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# ***A Beautiful Impression of Hungary***

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News in Brief  
***on the Chinese  
Tunic Suit***

6 Splendid Ginkgo  
Sights in Golden  
Autumn of Beijing

READING  
DELIGHTS IN **BDS**



北京外交人员服务局  
BEIJING DIPLOMATIC SERVICE



## Message from BDS Director General Qian Hongshan

In October during this golden and harvest autumn season, READING DELIGHTS IN BDS, an electronic Magazine of Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions comes into being. It is both a brand-new carrier for us to provide cultural information and promote the Chinese culture for 400 odd foreign diplomatic missions and news agencies in Beijing and a platform for communications and mutual exchanges between BSBDM and all its clients.

In the first issue of READING DELIGHTS IN BDS, 'News in Brief' column will report to you the latest developments of BSBDM; 'Costumes in BDS' will provide you with details on the exquisite craftsmanship of the Chinese costumes and ornaments; 'Food in BDS' will guide you through Hungary so that can savor the history and culture of its gorgeous wines; 'Housing in BDS' will show you the unique style and charm of Diplomatic Residence Compounds; 'Travel in BDS' will give you some ideas about Beijing's golden autumn and the brilliant folk culture. Trust that you will get an exceptional impression and experience from these beautiful pictures and captions.

It is my sincere hope that READING DELIGHTS IN BDS can bring some help and pleasures for your work and daily life in Beijing. Meanwhile you are most welcome to offer your valuable comments and suggestions.

A stylized red ink signature in Chinese characters, reading '钱洪山' (Qian Hongshan), the name of the Director General.

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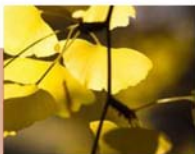


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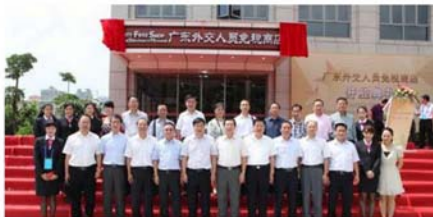
email: [e-book@bsbdom.com.cn](mailto:e-book@bsbdom.com.cn)

### 1 Guangdong Diplomatic Duty-free Shop Opening Ceremony

On Aug. 23, 2012, a grand opening ceremony was held for Guangdong Diplomatic Duty-free Shop, which sits in Guangzhou Service Building for Diplomatic Missions. Over 200 consular officers and guests from all circles attended the event.



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for Diplomatic Missions  
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Tel: (010) 6500 6303  
Website: <http://www.dcs.com.cn>*



# 2

## Dreams Fulfilled, DRC Quality Life - 3rd Summer Garden Gathering in Tayuan

On Aug. 18, 2012, Dreams Fulfilled, DRC Quality Life - 3rd Summer Garden Gathering was successfully held in the central park of Tayuan Diplomatic Residence Compound. Over 400 diplomats from over 60 countries, representatives from international organizations and news agencies were invited together with their families, including ambassadors from over 40 countries.





# 3

## 'Borderless Love' - International Charity Bazaar

On Sep. 15, 2012, Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions joined in the international charity bazaar held in Chaoyang Park aiming to sponsor Lifeline Express China trips. During the event our bureau raised a total amount of RMB

10,131 yuan to be donated to the cataract patients in poor areas neighboring Xinxiang City, Henan Province for free operations to restore their eyesight.



*Ring-Do Auto Hire Center  
1st Floor, West Gate, No. 1 Xindong Road,  
Chaoyang District, Beijing  
Service Hotline: (010) 6532 6328*

# 4

## Ring-Do Auto Hire Center Successfully Delivered Guests Pick-up Services for 'World Economic Forum'

From Sep. 8 to 10, 2012, when 'Summit on Global Agenda of World Economic Forum' was held in Beijing, Ring-Do Auto Hire Center under Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions proactively provided pick-up services for leaders of many MNCs and research institutes from various countries. Their safe and quality service won great applause from the users.



