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# XIANEASE

APRIL 2013 Vol. 34



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## BAR REVIEWS

LABORATORY FLORAL  
CAFE & BAR  
实验室花店

STRAWBERRY BUTT  
草莓屁股LOMO生活馆

## RESTAURANT REVIEWS

1213 JOY HOT POT  
悦·火锅

PAPA PARK 啪啪派西餐吧

## PHOTOS OF THE XI'AN SCENE

## FASHION BABY

## TOP 5

INTERNATIONAL  
MARKETS

## Q&A

ON LABOR RIGHTS

## INTERESTING PLACES:

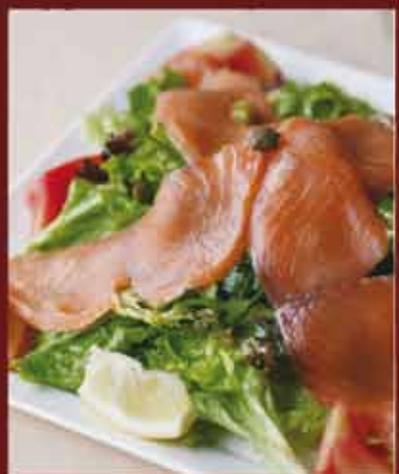
# QUJIANG

-LAKES, LOVERS AND  
BEARS OH MY!

BAREFOOT  
IN BURMA (PART II)



### ※ This Month's Special



Xi'an Branch COLABO意大利餐厅西安店  
 西安市西华门1号(北大街)凯爱大厦B座11层  
 Tel/电话:029-8720 1501(1502)  
 Fax/传真:029-8720 1901  
 Lunch: 11:30-15:00 (L.O.14:00)  
 Dinner: 17:30-22:00 (L.O.21:15)



# SALSA PARTY!!!

## FRIDAY APRIL 12TH



DO YOU KNOW HOW TO SALSA?  
 DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO SALSA?

NO MATTER IF YOU' RE A SALSA QUEEN OR A BEGINNER  
 YOU' RE INVITED TO COME ON DOWN!

风靡世界的休闲拉丁SALSA登陆西安,  
 免费的SALSA基础扫盲课 & SALSA PARTY尽在DEMON酒吧。  
 任何人皆可参加。

#### DETAILS (活动细节):

BASIC CLASS:  
 8:00PM - 8:45PM

SALSA PARTY:  
 9:00PM - MIDNIGHT!

#### ADDRESS (地址):

DEMON BAR (魔王酒吧)  
 2 GAOXIN RD - ACROSS THE STREET FROM REAL LOVE KTV  
 (高新路2号丽华科技大厦)(真爱ktv对面)

PRICE: **FREE**



Brought to you by Demon bar (魔王酒吧) and Xiao Hua Salsa Studio (西安小花salsa舞蹈工作室)  
 For more information: 15829700056 小花(nikita)

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## Volume 34

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

All,

March seemed to fly past, it seems like just yesterday we were putting the March issue to bed and all of a sudden here I am writing to you all for the April issue...amazing. Actually "time" is a bit of a topic with me this month, which is all the more odd that it flew so fast since I seemed to be talking about it every day for the past few weeks. See as you are reading this we are now three years old. We have been around for three years and I for one can't quite believe it (it is true though look at the cover for the issue number).

Not to get all nostalgic, because three years really isn't that long, but I still remember the first day I sat in our office January 4 2010. We had no window, we had no money, we had a two year old computer that was missing the K key that had to be pushed with paperclip (which really made me realize how many words have a K). We also had a dream and a deadline and so it began and for ninety days we studied and learned all we could find about making a magazine half expecting someone to bust into our broom closet of an office and tell us to stop faking and get out. Lucky for us no one did.

From there things changed and we brought in a team that filled in all the gaps that we had (and there were many). Beyond the team and the four solid walls there were other changes as well – the international community started to come together, I have no visions of grandeur this had nothing to do with us it was simply a fortuitous happenstance that helped to bring Xianease to its full potential. It also taught me a valuable lesson that anything created for a group must be created by the group, it cannot succeed any other way.

While who I am personally is very much a part of the magazine you now hold, the greater part of Xianease - the more important part - is created by you, by the community that have so graciously guided and supported us for the past three years.

I'll never forget that first day, the first time I've ever had an office, and wondering where this would all lead. Never would I have thought it would lead to this, it is beyond my wildest expectations. Thank you all for your support, thank you all for your kind words and critiques. Without your input there would be no Xianease.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Antony  
Editor-in-Chief

### Pub Quiz

Five teams competed for the "Tower of Power" in March and **Patch Atkinson** pulled it out once again with a run of 24. There are new arrivals in Xi'an this month so why not come on out to see if you can meet up and make a team and try to stop **Patch** in their reign of terror.

Date: **April 17th**  
Time: 9:30pm  
Place: The Belgian Bar  
南门顺城南路中段69号  
#69 shun cheng nan lu



Put your thinking caps on and come on down for some great food and tricky trivia!

Got something to say?  
Drop us a line at

editorial@xianease.com

Also, feel free to visit our  
Facebook or webpage.

Your comments and letters are welcome.

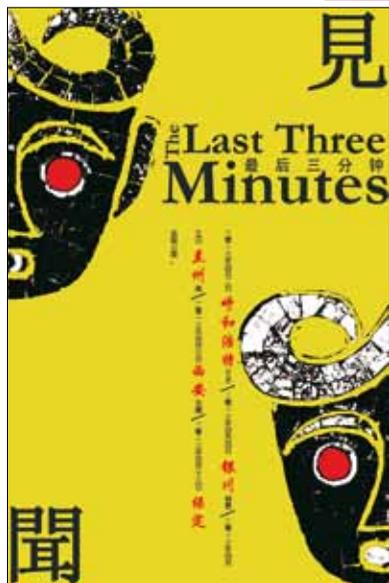


## APR 7 Concert



北京另类噪声  
最后三分钟乐队 全国巡演  
The last three minutes

Time: 8:30pm-10:30pm  
Location: Aperture Club  
yin ma chi, ju hua yuan, dong da jie.  
东大街菊花园饮马池光圈CLUB  
TEL: 13891929377 13572124398  
Tickets: 40 RMB



## APR 11 Concert

TimeReversal 时光逆转乐队  
Let's Rock To The End

Time: 8:00pm-10:00pm  
Location:  
新月亮钥匙Live house (钢炮团)  
yin ma chi, ju hua yuan, dong da jie.  
新城区 东二路东段12号  
TEL: 15291812174  
Tickets: 40 RMB



## APR 12 Concert



以色列钢琴家碧丽妮卡·格里  
克斯曼钢琴独奏音乐会

Time: 7:30pm  
Location: Xi'an Concert Hall  
曲江新区雁南一路  
Tel: 400-611-9169



## APR 19 Concert



「系统误差」X「密集音乐会」  
面条巡演之油泼面

Time: 8:30pm-10:30pm  
Location: Aperture Club  
yin ma chi, ju hua yuan, dong da jie.  
东大街菊花园饮马池光圈CLUB  
TEL: 13891929377 13572124398  
Tickets: 40 RMB



## APR 20 Concert



Boris Berezovsky Concert  
鲍瑞斯钢琴独奏音乐会

Time: 7:30pm  
Location: Xi'an Concert Hall  
曲江新区雁南一路  
Tel: 400-611-9169



## MAY 1-2 Concert



Musical Theater  
非常林奕华20周年  
音乐舞台剧《贾宝玉》

Time: 7:30pm  
Location: Xi'an Concert Hall  
曲江新区雁南一路  
Tel: 400-611-9169



## APRIL 13, 27

Saturday

### Toastmasters

Date: April 13 Time: 2:30pm  
Location: SIT on Shida



Date: April 27 Time: 2:30pm  
Location: In Sofitel Habana Bar (索菲特) 东新街319号

Get all the information at: [www.xatmc.org](http://www.xatmc.org)

## APRIL 17

Wednesday

### Belgian Bar and Xianease Monthly Pub Quiz

Beer, and Trivia  
What more could you ask for?



Time: 9:30pm  
Location: Belgian Bar



### Ladies Lunch

Time: 12:30pm  
Location: Papa Park restaurant in the Star City shopping mall, opposite of the Westin near Dayanta.



Get all the information at: [www.xianease.com/woman](http://www.xianease.com/woman)

## APRIL 18

Wednesday

### Photo Club

Time: 2:00pm Meet Qinglong si



## APRIL 20

Saturday

### Hash Run

Meet at 4:00 Run at 4:30

Start Point:  
Architecture school (西安建筑科技大学/ 'jian da')

Get all the information at: [www.xianease.com/hhh](http://www.xianease.com/hhh)



## APRIL 21

Sunday

### Xi'an Book Club Readers Meeting

Location:  
Foreign language section on the 3F of the provincial library, - 陕西省图书馆三楼 外文图书室

Chosen Book(s): Tuesday with Morrie; The Great Gatsby  
Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Get all the information at: [www.xianease.com/books](http://www.xianease.com/books)



## APRIL 27

Friday

### Bike Club

Time: 9:00am

Location:  
Meet at the Vanguard Supermarket #37 Gaoxin first rd.



### Wine Club

Theme: Afternoon Wine Time

Time: 4:00pm-6:00pm  
Location: 深巷子葡萄酒超市  
(高新一路南口与科技一路交汇处的枫叶苑南区北门旁  
north gate of feng ye yuan, intersection of ke ji 1 lu and  
south gao xin 1 lu.)



## XI'AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

A newly opened international medical center in Xi'an  
to serve the expat community

Open 24 hours a day 7 days a week with English  
speaking doctors and staff

- Pediatric Care
- Family Medicine
- Vaccinations
- In-Patient Observations
- Annual Check-ups
- In and Out Patient Surgery
- ObGyn
- House Calls
- Plastic Surgery

Flu shot is available in our medical  
center



外事学院附院  
附属西安丽人医院

地址: 西安市高新区科技路30号丽人医院1楼  
Address: 30# Ke Ji Road (east of the Ke Ji Rd and  
Gao Xin Rd intersection) Inside Liren Hospital  
田医生: 18220188085  
Appointments: 18220188085  
Email: twp01@163.com

# Restaurant Reviews

## 1213 JOY HOT POT 悦·火锅

### What a Hot Pot We've Got!



Article By **Lee Bunting**

The word "hot pot" always has me thinking about a massive vat of spicy soup in the middle of the table which everyone uses to dip their food into. No matter what germs they have you are definitely going to get them and more than likely the following morning spent on the porcelain throne. So when our friends Lisa and Ricky invited us to dinner, at a new hot pot restaurant, I was a little apprehensive. We met them at 1213, which is just close to the Diamond Peninsula and south of the Big Goose Pagoda, one balmy night. It has been open for just over 4 months now and is stylishly decorated. It is non smoking, Sichuan style and doesn't have the shouting and rudeness that every hot pot restaurant that I have been into in Xian has. There are 3 floors each with public and differing sizes of private rooms, each private room has a different theme with lots of art adorning each wall. There is also roof top seating and there is talk of a BBQ being in place during the summer. It is open from 9am until 10pm everyday and, as expected, it is mostly busy at the weekends.

As we were taken into our private room I noticed that each place at our table had a ceramic hob which meant that we were getting our very own private hot pot, I was amazed! As we were in the company of locals a bottle of Baijiu was ordered with Ricky telling me that he could drink a bottle and not get drunk, which was a little disconcerting to say the least. The restaurant has 6 different types of soup, for your pot, we chose spicy, mushroom and broth. The broth is the best seller; my wife thought the mushroom was the tastiest. All of the food is fresh and the staff goes to the markets every morn-

ing to make sure it reaches your plate, or pot, as pure as can be. Then came the onslaught we started with Crystallized pork (which was kind of like a confit) then spicy beef (Sichuan style spices) and beef tongue (with a spicy dipping sauce). We were then treated to beef slices which we dipped into a bowl of uncooked egg and then boiled in our soup, fantastic! As wifey enjoys sashimi they brought us sashimi made of fish from Xian called "Hong Zong" (at least it was pronounced that way) and "Bei Ji Bei", that didn't last long either. We then had Australian marbled beef which was just as its written: huge chunks of variegated cow meat from down under, what isn't there to like! Throughout all of this there were several (if not more than several) gambes of the previously bought Bajiu so my recollection gets a bit hazy around this stage. We were given more delicious food such as Lamb which had an eggy topping, pork wrapped in tofu and something called "Niu Jing" and "Niu Sher", if you know what they are please send me an email. Then came the dessert which was sweet potato and mango and rice, which the missus said were delightful, I do not really remember. After a great night out, and a hangover to accompany me to work the next day, I would definitely recommend going to 1213 and will be going again later on this month.

**PROS:** Great Relaxed setting. The hunks of beef, the beef dipped into egg then boiled, the mushroom broth.

**CONS:** not really for vegetarians (although they do have vegetarian options) and, for me at least, the hangover!!

1213悦·火锅位于雁塔区芙蓉西路德厚商业街。餐厅坐落于广电大剧院内，独特的外观设计让你无法与火锅相联系。店内独特的装修风格与川式火锅的完美混搭，会让你有一种耳目一新的感觉。走进餐厅你会发现，这里刨除了传统火锅的嘈杂，拥挤，更多的是一种安逸。在这样的环境下就餐，对于您的味蕾，内心都是一种享受。

餐厅以川式火锅为主，各类餐前小食与点心都是厨师长手工制作，尤其值得推荐的是澳洲牛仔骨，1213嫩牛肉，霸王至尊肥牛，竹荪菌汤、三鲜是最受欢迎的两款锅底。喜欢吃甜点的朋友向您推荐榴莲酥，萝卜酥。细腻的味蕾感受和中西融合的视觉冲击，给您带来不一样的火锅感受！

**Average Price per person / 人均消费:** **100 RMB**

**Address /地址:**  
Dehou Street, Fu Rong West Road, Yanta District.  
雁塔区芙蓉西路德厚街

**Tel /电话:** 029- 6561 1213

**Hours /时间:** 10:00am - 2:00pm  
4:00pm - 10:00pm

Lee Bunting is from the UK and has been living in SEA for the past 9 years but is relatively new to China, having been in Xi'an for a year. Currently he is working on a project sending students to study in Australia.  
leebunting@hotmail.co.uk

# PAPA PARK 啪啪派西餐吧



Article By **Jimmy Unitas and Giselle Akal**

Papa Park - Da Yan Ta. So if you needed another reason to visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda then quality pizza, pasta and salads at Papa Park can give you the excuse you need to head down Xiyong or Yan Ta Bei Lu to the new mall that's opened on the South West corner of the Pagoda Park.

