

北京：一座焕然一新城市

Beijing: A City Transformed

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三十多年后，我再次造访北京，这座城市的巨变令人惊叹不已。往昔，北京以宁静的街巷、喧嚣的市集和深厚的传统闻名；如今，它已发展成为中国现代化的活力象征，快速的 urban 发展与丰富的文化遗产在这里

After more than 30 years, I revisited Beijing recently and was astounded by the city's extraordinary transformation. Once defined by quiet streets, vibrant markets, and traditional customs, Beijing has evolved into a dynamic symbol of China's modernization, where rapid urban development meets a rich cultural heritage. The



格奥尔格·季明斯基爬长城
Georg Tyminski climbed the Great Wall.

交相辉映。北京的建筑景观与几十年前相比几乎已判若两地。中央商务区 (CBD) 如今摩天大楼直插云霄, 中国国际贸易中心等标志性建筑更是蔚为壮观。尽管历史街区与狭窄胡同大多已让位于现代化建筑, 但仍有一些被精心保留并赋予新生, 成为旅游业发展的亮点。2008年奥运会的标志性建筑, 如鸟巢和水立方, 也已成为这座城市现代风貌的永恒标志。

交通变革与高科技社会

北京的交通系统发生了翻天覆地的变化。曾经规模有限的地铁网络, 如今已扩展至25条以上, 成为世界上规模最大、效率最高的交通系统之一。尽管汽车数量的急剧

architectural landscape of Beijing is barely recognizable from decades ago. The Central Business District (CBD) now boasts towering skyscrapers, including landmarks like the China World Trade Center. Historic neighborhoods and narrow hutongs have largely given way to modern developments, though some have been preserved and revitalized for tourism. Iconic structures from the 2008 Olympic Games, such as the Bird's Nest and the Water Cube, have become enduring symbols of the city's modern identity.

Revolutionized Transportation and High-Tech Society

Beijing's transportation system has undergone dramatic changes. The metro network, once limited in scale, now spans over 25 lines, making it one of the largest and most efficient metro systems in the world.



格奥尔格·季明斯基在天安门广场
Georg Tyminski is at Tiananmen Square.

增长导致交通拥堵频繁,但城市已普及电动车、共享单车等替代出行方式。不断扩建的高速公路和环路更是北京快速发展的有力见证。科技如今已深深地融入日常生活。支付宝和微信支付等移动支付平台已取代现金,造就了一个几乎无现金的社会。Wi-Fi无处不在,5G网络覆盖全城,支撑起管理交通、公共服务等事务的先进“智慧城市”系统。北京是科技高效和创新的典范。北京曾因重度雾霾饱受诟病,但通过严格的政府政策,在改善空气质量方面取得了显著进展。尽管冬季仍偶有雾霾,但洁净的空气已成为常态。北京还新建了众多公园和生态园区,这些绿

Although car ownership has surged, leading to frequent traffic congestion, the city has embraced alternatives transportation options like electric scooters and bike-sharing services. Expanded highways and ring roads further reflect Beijing's rapid growth. Technology is now deeply embedded in daily life. Mobile payment platforms such as Alipay and WeChat Pay have replaced cash, creating a nearly cashless society. Wi-Fi is ubiquitous, and 5G networks cover the city, enabling advanced "smart city" systems that manage traffic, public services, and more. Beijing exemplifies technological efficiency and innovation. Once notorious for heavy smog, Beijing has made significant strides in improving air quality through strict government policies. While occasional smog persists,

色空间切实提升了生活品质。

文化复兴、全球美食与世界门户

北京的文化产品已迎来前所未有的丰富与多元。考古博物馆等现代博物馆与这座城市的历史遗迹相得益彰，展示了古代文物的深邃韵味和当代艺术的勃勃生机。餐饮领域早已不局限于北京烤鸭等传统菜肴，各式国际料理与融合餐饮体验层出不穷，彰显着北京的国际视野。随着2019年北京大兴国际机场——这座世界上规模最大、最先进的机场之一的建成，北京已成为全球航空枢纽。连同扩建后的北京首都国际机场，这些枢纽配备了面部识别、自动化系统和环保设计等尖端技术，凸显了这座城市的全球连通性。