# 5

## University of Gdansk Poland Visited the Bureau

On Sep. 17, 2012, a delegation from the University of Gdansk Poland visited the Language & Cultural Center of Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions. Mr. Wang Bingnan, deputy director general of the bureau received the delegation and held in-depth discussions on cooperation issues with them, including dispatching Chinese teachers to the Chinese Department to be co-founded by the university and the Language & Cultural Center and other cultural exchange programs as well.

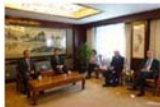


*Beijing Language and Cultural Center for Diplomatic Missions*

*No.7 Sanlitun Beixiaojie Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing*

*Tel: (010) 6532 3005*

*website: <http://www.chinesestudy-lcc.com>*



# 6

## Friendship Table-Tennis Competition Held by Beijing Personnel Service Corporation for Diplomatic Missions

The First Business Department of Beijing Personnel Service Corporation for Diplomatic Missions held its 5th Table-Tennis Friendship Competition on August 25th at the auditorium of the BDS Headquarters Building. More than twenty table-tennis fans of the representative teams respectively from the U.S. Embassy, the British Embassy, foreign news agencies and Beijing

Personnel Service Corporation for Diplomatic Missions participated in the competition. Through the competition, they exchanged and improved playing skills and enhanced friendship as well.



*Beijing Personnel Service Corporation for  
Diplomatic Missions*

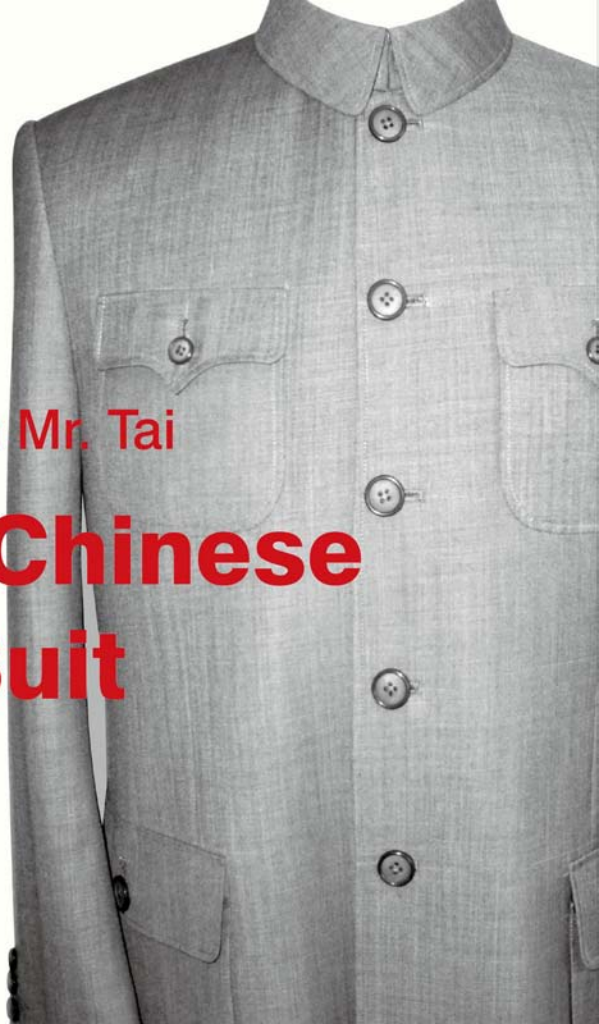
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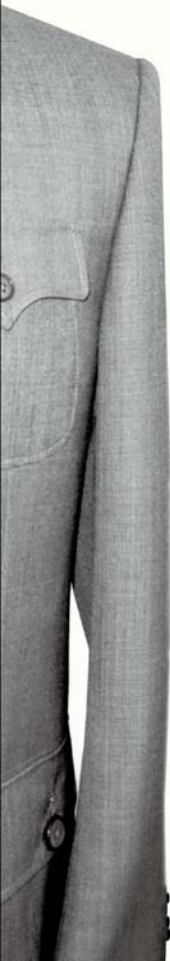
*Tel: (010) 6512 2200 (010) 6512 1457*