Set across from The Westin Hotel at the South Square of DaYanTa is the new mall with the largest screen in central and western China. Tucked away in the open air atrium ring in the center of the mall is a group of cafe's, restaurants and ice cream shops that you really don't want to write off as a place not worth trekking to. A restaurant of added note is the new Papa Park. With a Western menu specializing in pizza and pasta (with some choice steak cuts for the meat lovers among us) Papa will please the buds and satisfy the belly.

**PROS:** Pizza! Ham and Bacon will definitely be your favorite on any given night, but the Prosciutto Parmesan comes with a surprising helping of the tasty cured meat and thinly shaved slices of parmesan. I'm still not sure if the boiled egg slices need to be on this pizza, but I can't say decidedly that they don't belong there either. The mushroom soup is the best I've had in china. It's creamy and dark, but not lumpy and gritty, a true and pleasant surprise. The Chicken Carbonara pasta is also done as well as anywhere in Xi'an with a good amount of bacon to flavor the favored cream sauce dish. The cheesecake is rich and heavy and you will most likely have to share it

after finishing a hefty pizza or pasta dish. If you'd like a drink (or three) have Eddie serve you up a few of his renowned Terminators. A house special that stays true to its name.

**CONS:** To be honest, I really am not a big fan of foie gras, and while I do applaud any effort to provide truly homemade foie gras in China this effort was served a little bit on the salty side and too chilled for the rich delicacy. Although the Shrimp and Asparagus rice with salmon is a best seller here and it is tasty, I will say if I dare to, that it has too much flavor; meaning that it has the taste of a soup packet broth say like Lipton or Rice a Roni. This is probably due to the fact that the rice is cooked in the broth made from cooking the shrimp and salmon.

Papa Park is looking to change the way we think about Pizza and Pasta in Xi'an. They use fresh ingredients and like to make everything they can from scratch. They are even contemplating growing their own Basil around their outdoor seating area (I really hope they do this). The Pizza's have a nice dough that's not so thin that it crisps like a cracker when you take a bite, but not too thick that the dough balls up in your mouth and you lose all sense that there are any toppings or sauce served along with it. The price is affordable, under 100rmb a person, and that's with a drink during your meal and a coffee and shared dessert after. Take a trip now that the weather is getting better and watch the impressive fountain show at Dayanta then duck into Papa Park for a satisfying meal.

Papa Park 啪啪派西餐吧位于慈恩路69号世纪金花曲江购物中心1楼，邻近大雁塔南广场。这是一款精心打造的健康时尚欧陆美食餐厅。致力于出品健康的意式比萨、牛排、意面、色拉、三文治，并使用欧洲传统工艺制作各式蛋糕、奶昔、手工咖啡以及特色鸡尾酒等。餐厅装修风格舒适浪漫又富有异国情调，12年来为国内外旅行者提供西餐、酒吧服务，得到了各国友人的肯定和褒奖。“PAPA-PARK”不只是一家纯粹的餐厅，也是生活和美食的旅行。

**推荐菜:** 披萨 (薄底, 芝士味道很浓郁, 上面火腿, 培根, 用料很足, 吃起来极有满足感。)

菌菇汤 (奶香浓郁, 口味鲜美, 新鲜蘑菇细致的和汤融为一体, 香气四溢。)

黑松露巧克力蛋糕 (质地滑润, 浓郁厚重但不腻口, 微微的苦后伴着浅浅的甜, 使人齿颊留香, 回味悠远)

**Average Price per person / 人均消费:** **90 RMB**

**Address /地址:**  
Shop C1-6, 1F, Ginwa Qujiang, #69, Ci en lu, Tanta District.  
雁塔区慈恩路69号世纪金花曲江购物中心1楼C1-6号铺

**Tel /电话:** 029- 8913 9178

**Hours /时间:** 10:00am - 00:00am

Jimmy and Giselle came to Xi'an in January 2011 from New York City, where they studied Writing and English respectively at City University of New York. They can be reached by email at jamesunitas@msn.com

## Bar Reviews

LABORATORY FLORAL  
CAFÉ & BAR 实验室花店

Articles By Johnson Jiang



If Harbin is a city of winter and Sanya a city of summer, then Xi'an is a city of four seasons. Maybe today is perfect for a t-shirt but could be that tomorrow your warm jacket will be needed. Although the Xi'an weather can be a bit odd it doesn't change the fact that spring is here. With the coming of the new season, beautiful flowers and green leaves pop up all over the city as do new bars, and this one is one of the most attractive.

Next to the delicious restaurant Mentha, sitting in the new bar area of the city, their location no doubt is very good, added to that the wonderful indoor/outdoor seating and this place is absolutely great for Spring.

At the main entrance there are flowers and if you're a flow-

er fan, you'll have a lot to talk about with the owner and her friends. Taking care of plants and flowers surely is not an easy job, but if you do it right, the reward is not only vibrant colors and aromatic smells it's also a tranquil and comfortable mood.

It's a very new open bar so alcohol choice isn't great with only a few imported beer brands. For a bit of the lighter side they do have some impressive tea, coffee, and fruit juices to be tried. No matter what you do this Spring get out there and enjoy your time and find new places.

**Pro:** Very comfortable environment with a great veranda outdoor seating area.

**Con:** Newly opened so there needs a lot of promotion to improve.

**Johnson's Recommendation:**

Grabbing a beer and sitting on the roof...wonderful!

如果说哈尔滨是冬季之城，三亚是夏季之城的话，那么西安就是一座四季之城。也许今天你是短裤T恤，明天你的厚夹克就会排上用场了。

尽管天气奇怪无比，但这也无法阻挡春天的到来。迎接春姑娘的不光有含苞待放的花朵和当春发芽的树枝，还有那一个个新生的酒吧。

毗邻美味的云南餐厅蔓莎，坐落在新的酒吧一条街上，实验室花店的位置毫无疑问是很不错，再加上室内外优美的装饰，这里绝对是一个值得一去的地方。

花是这里的主题，如果你是一个花迷的话，那你肯定和老板有得聊了。众所周知，养花不是件容易的事，但若掌握方法悉心照顾，鲜花带给你的将不仅仅是那甜美的香气，还有那愉悦的心情。

实验室花店门前那一扇玻璃给人一种意想不到的视觉观，步入店内，暖色调的装修也会让你舒适不已。由于是新开业，这里酒水的选择并不是很多，仅有几款人们熟知的进口啤酒，但是茶是这里的一大特色，当然果汁和咖啡也会是你的选择。就像店内吧台下方的一句话——选择你的生活，这里不是一个选择醉酒的地方，而是用来享受生活的。

**优点:** 舒适的环境。

**缺点:** 刚刚开业，有很多方面需要提高。

**我的推荐:** 各种各样的茶。

**Average Price Per Drink /人均消费:** 50 RMB

**Address /地址:** Inside the Southwest Corner of the City Wall. (含光门内西南墙角南马道巷)

**Tel /电话:** 029-8762 8918

**Hours /时间:** 12:00pm - 2:00am

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**Tel:** 029-87300162  
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STRAWBERRY BUTT  
草莓屁股LOMO生活馆

Over my last five years in Xi'an, I have realized that this city has changed a lot and has become beautiful, and though I never doubted that I love this city lately it seems that Xi'an is becoming a more livable place.

During a five day trip to Chengdu last month, I wanted to spend a few days quiet surroundings, but the Starbucks there is packed and is never quiet. I wanted a small and comfortable café to rest my traveling feet and weary mind. I eventually found one but it got me thinking about Xi'an and the quiet places I hadn't yet discovered.

Coming back I started my search and since Xi'an is more familiar to me I found quite a few small places stay, and Strawberry Butt is one of them, it's one of the earliest and best places I've found to date.

Funny name you're thinking right? Yes, I had the same feeling when I first heard the name. Well the name matches the style and during the day they serve tea and fruit juice drinks and at night they bring out cocktails and beer. This is also a place to talk about photography, the boss has a wild collection of LOMO cameras and photographs.

The fruit juice is the best here, they buy all kinds of fruit every day to make sure, all the juice is tasty and fresh. If you're feeling more riske they also make some interesting self-invented cocktails. Overall it's a good place to spend a smooth and quiet afternoon or an exciting night.

Choose a sunny Saturday afternoon come on down take a seat and have a cup of juice and let the warmth of the sun fill your body. Once the sun goes down grab a drink and soak up the night sounds from the other side of the city wall, life is nothing but magnificent.

**Pro:** Interesting alcohol choice and a beautiful peaceful environment.

**Con:** Little bit small inside.

**Johnson's Recommendation:**

The Fresh Fruit Juices Cocktails

Johnson Jiang is from Lanzhou, Gansu province. He's been in Xi'an for 4 years studying and working for Duvel Moortgat putting tasty Belgian beer in as many bars as will take them. You can contact him at [nightlife@xianease.com](mailto:nightlife@xianease.com)

姜超来自于甘肃兰州，4年前来到西安上学，现就职于比利时督威贸易有限公司，并在努力让更多的比利时啤酒进入西安。你可以在这联系到他 [nightlife@xianease.com](mailto:nightlife@xianease.com)

在过去的5年里，西安改变了许多，也愈发得漂亮了，而我也从未怀疑过一件事情，就是我爱这座城市。

在上个月5天的成都之旅里，我有2天下午是需要在一个安静的咖啡馆度过的，但成都星巴克的喧闹让我无法平静下来。而那个时候寻找一个温馨的小饮品店或者咖啡屋是我最强烈的愿望。

回到西安之后，事情就变得容易了许多，我对这个城市的熟悉和许多惬意小店的选择让我窃喜不已，草莓屁股就是其中之一，而它也是西安开得最早和最好的之一。

有趣，是的，当听到这个名字的时候我也有同样的感受。这里是一个有趣的地方，不光在白天主打各式花茶和可口的果汁，晚上也提供鸡尾酒和啤酒。并且，这里是一个LOMO相机的聚集地，不仅种类齐全，而且店老板在LOMO相机方面的知识也是很专业的。

美味的果汁是这里的NO.1，这里的店员每天都要采购许多不同的水果来保证每天果汁的花样繁多和新鲜度，再加上他们独创的几款鸡尾酒，在草莓屁股享受一个慵懒的午后和一个美好的夜晚肯定是个好的选择。

这里蓝色主题装饰给人一种年轻的活力，人们来到这里谈论滑板、照片和人生，你不会在这里感受到悲伤。挑一个周六的下午坐在这里，来上一杯芒果汁，让阳光尽情地沐浴在你的身上，然后等待夕阳从城墙的另一端落下，生活就是这样美好。

**优点:** 有意思的酒水选择和惬意的环境。

**缺点:** 店里面会有些拥挤。

**我的推荐:** 美味果汁。

**Average Price Per Drink /人均消费:** 30 RMB

**Address /地址:** Just inside the city wall on the east side of the South Gate. (南门里顺城南路中段11号)

**Tel /电话:** 029-8726 4146

**Hours /时间:** 4:00pm - 2:00am

# XI'AN TOP 5 - International Markets

Article by XIANEASE

While all of us dive into the local culture and way of life to varying degrees all of us need to grab something from "back home" from time to time. Though most local supermarkets have an international section they are usually filled with tins of Danish butter cookies and green bottles of Korean Soju and are a bit lacking (unless you happen to want butter cookies or soju of course) and so we have put together a list of places that should be able to get most things...but if not there is always jinko.info and taobao so, all in all, when we pop our head up and look for some treats from home we all should be pretty well covered.

## WAL-MART

### 沃尔玛

– lots of locations not a lot of selection

#### Address:

碑林区骡马市商业步行街

(*bei lin qu luo mashi shang ye bu xing jie*) – They have several locations but this is the most central

#### Phone Number:

029 - 8765 6890

#### Operating Hours:

8:00am - 10:00pm

# 01

Not that similar to Wal-Mart in the United States. They offer similar things to the Chinese super markets yet have lots of international brands released in China. They do have a "Foreign Goods" section but it's not that large quantity nor diverse in selection. The upside is that it is a cheaper alternative to the larger markets on this list.

## METRO

### 麦德龙

– The largest variety but huge portion sizes

#### Address:

雁塔区长安南路86号

(*yan ta qu chang an nan lu 86 hao*) – This is the southern location

#### Phone Number:

029 - 8525 8888

#### Operating Hours:

6:00am - 10:00pm

# 02

The big daddy of them all this German based "members only" club recently opened up a second location in the North of the city on the second ring road. While membership cards are the easiest to get in (as your company to get you one) foreigners are also able to get in with their passport and a smile, just a smile has also been known to work too. They have many of the international food stuffs and alcohol as you would find in warehouse stores from back home.



## LOTUS

### 卜蜂莲花

– Lots of everyday items but no specialty

#### Address:

高新区唐延路3号

(*gao xin qu tang yan lu 3 hao*) – This is their main location

#### Phone Number:

029 - 8831 9788

#### Operating Hours:

8:00am - 10:00pm

# 03

With a few locations around the city they have a good mixture of Chinese and foreign brands though they do not often have specialty items. The prices tend to be a bit higher than at a local super market but for the convenience of getting all the shopping done at one spot the cost difference isn't a big deterrent.



## EPIN LIFE 宜品生活

– Special items abound but they also have "special" prices

Address: 高新区高新路 (*gao xin qu gao xin lu*) – They have quite a few locations but this is the largest one

Phone Number: 029 - 8860 8860

Operating Hours: 10:00am - 9:30pm

# 04

This high-end international goods chain store is a part of the Century Jinhua group of businesses meaning that they cater to high-end clients with particular tastes. They do have a wide selection of goods that can't be found anywhere else in the city and if you prepare yourself for the prices you won't be overly shocked.



