical facilities here where we do maintenance for aircraft and engine components, and we have signed a contract to further expand the network," Elbers said.

In August 2017, Air France-KLM and China Eastern signed a new component support contract for China Eastern's Boeing 787-9 fleet. The components will be provided to 15 aircraft, with the contract covering maintenance services, the use of a regional spare-parts warehouse, the provision of stock parts for local use, training and other services. Thus, Air France-KLM plans to



establish a regional spare-parts warehouse for Boeing 787 in Shanghai to meet the needs of China Eastern and other future customers. Air France-KLM and China Eastern have also announced that they will expand their partnership starting in 2019.

KLM has also setup joint ventures with China Southern, Xiamen Airlines and China Eastern on key China-Europe air routes, such as the routes between Amsterdam and Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Knowledge is power

As a non-Chinese airline, establishing itself in China, where market competition is fierce, and maintaining or increasing its market share pose the biggest challenges to KLM.

In recent years, airlines from Europe and the US have been under pressure from Middle Eastern competitors and the rising number of Chinese carriers.

It is the increased capacity of Chinese carriers on European routes that has driven the rapid

growth in the China-Europe air transport market. Over the past four years, the number of services operated by international airlines has increased from 32 to 37, while the number operated by Chinese airlines has risen from 32 to 59. The share of Chinese airlines in the China-Europe market grew from 40 percent to 58 percent. The share of European airports serving as transfer hubs for such routes dropped sharply from 42 percent to 29 percent, while the share of Chinese airports increased from 5 percent to 14 percent. In addition, the share of passengers transferring in the Middle East rose to 10 percent from 3 percent.

Overall, in the China-Europe aviation market, the total number of passengers boarding increased by 84 percent, and the number of transfer passengers doubled. However, the number of passengers transferring in the Middle East increased sixfold.

“To quote a Chinese idiom, we need to know both ourselves and our competitors before we can win all battles,” Elbers said.

“Five or 10 years ago, Chinese

often traveled in groups, but now we are seeing a lot more solo travelers from a wider age range — in addition to the big groups — which is why we have developed our app and WeChat account to cater for a more diverse audience in China,” he added.

In recent years, the robust growth of China’s market and the subsidies granted by China’s local governments have driven second-tier cities to start opening long-haul international routes. But while some airlines have suspended operations of such routes due to low passenger numbers, KLM continues its operations in second-tier cities, and seeks opportunities to increase flight frequency and launch new services.

“Places like Hangzhou and Chengdu have grown significantly in the past two years. It’s quite challenging to add more flights from a financial perspective, so we are still working on moving toward daily flights. Our philosophy right now is to add more flights to existing routes before considering launching new services,” Elbers said.

Digital revolution

To stay young, one must always keep up with the times, and KLM is fully aware of this. To adapt to technological changes, KLM has been actively leveraging artificial intelligence (AI), new technologies in the aviation industry and social media.

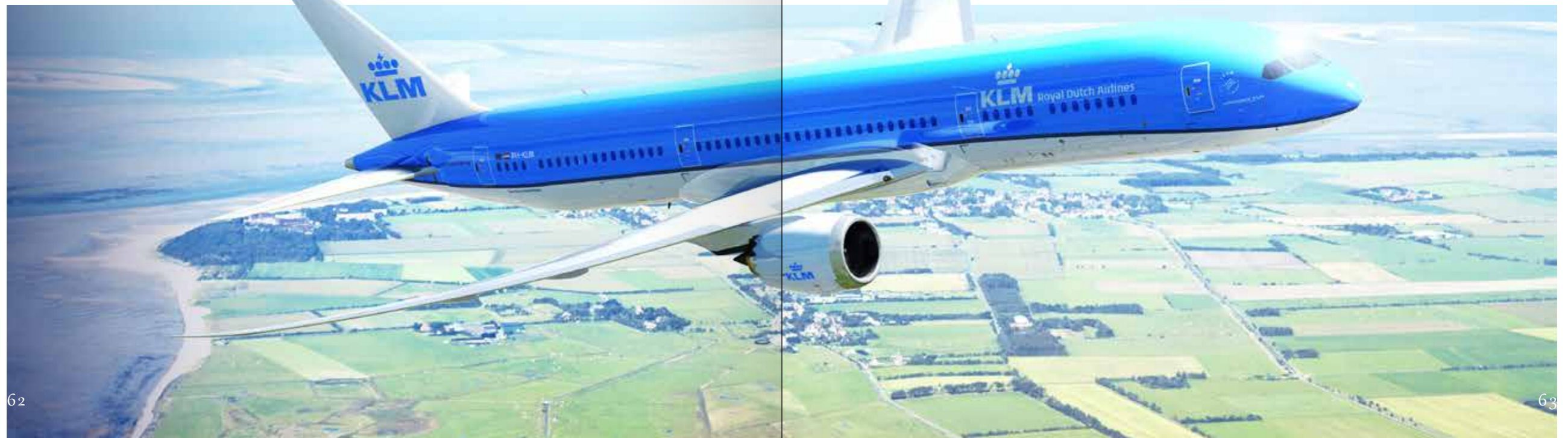
“Like all other industries, airlines are going through a digital revolution. For example, we are using a chatbot in our call centers to give better responses. Using AI, we have analyzed thousands of messages, which helps to suggest how call centers can give more relevant information to our customers. We also use AI for what we call predictive maintenance, which involves in-depth analysis of history and data on aircraft,” Elbers said.

According to statistics, there are more than 100,000 instances of communication between KLM and its customers each week. This figure

may be doubled in the case of large-scale flight delays or cancellations. A typical dialogue between KLM and a customer is composed of five or six rounds of questions and answers, with most problems easily resolved through a chatbot. Of course, human-operated customer service is still used to address some more complex or personal issues.

KLM uses social media platforms to promote quality content and advertisements, but as a brand seeking localization, it believes in connecting with customers where they are already active. For example, the airline provides overseas travelers with check-in services on WhatsApp. “Chinese passengers can also now check-in on WeChat, and in the future, we hope to offer more services through WeChat,” Elbers said.

“We have made great progress in the digital realm, and are trying to stay a step ahead when it comes to AI, check-in and personalized offers to ensure passengers have a great experience when flying with us. It’s important to value what we have at present — we have done that for 99 years and will continue to do so — but it’s also exciting to think about the technological advances we will make in the next five years, and how that will give passengers an even more personalized flying experience with KLM,” Elbers concluded.



CHINA SAVORS FLAVOR OF FINE ITALIAN WINE

Text Fannie

Wine enthusiasts in China are becoming increasingly exposed to wines from Italy, a country renowned for its art, fashion, design and creativity, but also as a world-class wine region.

“As an integral part of the country’s culture over the centuries, Italian wine should be considered a significant part of an Italian lifestyle,” said Amedeo Scarpa, Beijing Office Director and Coordinator of the Italian Trade

Agency (ITA) Network in China. “Just have a look at Italian vineyards and you’ll find artwork. The aesthetic design of vineyards says something about the culture, and those in Italy prove that Italian wine is 100 percent part of the Italian lifestyle,” he added.

Amedeo spoke about what ITA is doing to help Chinese consumers to associate Italian wine with an Italian lifestyle. Though French exports currently play a

dominant role in the China market, Italian wine exporters see potential in this growing sector as tastes and demand diversify.

Italian wine is known globally for its world-class finesse. Grapes, the primary ingredient in wine-making, are grown locally and the country has an ideal climate for grape cultivation. There are more than 1.5 million acres of vineyards located across all 20 regions of the country.

Among the biggest wine producers in the world, Italy ranks No.1 in the world for production quantity and variety of grapes, cultivating around 2,000 native grape varieties.