*website: <http://www.dpssc.com.cn>*

Costumes in **BDS**

Interview with Mr. Tai  
**on the Chinese  
Tunic Suit**





**READING DELIGHTS IN BDS: The Chinese Tunic Suit is a big variety of modern Chinese costumes. Since its birth in 1923, this tunic suit has all along been one of the most popular and best liked garments among Chinese people. So could you please introduce its origin?**



Mr. Tai: Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the great Chinese democratic revolutionary, was the founder of this tunic suit. In 1919 when he lived in Shanghai, he took his old infantry uniform to the well-known Henry Tailor and asked the tailor to make some alterations on the uniform and turn it into a "casual wear". Then the tailor named

the suit after Dr. Sun Yat-sen. As Dr. Sun Yat-sen enjoyed high prestige both at home and abroad, this style of costume spread fast and wide. Soon it became popular throughout the country. The Republican Constitution stipulated that only civil servants at and above certain levels had the capacity to wear such tunic suits when they were sworn in.





**READING DELIGHTS IN BDS: What are the special features of this tunic suit and what are the particular points for making this suit?**

Mr. Tai: Generally the upper outer garment has four pockets each with one flap cover and one button. The pockets are respectively sewed on the left and right both up and down. The lower outer garment is a pair of Western-style trousers. In its designing, the trousers have combined both designing principles for Western suit and the designing philosophy for Chinese traditional costumes. Putting much emphasis on symmetry, the overall shaping of this suit is well balanced with shoulder pads and shaped waist. This suit looks steady, natural and poised. Many well-known figures such as Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping chose to wear this kind of tunic suits on important occasions. The four pockets on both sides of the jacket are strictly symmetrical, for

they signify the four principles of the Chinese nation, i.e. propriety, righteousness, honesty and shamefulness. The three buttons at the cuffs stand for the Three People's Principles, i.e. Nationalism, Democracy and People's Livelihood. The five buttons at the middle of the front part of the jacket symbolize Dr. Sun Yat-sen's constitutional theory of five powers. The tunic suit has a turndown closed-style collar, which marks strict governing principles for the country. The suit has no slotting on the back of its jacket, which implies the peace and unification of the nation.

**READING DELIGHTS IN BDS: The Upscale Custom-Made Garment Department of the Comprehensive Service Corporation under Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions has a history of 27 years since its founding in 1985. It has provided bespoke tailoring for government dignitaries and celebrities such as the Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, the Chinese Ambassador to the U.N. Headquarters in Geneva and wife of the former Chinese President Jiang Zemin.**



**So how the 'Envoy' Brand has managed to keep its characteristics and high quality?**

Mr. Tai: Nowadays requirements for purely hand-made and customer-ordered outfits in China are extremely strict, and the number of master-tailors is getting fewer. The skills of BDS master tailors are already outstanding in the whole country. The difficulties lie in the time-consuming and complicated process of custom-made hand work.

'Envoy' Brand garments, especially its Western suits are extremely particular about all the aspects including the fabrics, styles, even the auxiliary materials for the linens.

# TIPS



## *Handy Tips from Mr. Tai:*

### **How to Verify and Appraise High Quality Cashmere Products:**

**Touch and Feel:** If you feel cashmere, you will get the feel of sort of silk. So you will be comfortable with it without feeling any rough spot.

**Catch and Hold:** It is highly elastic. You catch a handful of cashmere and you will have the feeling of elasticity of glutinous rice.

**Release:** Catch a handful of cashmere and then release it. The part of cashmere you have held will immediately resume its softness and smoothness. And it will not wrinkle easily.

**Exposure to the light:** Expose the cashmere product to be verified to strong light. If the product contains up-to-the-standard dense cashmere, its strains will be distinct and tidy. No light can easily go through the cashmere.

**Weigh in Hand:** If it is too light, the cashmere content could be too little; if it is too heavy, it might be mixed with sheep's wool.