Know more Xi'an top fives? send an email to [top5@xianease.com](mailto:top5@xianease.com) or go to [www.xianease.com](http://www.xianease.com) and leave a comment.

## OLE'

– High quality and selection in only one location

#### Address:

碑林区南关正街88号长安国际中心内 (*bei lin qu nan guan zheng jie 88 hao chang an guo ji zhong xin*)

Phone Number: 029 - 8765 1821

Operating Hours: 10:00am - 10:00pm

# 05

The newest addition to the international scene of Xi'an they are the international brand of Vanguard (华润万家) and offer a great variety of international frozen and fresh goods. They also have a huge selection of high quality baked goods, meats, vegetables, and alcohol – but be warned they are not cheap. With only one location just outside the south gate it's a bit of trouble to get there but once there, you'll be amazed by the selection.



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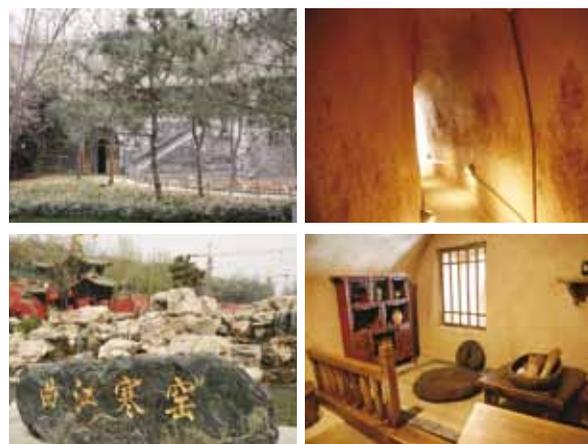


# INTERESTING PLACES: QU JIANG - LAKES, LOVERS AND BEARS OH MY!

Article by **XIANEASE**

With the better weather and longer hours in the day it's natural to start looking for more things to do outside, and Xi'an has many possibilities to add to your summer bucket list. Throughout the Spring and Summer months Xianease will pass along information from expats, locals, and travelers alike about some of their favorite spots in and around the city to either get away from it all, experience the true Xi'anese culture, or meet and mingle. It is our hope that over the next few months some new places will come to light and at least a few will capture your interest and get you out and about into the wilds of Xi'an.

This month we kick off our Interesting Places column with twenty-something Sherry from Qujiang – she has lived and worked here for most of her life and has three great places that represent her ideal when it comes to a relaxing and yet interesting life. "I am pretty busy with work most days. when I get a chance to get away for a bit I either like to lose myself in music or calm my nerves with scenery and these three give me the peace of mind whenever I visit" she answered when asked why she chose these places.



## LOVERS CAVE - 寒窑 (HAN YAO)

雁塔区南郊曲江池东隅  
(in the south east corner of Qujiang Lake Park)

**Operating Times:** 9:00am - 9:00pm

**Tickets Cost:** RMB 60.00

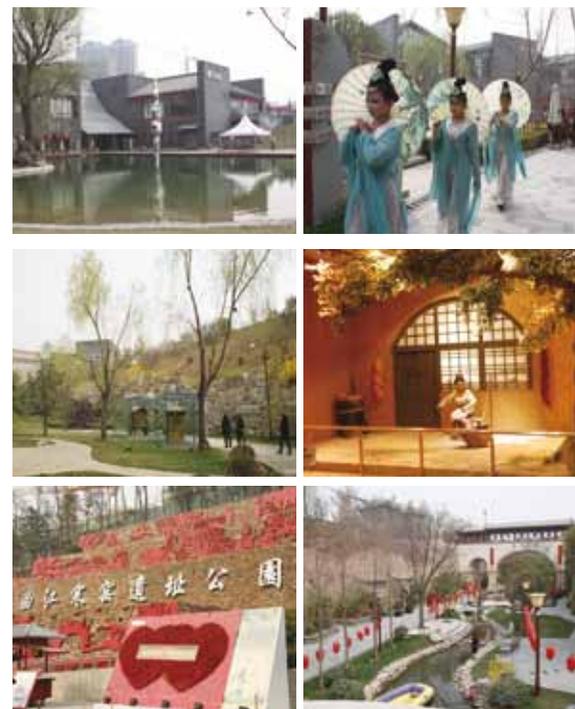
**Bus:** 22 stops just outside the east entrance

The story goes that hundreds of year ago a forbidden love between an aristocratic daughter and common man led to him being ordered off to war and her living in this cave complex waiting for his return for 18 years. It is a "Love Conquers All" story surrounded by amazing cave dwellings and beautiful gardens that are now a well-known place to meet a potential partner with match-making events held there almost every weekend.

“ I don't come here for the caves and certainly not the match-making, I come here because when I walk the gardens I feel a sense of patience and a slowing down of life. She waited 18 years for what she wanted so why should I feel so rushed? ”

The whole park itself isn't that large but there are many nooks and crannies to explore – though like all three of these places during the weekend it can get a bit crowded. One of the great things about the park is that it sits behind a great Chinese restaurant Jin Yuan Ge (金缘阁), it's not cheap but the patio seating next to the pond is a great place to have a quiet dinner.

**Restaurant:** Jin Yuan Ge (金缘阁)  
**Address:** 雁塔区寒窑(近曲江遗址公园)  
**Operating Times:** 11:30am - 9:00pm  
**Phone Number:** 029-85568000  
**Approx. Cost per Person:** RMB 100.00  
**Bus:** 22 stops just outside the east entrance



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Featured

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# QUJIANG AQUARIUM PARK

## - 曲江海洋公园

### (QUJIANGHAIYANGGONGYUAN)

雁塔区曲江二路1号 (North east of Tang Paradise)  
**Operating Times:** 9:00am - 6:00pm  
**Tickets Cost:** RMB 150.00  
**Buses:** 330, 601, 501



Made up of two buildings this aquarium complex has one of the first built attractions in the district as well as the newest built attraction giving it the unique quality of representing old and new Qujiang. The aquarium building was built almost ten years ago and shows an eclectic array of settings (Mayan sacrificial chamber, deep sea grottoes, even Alien spaceships and black lit whales in space just to name a few) all housing what amounts to a pretty diverse selection of sea life.

The new building takes itself a bit more serious with a dolphin show, and large animal enclosures this place undeniably has the "WOW!" factor. The two story Beluga Whale tank and undersea penguin walkway are just two of the amazing displays they have – and while this building does lack the more creative aspect of the older aquarium it is impressive in its own right through the sheer amount of animals displayed there.

“ The aquarium complex is a place where feel like a kid again. No matter what my mood I could sit and watch the polar bears play for hours, I always feel relaxed and content when I leave. When it comes to the older building the whimsical atmosphere delights my playful side, every time I come here I discover something new and usually a bit odd ”

# TANG PARADISE

## - 大唐芙蓉园

### (DA TANG FURONG YUAN)

雁塔区芙蓉路1号大雁塔东南侧  
 (Southeast of Dayan Tower, #1, Furong Lu.)  
**Operating Times:** 9:00am - 9:00pm  
**Tickets Cost:** RMB 120.00  
**Buses:** 23, 44, 212, 224



This isn't an out-of-the-way or unknown place but it is a great place to walk and think or sit and talk with over 10 kilometers of tree lined and manicured trails and 12 uniquely themed and professionally designed sections spread over 165 acres Tang Paradise is like no other park in the city. The ticket price might be a bit steep but that just means that there are less people crowding the paths and more care takers keeping the landscaping pristine.

Though the park and grounds are all recently built the reconstructions are romantic windows into China of the past. They also have an amazing tea house, beautiful restaurant, and the one of a kind Phoenix theater where they hold a nightly water screen movie that has to be seen to be believed. Heading here isn't a cheap day out but it is a rewarding one with enough artistry to rekindle the fascination of ancient China.

“ This is my Qujiang, some might not agree with me about places to go or things to do but that doesn't matter to me. What matters is that no matter my mood, what kind of day I'm having, or how I did at work these places are there for me and hence have become a part of my life. ”

If you would like more information about Qujiang, these three locations or the many other parks and scenic spots in the district you check out <http://e.weibo.com/qujiangwenlv> online. There are lots of things up and coming here so just because you were there a few months ago doesn't mean it hasn't changed!

We would like to thank Sherry for letting us glimpse her Xi'an and no matter if you contribute to this column in the future or not we hope that her story will influence you to look for YOUR Xi'an. If you would like to share your Xi'an story you can write us as [spaces@xianease.com](mailto:spaces@xianease.com)



Question or comments about activities around Xi'an contact us at [editorial@xianease.com](mailto:editorial@xianease.com)



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Article By *Kristen Zhou*

If you're like me then your various social networking sites are filled with other people's baby pictures. Maybe it's because that at my age people feel they are supposed to at least have one baby and so to celebrate their acquiescence to social norms they plaster everything they can with the beloved child's photo. Even famous people like singers, actors, chefs, and TV hosts also frequently update their babies or kid's photos – it's almost as if their main hobby in life is dressing up their children. Some people even talk about where they bought the clothes from and how much they spent. I'm not sure how all of this helps the child but it sure did start another type of international purchasing agents.

Looking at all these images it would be hard to deny the affection that these people give to their children. Image you're a Mother (or maybe you already are) and you open a website of a celebrity with their lovely children - the tiny dresses and cute shirts look adorable. One of the best-dressed children on the planet is Alexander Wang's niece, Aila. With its concise cut, smooth lines, and rock and roll rivets juxtaposed in the innocent little girl's outfit how could she not be considered stylish? Undoubtedly she's a very lucky girl with an Uncle who is one of the world's most talented designers but even if he's not your Uncle you can now purchase those same fashion lines for your own kids.

Actually lots of garment brands having children clothing lines, high-end brands like Chloe, Ralph Lauren, Burberry, Fendi, John Galliano, and Moschino all do. If you're looking for a more rational price there is also Cath Kidston, Gap, Carter's, Uniqlo, Muji, and Adidas Original just to name a few. In Xi'an it seems there aren't many options for store location but then again you can easily shop on TAOBAO or sign up with an overseas transport service and shop on overseas websites (Just be sure to keep all items under RMB1000 so you won't risk paying a high customs tax).

If concrete locations are more your thing Xi'an has both



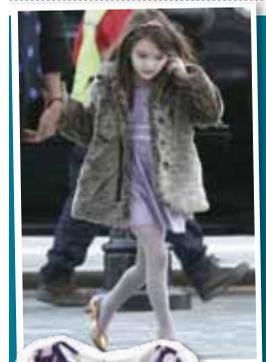
Alexander Wang's niece, Aila.



MUJI



MOSCHINO



Uniqlo and Muji stores which have children's lines. Most malls also sell local brands of children clothing on their top floor. So go out and grab some great clothing for your little cutie, dress them up and make them fashion forward but please let's keep the social media pictures to a minimum.

**UNIQLO** Xi'an store locations:

**KAIYUAN Shopping Mall** ground floor – there is also another shop about to open at the KAIDE Shopping Square (same mall as Gap ).

On **TAOBAO** Uniqlo also has an official page with any purchase over RMB 200.00 includes free shipping.

**MUJI** Xi'an store location:

**KAIYUAN Shopping Mall** 1st floor  
**KAIDE Shopping Square** 1st floor

You can contact Kristen Zhou at:  
Kristen.zhou@xianease.com



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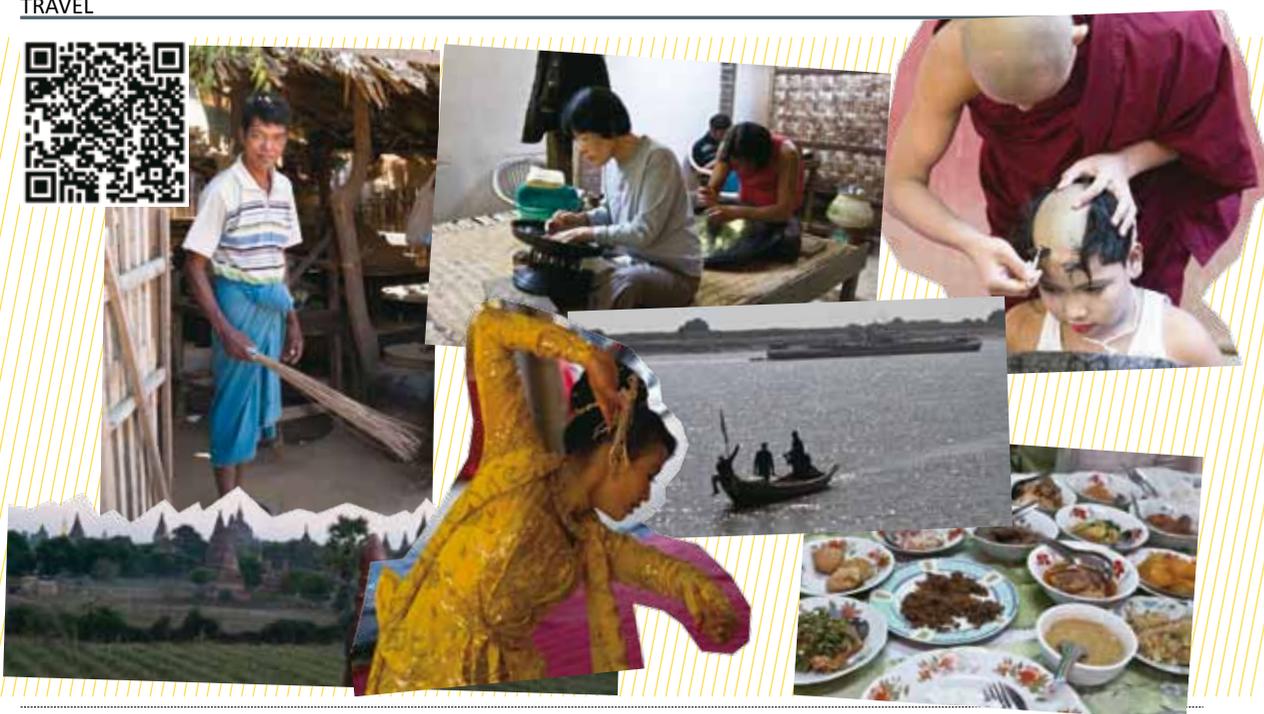
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My bucket list has 'sail on all major world rivers' as one of its entries, and Burma provided me with a river to cross off on that list. Sailing from Mandalay to Bagan on the Ayerawaddy River has to be a highlight.