北京的街道体现了其现代化的转型。电动汽车非常普遍，并拥有庞大的充电网络。比亚迪和蔚来等中国品牌占据主流，特斯拉、宝马等国际品牌也随处可见。尽管交通管理取得了显著进步，但拥堵问题仍是一大难题，在高峰时段尤为突出。

北京的生活方式也已焕然一新。回望三十年前，服饰风格偏向实用，中山装和朴素衣物十分常见。如今，居民们紧跟全球潮流，穿着牛仔裤、运动鞋和鲜艳大胆的设计等各种服装，成为一道道亮丽的风景线。购物方式亦是今非昔比，现代化的商超里本地与进口商品琳琅满目，快速配送服务给日常生活带来了前所未有的便捷与舒适。

在现代化进程中保留历史

尽管北京正大步迈入现代化，但依旧镌刻着过去的印记。传统的三轮摩托与自行车仍然与时下流行的电动车和豪华轿车并肩在一条街道，历史与进步在此形成鲜

especially in winter, cleaner air has become a reality. The city has also developed new parks and eco-parks, providing green spaces that enhance residents' quality of life.

Cultural Renaissance, Global Cuisine, and Gateways to the World

Beijing's cultural offerings have expanded significantly. Modern museums like the Museum of Archaeology complement the city's historic sites, showcasing both ancient artifacts and contemporary artworks. The culinary scene now extends far beyond traditional dishes like Peking duck, offering a wide range of international cuisines and fusion dining experiences that reflect Beijing's global outlook. Beijing has become a global aviation hub with the addition of Beijing Daxing International Airport in 2019, one of the world's largest and most advanced airports. Alongside the expanded Beijing Capital International Airport, these two aviation hubs feature cutting-edge technologies such as facial recognition, automated systems, and eco-friendly designs, which underscore the city's global connectivity.

Beijing's streets reflect its modern transformation. Electric vehicles (EVs) are prevalent, supported by a vast network of charging stations. Chinese brands such as BYD and NIO dominate, while luxury international brands such as Tesla and BMW are also widespread. Despite significant advancements in traffic management, traffic congestion remains a challenge, especially during peak hours.

Lifestyle changes in Beijing are striking. Thirty years ago, fashion was utilitarian, with Mao suits and modest clothing common. Today, residents embrace global fashion trends, wearing everything from jeans and sneakers to vibrant, bold clothing designs. Grocery shopping has also evolved, with modern shopping malls offering a vast variety of local and imported goods, and rapid delivery services making daily life more convenient.

Preserving the Past Amid Modernization

Despite its modernization, Beijing retains echoes of its past. Traditional tricycle mopeds and bicycles still share



格奥尔格·季明斯基体验中国古代服饰

Georg Tyminski is experiencing ancient Chinese costume.

明的视觉对照。这种传统与创新的平衡，正是北京的独特之处。

三十年来，北京经历的蜕变正是中国飞速发展的有力见证。这座城市已跻身成为全球文化、技术和经济活动的中心之列，同时始终努力守护着自身的历史根基。此次重访北京既让我深受震撼，也让我感慨：一座城市、一个国家竟能在短短数十年间发生如此翻天覆地的变化。

the streets with sleek electric vehicles and luxury cars, creating a visual contrast between history and progress. This balance between tradition and innovation is part of what makes Beijing unique. Beijing's transformation over the past three decades is a powerful testament to China's rapid development. The city has emerged as a global hub for culture, technology, and economic activities, all while striving to preserve its historical roots. My visit left me both impressed and reflective on how profoundly a city—and a nation—can change within just a few decades.