**Burn:** When you light cashmere fiber, it will smell of offensive burning odor. Moreover, the burning process is slow. The ashes left from burning will be in powder form, which can be smashed at a mere touch.

In a word, cashmere does not reflect light, nor does it prick your hand. It is light, smooth and elastic. You will not feel thick and heavy with it.



*Garment-making Unit for Diplomatic Missions*  
*No.44, Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District,*  
*Beijing, PRC*  
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For instance, for the suit's inner linen, horse tail brown wool is needed as an auxiliary, because its resilient function can keep the suit more elastic, and the suit can better preserve its square and stately shaping. Usually the market price for a purely hand-made and custom-ordered western suit including both work and materials is no less than RMB 10,000 yuan. However, as an important BDS brand, "Envoy" western suit merely costs around RMB 5,000 yuan for clients from various diplomatic missions.

(Mr. Tai in this interview report refers to Mr. Tai Yongshun, manager of the Garment Department of the Comprehensive Service Corporation for Diplomatic Missions.)



Food in **BDS**



# *A Beautiful Impression of Hungary*

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Zhu Zushou

Those who have not yet been to Hungary do not know it is very beautiful while those who have visited there all say they did not imagine that Hungary is such a beautiful place.



Everywhere you go in this country you can get the feel of the profound cultural foundation and heritage of Hungary. Walking along the Andrássy Street of Budapest, a world cultural Heritage site, you can see rows upon rows of ancient-style architecture, and you cannot but admire the splendors of Austro-Hungary in its prime times. At the National Theatre, ballet, light opera and drama are presented with the music pieces of Hungarian musicians Liszt, Balzac and Kodaly ringing in your ears all the time. I witnessed the fact that paintings of the French master Monet were displayed for three months in a row in the arts gallery and the exhibition was crowded with visitors throughout the event. The legendary figure of Austro-Hungary Princess Sissi is deeply loved by the Hungarian people. People often come to her temporary palace at Godollo to listen to the accounts of the history



from each of her portraits. On March 15 every year recitation of Petöfi's revolutionary poems still fills the Hungarian, who invented the Magic Cube.



However, you might not know that ball pens, the telephone exchange set and medical disinfectant were also created by the Hungarians. Moreover, the Hungarians first found out Vitamin C and the basic principles of computers. In 2002, the Hungarian writer Kertész Yi Mulai won the Nobel literature prize with his works fate is uncertain which depicts the life of Jews at the Nazi concentration camps. He is one of the thirteen Hungarian Nobel Laureates. In per capita terms, Hungary is top on the list of the most Nobel Prize winning countries.



The Hungarian people are enthusiastic and straightforward, and the nation is characterized by honesty and simplicity. Originating in the east and following the footsteps of history, this nation migrated to the picturesque Carpathian Basin. In this place, the ancient oriental culture integrated with the European civilization into one, bringing forth the unique Hungarians. Dim traces of a nomadic nation could still be found in the costumes, ornaments, music pieces, dances and dietetic habits of the present Hungarians. When mentioning a date, Hungarians follow the order of the year, month and date, not the vice versa. When it comes to the order of a full name, the surname precedes one's given name and not the contrary. This unique custom is the only one of its kind among western countries, which clearly shows the Hungarian historical and cultural origins.

You will personally feel the time-honored wine making culture of Hungary so long as you go to the quiet and picturesque Tokaj town. The local wine Tokaj Asza won the royal title of 'king's Wine and Wine's King' from Peter the Great. Peter the Great once sent some professionals here to plant grapes in order to brew a tonic wine for his health building. It is said that Eger's red wine named 'Bikaver (Bull's Blood in English)' deterred the Ottoman troops who had to retreat without a



fighting in spite of its protracted siege of the city. I went to the Villány district in south Hungary every year to attend the grape picking activity. Wines produced here are thick in color and smell of mellow aroma. Many times they won gold medals in international competitions. My colleagues referred to Villány as 'Wèi Le Nǐ', which means 'for you' in English, and called Tokaj 'Dōu Kě Yǐ', which means 'either will do' in English. So in this way, 'Wèi Le Nǐ' and 'Dōu Kě Yǐ' became our popular toast language.