An increasing number of aficionados are looking for wines that are closely linked to the territory of origin. The territory of Italy runs from the icy climate of the Alps in the north to the sweltering hot weather of Sicily in the south. “We’re very lucky because in our relatively small country we do have extremely diverse climates, enabling us to cultivate different kinds of grapes,” said Amedeo.

Italians like to conduct wine-tasting to discover which one is best to combine with specific foods. That may explain why the country owns the biggest variety of wine in the world, and why the best pairings for different cuisines



Typical Chianti Wine Region Stone Villa in Tuscany, Italy



Amedeo Scarpa, Beijing Office Director and Coordinator of the Italian Trade Agency (ITA) Network in China.

food company China National Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Corp. Under the cooperation, Italian wines are available in more than 100 COFCO stores in China, with free tasting events for customers. They can also be purchased through popular sales channels such as JD.com and Tmall.

Among wine markets around the globe, China’s has the highest growth rate. By 2021, China is expected to be the second-largest wine market, with the overall turnover of the Chinese wine market reaching US\$21.7 billion by 2020. According to China Customs’ data, in the first quarter of 2018, the volume of Italian wine exports grew by more than 63 percent year-on-year, with its market share rising from 4 percent two years ago to 7 percent. Such statistics leave Italian exporters optimistic about the increasing momentum of wine exports in China.

ITA will focus on a more widespread “Italian Wines: Taste the Passion” campaign in China next year, with Scarpa saying: “There is something non-materialistic that I can feel when I taste Italian wine, compared to others, which are good also, but just lack that something special — the emotion, the passion.”

is usually with Italian wine. “I did a perfect pairing between Amarone, which is an Italian wine from the north, with Beijing duck; and Chianti with Sichuan hotpot,” said Amedeo. Although he is not a professional, he finds it great fun to pair by himself.

In early September, ITA organized an event in Beijing themed

“I Love ITALian Wines: Taste the Passion”, which gathered more than 20 million viewers online. A total of 23 importers and distributors brought 200 Italian wines to the event.

The agency has agreed a partnership with COFCO W&W International Co. Ltd., a liqueur importer under the State-owned

BOEING BENEFITS FROM COMPETITION AND COOPERATION IN CHINA

Text Hu Tao

Randy Tinseth, vice president of commercial marketing for Boeing.



Is there anything more exciting than being part of a team conducting test flights for airplanes? Randy Tinseth is the perfect man to ask.

Having started his career as a flight test engineer in 1981, he now serves as vice president of marketing for Boeing Commercial Airplanes — a job that sees him fly all around the world, with China topping the travel agenda.

“There is no question that China’s aviation market has developed over the past 40 years, and now is the right time to be a part of it,” said Tinseth, adding that Boeing is “honored and proud” to do so.



Xiamen Airlines’ Boeing fleet

Crucial China market

In 2017, China saw its air passenger and cargo volumes reach around 552 million and 7.05 million tons, representing year-on-year increases of more than 13 and 5.6 percent respectively.

“China is crucial to Boeing’s global performance. It is, of course, a big market, but also our strategic partner, presenting mutual benefits and win-win cooperation,” Tinseth said.

Boeing celebrated its 101st anniversary in 2017, recording a record-high global delivery of 763 commercial airplanes — 202 of which entered into the China market, representing the fifth consecutive year of an annual delivery of more than 140.

Currently, around 25 percent of the US aviation giant’s

commercial airplanes in production are delivered to China, with one-third of the single-aisle airplanes on its assembly line at its Renton plant in Seattle displaying the logos of Chinese airlines.

“Single-aisle planes are the backbone of civil aviation. They are the largest part of the fleet, and also the fastest-growing part,” he said.

Tinseth observed that, over the past 10 to 15 years, China has seen double-digit annual growth of its civil aviation industry alongside its growing economy and burgeoning middle class.

China is now the largest destination country of Boeing’s wide-body 787 Dreamliner, renowned for its long-range efficiency and capacity, while about 20 percent of the 787 Dreamliner fleet worldwide

connects with China.

To date, the Boeing fleet in China totals more than 1,600. According to the latest market outlook, China is expected to need 7,240 new aircraft over the next 20 years, valued at nearly US\$1.1 trillion.

The time is now

“Focusing on aviation services is not a new strategy for Boeing. In fact, making it a ‘third leg’ is of importance to our leadership and vision,” Tinseth said.

In July 2017, Boeing launched Boeing Global Services, its third major business, which stands alongside Boeing Commercial Airplanes and Boeing Defense, Space and Security.

Headquartered in Dallas, the new unit integrates services and

capabilities by focusing on innovation in four key areas: the supply chain; engineering, modifications and maintenance; digital aviation and analytics; and training and professional services.

According to Tinseth, China's e-commerce market is the biggest in the world, which means the development potential of China's cargo transportation market is enormous. Boeing forecasts that there will be a demand for more than 1,000 standard-body freighter conversions over the next 20 years, of which one-third will come from China.

"That's why we launched the 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter program here in China in 2016, and we have just delivered the first 737-800BCF," he added.

In the aviation training sector, Chinese private airline Okay Airways has just joined Boeing's Pilot Development Program (PDP), which takes cadets through initial screening and selection, and then advanced training to certify them as qualified first officers, to meet the airline's growing pilot needs.

A balancing act

As an aviation pioneer, United States-based Boeing has been in operation for more than a century, and has been followed by Airbus of Europe. Now, a new era has begun, as China sees its aviation industry taking off.

"The Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC) is here now, and competition makes everybody better, leading to a more healthy growth of the aviation industry," Tinseth said.

China embraced the maiden flight of its first large passenger plane, the C919, on May 5, 2017. Meanwhile, the CRJ929 is a planned long-range 250-to-320-seat wide-body twinjet airliner family to be developed by the China-Russia Commercial Aircraft International Corporation, a joint-venture between COMAC and the Russian United Aircraft Corporation.

"You have to watch your competitors to see what they are doing well and learn from that, but the priority is to ensure that your

business is excelling," he said.

Tinseth explained that Boeing focuses on staying close to its customers, investing in technology and products, and developing new strategies. "It is not just about lowering manufacturing costs, but also delivering on promises."

Boeing is also gearing up to strengthen its presence in China in service sectors such as spare-parts support, aircraft conversion and pilot training, which is all part of the company's sustained engagement in China's broader aviation industry.

"In China, the ever-growing segment of Boeing is our supply base, which has grown significantly over the past 10 years and will continue to grow. We are the largest buyer of airplane products from China, and every passenger plane we build today has parts from China," Tinseth said.

"It is quite an art to establish a partnership with competitors, which means we strive to find the perfect balance between competition and cooperation."



LIFESTYLE



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Cuisine

to Keep You Warm in Winter

Text Fannie

Winter is when the last of the warmer autumn weather turns from cool to cold. The dry climate can cause various health issues, and a healthy diet can help to not only prevent illness, but promote good health.

In this issue of *Sky Times*, three chefs are invited to talk about their winter regimens. They are experienced cooks and knowledgeable about nutrition. So, what are the surprises in their seasonal dishes this winter?



Photo by Wang Yang

Pan Dongcai

Chinese Head Chef at Jade Restaurant at The Ritz-Carlton, Beijing

Flawless jade represents beauty and nobility. Pan Dongcai, a Chinese cuisine chef at Jade Restaurant in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Beijing, picks fresh ingredients, digs out the natural beauty of seasonal delicacies and uses traditional Cantonese cuisine cooking techniques to present tantalizing tastes of autumn and winter for diners to feast on.

Pan began his culinary career at the age of 18, and his 19 years of culinary experience means he boasts excellent Cantonese cuisine cooking skills. Adhering to the concept of continual improvement, he insists on creating delicious food with top-quality ingredients, paying attention to flavor and visual beauty when presenting unique Cantonese dishes.