The taxi took us from the hotel to one of the many landings in Mandalay and, even though we had booked comfy chairs in the lounge of the boat, in case of rain or rough weather, we headed straight for the upper deck to grab a couple of chairs – watching the world glide past was our aim. Numerous boats ply this route, moving tourists from one fascinating destination to the other, so it is easy to book ahead and make sure you have choices of seating.

The cruise was smooth, and the Ayerwaddy winds through farmlands, small towns, industrial areas, pagodas, stupas; past people living lives beside the river, washing, bathing, playing. The stream of cargo boats heading up and down river give a glimpse of developing Myanmar. The tiny canoes poled along recall a more traditional way of life. After days of walking and biking around Mandalay, this was a perfect wind-down, ten hours of relaxation.

## BAREFOOT IN BURMA (PART II)

Article by *Deborah Howard*

We reached Bagan and the tourists who had not thought to book ahead (I'll repeat - ALWAYS book ahead in Myanmar!!) began trying to find a bed for the night in the gathering dark. Our hotel driver waved our names at us and we happily jumped into the car and left the shouting behind. Bagan is divided into 3 areas – Old Bagan, New Bagan and Nyaung-U. Nyaung-U is generally considered as backpacker central, Old Bagan and New Bagan serve the locals as well as providing hotels and res-

taurants for tourists. Our hotel was on the northern edge of New Bagan, near the end of the plain of pagodas and stupas. The Bawgwa Theiddhi Hotel was lovely, and even on a budget offered high end comfort. My favourite touch – bougainvillea flowers in the bowl of the toilet!! Definitely worth a repeat stay.

Next morning we wandered into New Bagan (despite the name this does NOT look new!! Still with very traditional houses and very village feel) to see what we could find. Bagan is famous for the thousands of pagodas and stupas dotting the plain – over 2200 remain today from approximately 10,000 that were originally built. So this, plus the gorgeous lacquer-ware, is why tourists come to Bagan.

Our wander around the village helped us find 'our' restaurant. The Pwint Mar Lah has to be the BEST restaurant ever in Myanmar. The Burmese buffet offered is sheer gourmet magic at village prices!! The first time we ordered, 14 dishes appeared at our table, all amazingly delicious!! For afters the grandmother of the owner brought around local handmade sweets – and we promptly ordered packets of them to take home. Each other

meal the staff added dishes and they were rarely the same. Local Burmese food can be great! The family run business made a point of being friendly and even let me come into the kitchens to watch the cooking, and invited me to accompany them for the morning offering at the local temple.

All of the hotels can organise bike hire, as well as cars and even horse drawn buggies, for exploring the region. We hired bikes for the whole time we were there and were able to follow any interesting little path that took our fancy. Village life is closely mixed in with religious life, and one morning, after I managed to get lost, a kindly local told me about a hair-cutting ceremony at a local pagoda/monastery. Hair cutting or 'novitiation' is for the 1st of three or more periods that almost all Burmese fellas spend as monks. This particular ceremony is for young boys and is a big deal. It starts with all the children being inducted being dressed in the most gorgeous clothes – silks, flowers, loads of makeup – (forget gender) and sitting through a ceremony with traditional Burmese dancing, offerings to parents and Buddhas, bathing, head shaving by the older monks, and finally being given their new monk robes and dressed in them by family and older monks. These happen relatively often and if you are lucky and ask around, you may find one.

There are a number of lacquer ware factories around and it is always worth asking to see the factory itself. The people at "The Lotus Collection" factory were really friendly and took me through the whole process, and yes, I did end up buying a teacup. I figured for 5 months work in the making, the price was very reasonable.

Of course the pagodas and stupas are the real reason people come to Bagan, and the really best way to see them is via hot-air balloon. Again – book well in advance for this trip, or there is no chance to do it as I sadly found out. So, minus balloon, I pedaled and walked to the structures, climbed up, over and through them. The famous ones are usually covered in tourists, but there are so many smaller ones that it is easy to find your own experience, minus the tourists and cameras. My favourites are the ones the locals 'own'. They can be identified by the washing lines tied to them, the little veggie gardens behind the walls and the children playing hide and seek in their ruins.

Bagan is a fascinating place, filled with mystery, interest, some of the friendliest people you'll ever meet and the sheer number of pagodas and stupas surviving can fill you with awe.

Flights to Nyaung-U airport from Yangon, Mandalay and Inle Lake are regular, trains also from Yngon and Mandalay, as well as buses. But I would really recommend the river cruise....

You can contact Deborah at [deborah.howard@xianease.com](mailto:deborah.howard@xianease.com)  
Blog: <http://lotuseaterslake.spaces.live.com>

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TEDxXISU

THE WORLD

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**About TED**

TED is a nonprofit devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. It started out (in 1984) as a conference bringing together people from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment, Design. Since then its scope has become ever broader. Along with two annual conferences – the TED Conference on the West Coast each spring, and the TEDGlobal conference in Edinburgh UK each summer -- TED includes the award-winning TED Talks video site, the Open Translation Project and TED Conversations, the inspiring TED Fellows and TEDx programs, and the annual TED Prize.

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**About TEDx**  
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TEDx was created in the spirit of TED's mission, "ideas worth spreading." The program is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at the local level. At TEDx events, a screening of TEDTalks videos -- or a combination of live presenters and TEDTalks videos -- sparks deep conversation and connections. TEDx events are fully planned and coordinated independently, on a community-by-community basis.

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**About TEDxXISU**  
an independently organized TED event

TEDxXISU is registered by America Ted conference. The conference authorizes Xisu the right to hold activity independently. We aim at spreading the spirit of Ted by held a range of influential activities in Xi'an. Transboundary , diversification ,commonweal and share stands for our philosophies, and we devote to spreading all of these to everyone in Xisu. And we believe the spirit of Xisu ,innovation, change, insistence and imagination ,will rich the content of Ted.

时间：2013年4月23日  
地点：西安外国语大学南校区



# KOREAN STUDENT IN XI'AN

Article by *May Lee*

No matter where they are from, all parents want their children highly educated. They are concerned with which school they should send their children to, and what kind of classes to attend. There are diverse types of education and each one has its strengths and weaknesses. Now, there are many international schools rising and parents are starting to pay attention to them.

Korean/Chinese uses the cramming system of education. This is where students have to memorize facts from textbooks, and make a lot of notes in class. Schools aim to learn and finish textbooks, so, they have certain amount of works to finish within a semester or a year. Students take tests twice a year; get grades on the basis of test scores.

The education in international school is completely different from Korea/China. They usually have courses and program, such



Korea Busan Doosong Middle School



International school club

as AP (Advanced Placement) and IB (International Baccalaureate). They can choose any curriculum, but for most instances, they choose the AP and IB. International schools promote "Student-led Inquiry", which means students are at the center of the learning experience. Therefore meeting the needs of the individual rather than just what the teacher want. Students can use laptops to support their learning in the classrooms. This does not mean that we do not receive grades, we do. However the approach is different. Instead of only sitting paper exams, we also complete assignment through speeches, presentations, posters and reports to name just a few.

IB schools also have what is called the "IB learner profile". Learner profile is what students are attempting to be. IB learners strive to be: Inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. They are important elements to be a person who's internationally educated, and be an effective person in community and society.

Most of international school runs after school club. After school club is what students choose clubs from the options such as visual art, football, and tennis club, so that students are able to learn it after school. It is very useful, because clubs can help students to build their skills that they can't learn during the school hour.

There are different benefits of being in the two different schools. The benefit of going to a Korean/Chinese School is that students are able to learn or memorize a lot of knowledge in certain sub-



Korean elementary students



International school class

jects in very short time. Students will learn all the contents of the textbooks. You will learn the "what" and "how". However the benefits of going to an international school are students will learn to think critically, you will also learn the "why?". For example if students are learning about WW1 (world war one), they might be asked to answer if something could have stopped WW1, then What could have stopped WW1 from happening? Why do you think it is?

Since it is an "International school" There are a lot of people from around the world. Most international schools use English to teach students and to communicate with others. Students will naturally learn to speak English fluently. Greatest benefit of going to an international school is that students are able to experience different cultures and languages. Students can be friends with foreign students, that's when students can become 'internationally-minded'

Both Korean/Chinese and International school education have their own special characteristics. So it is hard to distinguish which one is good or bad but now the world needs international-minded people who can speak foreign language fluently. My aim for study is not to just pass the test, but to prepare to enter society, so I am attempting to talk to more people, share ideas and do more collaboration work. It is a great idea to send their children to an international school, and have great experience with different people.

May Lee - a student from Hanova International School from Seoul, South Korea. She came to Xi'an in 2007 when she was ten years old. She is planning to go to university in Hong Kong.

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# Q&A on Labor Rights

Article by *Wei Chen*

Since my article last month on labor rights has struck quite a chord in our readership. This month I have decided to explore this issue further and offer my legal opinions on a few frequently asked questions about hiring and being hired.

**Q1: I have worked at a hotel for 3 months but have not received my salary in full. The hotel is still in its pre-opening phase and haven't received its license. Who is supposed to be the respondent of my salary claim?**

**A:** According to Chinese law, the owner of the hotel could be the respondent of your claim.

**Q2: I work for a small business and do not have a written contract. How could I prove the existence of the**

**employment?**

**A:** The following items can also be used as evidences to prove the existence the employment relationship in the absence of a written contract: the receipt or any other record of the payment of your salary; your social security certificate; your work ID bearing your position at the company; the attendance record; the forms you filled out when assuming the job; as well as the testimonies from your colleagues. The employer is required by law to provide their salary, insurance, and attendance records to the labor dispute arbitration tribunal.

**Q3: I am running a restaurant and hired 6 people, but did not sign any written contract with them. What would be the legal risks of this practice?**

**A:** Hiring people without a written contract runs the risks of incurring an administrative fine and if this situation exists for more than a year it will be deemed as you have signed a open-ended labor contract with the employee. If this situation persists more than a month but less than a year, the employee will have the right to claim double salary for every month he/she had been working without a written contract.

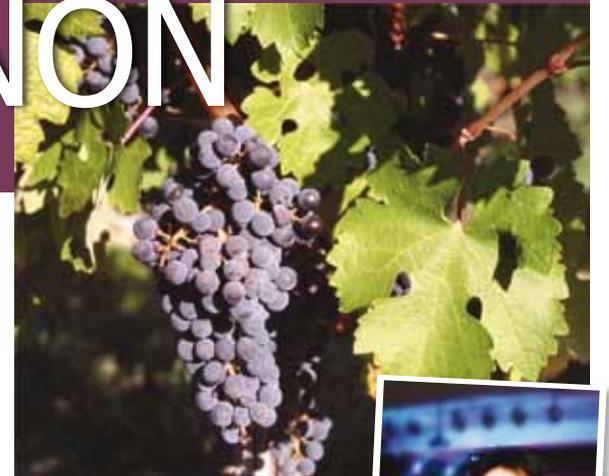
Wei Chen is an English speaking Chinese lawyer from Xi'an. She has over ten years of legal practice with degrees from both the United States as well as in China. Currently she works at Shaanxi Jindi Law Firm - one of the largest firms in the province. She specializes in labor, employment, contract, and corporate law. She can be contacted through email at chenwei12355@163.com

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# CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Article by *windculture*



This is a high quality black grape used in the northwest of France near Bordeaux. The principal characteristic of this grape is the high level of tannins (when you drink Cab Sav you feel the ripe sensation in your palette) with the combination of a high acidity and very deep color. This is a special grape for making high quality wine in Bordeaux (haut medoc) because this grape holds a special affinity for oak. Generally in France there isn't a 100% for cabernet sauvignon wine because the high tannins. In Bordeaux it's common to blend Cab Sav with Merlot for a softer and more drinkable wine.

In general a bottle of bordeaux with cabernet sauvignon can be stored for up to 5 years – just make sure it's a mid or high range wine, lower range wines cannot be stored for so long.