So, why Hungary which has only a population of 10 million can attract more than 40 million foreign tourists each year? I am sure you have found the answer now.

(The author once served as the Chinese Ambassador to Hungary)



## Dine & Wine— Greetings from Embassy of Hungary in Beijing



It is impossible to understand a country's culture without discovering its gastronomy, and that is an adventure worth taking. We Hungarians are very proud of our cuisine, and according to millions of friends and tourists from all over the world, we have all the reasons to do so!

Few people know that Hungarians - or as we call ourselves the Magyars - are originated from Asia. If you look at today's map, it is the territory of Kazakhstan, China and Mongolia. Our Asia heritage combine with those recipes adopted from our European neighbors, mostly from Slavs and French, made the Hungarian kitchen so unique. Today's Hungarian gastronomy is the best known for its strong, sometimes spicy flavors, delicious pastries and cakes, and undoubtedly 'paprika', the signature ingredient. When talking about Hungarian gastronomy, it would be a sin not to mention our world-class wines. Please free your imaginations, and follow us to a fantasy Hungarian restaurant right now.

"Welcome my dear guest, please take a seat, and let me introduce to you today's specials.

For a cold appetizer we recommended a plate of goose liver. Did you know that Hungarian goose liver is one of the best in the world and being exported to nearly every country of the European Union? Or perhaps you would like to warm up your stomach? In this case you can choose Hortobágyi meat pancake (Hortobágyi palacsinta)!

We hope you liked it and ready for the next course!

Please try our world famous Goulash Soup (gulyásleves), or the



unique Fish Soup (halászlé). They are hot and spicy.

Exactly as how they should be! Please enjoy!

I see you liked everything! What? You are getting full? Can't be! Lean back, the best is yet to come!

For the main course, let me recommend, perhaps the most famous Hungarian dish, the 'chicken paprikás' (csirkepaprikás). It is chicken with 'galuska', which is a special Eastern European small pasta like flour balls, topped with paprika sauce. Or how about a beef stew (marhapörkölt), a delicious onion steak (hagymás rostélyos), or maybe the famous stuffed cabbage with spicy beef? Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish or lamb... sweet, sour, spicy or creamy... chase it down with some red wine, the Bull's Blood from Eger (Egri Bikavér) is definitely a must! Vegetarians and meat-lovers, we are absolutely confident that nobody will leave the table hungry or unfulfilled!

And you haven't even tried our dessert yet!

May we say, you are very lucky, because when it comes to sweets and desserts, you can be absolutely sure that Hungary is the right place to come! We have countless kind of cakes, puddings, pancakes, cottage cheese and dairy products that you couldn't and shouldn't resist.

You can't go without tasting our world famous wines. Hungary is a heaven for wine lovers. The 22 wine regions certainly can offer something for every taste! Don't panic, we are not going to make you try all the wines from all 22 regions, only those must-try delicates.

Tokaji Aszú was named 'The wine of kings, the king of wines' by the French King Luis XIV, and that is not a coincidence! The sweet desert wine is only produced in Hungary and even the hill s of the vines are protected as an UNESCO world Heritage site!"

We sincerely hope that after our imagination has been indulged, and you are getting hung(a)ry! The rest of the story hopefully will be written by you soon!

**Bon Appétit  
in Hungary!**





## Introduction to Hungarian Wines

Hungarian wine's history dates back to 2000 years ago during the Roman period, when the Western Hungary was ruled by the Roman Empire and the Roman wine culture began to spread in this country. Since that time Hungarians have been growing grapes and making wine.