Double boiled fish maw soup

What seasonal treats will you offer this winter?

Original cup-stewed fish maw soup, which can help keep you young, requires fresh orange peel and high-quality fish maw, as well as six hours of simmering to fully release the collagen in the fish maw, and to concentrate the fragrant aroma and rich nutrition in the stew. A sip of this soup can embellish the lungs, strengthen the spleen, nourish the stomach and enrich one's *qi* (the circulating life energy that in Chinese philosophy is thought to be inherent in all things).

Black-pepper termite mushroom and Taiwanese macaron uses fresh and tender asparagus with Yunnan seasonal termite mushroom. Once it has been stir-fried, a variety of flavors will come out. Termite mushroom has a rich, sweet and crisp taste. It is rich in essential amino acids, proteins, vitamins and minerals.

Guangdong is famous for its healthy food. As a Cantonese, what is your diet in winter?

The Cantonese like drinking soup all year round. Snow pear soup is perfect for hydration in winter. It is important to keep a balanced diet between heavy meals and light meals in this season.

Which seasonal dishes do you choose in winter?

Preserved meat in the south that has been dried out in the sun is often used with potted rice. Lipu taro from Guangxi Province is so powdery and glutinous, absorbing the flavor of preserved meat. Traditional food in Guangdong Province includes braised lamb with carrot, which is nourishing in autumn and winter.



Stir-fried Wagyu beef with matsutake & black pepper



Live Australian rock lobster

Yu Qiang Chinese Chef at Park Hyatt Beijing

Young as he is, Yu Qiang has nearly 16 years of work experience. His creative and delicious dishes bring joy to guests and win countless fans for the restaurant.

What dietary principles should we observe in winter?

Healthy winter diets focus on maintenance and tonic food.

Chew food well before swallowing it: Eating too fast and inadequate chewing will cause indigestion.

Tonic foods nourish and help rehydrate in dry weather. Lily, seed kernel, Chinese yam and honey are recommended, along with walnut meat, snow pear, lotus root juice, milk, flaxseed, sea cucumber, pig skin and chicken for a healthier liver and kidney.

The old and those who have weak gastric function should eat congee for breakfast with lily-lotus seed, white fungus rock sugar, almond, chuanbei, or black sesame. We should also eat more sour fruits and vegetables and less spicy food, which will help the liver and lungs.



Hairy crab truffle fried rice

What seasonal treats will you offer this winter?

Hairy Crab Truffle Fried Rice
Ingredients: black truffle, crab meat, Thai fragrant rice, egg, crab roe, asparagus, carrot

Black truffle emanates an extraordinary aroma, while Thai rice has a sticky texture and a unique fragrance, and crab meat is firm and fresh. Hairy crab truffle fried rice is a nutritious specialty dish with a full-bodied flavor that can boost immunity. Crab meat will overshadow other dishes the moment it is served.

Stewed Mixed Vegetables with Eight Treasures

Ingredients: white fungus, black fungus, broccoli, lotus seeds, carrot, straw mushroom, Luohan bamboo shoot, baby corn

This dish is designed to satisfy your taste buds. White fungus has cooling qualities and can soothe the throat. Straw mushrooms, broccoli and carrots contain rich vitamin C, vitamin E and beta-carotene, while Luohan bamboo shoots and baby corn are sweet and refreshing. According to Western medicine, bamboo shoots are rich in folic acid, protein and nine kinds of essential amino acid, helping eliminate fatigue. This is a nourishing, healthy dish packed with antioxidants.

Fried Lamb with Cumin in a Hot Stone Pot

Mutton is a prime delicacy in winter. Fried lamb with cumin in a hot stone pot, with mutton and red onion, comforts your stomach. As sheep are herbivores, mutton is tender and easy to digest, high in protein and low in fat. It also has more phospholipids and less cholesterol than pork and beef, and is rich in vitamins, helping to strengthen bones. This dish, which acts as a tonic, aids cold prevention and anti-aging.

Stewed mixed vegetables with eight treasures





Aniello Turco

Chef of Mio Restaurant at Four Seasons Hotel, Beijing

Aniello was born in Naples, Italy. At the age of 13, he began to learn how to cook at his parents' restaurant. This early experience of food and cooking set him on the path to achieving his dream. He has served successively at top Michelin-starred restaurants in Alain Ducasse, Tuscany, Paris and London, and he has been a chef at Mio Restaurant in Four Seasons Hotel, Beijing since 2014.



Red Prawn Carabineros
Citronette foam, aromatic misticanza



Homemade Spaghetti
Alaskan cod, Espelette chili, slow cooked garlic, extra virgin olive oil
"Valentini" riserva

Mio Restaurant



What seasonal treats will you offer this winter?

When the warmer autumn breeze turns into a biting cold winter wind, people need more energy to deal with the cold weather. For this year's seasonal delicacies, the raw materials of dishes are changed to meat, pumpkins, potatoes, white truffles and nuts, while all staple products are changed to seasonal products to store more energy for winter.

What is the concept of the winter menu? Where does your inspiration come from?

The menu is designed in line with the concept of simplicity and warmth. Simple yet elegant, it is inspired by my recent trip to my Italian hometown. I will try my best to bring the original flavors of Italy to my guests.

What is special about the selection of seasonal ingredients and cooking techniques in winter?

All the ingredients are from Italy, especially white truffles and mushrooms, which are the most popular in autumn. In addition to cold dishes, Mio also presents hot and delicious dishes to guests.

What dietary principles should we pay attention to in winter?

In the dry season of autumn, light meals are a prime choice. Try to eat less spicy barbecue food, such as chili, Chinese red pepper, cinnamon, ginger and green Chinese onion. These ingredients are hot and lose a lot of their water when cooking. Thus they are likely to lead to dry stools, mouth sores and eye inflammation.

Berkshire Pork Belly
12 Hours slow cooked,
mustard coffee, lettuce
root tagliatelle



Pay, Stay and Play at the Hottest New Hotels

Text Fannie

The importance of a comfortable and convenient hotel stay is not underestimated by *Sky Times*, so we present you with the best newly opened hotels, which might serve up some welcome surprises for your coming trip.



A TRADITIONAL TREAT BY THE GREAT WALL (DHAWA JINSHANLING)

Operated by Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts, the first Dhawa hotel in China opened its doors in Beijing's Jinshanling on Sept. 1, 2018. Following the success of Banyan Tree and Angsana, Dhawa is Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts' third brand in the Chinese market. It caters to an emerging demographic of design-savvy travelers, who seek distinctive experiences in unique destinations. A two-hour drive from Beijing and located at

the foot of the Great Wall, Dhawa Jinshanling blends China's rich cultural heritage with contemporary comfort and seamless technology.

Dhawa Jinshanling's 200 "Cocoon" rooms and suites are equipped with modern amenities and infused with cultural elements. Features include Wi-Fi, widescreen televisions and floor heating. Design-wise, each room takes visual cues from the landscape around the resort, with views of courtyards, mountains or the Great Wall. Valley Rooms are inspired by traditional Chinese architecture and overlook stunning mountainous scenery. Courtyard Rooms are set around a large communal courtyard with outdoor seating and provide the perfect setting for family and friends. Heritage Rooms are found

in classically styled buildings and come with semi-private courtyards or unblocked views of the Great Wall. Dhawa Suites are stylishly designed and come with their own corridor and separate living space.