## 本月我要介绍一款波尔多非常有名的品种——赤霞珠

这是一种高质量的黑色品种常在波尔多西北部被大量使用。这种葡萄的主要特点是强劲的单宁（红葡萄酒中的细小分子，当你喝红葡萄酒时嘴巴里的感受到的浓厚）、极高的酸度和极深的颜色。在波尔多（上梅多克地区）它多数被用来酿造高质量葡萄酒，因为它与橡木结合有极其特别的表现。

一般来说，在法国没有100%用赤霞珠酿造的葡萄酒，原因是这个葡萄品种具有很高的单宁。在波尔多，酿酒的人会在赤霞珠里掺入梅洛（葡萄品种），使口感更柔和，更容易被接受。

如果你买产自波尔多的赤霞珠品种的葡萄酒，让它在酒窖珍藏五年之后才会感受它的神奇魔力（注意：你必须选择波尔多中高级别的葡萄酒，不是所有的产自波尔多的葡萄酒都可以达到这种效果）。

The Xi'an Wine Club by Windculture meets once a month at the Windculture Wine Studio in Gaoxin. You can find more out more about them at [www.xianease.com/wine](http://www.xianease.com/wine) or follow them on weibo: @windculture



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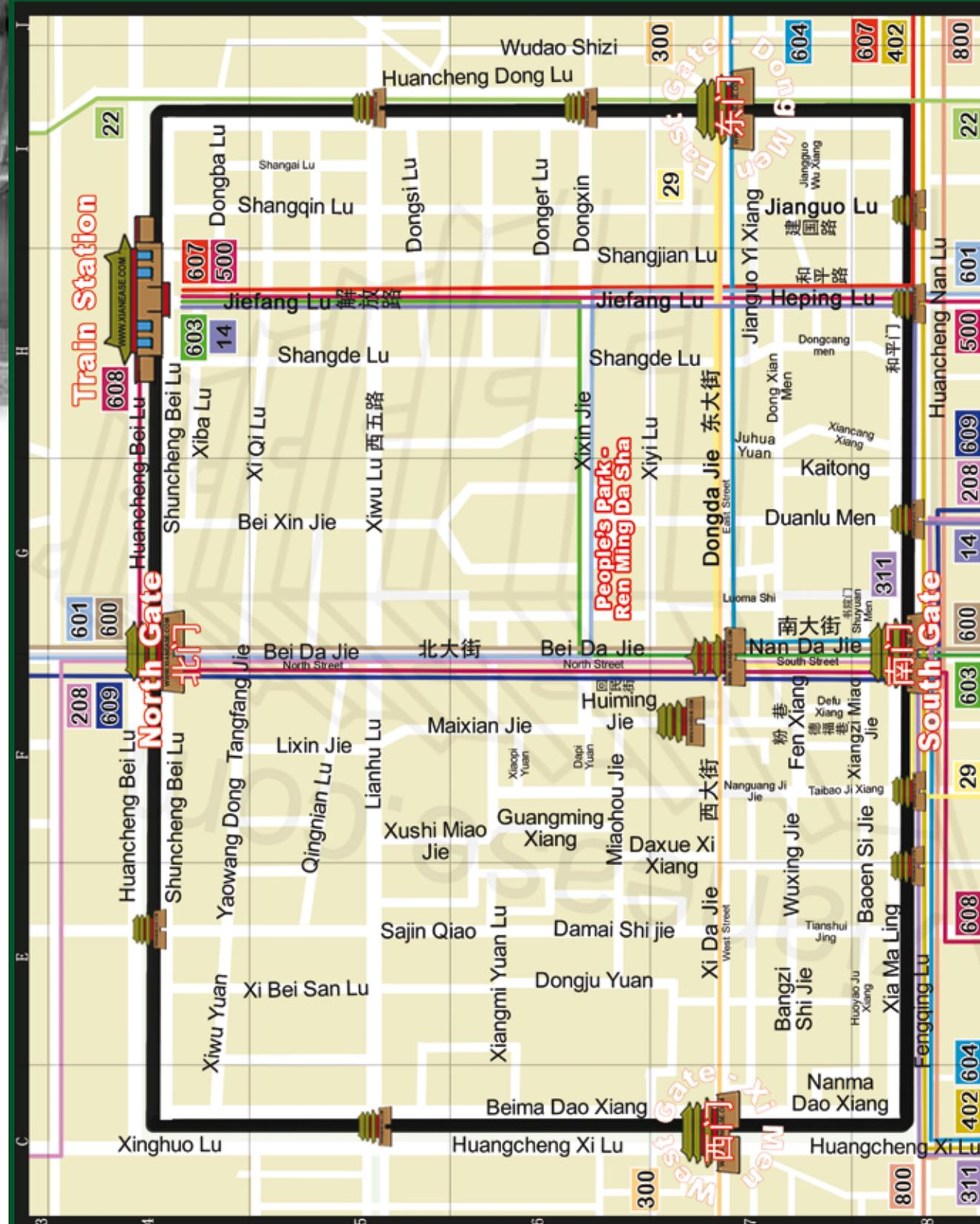
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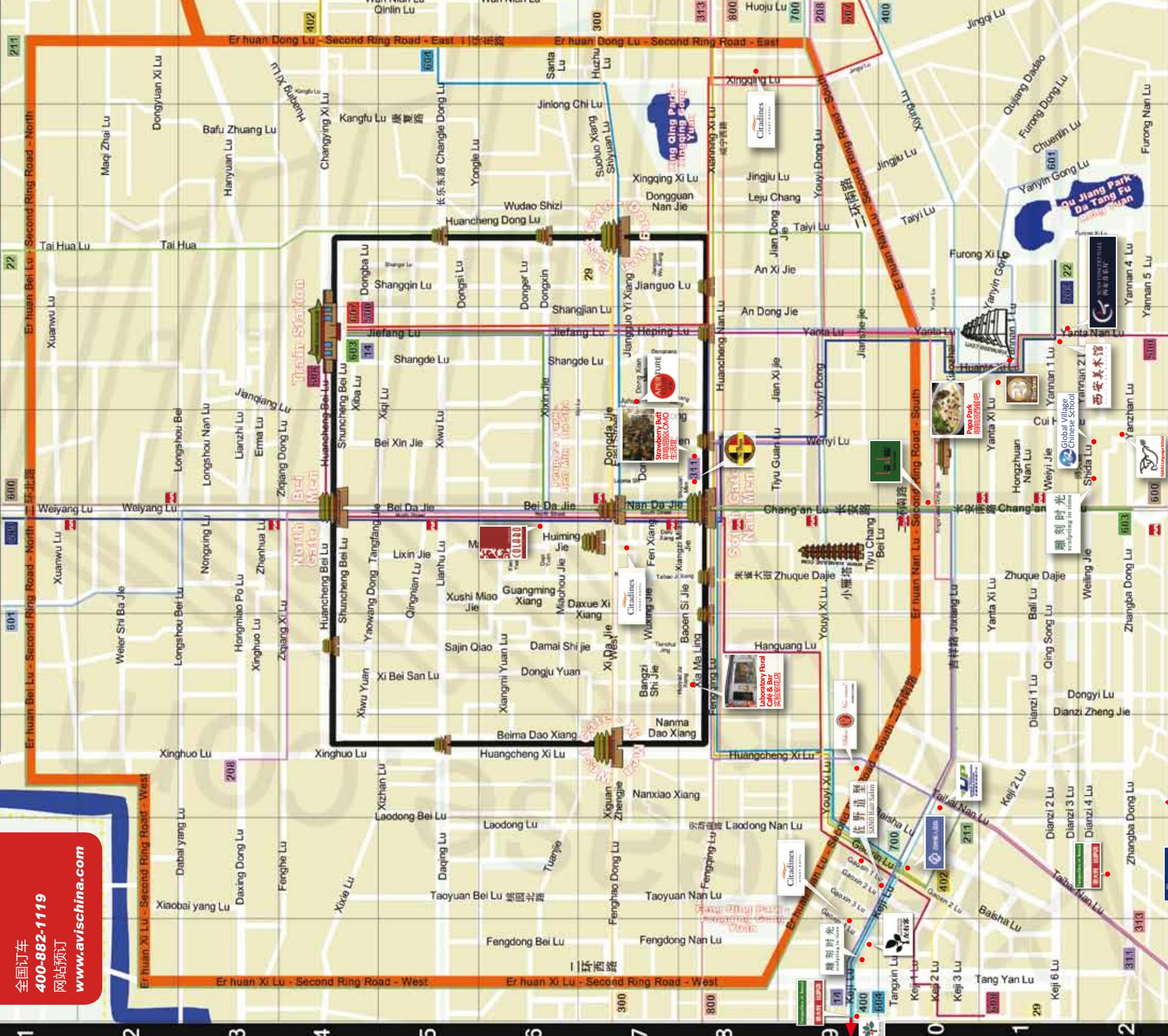
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300	313	313	400	402
607	600	601	603	604
700	800	801	803	800

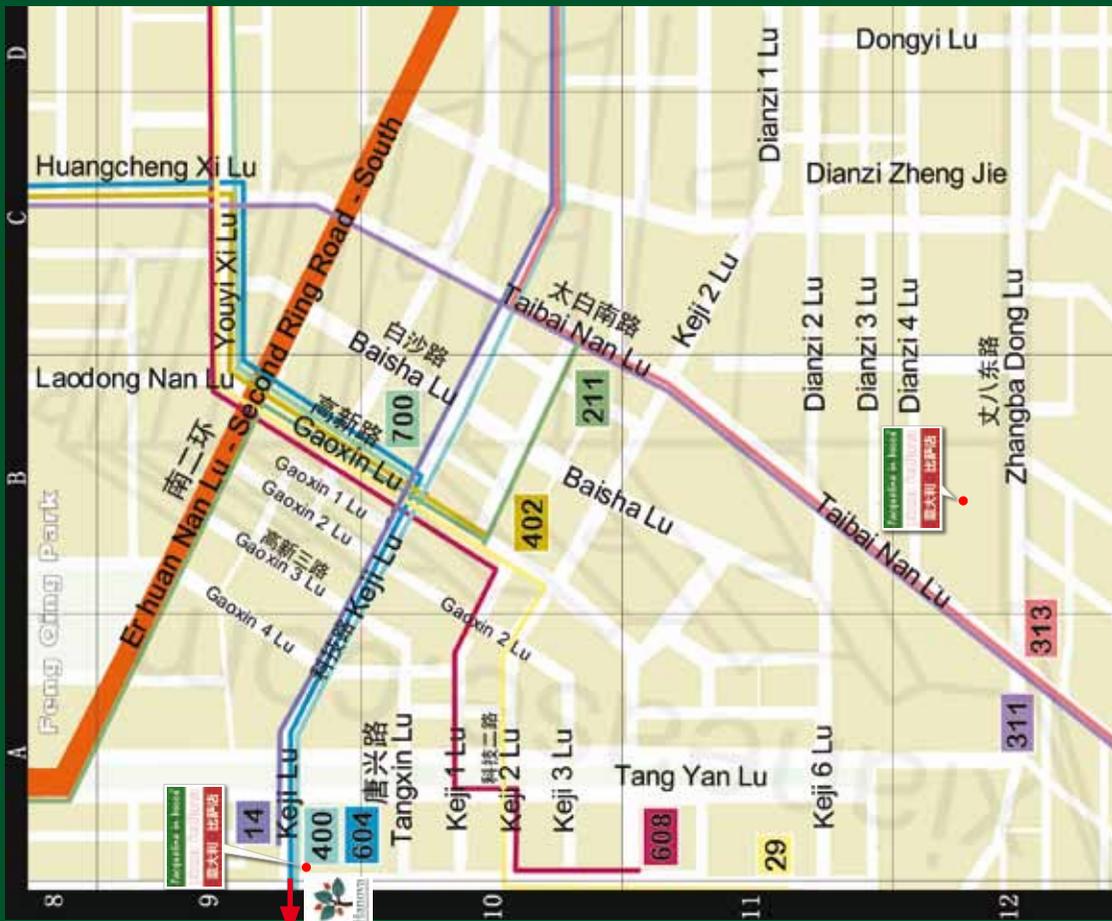


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# 关系:

## IT'S WHO YOU KNOW

Article by *Lawrence Smyth*



As I cross my one-year milestone in China, I find myself asking a lot of questions. What have I achieved? What can I be proud of? Do I have any regrets? I guess the biggest question on my mind is this: Would I do it differently? I often chat with other expats about these issues, our (un) shared experiences and sometimes, inevitably, our gripes. I say, "inevitably", because as we've all come to realise there will always be those cultural traits that we can never fully become accustomed to.

We all sacrifice a lot to live here, such as loved ones, home comforts and much, much more. This should never be overlooked, because the transition away from your native culture and into that

of the host country can be an ongoing struggle. It's a struggle that, for many, is never truly overcome. As the Vice-Dean of Liverpool University recently told a crowd of expats, students and lecturers alike at Xi'an, Jiaotong University: "You are the heroes of tomorrow and don't let anyone tell you otherwise." It's a message that should ring true in all of us, because the step from home to China is no small feat.

The Xi'anese community creates an amazing safety net for us all, one that I personally am both proud and happy to be apart of. However, is it possible to become too comfortable? My first six months in China were spent teaching English at a respectable school here in Xi'an, and like many

other teachers I spent the majority of my free time with foreigners. On the odd occasion I might be invited to a Chinese wedding or party as the token, white foreign face in amongst a Chinese crowd (especially tokenistic due to a distinct lack of linguistic and cultural capital). These uncommon events were always fascinating and, furthermore, provided a crucial insight into a part of Chinese culture that is rarely seen by the outside world.

In September I embarked upon a Chinese language program at 交通大学 (Jiaotong University). Shortly after starting I was made an offer to row for the university. The opportunity to be one of the first foreigners to row for a Chinese university was too good to

refuse, so as you can imagine, I accepted. Suddenly I was thrown into the middle of a tight-knit, authentically Chinese, social group. However, I was inside and yet still very much on the periphery. Understandably, the group was cautious of the token, white, foreign face. Within the first few weeks I'd made an impression; I'd never rowed before and I was already earning noteworthy times. As well as earning these times, I'd also earned myself a new nickname: 大白猩猩 (big, white gorilla). Ironically, this was actually given to me by the foreigner who'd introduced me to the team.

As the months passed the team began to accept the fresh foreigner. I can recall one recent experience in particular, when our 教练 (coach) presented the group with a test. With a lack of judgment, one of the team members said, "China vs. England, come on!" Unexpectedly, another teammate retorted, "Don't say that." Although the statement itself was small, the sentiment was substantial. My foreign friend on the team - also English - pointed out that after six years of living in China, he'd never once heard somebody defend a foreigner. Some weeks on, we haven't heard anybody voice another divide of this sort again. We were being accepted, not as foreigners, but as teammates.

In recent weeks the rowing team has been on a rowing intensive, training three times a day, rising at 6:30 a.m. and finishing at around 8 p.m. Usually the time

we finish is dependent upon the mood of the 教练 and the mood of the 教练 is dependent upon how much we've exerted ourselves on that particular day. As I found out early on, never test your coach and never look like you're enjoying your workout too much, because you will pay for it. Due to the early rises and the painstaking efforts made by the entire team, we've arisen physically and mentally stronger. Furthermore, we've become much closer as a group.



The experiences I've shared with my teammates over the past few weeks have provided me with the motivation towards writing this article now. Even with our differences as individuals, our cultural misunderstandings and the incredible language barrier, we've managed to bond. If anything, it has been these differences that have provided us with our own individual personalities on the

team. In everyday life these would be the differences that stigmatise "us" from "them". However, when you finally find yourself on the inside of a tight-knit, social group, these become the differences that unite you - these are the differences to rejoice in.