Located in the Basin of Central Europe, Hungary is surrounded by land on all sides and has a typical continental climate. With unique and diverse climate and soil, Hungary can brew a variety of quality wines. By the end of the fourteenth century, the country had established over 22 wine producing regions, which have remained unchanged till the present time. The wine that has gained fame for Hungary wine is Tokaj, a top-class rum, which has always been a favorite of European royal families. Once, French King Louis XIV praised it as 'the king of wines and the wine for the king'. In 2002 this wine region was listed as a 'world Cultural Heritage' by UNESCO, which makes it stand out from thousands of wine regions in the world.

Compared to other wine exporting countries, as to the wines of same quality, Hungary produces wines with significant price advantages. Moreover, the major wineries here still adhere to the traditional process to ensure superior grape quality, lower fruiting rate, and excellent value for money. This also makes Hungarian wines extremely competitive in the international market.







**V Vincze Béla • Arcanum  
Cabernet Franc 2008**

Cabernet Franc always makes fine wine, its rich taste and fragrance can bring one an unforgettable experience. Exquisite quality, rich flavor, beautiful taste, purple color, strong red berry fruit flavor and floral aroma, moderate tannin, smooth taste, well-balanced body, makes the wine a perfect match with various kinds of meats.



**H Haraszti • Villányi prémium  
Cuvée 2007**

This wine comes from Badacsony vineyard region. Dark purple, blackberry fruit aroma, roasted spices and oak barrels tastes, extremely mellow, and its well-balanced tannin structure makes the wine uniquely elegant and harmonious.



**H Haraszti • Villányi Merlot 2008**

Grapes brewed for this fine wine origin from Haraszti Kft Family Vineyard in Badacsony Mountain region. This family winery produces wines by combining traditional approach and modern technology. This wine features particularly sweet taste and aroma.



**B Bujdosó • Pinot Gris 2009**

A fine wine truly represents 2009 vintage wines, with beautiful lemon yellow color, citrus and ripe pear aroma, smooth and delicate, with mineral taste, long aftertaste, best for fishes, white meats and pasta.

**(For purchase, please contact China  
Jiaoyuan Corporation for International  
Economic & Technical Cooperation,  
BDS.)**



### **Bujdosó • Tramini 2007**

This wine is from the peak of Balaton wine region with an altitude of 285 meters, lychee and rose flavor, lemon yellow colored, strong ripe peach and honey taste, mellow & silky with moderate acidity, sweet but not greasy, perfect match with Asian cuisines.



### **Tokaji • Muscat Lunel Aszú 6 puttonyos 2000**

Highest manifestation of the Tokaji craftsmanship, all the grapes in the raw material are hand-picked through a careful grain-by-grain manual selection. Eight years after barreling, its sugar, acidity and fruit molecules reach an unimaginable balance, supported by complicated and elegant aroma, this is nectar stored in the wine cellars of the Tokaji foothills.



### **Tokaji • Muscat Lunel Aszú Essence 2000**

This wine is produced by adding concentrated puree essence into the most exquisite 6 puttonyos, stored for years in oak barrels in special vintage cellars, a perfect blend of fragrant wine and precious concentrated puree, rich sweetness, sweet fruit aroma, infinitely thick and smooth, regarded as an ultimate wine.



### **Tokaji • Muscat Lunel Essence 1968**

This wine chooses the world's richest natural concentrated fruit puree, using Aszu grapes juice completely without squeezing, its sugar content amounts up to 450-900 grams per liter, the fermentation process is extremely slow leading to extremely nutritional value, famed as "liquid gold".

S

**Szent Gaál • Szekszárd  
Tanya Kékfrankos 2008**

This wine chooses excellent grape variety of BLUEOVER typical in Szekszard wine region. This deep ruby red wine has mellow and rich taste, fruity strawberry, plum and cassis aroma accompanied by baking, vanilla flavors and the spicy flavor of the spices, well-balanced body and strong fragrance.