Dhawa embraces a modern lifestyle. Framing spectacular mountain views through panoramic windows, the stylish lobby lounge, Void, is the perfect spot to unwind. Guests can share their Great Wall adventures with fellow travellers or tap into the resort's Wi-Fi to stay connected to the rest of the world via social media. Following a scenic day at the Great Wall, guests can print and showcase their best pictures on the hotel's "Photo Gallery" — an interactive selfie wall that projects images of different local attractions and invites guests to create their own #dhawaselfie.

BEST IN BUSINESS (HILTON TAIPEI SINBAN)

Hilton Taipei Sinban is New Taipei City's first international upscale hotel. The 31-story, 400-room hotel offers itself as an optimal choice for business travel and gatherings with extensive meeting facilities and convenient connections to traffic hubs.

Ideally located in central Banqiao District, the hotel is in close proximity to shopping and entertainment centers, numerous local eateries, business districts and tourist attractions. The modern hotel is conveniently situated near Banqiao Station, with easy connections to the high-speed rail and other public transport options. Guests can effortlessly explore the Greater Taipei Area and other cities in Taiwan, as well

as enjoy direct connections to Taoyuan International Airport. Hilton Taipei Sinban offers guests an ideal place to recharge, with 400 contemporary and stylish guest rooms, including 38 deluxe suites and 14 premium suites. Guests can enjoy modern amenities, such as a 50-inch HDTV, espresso machine and high-speed Wi-Fi, all complemented by beautiful city views. Those seeking exercise or relaxation can re-energize at the fitness center, take a dip in the rooftop infinity swimming pool while enjoying spectacular sunset views, or unwind with complimentary refreshments at the exclusive Executive Lounge on a private terrace.

Guests can take advantage of a selection of cuisines at the hotel's Chinese restaurant, an all-day dining venue, and the lobby bar. QING YA specializes in a mix of Taiwanese and Chinese delicacies, serving the chef's signature entrees, including regional favorites. Market Flavor features an abundance of international cuisines for all-day dining, with local seafood and meat dishes designed to be both visually and palatably delightful. The lobby lounge, SociAbility, serves deli snacks, sweet treats and beverages in the day, and transforms into a bar with select wines, beers, rare malts and handcrafted cocktails at night, setting the perfect atmosphere for winding down or catching up with friends.





LIFE OF LEISURE AT ALTITUDE (SHIMAO YULUXE HOTEL CHENGDU)

If you plan on visiting Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province, which is beloved by foodies and travelers alike, Shimaoyuluxe Hotel Chengdu is an ideal choice, as it embraces both the historic splendor of the city's rich past, and the future of all-embracing hospitality.

Located in the heart of Chengdu, the hotel is adjacent to the bustling Chunxi Road and Sino-Ocean Taikoo Li Chengdu, the trendiest shopping spots downtown. It's only a 15-minute drive from Wuhou Temple and Jinli Street, the most popular snack streets in this food paradise, and 20 minutes from Chengdu Panda Base.

As a luxury brand hotel in the eastern center of Chengdu, the elegant Shimaoyuluxe offers a comfortable stay, featuring 294 luxurious, cozy guest rooms of seven different types. Room areas range from 40 to 125 square meters to meet the different needs of guests and provide them with utmost privacy. The rooms are all located on the 33rd-43rd floors, with a wonderful view of the resplendent evening cityscape. Uniquely characterized by Shu culture-themed interior design and

a perfect fusion of modern and traditional design elements, the hotel endeavors to create a memorable experience for guests.

With authentic local food served, you will get to know the classic numb and spicy tastes of Sichuan cuisine by sampling Sichuan-style dishes and snacks before indulging yourself in the bustling, spicy atmosphere of the city.

The hotel owns two charming, stylish restaurants and a magnificent, spacious lobby lounge, creating a special culinary adventure for guests with its hospitable services. The dishes meticulously cooked by the senior chef from Yu Palace Chinese Restaurant present the authentic flavors of Sichuan and Guangdong provinces. By offering a private, high-end dining experience, the restaurant aims to please even the most discerning palates. With a variety of delicacies from around the world, Le Café, located on the 32nd floor of the hotel, is bound to entertain guests with a superb sky-high dining experience. The Sky Line Bar, also on the 32nd floor, offers a panoramic view of the city at an altitude of 133 meters, bringing you closer to the picturesque setting sun.

For travelers, Shimaoyuluxe Hotel Chengdu could be a good starting point to learn about and experience the famous leisurely lifestyle of the city. The hotel

offers guests a full range of choices for recreation and leisure. The indoor swimming pool on the 5th floor ripples against the background of a translucent cellar, where you can enjoy the beauty of the sun through the ceiling-to-floor glass window. The well-equipped gymnasium allows guests to maintain daily exercise plans and appreciate the pleasure of sports. The slow-paced chess and card room brings you the enjoyment of relaxing the body and mind. Just immerse yourself in the aroma of tea and savor a peaceful existence.

PANDERING TO ANIMAL LOVERS (MINIMAX PREMIER HOTEL CHENGDU CITY CENTER)

Businesspeople and tasteful travelers may be happily surprised upon walking into Minimax Premier Hotel Chengdu City Center. The hotel has replaced a conventional lobby setting with a cutting-edge co-working space, including plenty of natural lighting. Panda references throughout the hotel will rouse your inner child, ensuring you have a fun-filled stay.



FOCUSED ON FAMILY FUN (BUDS BY SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, SINGAPORE)

Buds by Shangri-La has officially opened on the first floor of Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore's newly rejuvenated Tower Wing. An interactive indoor and outdoor play space spanning 2,150 square meters, Buds by Shangri-La features installations designed to take younger guests on a journey of discovery through four key narratives: embracing nature, adventure, camaraderie and independence.

Themed activity spaces encourage fun learning: Muddy, for budding artists who like to make a splash; Stage, a music studio for young performers; Bake, a fully equipped cooking classroom for

children and parents; and the interactive Party Room for celebrations.

Children under 4 years old will enjoy the Toddler Zone inside Buds, with swings and slides, a piano floor, soft wall buttons that produce animal sounds, a ball pit and vintage kids' rides.

Parents can relax at the Recharge cafe beside the Buds entrance and are assured of convenience and peace of mind due to the use of natural organic materials and radio-frequency identification wristbands for children. There is also a nursing room for mothers adjacent to the entrance.

The fun extends outdoors, where kids can play make-believe inside a giant pirate ship structure offering challenging climbs, slides and a water play zone with splash pads.

Families can also enjoy the free-form outdoor swimming pool

located in the center of the hotel's property, including a wading area and jet fountain, and delight in exploring the hotel's luxurious sanctuary of lush gardens spanning 40,500 square meters.

With the opening of Buds, Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore strengthens its luxury family experience — integrating accommodation, child-friendly services and an interactive play area for children who are both hotel and non-hotel guests to learn through playing in a creative, self-directed and experiential environment, and bond with their parents.

Buds is open every day, 9am to 9pm indoors and 9am to 7pm outdoors. Guests can enquire about registration fees, classes, special activities and further information by emailing buds.sls@shangri-la.com or calling (65) 6213 4833/4844.



GIORGIO ARMANI
Black Ecstasy total
effect intensity mascara

SULTRY NUDES
Estee Lauder



Seasonal

Text: Clare

NARS
Eyelash Curler



WINTER BRONZING

A light lip color can enhance a bronzed effect. If pale shades make you look washed out, apply a lip color similar to your blush. The color of your cheeks and lips will help emulate a natural glow.



GIORGIO ARMANI
power fabric
longwear high cover
foundation



IPSA
Control Power



LANCÔME
Blush Subtil
(Long Lasting
Powder Blusher)

CPB BRILLANT
A Levres Eclat
Radiant Lip Gloss

TUSCAN SOUL
Ferragamo
(Bianco di Carrara)



YSL
L'Homme Libre



Fashion Tips

ATELIER
COLOGNE
Oolang Infini



GIRL MEETS BOY

Our roles are changing at work and home to be more aligned with our authentic selves. That self isn't gender dependent. Sometimes, perfume designers are rule-breakers, creating unique scents based on personality rather than gender.



