

# BEIJING

## City survival guide

5 decisions before you land

- 01 Where to stay
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- 04 Museums
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CITY SURVIVAL GUIDE | EP. 1

# BEIJING

Beijing rewards the prepared.

**5** DECISIONS  
to make before you land.

Swipe for the 5 decisions →

MyChinaTrip

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# Where to stay in Beijing

Beijing is remarkably safe — there is no ‘wrong’ district, only the wrong commute. Pick by what your trip is about.

A MORE  
MEMORABLE  
BEIJING



Summer Palace  
颐和园



01

## Wangfujing / Dongdan

Metro Lines **1, 5, 8**

**The history pick.**

Forbidden City on foot, classic old Beijing at your door. Hotels here are older and pricier.



Walk to Forbidden City



Classic Beijing atmosphere



Older hotels, higher prices



02

## Guomao / CBD

Metro Lines **1, 10**

**The comfort pick.**

Newer hotels, great for families; Line 1 reaches Tiananmen in about 10 minutes — but the area itself is malls and offices, not Beijing flavor.



Newer hotels & family-friendly



~ 10 min to Tiananmen (Line 1)



Malls, dining and easy connections



03

## Qianmen / Dashilar

Metro Lines **2, 8**

**The hutong pick.**

The most Beijing-feeling streets, courtyard hotels. More character, less consistency.



Hutong charm & courtyard stays



Great food and night walks



More character, less consistency



**One check before you book:** the subway station at your hotel's door.  
In Beijing, that's the whole game.

# Landing

If your flight lets you choose, choose PEK — closer to downtown. Your options, all of them:

**PEK**



## Beijing Capital International Airport



### Airport Express

¥25, 20–30 min to Dongzhimen (depends on terminal). Last trains leave around 11pm – T2 as late as 23:10. Check your terminal before you fly.



### Airport bus

Cheaper, slower, more stops.



### Taxi (metered) / Didi (priced in-app)

Door to door, worth it with 3+ people and luggage.

**PKX**



## Beijing Daxing International Airport



### Express to Caoqiao

¥35 to Caoqiao. Line 10 loops you into the center from there.



### Airport bus

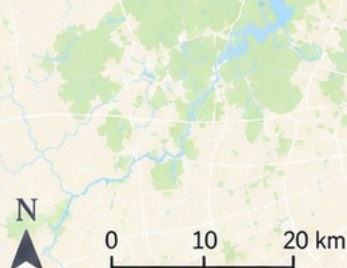
Cheaper, slower, more stops.



### Taxi

Downtown runs **¥180–300**.

A CLEARER  
BEIJING



**One move after you land:** screenshot your hotel address in Chinese. Drivers can't read the English version.

# 3 days, 3 ways

The Forbidden City and the Great Wall are non-negotiable. What changes is everything around them — pick your flavor:



## Greatest hits (first-timers)



Tiananmen +  
Forbidden City +  
Jingshan



a full Great Wall day  
(Mutianyu for fewer crowds)



Temple of Heaven +  
Qianmen evening.

The classic route. Iconic sites, big history, and a perfect mix of culture and atmosphere.



## Old Beijing (hutong people)



Shichahai rickshaw +  
courtyard family visit



Drum Tower



crosstalk at Lao She  
Teahouse (Mandarin-  
only — go for the  
atmosphere, yes it's  
touristy)



half a day at 798.

Local life, traditional neighborhoods, and a more modern creative side — a deeper, more textured Beijing.



## Slow gardens (easy pace / kids / grandparents)



Summer Palace  
takes a whole day



Temple of Heaven  
at dawn (tai chi, kites)



Beihai



Yonghegong.

Parks, temples, and breathing room. A relaxed pace with beautiful scenery, great for families and multi-generational trips.



## Two rules that never change:

the Palace and the Wall go on separate days.

Passport = ticket, closed Mondays.

Slots open 7 days out at 8pm Beijing time — weekends sell out first.



**Book tickets first** — then plan your days.

# Half a day for museums

The National Museum is the cheat code: 1.43 million pieces, bronzes to modern China, right by Tiananmen. It's free — which is exactly why you must book: slots open 7 days out, real-name, and walk-ins get turned away. Closed Mondays.



## National Museum of China



## One more, pick your type:

01



## Capital Museum

for old-Beijing folk life.



Beijing's history and city life



Rich everyday culture exhibits



Great for understanding  
the real Beijing

02



## Science & Technology Museum

if you've got kids (a real Shenzhen capsule).



Real Shenzhou capsule



Interactive exhibits



Great for families  
and curious minds

03



## 798

an East German-built Bauhaus electronics factory turned art district, 200+ galleries, Beijing's other face. Free to wander, give it half a day.



200+ galleries and studios



Industrial art district vibe



Free to wander



Give it half a day



Book your slots 7 days out.

# What's on this season

October is peak season on Beijing's stages — and the prettiest month of the year. This is the page to check before you book flights.

## Autumn in Beijing

Every autumn: the international theatre season brings 100+ productions from 20+ countries (Oct–Dec); concert halls run full programs; parks pair red leaves with night markets.

## Highlights on stage

Opera, concerts, and more this month →

01



### Mozart's Magic Flute

 Oct 10 – 11

 National Centre for the Performing Arts

A timeless classic in a world-class setting.

02



### Mary Said What She Said

 Oct 16 – 18

 National Centre for the Performing Arts

An acclaimed avant-garde production from overseas.

03



### Shi Yihong's Peking Opera

 Oct 23 – 25

 National Centre for the Performing Arts

Three nights of Mei-school opera at its most polished.



## Autumn beyond the stage

Parks, markets, and seasonal moments →



### Xiangshan's Autumn Market

 Through mid-Nov

 Xiangshan Park

Brilliant red leaves, local snacks, handicrafts, and a lively night market atmosphere.



### Yuanmingyuan's Autumn Program

 Till Nov 6

 Yuanmingyuan Park

Autumn culture events, exhibitions and evening experiences in a historic setting.



Dates change yearly – check the live calendar before you book.