H

**Hétszölő • Tokaji Hárslevelű  
Késői Szüretelésű 2006**

Selected grapes from Hárslevelű wines in Tokaji Mountain, fused with valley lilies, eucalyptus and Taiwan acacia aroma, the wine body has a color of gold, pure and harmonious taste, fruit aroma with ripe peach and honey fragrance, unique and mellow aftertaste makes this wine memorable



**(For purchase, please contact China  
Jiaoyuan Corporation for International  
Economic & Technical Cooperation,  
BDS.)**



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Economic & Technical Cooperation  
6th Floor, No. 223 Chaoyang mennei Street,  
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Tel: (010) 6513 4847  
Website: <http://www.cnjiaoyuan.com>*

## Housing in BDS



Diplomatic Residence Compound— always been the first choice place for diplomatic personnel and foreign executives stationed in Beijing for both residential and office purposes.

## Tayuan Diplomatic Residence Compound

Tayuan Diplomatic Residence Compound is located beside the beautiful Liangma River in Chaoyang District. With beautiful landscape and tranquil environment it meets various needs from business to living.

Consisting of 9 apartment buildings and 1 property management office building, Tayuan DRC has bounty of green areas, trees and complete infrastructure. With all flats facing south and boasting plenty of sunshine, this is an ideal residence compound in the city, but tucked away from its hustle and bustle.

Tayuan Diplomatic Office Building lies to the east of the Tayuan DRC, just across the street from this compound. Dongzhimenwai Office Building is located on the north side of Dongzhimenwai Street, neighboring Tayuan DRC. Both of the two office buildings provide convenient transportation links and various amenities for business.



### Recommended TB09-2-022:

Suite: 3 bedrooms and 2 sitting rooms

Area: 223 square meters

Interior Decoration: To be painted after customers confirm leasing needs

Furniture and electronic appliances, air conditioner, water heater

Amenities, satellite TV, 24 hour cold & hot water & gas supply, armed police guard, property management, heating, pass for one vehicle, indoor & outdoor children's playground, football field, basketball court, florist, laundry, gym, cafe, bakery and supermarket.

Market price: 44,600/month

Online special offer: 38,000/month







## Gold Island Diplomatic Residence Compound

Gold Island Diplomatic Residence Compound, situated on Xibahe South Road, is one of the few premium diplomatic residence compounds in Beijing. With a beautifully landscaped and exclusive community, it boasts a quiet environment with thoughtful property management services. It has various types of flat units including 2 bedrooms ones and 3 bedrooms ones with areas ranging from 110 square meters, 144 square meters to 175 square meters. Gold Island DRC has compact but well laid-out units and easy



PR & Sales Department, Beijing Housing  
Service Corporation for Diplomatic Missions  
BI, Building No.2, Liangmaqiao DRC  
Tel: (010) 6532 4849, (010) 6532 1027  
website: <http://www.dhsc.com.cn>

access to various amenities nearby. In addition, the Xiba River flows by this DRC, providing the residents with a refreshing sight at the summer time together with the fragrant lush bushes on its banks.



### Recommend DB00-0-174:

Suite: 3 bedrooms and 2 sitting rooms

Area: 136.86 square meters

Interior Decoration: To be painted after customers confirm leasing needs

Furniture and electronic appliances, air conditioner, water heater

Amenities, satellite TV, 24 hour cold & hot water & gas

property management, heating, pass for one vehicle

children's playground, beauty salon, hair salon

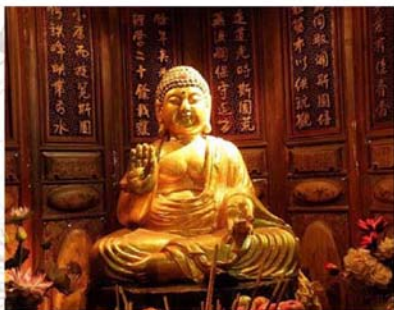
Market Price: 13,700

Online Special Offer: 12,400









## Songtangzhai Museum

Tucked away in No. 3 Courtyard, Guozijian Street, Songtangzhai Museum was founded by Mr. Li Songtang (also known as Li Wei), a famous folk art collector. Since its opening in October 2001, this private Museum has gained the reputation as being 'the only most valuable museum founded by poking around the rubbles', with over a thousand of relics collections ranging from the Qing dynasty bricks and Hang tiles to stone, wooden and brick carvings,



folk architectural structures, assorted items, indoor furnishings and furniture to the Ming and Qing dynasties.