BOSS
Bottled



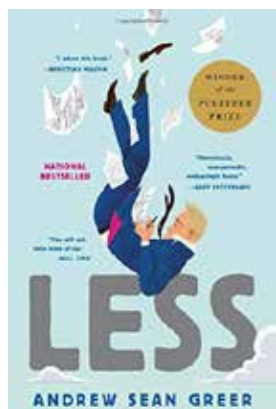
FRESH LIFE
Eau De Parfum



GIORGIO
ARMANI
Amani Prive
(Iris Celadon)

JO MALONE LONDON
Wood Sage & Sea Salt





Less

by Andrew Sean Greer

Who says you can't run away from your problems? You are a failed novelist about to turn fifty. A wedding invitation arrives in the mail: your boyfriend of the past nine years is engaged to someone else. You can't say yes--it would be too awkward--and you can't say no--it would look like defeat. On your desk are a series of invitations to half-baked literary events around the world.

QUESTION: How do you arrange to skip town? **ANSWER:** You accept them all.

What would possibly go wrong? Arthur Less will almost fall in love in Paris, almost fall to his death in Berlin, barely escape to a Moroccan ski chalet from a Saharan sandstorm, accidentally book himself as the (only) writer-in-residence at a

Christian Retreat Center in Southern India, and encounter, on a desert island in the Arabian Sea, the last person on Earth he wants to face. Somewhere in there: he will turn fifty. Through it all, there is his first love. And there is his last.

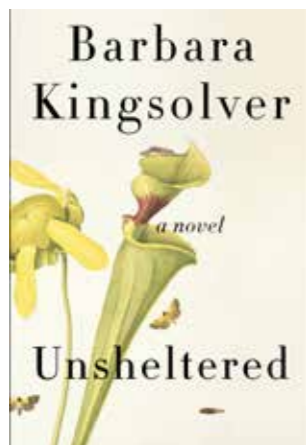
Because, despite all these mishaps, missteps, misunderstandings and mistakes, *Less* is, above all, a love story.

A scintillating satire of the American abroad, a rumination on time and the human heart, a bitter-sweet romance of chances lost, by an author *The New York Times* has hailed as "inspired, lyrical," "elegant," "ingenious," as well as "too sappy by half." *Less* shows a writer at the peak of his talents raising the curtain on our shared human comedy.

Unsheltered

by Barbara Kingsolver

The New York Times bestselling author returns with a timely novel that interweaves past and present to explore the human capacity for resiliency and compassion in times of great upheaval. *Unsheltered* is the compulsively readable story of two families, in two centuries, who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, navigating what seems to be the end of the world as they know it. With history as their tantalizing canvas, these characters paint a startlingly relevant portrait of life in precarious times when the foundations of the past have failed to prepare us for the future.



There Will Be No Miracles Here

by Casey Gerald

Casey Gerald begins and ends his passionate, voicey memoir by describing a photograph of his family taken in the early 1990s, when he was just a little boy. There's his handsome, football-star father, his glamorous mother, his "portrait perfect" sister, and Gerald himself, with his arms outstretched like an airplane, ready to fly away. "See the family," Gerald writes, "Savor them. Soon they will be destroyed. They will destroy each other. They will destroy themselves." That prophetic voice, learned, perhaps, in the evangelical church Gerald's grandfather founded, gives *There Will Be No Miracles Here* drama and gravity that is surprising given Gerald's youth, but well-suited to his bust-to-boom-and-back-again story of growing up poor, gifted, and gay.



First Man

A look at the life of the legendary American Astronaut Neil Armstrong from 1961-1969, and the legendary space mission that led him to become the first man to walk on the Moon on July 20, 1969. Exploring the sacrifices and costs on the Nation and Neil himself, during one

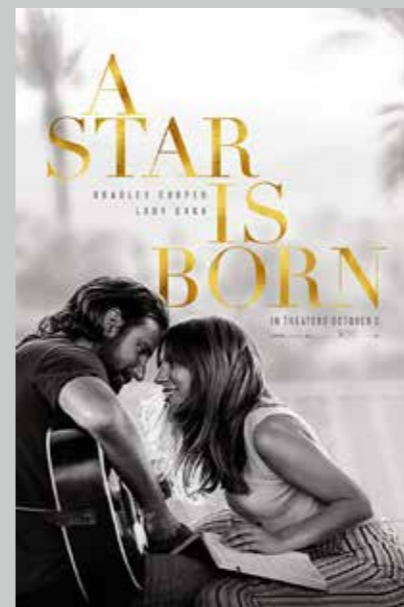
of the most dangerous missions in the history of space travel. *First Man* is one of those biopics where you know what is about to happen, but can't help but get caught up in the rising suspense of its great scenes.



The Hate U Give

Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds: the poor, mostly black, neighborhood where she lives and the rich, mostly white, prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend

Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressures from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right. *The Hate U Give* is based on the critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller by Angie Thomas.



A Star Is Born

Seasoned musician Jackson Maine (Bradley Cooper) discovers-and falls in love with-struggling artist Ally (Gaga). She has just about given up on her dream to make it big as a singer - until Jack coaxes her into the spotlight. But even as Ally's career takes off, the personal side of their relationship is breaking down, as Jack fights an ongoing battle with his own internal demons— age and alcoholism send his own career into a downward spiral. In the entertaining film with fine and beautiful music, the on screen chemistry between Bradley and Gaga is in top notch form, as clearly this is one love drama to see that showcases the rise of fame and stardom, also while showing a grim personal downfall.

To the film's benefit, Gaga and Cooper were essential in creating much of the soundtrack. It's one of the many details of this production that add intimacy and validity to the story. Not much has changed between renditions, and yet, *A Star Is Born* breathes fresh life. Of course, the greatest contributor to that is the immediate connection between the actors/singers, which their characters also share.

As Jackson's and Ally's fates intersect, collide and, finally, fatally diverge, *A Star Is Born* lives up to the operatic tragedy hinted at by the arias that often play in the background. Cooper handles those tonal shifts with confidence as well, as sweaty immediacy becomes something more intimate and soul-baring. As an actress, Gaga may not yet possess the range she has as a singer, but with the help of editor Jay Cassidy, the film is shaped to make the most of her gifts. There are sequences in *A Star Is Born* when it feels like a showdown between the best eyes in the business. It's when she sings that she comes radiantly into her own, claiming the screen as totally as Ally claims the spotlight when her turn comes.

Couple Create Prize Apartment in Heart of Hungary

Text Yang Di

Under the 4-meter high ceilings, a sophisticated palette of neutral shades interacts with vivid colors, creating a strong sense of customized design, displaying the excellence of craftsmanship and meticulous attention to detail.

The vacation home of Italian architect couple Paolo Giannelli and Giovanna Imbimbo, the founders of interior design company Area-17 Limited in Hong Kong, exudes a Hungarian vibe that the couple fell in love with immediately.

The 75-square-meter apartment lies in the romantic Palace District area of Budapest, where historic buildings and stunning aristocratic architecture can be found at every turn.

“The rich, vintage mood of this area caught our attention the first time we visited,” Giannelli said. “The eighth district, though a bit far from the central area, is an emerging neighborhood full of cafes and restaurants.”

When they first saw the apartment, it was old and tired, but it still had character.

“The aristocratic atmosphere of the neighborhood inspired a renovation respectful of the original layout. We just needed some minor adjustments to make the place more functional in terms of a contemporary lifestyle,” said the



42-year-old architect.