Thus, I implore each and every expat out there to throw caution to the wind, take a leap of faith and exit your comfort zone. The rewards outweigh the risks and the benefits themselves are innumerable. Being on the inside of a Chinese social group is a great feeling and in some ways it's an achievement because the transition from being another foreign face to an integral part of a group is similar to that of the difficult transition into Chinese culture generally. Yes, the transition is difficult, but more importantly, it's worthwhile. You have the opportunity to sweep away cultural stereotypes and misunderstandings. You have the opportunity to improve your level of 普通话 (Mandarin). You have the opportunity to make new and interesting friends that might just be immeasurably different to your friends back home. You have opportunities that many don't, so take them!

I began by asking what I've achieved, what I can be proud of and what I'd do differently. This is one of my biggest achievements; it's something I'm incredibly proud of and my only regret is not doing it sooner. In China, it's who you know.

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You're lifted physically off your feet by a compressed mass of human bodies. Gravity shifts and sways around you, but the danger of collapse is mitigated by the sheer lack of employable space around you. Two mobile phones vibrate against your body – neither of which belong to you; neither of which have any chance of being answered. Your view of the world is restricted to a sliver of window and an inopportune angle of the street that appears and disappears as the lolling heads of your companions bob and weave.

You're taking the Xi'an city bus.

I'm not originally from an environment urban enough to have necessitated bus travel. I'm from a place where most of us drive cars. Cars give us our space. Cars leave us in control.

Personal space is a luxury most expatriates don't realize they've taken for granted their whole lives until they dive into a culture that values it less than they do, if at all. Grocery store lines and elevators are primary fields of battle, but no vacuum of personal space exists that can rival the downtown bus during rush hour.

Your arms and legs and sides ache from cajoling along in odd placements and your muscles tweak from being used at

strange angles. An elbow to the ribs, a palm to the face, a handbag to the groin: you're not under attack; you're taking the Xi'an city bus.

# TAKING THE BUS

Article by *Christian Dzadek*



Christian and his family moved from West Palm Beach, Florida to Xi'an a few years ago. When he's not teaching he does an online video blog about street food and Chinese culture: <http://www.youtube.com/cdzadek>

Personal space aside, taking the bus also means surrendering control. Not only can I not travel the most direct route to my destination, I now have to stop a thousand times along the way. The bus probably doesn't go exactly where I want to go anyway, so I've got to break my travel into stints on multiple bus lines, with some potentially long walks interspersed.

Not to mention the fact that I'm nervous. Even if I've taken the bus a number of times, I might not know the correct name of the stop, and even if I do, I might not be able to pronounce it very well, and there's always the chance that the ticket taker won't understand me and I'll be laughed at by my fellow sardines as she elbows her way through a compartment I would've thought impassable in order to collect my money.

Just when I get the bus routes down, they go and change them on me. I'm never positive that I'm reading the map correctly, and I've ended up far, far out of my way in an unknown part of town on more than one occasion.

All these things combine to make the bus an exercise in anxiety and discomfort for an expat like me.

That's what I don't like about the bus.

On the other hand, I love it.

I love that I can cross the city for less than the price of a rou jia mou. I love the mini-rush I get when the ticket taker understands me and I navigate the city like I actually know what I'm doing. I love discovering new places and getting there on my own, without a taxi driver or a map. I love not paying for petrol. I love not hunting for parking. I

love discovering a new bus that gets me where I'm going just a bit more directly than the bus everyone else takes. I love nailing the route just right, so I get a seat on every bus, and relax with a book while someone else does the work of getting me across the city.

Perhaps I'm being overly romantic about travel by bus, but like I said, I don't come from an urban area. When I travel the city from bus-stop to bus-stop, it's like being a citizen of some other world. I am a foreigner here, in so many ways.

I love taking the bus.

When you feel the body behind you fall against yours with more of a dead weight than you pre-

viously noticed, and it turns out the girl behind you actually fainted, only she didn't hit the ground because of the previously annoying but now quite convenient lack of employable space, and she is shuffled toward a seat that an old man gives up while slapping her in the face in order to revive her, and you watch it all out of your peripheral vision because even though the person behind you fainted and is no longer behind you, that space got filled up by some other body and you can't actually turn around to see it all unfold, and it's all set to the score of your pleading cell phone ring tone, don't panic.

You're taking the Xi'an city bus.



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# PUB QUIZ



Five teams competed for the "Tower of Power" in March and Patch Atkinson pulled it out once again with a run of 24. There are new arrivals in Xi'an this month so why not come on out to see if you can meet up and make a team and try to stop Patch in their reign of terror. Find out more at [www.xianease.com](http://www.xianease.com)



# WELCOME TO XI'AN DINNER



Folk from all over the city turned up at Inimitable Restaurant in Gaoxin for some great food and free flow drinks to welcome each other to the ancient city of Xi'an. It was a great evening of new friends and conversation. Just because you missed it doesn't mean you can't head out to the restaurant or our events so check out the calendar and come on out and make Xi'an yours!

# HASH RUN - 2ND ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY RUN



The second annual St. Patrick's Day Hash Run was another smash with the setting in the HanCheng Lake Park it was a dusty day for everyone and so we needed lots of beer to wash it down...luckily the Duvel boys were on the case and donated 60 liters of beer just for the occasion. Want to come out next time? [www.xianease.com/hhh](http://www.xianease.com/hhh)



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY AT GELIN



It's a day synonymous with drinking beer and a terrible day after and the guys at Gelin didn't let us down on either account...with great drinks, green beer, games, and prizes the party lasted well into the "Day After" and for most a bleary eyed dawn saw them still wearing green.



和風カレー  
**玛萨拉咖喱**

TAKE OUT A LUNCH



**TEL 183-9261-2868**  
**TIME 11:00--14:00**  
**Address: KeJi 4 Road, GaoXin District**  
 地址: 高新区 科技四路

# GREENHOUSE COFFEE GRAND OPENING

Upping the level of coffee in Xi'an is their goal and from the start it looks like these guys are kitting the ground running. They offer several types of roasts and regions, coffee classes, fresh baked goods, and all the coffee paraphernalia one could ask for. If you're in Gaoxin check them out and be ready to taste the change in Xi'an.



# LABORATORY FLORAL GRAND OPENING

The newest bar in the Xi'an listings this corner quiet location on the newest Xi'an bar street has an amazing outdoor second floor where you can sit and sip an icy beverage and watch the day pass you by.



# SCULPT IN TIME FEN XIANG GRAND OPENING

Already a staple when it comes to well decorated and comfy café's Sculpting in Time has opened another one this time in the city center. With quiet corners and comfy couches this location is a great place to catch up on some reading or just sit after a day in the city center.



# SWISSTOUCHES KOREAN EVENT

Over on Tangyuan Rd Swisstouches is one of the best kept secrets in the city. With frequent specials and highlights these guys are as inventive as they are innovative. This month they had an amazing Korean Food Special complete with Korean BBQ, Korean dishes and dancers. The special won't last long but if you miss it don't worry they have something new almost every month so head on down and check them out!



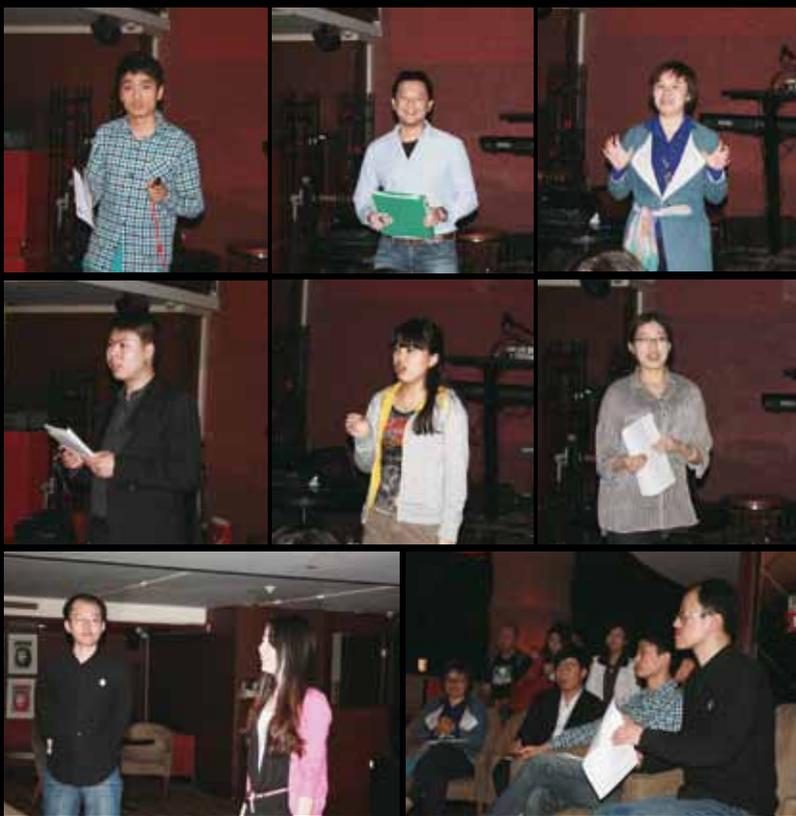
# WINE CLUB - HOT POT & ROSE' WINE PARING

The first meeting of the Xi'an Wine Club was at 1213 Hot Pot with a great talk with Melanie one of the club founders. They had an amazing hot pot dinner with imported ingredients paired with some of the best Rose' wine France has to offer. The food was amazing, the wine spectacular, and the information well received. Get more information about us or our next meeting this month on our site [www.xianease.com/wine](http://www.xianease.com/wine)



# TOASTMASTERS - SOFITEL MEETING

For those looking at conquering their public speaking fear or those who like to talk in front of others the Toastmasters are now officially in Xi'an. They have two meetings per month and no matter if you are an old hand or a first timer you are welcome to try them out and see if you have what it takes to give well informed, entertaining, and informative talks. [www.xianease.com/toastmasters](http://www.xianease.com/toastmasters)



# KING OF THE TABLE POOL TOURNAMENT

Mr. Stu for Ray English did it again and the folks all came out to see who would be crowned King of the table. The competition and the drinks were stiff but in the end your man Johnson held on to his title and remained the King...but every king falls so plan on coming out to topple the reigning table master in May!



# PHOTO SAFARI - THE GREAT MOSQUE



This month the photo club headed out to the Great Mosque to take pictures of one of the most iconic places in all of Xi'an. The weather was amazing, the flowers in bloom, and not a lot of people crowding the shots. Next month they are heading out to Qinlong Temple so come along!

[www.xianease.com/photo](http://www.xianease.com/photo)

Entertainment  
**Bars**

**67 The Belgian Bar**  
杰诺比利时酒吧  
Shun Cheng Nan Lu #69  
(East Side Inside The South Gate)  
南门顺城南路中段69号  
(南门里东侧150米处)  
Phone: 029-8725 6656  
13201672369  
A popular and friendly pub with Xian's largest Belgian beer selection including two Belgian draft beers. Happy Hour 5PM to 8PM daily. Food served lunch and dinner.

**63 Warriors Youth hostel**  
秦园青年旅舍  
#98 Bei Ma Dao Xiang  
(inside Yu Xiang Men)  
玉祥门里北马道巷98号

**63 Park Qin**  
秦文化主题酒吧  
#2 Shun Cheng Xi Xiang near the South Gate  
顺城西巷2号靠近南门  
Phone: 029-8728 7720  
Located just inside the South Gate, this is a popular bar for both westerners and chinese. They serve Heineken on draft.

**610 De Fu Lou Cafe & Bar**  
德福楼酒吧  
#39, De Fu Xiang Street (Bar Street)  
德福巷39号  
Phone: 029-8728 3630  
One of the first bars ever to open in Xian and a favourite hangout for locals. Live football on the big screen and live music every night. Paulaner and Vedett Blond on tap.

**D3 Just Enjoy Life Bar**  
里享生活馆  
Southwest corner inside the city wall, the new bar street

城墙内西南墙角新酒吧一条街  
Phone: 029-8738 6888  
Hours: 11:00 -- 2:00

**63 GELIN**  
格林餐吧  
#1F101, XiYun Jewelry City, South Part of ST. Bai Shu Lin 柏树林南段  
Phone: 029-8736 0997  
Hour: 19:00 -- 21:00  
Carlsberg Draft & Tequila Sunrise. 20%.  
LADIES NIGHT. 21:00~23:00  
All Cocktails 50% Off.  
Every expat can get a free membership card.

**Clubs**

**67 Fantasy**  
范特西  
5th & 6th floor, #46 South Street  
西安市南大街46号5-6层  
New disco club located on South Street.  
Phone: 029-8763 3999

**67 Salsa Club**  
莎莎俱乐部  
7th floor of Parkson, Xida Jie  
西大街百盛7楼  
Phone: 029-8728 6666  
15929550010  
One of the most crowded clubs in Xi'an. Located 5 minutes walk from the bell tower.

**67 Club 1+1**  
后宫  
Attached No.1 of #51, South Avenue, Xi'an.  
西安南大街51号付1号

**67 Song & Song Bar**  
乐巢会  
#109, Xi Mu Tou Shi, South Avenue  
西安市南大街西木头市109号  
Phone: 029-8728 8988

**63 Habana Club in Sofitel**  
哈瓦那  
#319, Dong Xin Street  
陕西省西安市东新街319号  
Phone: 13571887543  
The pulsating sound of live Latin music and creative cocktails thrill patrons in this superbly upbeat cigar and wine bar. Features 10 karaoke rooms with a big selection of international and Chinese hits.