A number of pairs of gate piers displayed in the Museum are the most precious collections among over 400 gate piers collected by Mr. Li Songtang, including one pair once standing before the Prime Minister's Residence during the Yuan Dynasty when Beijing was called Dadu. It was engraved with 2 pictures drawn by Zhao Mengfu, a famous calligrapher in the Yuan Dynasty. One picture depicts 'Mongolians Feeding Animals Water' while another depicting 'Mongolians Taming Animals'. This pair of gate piers is truly a 'national treasure' among all the gate piers existing nowadays. Another most important treasure of this museum is a stone lintel engraved with a picture depicting 'Emperor on an Inspection Tour' from the Qing Dynasty.





## 6 Splendid Ginkgo Sights in Golden Autumn of Beijing

Talking about Beijing's autumn, the greatest impression is its 'splendor'. From later October when the autumn wind starts, Ginkgo trees scattering around the city will light up whole Beijing just like bright streetlights.

At the time of autumnal equinox, the beautiful fan-shaped Ginkgo leaves begin turning into lemon color, glowing just like gold in the sunshine and adding to the luster and charm of this ancient capital. Take a walk in the creamy lemon yellow shades, a kind of dreamy feeling will well up in everyone's mind and you cannot but feel intoxicated.

## 1 Beijing Diaoyutai: Landmark Ginkgo Street

The most beautiful and famous Ginkgo street should be the street in front of the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse. It is said that the trees are the earliest of its kind ever planted in Beijing. It is indeed a destination to enjoy Ginkgo view every fall in Beijing.



## 2 East Section of Sanlitun Fifth West Street: A tranquil Ginkgo Avenue in the Heart of the City

Tucked away in the heart of the embassy zone, although close to noisy East Ring Road, this is a truly serene place where you would get the first never-forgettable glimpse of those blazing ginkgo leaves when just turning around the corner... ..

## 3 Ditan Temple Park: Ancient and Unique Ginkgo Road

Upon entering this beautiful garden, head to the northern area straight away and you will find the breathtaking road lined up with Ginkgo trees. Close to the north of the park, the little alley connecting Qingniangou Road and Xiaohuangzhuang Road is also blessed with lush Ginkgo trees.





## 4 Badachu Park: A Ginkgo Attraction in An Ancient Temple

Most of Ginkgo trees in Badachu Park are located in the temples. Many are over 100 years old. Especially the two ancient Ginkgo trees standing in Dabei Temple date back to over 800 years ago. In late October, the leaves will fall down and make the ground glitter



like gold. Before Guanyin Hall of Lingguang Temple and in front of the Buddha Tooth Relic Stupa, Ginkgo trees bloom in every fall. Late October is the best time of the year to visit there.

## 5 Hongluo Temple: Male and Female Ginkgo Trees from the Tang Dynasty

Beijing Hongluo Temple is the largest Buddhist temple in northern China, and there are 'three miraculous scenes' including the male and female Ginkgo trees.



## 6 Tanzhe Temple Imperial Ginkgo

Tanzhe Temple was built before the birth of the city of Beijing.

Inside the temple, to the east of Pilu Hall there is one Ginkgo tree dating back to



the Tang Dynasty with a history of over 1,300 years. The prosperous crown reaches to over 30 meters in height, and the trunk is as thick as 9 meters. According to the legend, during the Qing Dynasty, each time when the Emperor changed, a young branch would grow out of the tree and after a long time would converge with old branch. So Qianlong Emperor granted the title of 'Imperial Tree' to this Ginkgo tree and also named another Ginkgo tree in the west planted during the Liao Dynasty 'Supporting the Emperor Tree'. In addition, the two Female and Male Ginkgo trees planted during the Ming Dynasty in the Imperial House courtyard along the east road of the temple glow with bumper fruits every fall.

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