The couple preserved the original Hungarian-style wooden flooring, old reclaimed wooden doors and large, bright windows as well as the 50s-style grit tiles.

In order to create an airy atmosphere and make it easier to entertain, they moved the kitchen into the living room and transformed the kitchen into a guest room.

In total, there are three cozy bedrooms, two bathrooms and a spacious living room with its modern, open kitchen. A welcoming entrance opens out into the spacious living room, which is

flooded with natural light from the large windows on Jozsef Boulevard.

“To keep the vintage vibe, we restored the existing materials and selected exclusive antique furniture. Some of it was brought all the way from Italy and patiently renovated by skilled craftsmen in Budapest,” Giannelli said.

The careful selection of furnishings is mixed with touches of contemporary design. The old wooden doors, original ethnic linens and furniture discovered in flea markets and international antique shops has been harmoniously blended with modern



touches like the ultra-functional kitchen and custom-made beds.

“We love this apartment and it reflects our mindsets pretty well. The color theme is based on a neutral palette. We decided to have blue skirting in most of the apartment just like the old style, and light gray for the walls,” Giannelli said.

“Natural light from the large windows facing Jozsef Boulevard floods the apartment beautifully, so we put a touch of cream on the doors and windows to create a warm and sophisticated atmosphere,” he added.

The neutral shades blend well with vivid colors of the cobalt blue sofa, saffron yellow armchairs and lime green dining table. In order to unify the objects from various time periods in each room, the couple

used a few bold, but complementary, colors to provide a uniformity to the apartment. The color theme connects the styles, and the Hungarian herringbone geometry of the parquet unifies the spaces.

Period art pieces hang in the corridor close to the entrance. “We have collected some rare and amazing artworks over the years. We decided to display some old scenes of the Hungarian landscape and street life,” Giannelli said.

The couple love spending their time in the living room, which is inspired by the surrounding neighborhood and has touches of Italian influence mixed with iconic colors from the 50s.

“We love to sit on the sofa, drink tea and chat about when and where our next adventure in Budapest will begin.”



FLYING



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BCIA Becoming 'Green Gateway to China'

Text Chen Ying & Jia Jinxu Photos BCIA



As the only airport in the world that conducts strategic cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Beijing Capital International Airport (BCIA) has been intensifying its efforts to be a “green” airport. Focusing on saving energy and reducing emissions to become more environmentally friendly, BCIA is becoming the “Green Gateway to China”. UNEP and BCIA

issued the *Green Airport: The Way of Sustainable Development — Assessment Report of Beijing Capital International Airport* during the 3rd UN Environment Assembly on Dec. 6, 2017. While presenting the “Green Gateway to China” image to the world, BCIA is also setting a benchmark for other domestic airports.

Since its release, the report has captured wide attention in the global international aviation transport and environmental

protection industries. According to Steven Stone, chief of the UN Environment’s Resources & Markets Branch (ETB), “Beijing Capital International Airport has shown strong commitment towards sustainability, balancing growth in air, cargo and passenger traffic with an enhanced environmental performance. With focused actions in the right areas, including electric vehicles, renewables and better transport links, the airport can continue its leadership in

environmental stewardship.”

Reducing Consumption

According to the latest UN Report, BCIA is actively transforming itself into a green airport, and making significant efforts to minimize its impact on the environment. From 2010 to 2016, the average annual passenger throughput increased by 10 million person times, mirroring the rate of economic growth in Beijing. The

comprehensive energy consumption per unit distance per passenger has declined year by year, with an accumulated reduction of 44.53 percent from 2010 to 2016. At BCIA, the total amount of gasoline and diesel consumed by motor vehicles decreased by 45 percent and 49 percent respectively from 2010 to 2016, and the total amount of carbon dioxide emissions decreased by 16 percent from 2014 to 2016. In addition, the airport’s economic revenue accounted for

9.7 percent of Beijing’s total, while the number of employees at BCIA accounted for 6 percent of the total number of workers in the capital. BCIA has become a cornerstone of Beijing in terms of economic growth and employment.

BCIA actively promotes the use of energy-saving equipment. For example, it has installed more than 90,000 LED energy-efficient lamps at its terminal and parking buildings, cutting energy consumption by 25 percent, and it has put solar-powered

taxiway edge lights into trial usage. The airport has conducted energy-saving upgrades of high-pole lamps in the airfield area by using two-way power supply systems, controlling lights in groups by switching them on according to requirements. It also installs inductors in the lamps in the parking building of Terminal 2, thus cutting power consumption by about 30 percent. In 2016, the project of constructing a rooftop photovoltaic power system on the day-lighting band in the Ground Traffic Center was completed. The annual electricity output of the power system, which has an installed gross capacity of 430 kilowatts, is 420,000 kilowatt hours. BCIA also plans to upgrade the present power systems into photovoltaic power systems at the Terminal 1 parking lot and the employee parking lot, as well as in other areas.

To address a long-term water shortage in Beijing, BCIA has made unremitting efforts to improve water efficiency, and has seen significant

results, such as reducing per-capita water use by 10.6 percent from 23.75 liters in 2012 to 21.24 liters in 2015. In terms of tackling indoor air pollution and sewage disposal, BCIA has ensured that all disposal of pollutants meets industry standards. It also takes innovative measures to encourage travelers to classify garbage to aid recycling.

Energy efficiency

Based on the plan and requirements for green development, BCIA utilizes the management departments of the airfield area, terminal buildings and public spaces to actively employ environmentally friendly, energy-saving measures.

BCIA has adopted a group-control strategy for air-conditioning units, which it put into trial usage in Terminal 1. It has also completed the construction of a coordinated multi-air-conditioner control strategy model (involving air input and water volume), establishing real-time online monitoring of system data. For improving energy

efficiency and effectively cutting the emissions of pollutants, BCIA promotes the use of ground power units to replace auxiliary power units. Ground power units are installed in all the terminal stands of Terminal 3, including 91 bridge load power supplies and 94 bridge load air conditioners. According to the statistics from January to April 2017, bridge load power supplies were used an average of 323 times each day, with an average use rate of 90 percent each day. According to the statistics for 2016, the actual docking of bridge load power supplies reached 106,930 sorties. Meanwhile, the use of bridge load power supplies and bridge load air conditioners cut the consumption of aviator oils by 47,924 tons, reducing the emissions of pollutants by about 858,676 kilograms, including about 25,929kg of hydrocarbon compounds, 479,567kg of carbon monoxide and 353,180kg of nitrogen oxides. The energy-saving efforts have achieved outstanding results.

BCIA began introducing building energy management systems (BEMS) to its terminal buildings in 2013, and is China's first airport to do so. It has established a platform for

monitoring, analyzing, diagnosing and controlling the operating data, and adopts precision management of the use of energies in buildings through: online monitoring; collective data mining and analysis; energy supply and demand analysis, and supply-side management; and accident diagnosis. Through the use of BEMS in Terminal 3, BCIA obtains data on: power supply and distribution systems; air-conditioning; heating and ventilation systems; and water supply and drainage. It also conducts comprehensive analysis of energy-consumption data, equipment status and operating times, making required adjustments to the parameters of the building control systems to improve energy efficiency.

The airport was one of the first organizations to conduct pilot projects of the nationwide drive to "replace oil with electricity". In 2014, originally for the APEC Convention, BCIA purchased 17 electric passenger vehicles to operate as shuttle buses between the three terminal buildings. In addition, BCIA was China's first airport to install a large-scale high-speed charging station for new-energy vehicles. It has also built

another 50 small charging piles for passenger vehicles to allow its employees to recharge their own electric vehicles.