**KTV**

**63 Fantasy KTV**  
真爱范特西KTV  
#159, Xingqing nan lu  
碑林区兴庆南路159号  
Phone: 029-8813 1234

**Summer Green KTV**  
夏绿地KTV视听歌城  
#108, west of Huan Cheng South Road  
碑林区环城南路西段108号

3F-4F, #49 Yanta Lu  
雁塔区雁塔路北段49号3-4楼  
Phone: 029-8209 2888

**63 Party World**  
钱柜  
#1, North Street  
西安西华门1号凯爱大厦1-3层  
Phone: 029-6267 8888

**610 Real Love**  
真爱娱乐广场  
#1 Chang'an North Road, opposite the Shaanxi library  
长安北路1号1  
Phone: 029-8525 1234

**69 Da Ge Xing**  
大歌星量贩KTV  
#8, north of Yan Ta Road  
WanDa Plaza  
雁塔路北段8号万达广场  
Phone: 029-8781 6666

#63, Jie Fang Road WanDa Plaza  
解放路63号万达广场

**63 Haoledi**  
好乐迪KTV量贩广场  
#2 Jiandong Jie, Yanta Road  
雁塔路建东街2号  
Phone: 029-8206 8000

**Shows**

**69 Tang Dynasty Show**  
Palace  
唐乐宫  
Chang'an Lu, nearby the Coca-Cola stadium  
长安路, 临近省体育场  
Phone: 029-8526 1633  
The show is performed by the "Tang Dynasty Song & Dance Troupe", a branch of the "Shaanxi Provincial Song & Dance Troupe".

**63 Shaanxi Grand Opera House**  
陕西歌舞大剧院  
#165 Wenyi Bei Lu  
文艺北路165号  
Phone: 029-8785 3295  
Provides the professional Tang Dynasty Dance and Music Show together with dinner.  
Dinner: After 18:00  
Show: After 19:00

**67 Changan Banquet**  
长安夜宴  
Changle Theatre, #17 Jinhua South Road  
金花南路17号长乐剧院(咸宁桥以北300米处)  
Phone: 029-8322 1111  
Changan Banquet is the latest dinner & performance show now open in Xi'an

Advertising Hotline  
136-0919-3295  
Email: sales@xianease.com

Restaurants  
**Cafes**

**Starbucks Coffee**  
星巴克

**67 Bell Tower Branch**  
#1 Xida Jie, next to the Ginwa shopping center  
钟楼广场西大街1号  
Hours 07:30 -- 23:30

**67 Kai Yuan Branch**  
Ground Floor, Kai Yuan shopping mall  
开元商城B1楼  
Hours 7:30 -- 23:30

**67 Luo Ma Shi Location**  
1st Floor, Xing Zheng Yuan shopping mall  
兴正元商场1楼  
Hours 7:30 -- 23:30

**610 Gaoxin Location**  
1st Floor, Century Ginwa Center. #33 Keji Road  
高新区科技路33号世纪金花购物中心1楼  
Hours 7:30 -- 23:30

**69 Gaoxin Location 2**  
1st Floor, Jinqiao International Plaza. No. 50 Keji Road  
科技路50号金桥国际广场1层  
Hours 7:30 -- 23:30

**63 #101B Room, 1st Floor,**  
Min Le Yuan Inner Pedestrian  
民乐园万达广场室内步行街101B号  
Hours 7:30 -- 23:30

**Sculpting in Time**  
雕刻时光

**63 #28 Xianning West Road**  
雁塔区咸宁西路28号交大一村四舍(交大商场往西500米)  
Spacious and comfortable cafe  
Phone: 029-8537 5772

**612 #41 ShiDa Lu, YanTa District**  
西安市雁塔区师大路41号2楼  
Phone: 029-8522 8182  
Hours 08:30 -- 23:30

**612 2F, Golden Bridge Plaza,**  
Keji Lu  
高新区科技路金桥国际广场BC座2层  
Phone: 029-8886 0857  
Hours 08:30 -- 23:30

**67 NanYuan Men, BeiLin District**

碑林区南院门  
Phone: 029-8762 5857  
Hours 08:30 -- 23:30

**63 Café Ren by Sofitel**  
咖啡人  
#319 Dongxin Street  
西安索菲特人民大厦东楼一、二层  
Phone: 029-8792 8888  
A place brimming with the rich aroma of coffee, a wide variety of Chinese tea, delectable cakes and chocolates plus a selections of good wine and champagne.  
Hours 9:00 -- 23:00

**612 Village Café**  
香村咖啡馆  
#32 Shida Lu, Nearby the Shanxi Normal University  
雁塔区师大路32号  
Phone: 029-8522 2150  
Located in the south by Wai Yuan and Shi Da.

**67 NONO Cafe**  
NONO咖啡  
#113 South Avenue  
西安市南大街东木头市113号  
Phone: 029-8726 5599  
Hours 9:30 -- 00:00

**King Coffee**  
K 咖啡

**67 #1st Floor of Fang Hui Mansion,**  
No. 383 East Street  
东大街383号方汇大厦B1楼

**67 #52, Nan Da Jie**  
西安市南大街52号

**611 #25, Yan Ta West Road**  
西安市大唐通易坊25号  
Hours 9:00 -- 22:30

**63 Squirrel café**  
松鼠家咖啡  
100 meters to the west along the wall inside He Ping Men  
碑林区和平门内沿城墙向西100米  
Phone: 029-8752 4343  
137 0023 2148  
Hours 10:00 -- 22:00

**63 Back Nook Cafe**  
后角咖啡  
100m inside Dong Shun Cheng lane, South Gate, Xi'an  
西安市南门里东顺城巷内100米  
Phone: 029-8725 3257  
www.backnookbar.com  
Hours 11:00 -- 01:00

Advertising Hotline  
136-0919-3295  
Email: sales@xianease.com

**黄河慈善厨房**  
Yellow River Soup Kitchen

In addition to our many other projects we have served in excess of 100,000 meals to the homeless of Xi'an and through our outreach programme's in poor mountain villages have delivered aid to over 20,000 people.

If you wish to volunteer, donate old clothing etc. you can contact us at:  
Tel: 18691859661  
SoupKitchenChina@gmail.com  
www.SoupKitchen.cn / www.YellowRiverCharity.com  
QQ 35248368, 29288004, 96750160  
The Catholic Church, No 17 Wu Xing St., (15 mins walk from Bell Tower),  
陕西省西安市, 五星街天主教堂17号, 黄河慈善厨房(离钟楼步行15分钟)

**Western**

**66 Colabo**  
Italian Restaurant  
COLABO意大利餐厅  
11F, K.I.Tower, #1 of Xihuamen  
西安市西华门凯爱大厦11层  
Phone: 029-7201501/87201502  
Colabo is one of those places that once you set foot in you realize that you are in for a good meal.  
Hours 11:30 -15:00(L.O.14:00)  
17:30 -22:00(L.O.21:15)

**63 Burger King**  
汉堡王  
地铁二号线北大街站C出口B1层  
Phone: 8738 8321  
Hours 8:00am-10:00pm

**Subway**  
赛百味

**67 西大街店**  
#125 the West Street  
西大街 125号, 百盛购物中心西側  
Hours 7:00 -- 22:30  
Phone: 029-8727 4255 (Deliver)

**611 大雁塔店**  
Great Tang's All Day Mall,  
South Square of Big Wild Goose Pagoda.  
大唐不夜城新乐汇内, 中国银行旁  
Hours 8:00 -- 22:30  
Phone: 029-8557 3669 (Deliver)

**63 高新店**  
#17, Gaoxin 1st. Road  
高新一路17号  
Phone: 029-8826 9812 (Deliver)

**Small World Café**  
小世界咖啡

**63 Heping Gate Location**  
90 Huancheng Nanlu  
Dongduan  
环城南路东段90号  
Phone: 029-8122 6785  
Hours 10:30 -- 22:30

**611 Big Goose Pagoda Location**  
Huanta Nanlu, Da Yan Ta  
大雁塔环塔南路6号  
Phone: 029-8557 3949  
Friendly dutch owned cafe serving both western and chinese food. Check out their Terracotta Warrior breakfasts.

**3 Royal 3 Houses**  
3皇3家

**67 South Nan Guan Jie Branch**  
1st Floor, Wei Ye Building,  
#69 Nan Guan Road  
碑林区南广济街69号伟业大厦1楼  
Hours 09:00 -- 23:30

幽幽青梅 沁人心脾

**礼品团购进行中**

团购电话: 87201616 转803

西安优选商贸有限公司  
西安市北大街西华门1号 凯爱大厦B座11-3

**G10** Northern Square Branch  
Building C of Big Wild  
Goose Pagoda  
大雁塔北广场C座  
Hours 09:00 -- 23:30

**B9** High Tech Zone Branch  
Next to KFC, Gaoxin  
高新区高新路25号希格玛大厦一层

**A9** Bonra  
伏尔加俄罗斯餐厅酒吧  
No.5-10201,2F, lai an yi jing shopping area, #1, tang yan lu, gaoxin district.  
Phone:029-8816 9595  
Hours: 09:00-02:00

**F6** Azur by Sofitel  
雅奢餐厅  
East Wing Lobby, Sofitel on Renmin Square  
新城区东大街319号雅高人民大厦索菲特酒店东楼1  
Phone:029-8792 8888  
Hours 05:30 -- 11:30

**Paulaner Bräuhaus**  
Experience the Paulaner Bräuhaus Xi'an, the only microbrewery in town that serves fresh home-brewed Paulaner beer and authentic Bavarian cuisine in a warm and friendly environment which is bursting with excitement!  
Add:Level 1, Kempinski Hotel

Xi'an ,No. 6 West Section, Euro-Asia Avenue, Chanba Ecological District  
Phone: 029-8355 0000/8333  
Hours 11:30 -- 14:30  
17:30 -- 00:00

**G11** Bierhaus  
德瑞坊  
#6, Tong Yi Fang, Yan Ta West Road, Xi'an  
西安雁塔区雁塔西路大唐通易坊6号  
Phone: 029-8543 0602  
Hours 11:30 -- 23:00

**F12** Deutsches Bierhaus  
德国柏龙啤酒坊  
The first authentic German restaurant in Xi'an.  
Deutsches Bierhaus of Hexie Square, Qujiang International Conference & Exhibition Center  
西安曲江国际会展中心和谐广场E7  
Phone: 029-8765 5016  
Hours 10:00 -- 23:00

**B7** Gate West  
Restaurant & Bar  
喜来登食街  
#262, Feng Hao East Road  
莲湖区沣镐东路262号  
Phone: 029-8426 1888  
Hours 11:00 -- 23:00

Advertising Hotline  
136-0919-3295  
Email: sales@xianease.com

**Pizza**

**E6** Colabo  
Italian Restaurant  
COLABO意大利餐厅  
11F, K.I.Tower, #1 of Xihuamen  
西安市西华门凯爱大厦11层  
Phone: 029-87201501/87201502  
Colabo is one of those places that once you set foot in you realize that you are in for a good meal.  
Hours 11:30 -15:00(L.O.14:00)  
17:30 -22:00(L.O.21:15)

**L'accolina in bocca**  
阿果里呐  
**B12** #5 Tai Bai Ban Road, zi wei shang ceng, 2nd, east building, shop no.20107  
高新区太白南路5号紫薇尚层东2号楼20107  
Phone: 029-8889 4573  
Hours 11:00 -- 20:00 (Sunday off)

**A9** Ke Ji road xi kou, no.18 du shi yin xiang street, ground floor, shop no.10116  
高新区科技路西口都市印象街区18栋1层10116  
Phone: 13363990100  
Hours 11:00 -- 21:00

**Papa John's**  
棒约翰

**G11** 1st&2nd Floor, Happy Mall, Dayan Pagoda Plaza.  
曲江新区大雁塔南广场东南侧新乐汇A5区1,2层  
Phone:029-8535 8732  
Hours:10:30-22:30

**G5** Wanda Plaza, Min Le Yuan, Jie Fang Road.  
解放路民乐园万达广场  
Phone:029-8740 2921  
Hours:10:00-22:00

**B9** Bacchus Pizza  
巴克斯比萨  
#25 Gao Xin Road  
高新路25号  
Phone: 029-8821 8111  
The restaurant offers 19 kinds of pizzas. Besides pizza, there is some Italian food, like spaghetti with black pepper dressing.  
Hours 09:30 -- 23:00

**F7** Pizza Hut  
必胜客  
1F, Haida Tiandi Building, #8 Nanda Jie  
南大街8号 海大天地商厦1楼  
Phone: 029-87687399/87687388  
Hours 10:30 -- 22:30

1F, Gao Xin Shopping Mall, #33 Keji Lu  
科技路33号高新购物中心1楼  
Phone: 029-6296 1181  
Hours 10:30 -- 22:30

**E3** High Fly Pizza  
高飞比萨  
#73 Huancheng Nan Lu  
朱雀门外环城南路73号  
Phone: 029-8841 0626  
Hours 11:00 -- 22:00

**Indian**

**F11** Delhi Darbar  
新德里餐厅  
#3 Da Tang tong Yi Fang, Yanta Xi Lu  
雁塔西路大唐通易坊东头3号  
Phone: 029-85255157  
Very popular restaurant serving authentic Indian dishes. Great food, a nice atmosphere and reasonable prices make this a favourite.  
Hours 10:30 -- 23:00

**G11** CacaJa  
印度菜  
#46 Yanta Xi Lu  
雁塔西路46号  
Phone: 029-85252536  
Hours 11:30 -- 16:30  
17:30 -- 22:30

**Japanese**

**G12** Inimitable Restaurant  
旺角创意餐厅  
Japanese cuisine; BBQ; Dessert.  
科技五路旺座现代城C座 Block C, wangzuo xiandai-cheng, ke ji 5 lu, Gaoxin.  
Phone:029-88785478  
Hours: 11:00-14:00  
17:00-21:30

**E3** Ogasawara  
小笠原日本料理  
#9 Zhu Que Men Li, 1F Xi'an Evening News Building  
西安晚报大厦, 朱雀门里9号  
Phone: 029-87625000 ext 5800  
The restaurant offers a buffet from 11:00 -2:00 pm. 50 RMB for one person, including soft drinks and beer.  
Hours 11:00 -- 22:00

**Qing Du Li**  
青都里多国料理

**J9** 5F Yuehao Haihuang Hotel,  
#1 South of Donger Huan  
东二环南段1号粤好海皇酒店5楼

Phone: 029-82216999  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 21:30

**B9** 1F Xie Tong Buliding, #12 Gaoxin Er Lu  
高新二路12号协同大厦1楼  
Phone: 029-83150666  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 21:30