Economic and social value

According to UNEP, "Green Airport" is an evolving concept that expands gradually its scope from independent fields such as energy saving, emissions reduction and noise control to systematic and overall planning of the whole operation and management of the airport. In terms of scope and objective, the concept of "Green Airport" is aligned with sustainable development. In terms of process, the concept stresses the coordinated development between economy, society and environment. In other words, it stresses the use of innovations in technology and management to improve operation efficiency, reduce the impact upon the environment, and reflect the optimum economic and social values.

BCIA continually improves efficiency and effectively controls costs to aid the development of a green airport and achieve economic benefits. More importantly, BCIA makes outstanding contributions to the economic and social development of Beijing

as the capital city. BCIA plays an important role in attracting international investments, developing import and export trade, promoting tourism, and enhancing international influences, thus contributing to Beijing's status as an international hub.

The airport provides humanistic care, sincere services and a comfortable environment for travelers, employees and its users. The airport's operations are under multiple pressures as a result of the rapid development of China's economy and high-speed urbanization, but BCIA has long been responsible for sewage disposal and the collection, transportation and treatment of solid wastes in nearby communities, working hard to create a harmonious community. It satisfies the needs of its employees by guaranteeing their rights and interests, financial compensation, and training and vocational development. Through innovation in management and cooperation with partners, BCIA also creates a value chain serving travelers, providing human-oriented services, and is thus ranked among the best airports for service quality by Airports Council International.

HOW AVIATION CLOSED THE GAP BETWEEN EAST AND WEST

Text Mu Zhen



More than two millennia ago, camel caravans, with bells hanging from each camel, carried Chinese silk and tea leaves as they traveled East to West along the ancient Silk Road, passing the Western Territories to Western Asia, and then on to Europe. Now, the newly picked and processed tea leaves from Guangxi Sanjiang Dong Ethnic Autonomous County destined for European markets only require a flight of around a dozen hours to reach their destination. Modern transportation has developed rapidly, overcoming the restraints of time and space, with humanity never ceasing to undertake journeys to explore the unknown world.

On June 1, 1966, China and France signed the Air Transportation Agreement in Paris. This was the first air transportation agreement signed between China and a Western country. The agreement delineated the mutual opening of Chinese and French flight routes in its appendix.

On Sept. 19, 1966, the Air France Flight AF180 Boeing 707 took off from Paris Orly Airport, with a total flight time of 20 hours and 40 minutes, stopping at Athens, Cairo, Karachi and Phnom Penh, before arriving at Shanghai Hongqiao Airport on Sept. 20 Beijing time. Its arrival symbolized the formal launch of flights between China and France. In the eight years following the first flight to Shanghai in 1966, the only Chinese destination served by Air France continued to be Shanghai. This state of affairs persisted until 1973, with Sept. 7, 1973, marking the formal opening of the Paris to

Beijing route.

The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) formally launched its Beijing to Paris route on Oct. 29, 1974, a year after the opening of the Paris to Beijing route. The CAAC also employed the Boeing 707. This was China's first long-distance inter-continental flight route, and Paris became the first European destination for a Chinese civil aviation flight.

Since that first intercontinental route, eight Chinese aviation companies have successfully opened flight routes from China to Europe, with 426 flights a week linking 16 Chinese cities with 26 European cities. At the same time, 26 European airlines operate passenger flights between Europe and China, with a total of 396 flights linking 24 European cities with 21 Chinese cities. Air freight transportation between China and Europe is covered by 12 freight airline companies, with 213 flights per week.

During the elite meeting convened between Chinese and European airlines in May 2018, Liu Feng, director of the Transport Office of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, said: "China has signed bilateral air transportation agreements with 37 European countries, with more than 1,000 flights between China and Europe each week." He added: "In 2017, civil aviation passenger volume between China and Europe exceeded 9 million people, a year-on-year increase of 16 percent."

By May of this year, there were already 41 flight routes to Europe that originate in second-tier Chinese cities — comprising 35

percent of all flight routes between China and Europe — mainly distributed in the cities of Chengdu, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Kunming, Tianjin, Xiamen and Zhengzhou.

When thinking about Europe, destinations such as Paris, London, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Munich and Munich might have previously sprung to mind. Data covering January to July 2016 shows that these six cities comprised a 34 percent share of the China-Europe market — a reduction compared with data from the whole of 2015. More new flight routes to destinations including Prague, Budapest, Warsaw, Athens, Belgrade and Lisbon are currently being chosen by Chinese airline companies. Since 2017, Air China has opened the Beijing-Athens route; Hainan Airlines has opened the Beijing-Prague-Belgrade route; and Capital Airlines has opened the Beijing-Lisbon route. These flight routes fill in the gaps in service provision to Middle Eastern and European destinations, and greatly expand the coverage of the China-Europe flight route network.

It is understood that, this year, the Civil Aviation Administration of China has already approved the Air China routes of Beijing-Vienna and Beijing-Barcelona; China Southern routes of Guangzhou-Sanya-London, and Wuhan-London; Hainan Airlines routes of Changsha-London, and Beijing-Dublin-Edinburgh; Sichuan Airlines route of Chengdu-Copenhagen; Xiamen Airlines route of Fuzhou-Paris; and Tibet Airlines route of Jinan-Helsinki. In addition, Beijing-Oslo, Hangzhou-Moscow and Tianjin-Toulouse are currently awaiting approval.



Holidays begin! Three hours later I'll be in Yunnan.



"Dear passengers, we're sorry to inform you that your flight XXX from Beijing to Kunming can't leave on schedule due to bad weather. Would you please remain in the waiting hall and wait for further information. Thank you!"



Three hours later...

Why didn't I book a ticket that can be changed?



Four hours later...

ASK THE CAPTAIN



Zhou Li'an

China United Airlines
Total flight hours: 5,500 hours
Model: Boeing 737

Q: Does heavy rain affect the safety of a flight?

Zhou: Raining is bound to have an adverse impact on flight. The general rule is that in case of heavy rain in the day or moderate rain at night, an airplane is not allowed to take off or land. If precipitation appears on an air route, pilots can pass through it when the echo from the weather radar indicates no dangerous weather conditions. Of course, if conditions permit, it is safer to bypass rain or apply for permission to fly at a higher altitude.

Dangerous weather includes cumulonimbus clouds or thunderstorms caused by strong convection, that is, the weather of storm, thunder and lightning that everyone sees at ordinary times. If this kind of weather occurs over an airport or near a runway, then the safest option is for pilots to avoid take off or landing and to wait for the weather conditions to improve.

If you encounter dangerous weather on the air route, pilots will generally choose to fly around according to the weather radar display to avoid dangerous weather.

Li He

Xiamen Air
Total flight hours: near 9,000 hours
Model: Boeing 787

Q: What kind of fuel does a plane use?

Li: Aviation fuel is divided into two categories: aviation gasoline and aviation kerosene. Aviation gasoline is mostly used in piston engines, while aviation kerosene is used in jet engines. In addition, the most commonly used aviation kerosene is divided into three types: Jet A-1, Jet A and Jet B.

Jet A-1 is the main aviation fuel currently used in civil aviation across the world. Jet A aviation kerosene became the standard type of aviation kerosene in the United States in the 1950s. At present, Jet A aviation kerosene is only available in the US. Jet B is the third common type of aviation fuel. It is mainly made for cold weather, because its freezing point is as low as at -60°C.

All three types of aviation kerosene contain some additives, such as: antioxidants, which are used to prevent fuel from gelling; anti-static agents, which are used to reduce static electricity and prevent sparks; corrosion inhibitors; and fuel system icing inhibitors.

With greater attention being paid by the international community to global warming, remarkable achievements have been made in research on bio-fuel. The bio-fuel extracted using modern technology can provide a similar level of power as traditional fuel, while reducing the overall carbon emissions during the flight of an aircraft.

Q: How much fuel does a plane consume?

Li: The fuel consumption of an aircraft varies greatly depending on the types of aircraft, loads and flight environments, including flight stages, altitudes and external temperatures. In general, the greater the thrust of the engine, the greater the total takeoff weight and the greater the fuel consumption is. Even the fuel consumption of the same aircraft varies significantly in different flight stages.

'I Love ITALian Wines' roadshow held in Beijing

"I love ITALian Wines: Taste the Passion" was held in Beijing on Sep. 6, with more than 20 million viewers watching the live streaming online. A total of 23 importers and distributors brought 200 Italian wines to the event, which was initiated by the Italian Trade Agency. "I love ITALian Wines" was supported by the Italian Economic Development Ministry and Italian Embassy in China, aiming to promote

Italian wines in China.

"For Italian wines, China is a country with great potential. After decades of effort, Italian wine exports to China have begun to gain momentum," said Amedeo Scarpa, manager and trade commissioner of the Italian Trade Commission, part of the Italian Trade Agency. "According to China Customs' data, in the first quarter of 2018, Italian wine exports volume grew by more

than 63 percent year-on-year, and its market share rose from 4 percent two years ago to 7 percent," he said.

In 2021, China will become the world's second-largest wine importer with a turnover of US\$21.7 billion. At present, France is still the largest wine exporter, while Australia and Chile rank second and third respectively because of a bilateral free trade treaty and a policy of zero tariffs on wine.



Air France celebrates 80th anniversary of Paris-Hong Kong route

Air France celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Paris-Hong Kong route at Sky100 Hong Kong Observation Deck on Oct. 17. Antoine Pussiau, Senior Vice President Asia Pacific of Air France-KLM, and Toon Balm, General Manager of Air France-KLM Greater China, attended the event to celebrate the legendary route with honorable guests. On Aug. 4, 1938, five years after the founding of Air France, the route to Hong Kong was first operated by the new Dewoitine 338. At that time, it took six days, including 18

stopovers, to reach Hong Kong. Over the years, technological progress has enabled increases in speed, capacity and frequency. From 1960 onward, Hong Kong was served three times a week by Boeing 707 (150 passengers). Air France now flies to Hong Kong every day from Paris-Charles de Gaulle. The direct flight by Boeing 777-300 takes just 12 hours. In addition, Air France-KLM offers 7 weekly flights departing from Amsterdam-Schiphol: a daily flight operated by KLM using Boeing 777.

Shanghai Hongqiao's T1 reopens with self-service machines

Shanghai Hongqiao Airport's Terminal 1 has reopened after a three-year renovation, becoming the first airport in China with self-service options at check-in, security and boarding for domestic flights.

In T1 Section D, passengers on international and domestic flights can use one of 28 self-service check-in machines to print tickets and luggage tags after scanning their passports or ID cards.

Eight self-service security machines use facial recognition technology and promise to process passengers in 12 seconds. There are also 20 self-service machines at boarding.

Six staffed counters will remain available at check-in for those who do not wish to use self-service.

Shanghai Hongqiao Airport is China's seventh-largest by passenger numbers. Terminal 1 serves 10 million customers annually, while the airport's two terminals serve a total of 40 million.

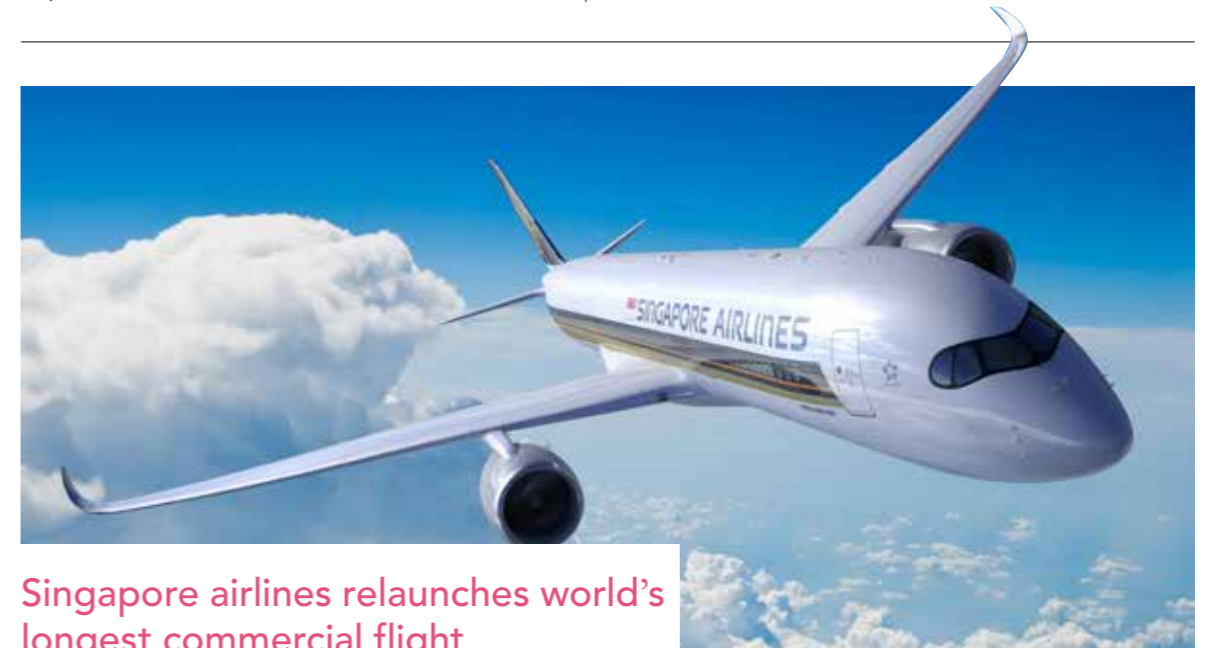
Cathay Pacific begins paid access to its airline lounges

Cathay Pacific has joined a handful of other airlines that have begun offering travelers the ability to pay to access its airport lounges. Marco Polo Club members are now able to pay a HK\$600 (US\$75) fee per visit using their credit card to enter its facilities in

Manila, Melbourne and Vancouver.

A relatively small number of airlines currently allow passengers to pay in order to access their lounges. Emirates, for instance, introduced the practice last year for its lounges in Dubai, before expanding this to its facilities in London Heathrow and Gatwick later in the year.

Currently, the offer only extends to three lounges: Manila Cathay Pacific Lounge near Gate 114 at Ninoy Aquino International Airport; Melbourne Cathay Pacific Business Class Lounge at Melbourne Airport's Terminal 2; and Vancouver Cathay Pacific Lounge by Gate D67 at Vancouver International Airport. The pay-to-enter option is not permanent, with the promotion running until March 31, 2019.



Singapore airlines relaunches world's longest commercial flight

Singapore Airlines relaunched its non-stop flights to New York on Oct. 11, a 16,700-kilometer journey taking 19 hours that has enabled the carrier to reclaim the title of the world's longest commercial flight.

The flight last took place in 2013 with an A340-500. That was discontinued because of the high costs involved

— the A340-500 has four engines, and was fuel-thirsty compared with the new generation aircraft.

To maximize the chances of success for the resumption of this flight, Singapore Airlines has ordered a variant of its A350-900 aircraft. It has ordered 67 of the specially adapted A350-900ULR.

This aircraft has larger fuel tanks and improved fuel consumption, which is important given the current rising oil prices. It also has fewer passengers onboard. The airline has configured the aircraft with just 161 seats: 94 Premium Economy seats in a 2-4-2 configuration and 67 flat-bed seats in a 1-2-1 configuration.

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