**F6** Koi by Sofitel  
锦鲤餐厅  
#319 Dongxin Jie  
东新街319号  
The light yet distinctive flavour of Japanese dishes prepared by Japanese chefs. Featuring teppanyaki tables, sushi area, private tatami rooms and delicious a la carte selections.  
Phone: 029-8792 8888ext 4689  
Hours 11:30 -- 14:00  
17:30 -- 22:00

**Domu**  
多木铁板烧日本料理  
**E7** #26 Fen Xiang, South Avenue  
南大街粉巷26号  
Phone: 029-8721 8689  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 22:00

**J10** C03, #18 Yanxiang Lu  
雁翔路副18号C03栋  
Phone: 029-87218689  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 22:00

**Ajisen Ramen**  
味干拉面  
**G9** 1F, Wan Da Shopping Mall,  
#8 Yanta Lu  
雁塔路8号万达广场1楼  
Phone: 029-85560358  
Hours 10:00 -- 22:00

**E7** 2F, Melody Hotel, #86 Xida Jie  
西大街86号美伦酒店2楼  
Phone: 029-87639368  
Hours 10:00 -- 22:00

**F10** Huili  
惠里日本料理  
#1 Changan Bei Lu  
长安北路1号  
Phone: 029-85261888  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
18:00 -- 21:00

**Korean**

**E9** Sarabol  
萨拉伯尔韩国料理  
#14 Chang'an Bei Lu, East gate

of the Shaanxi Stadium  
长安北路14号  
Phone: 029-8559 0088  
This is a nice Korean restaurant; they serve the best Korean food in Xi'an. The barbecue makes you mouth water and the hand-pulled noodles in soup are tasty.  
Hours 11:00 -- 21:30

**E7** Tudari  
士大力  
2F, INTIME Shopping Mall,  
#48 Xida Jie  
西大街48号银泰广场2楼  
Phone: 029-8727 1264  
Hours 11:00 -- 23:00

**B9** Hai Yun Tai  
海云台  
#17 Gaoxin Yi Lu  
高新一路17号  
Phone: 029-8832 7878  
Hours 11:30 -- 23:30

**Chinese**

**B9** Bai Xing Chu Fang  
百姓厨房  
#6 Guangde Lu  
光德路6号  
Phone: 029-8831 7280  
Hours 11:30 -- 21:30

**B9** Xiang Shui Yao  
湘水肴  
#5 Guangde Lu, Gaoxin Er Lu  
高新二路光德路5号  
Phone: 029-8833 8888  
Hours 10:00 -- 21:30

**G9** Tibetan Fish  
藏式秘汁烤鱼  
200 Meters West of #323 Hospital, Jian She West Road  
建设西路323医院向西200米路北  
Phone: 029-8503 0543

**Da Pan Ji**  
新疆大盘鸡餐厅  
#161 Han Chen South Road  
汉城南路161号  
Phone: 029-8425 3959  
Hours 11:00 -- 21:30

**B3** Lao Pu Kao Ya  
北京老铺烤鸭  
#1 Laodong Bei Lu  
劳动北路1号  
Phone: 029-8864 5888  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:30  
16:00 -- 21:00

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**B9** #3 Gaoxin Road  
高新路3号  
Phone: 029-8122 6785  
Hours 7:00 -- 11:00  
10:30 -- 14:30

**H7** #1 middle of Huancheng Dong Lu  
环城东路中段1号  
Phone: 029-8240 3688  
Hours 7:00 -- 11:00  
10:30 -- 14:30

**Yue Zhen Xuan**  
粤珍轩

**F6** #256 Dongxin Jie, Xin Cheng Square  
东新街256号新城广场  
Phone: 029-8742 2222  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 04:00

**D8** 1F Hanguang Buliding,  
#142 Huangcheng Nan Lu  
环城南路142号含光大厦1楼  
Phone: 029-8841 1333  
Hours 11:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 04:00

**Vegetarian**

**G11** Tianlong Vegetarian  
天龙宝素食馆  
#1 Yanta West Road

雁塔西路1号  
Phone: 029-8526 6880  
Hours 11:00 -- 21:00

**G11** Datang Vegetarian  
大唐素食坊  
#5 Yanta 1st Road  
雁塔一路5号207

**BBQ**

**F9** Xiao Yang Kao Rou  
小杨烤肉  
#256 Jianshe Xi Lu  
建设西路256号  
Phone: 029-8110 1825  
Hours 10:00 -- 14:00  
17:00 -- 04:00

**E6** Hui Min Jie  
回民街  
Near Drum Tower  
鼓楼旁边

**Hotpot**

**Hai Di Lao**  
海底捞  
**G10** #11, South of Yanta Lu  
雁塔路南段11号  
Phone: 029-8553 6971  
Hours 10:30 -- 03:00

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**旺角**  
Address: Block C, Wangzuo Xiandaicheng, Ke Ji 5 Lu, Gaoxin District.  
Hours: 11:30-14:00 17:30-21:30  
Tel: 029-88785478

**B9** 3F, Gao Ke Bulding, #1 Gaoxin Si Lu  
高新四路1号高科广场3楼  
Phone: 029-8836 1337  
Hours 10:30 -- 03:00

**G7** **Jing Fu Hua**  
京福华  
#27 Xiguanzheng Jie  
西关正街27号  
Phone: 029-8862 6321  
Hours 11:00 -- 22:00

**H7** **Wu Ming Hot-pot**  
吴铭火锅  
#88 Jianguo Lu  
建国路88号  
Phone: 029-8742 7379  
Hours 09:30 -- 23:00

**Dessert**

**G9** **Bibini Nice-cream**  
比比里意大利冰淇淋店  
Gelato, Coffee, Dessert, Snacks  
太白路立交, 怡丰城, 负一层步行街  
Basement 1, Vivo City, Tai Bai roundabout  
Phone: 029-8730 0162  
Hours 10:00-22:00

**Baskin Robbins**  
芭斯罗缤

**B9** 1F Xinhui Bulding, #25 Gaoxin Lu  
高新路25号新汇大厦1楼  
Phone: 029-8825 6863  
Hours 09:30 -- 23:00

**F7** #1 Luo Ma Shi, South of Min Sheng Shopping Mall  
骡马市1号民生百货南侧  
Phone: 029-8765 6554  
Hours 09:30 -- 23:00

**G10** #2 Yanta Lu, Northern Square Branch Building  
雁塔路2号大雁塔北广场西侧  
Phone: 029-8740 3182  
Hours 09:30 -- 23:00

**HaagenDazs**  
哈根达斯

**B10** 1F Ginwa Shopping Mall, #33 Keji Lu  
科技路33号世纪金花购物中心1楼  
Phone: 029-8832 3135  
Hours 10:30 -- 23:00

**E8** #88 Nanguan Zheng Jie  
南关正街88号巴黎春天购物中心1楼  
Phone: 029-8765 1591

Hours 10:30 -- 23:00

**G9** **Dairy Queen**  
#8 Yanta Lu,  
Wanda Shopping Mall  
雁塔路8号万达广场1楼  
Phone: 029-8556 0856

**Shopping**

**Lotus Supermarket**  
易初莲花超市

**A10** #3 Tang Yan Road  
唐延路3号, 枫叶新都市对面  
Thai supermarket.

**F12** Southeast of the Television Tower on Changan Street  
电视塔东南角

**B5** Northwest Hu Jia Miao Intersection  
胡家庙十字西北角

**B9** **Shiya Wine**  
世雅酒窖  
2F, #10, Gaoxin 1 road, Xi'an  
西安市高新一路十号二层  
Phone: 029-88320102  
www.shiyawine.com

**E9** **Korean Supermarket**  
韩国食品超市  
#18 Xin Yuan Residential Area  
Tian Tan West Road  
天坛西路杏园小区18号楼  
Phone: 029-8533 6200  
13379037071  
Hours 08:00 -- 21:00

**Foreign Goods**

**F12** **Metro**  
麦德龙超市  
#86 Chan'an Road, 50 meters to the TV Tower  
长安南路86号, 临近电视塔  
Western Supermarket located next to the TV tower in the South of Xi'an. This is one of the best places in Xi'an to purchase imported food such as cheese, beer, wine, meats and those hard to find ingredients.

**F7** **Wal-Mart**  
沃尔玛  
Luo Ma Shi Pedestrian Street  
骡马市商业步行街

**Shopping Centers**

**F7** **Kai Yuan Shopping Mall**  
开元商城  
#6 East Avenue next to the Bell

Tower  
东大街解放市场6号  
Phone: 029-8723 5340

**F7** **Min Sheng Shopping Mall**  
民生百货  
Luo Ma Shi Pedestrian Street  
西安骡马市步行街

**F7** **Zhong Da International Shopping Center**  
中大国际  
30 South Street  
南大街30号  
Phone: 029-8720 3000  
Hours 10:00 -- 22:00

**Parkson Shopping Center**  
百盛购物中心

**G7** #1 Shang Jian Road Da Chai Shi  
尚俭路1号 大差市店

**E7** Shi Dai Sheng Dian Building West Avenue  
时代盛典大厦, 北广济街口 西大街店

**E10** Chang'an Road Xiao Zhai Area, Xi'an.  
长安路, 兴善寺街口 小寨店  
Hours 09:30 -- 21:30

**Ginwa Shopping Center**  
世纪金花购物中心

**G9** #1 Xida Jie next to the bell tower  
西大街1号钟鼓楼广场  
Phone: 029-87631708

**G5** #55 Keji Lu  
科技路55号  
Phone: 029-6296 1099  
Hours 10:00 -- 22:00

**Wan Da Shopping Mall**  
万达广场

**G9** #8 North of Yanta Lu  
雁塔路北段8号

**G5** Wulu Kou  
五路口东南角

**E6** **Grand Ocean**  
大洋百货  
Beida Jie  
北大街

**Tea Markets**

**Ren He Tea Market**  
人和茶叶市场  
#101 Chang Le Zhong Road  
长乐中路101号

Advertising Hotline: 136-0919-3295  
Email: sales@xianease.com

**Shaanxi Qing Gong Tea Market**  
陕西轻工茶城  
Yi Wu Market, #188 Chang Le Central Road  
长乐中路188号 义乌商城

**Clothing Markets**

**E10** **Bai Hui Market**  
百汇市场  
Bai Hui Market, Chang'an Central Road  
长安中路 百汇市场

**B5** **Duo Cai Wholesale Clothing Mall**  
多彩服装商城  
215 Chang Le West Road  
长乐西路215号

**Hua Dong Wholesale Clothing Market**  
华东服装商城

**B5** Chang Le Store:  
#128 Chang Le West Road  
长乐西路128号

**E12** Chang'an Store:  
Wu Jia Fen, Chang'an South Road  
长安南路陕西师范大学对面 吴家坟

**Sporting Goods**

**E9** **Impulse Fitness Equipment**  
英派斯商用力量产品  
#14 Changan North Road Building D of Shaanxi TiJiao Building, Xi'an.  
长安北路14号省体育场南大门东侧 省体教公寓D座1层  
Phone: 029-8523 0026  
Hours 09:00 -- 18:00

**Five Ring Outlets**  
五环工厂店

**B9** #18 Gaoxin Lu  
高新路18号

**B8** South of Er Huan Dong Lu  
东二环与咸宁西路交叉十字

**Health Goods**

**Traditional Chinese Medicine Market**  
西安万寿路中药材市场  
Wan Shou Road North, Xi'an.  
万寿北路

**Lao Bai Xing Medicine Store**  
老百姓大药房

**G10** #1 Keji Lu  
科技路1号  
Phone: 029-8822 9137

**E5** Beida Jie intersection  
北大街十字  
Phone: 029-8721 1888

**Appliance Centers**

**Suning Home Appliance**  
苏宁电器

**E5** #23 Lian Hu Road  
莲湖路23号  
Phone: 029-8731 9196  
Hours 09:30 -- 19:00

**E9** #40 Chang'an North Road  
长安北路40号  
Hours 09:30 -- 19:00  
Phone: 029-8524 5844

**F10** #126 Xiaozhai East Road  
小寨东路126号  
Hours 09:30 -- 19:00  
Phone: 029-8733 9888

**Guo Mei Appliance**  
国美电器

**E5** 113, Beida Jie  
北大街113号  
Phone: 029-8721 9521  
Hours 09:30 -- 20:30

**B10** 1 Keji Lu  
科技路1号  
Phone: 029-8856 9620  
Hours 09:00 -- 21:30

**Furniture Markets**

**F11** **Da Ming Gong Furniture Center**  
大明宫建材家具城  
#180 Tai Hua Bei Road  
太华北路180号  
Phone: 029-8811 6666  
Hours 09:30 -- 18:00

**San Sen International Furniture Center**  
三森国际家居汇展中心  
#18 Chang'an Nan Road,  
YanTa District  
长安南路18号  
Phone: 029-85337891  
Hours 09:00 -- 18:30

**Armrit International Furniture Center**  
阿姆斯特国际家具中心  
South side of the Zi Wei Tian

Yuan Residential Area  
紫薇田园都市南侧  
Phone: 029-8569 1236  
Hours 09:40 -- 17:30

**G9** **Macalline**  
红星美凯龙  
#1 Taibai North Road,  
Bei Lin District  
碑林区太白北路1号  
Phone: 029-6262 6666  
Hours 09:30 -- 18:30

**Antique Markets**

**B6** **Ba Xian An Antique Market**  
八仙庵古玩市场  
Ba Xian An, An Ren Fang, Bei Lin District  
新城区安仁坊八仙庵

**B8** **Shu Yuan Gate**  
书院门  
Shu Yuan Gate,  
南门里书院门

**E8** **Xi'an Antique City**  
西安古玩市场  
#2 Central Section of Zhu Que Avenue  
朱雀大街2号

**G11** **Sheng Tang Pottery Store**  
盛唐工艺坊  
41 Da Tang Shopping Street,  
Yanta West Road  
雁塔西路大唐通易坊41号  
Phone: 029-8525 6318  
Hours 09:00 -- 22:30

**E6** **Bei Yuan Gate**  
北院门  
Bei Yuan Gate,  
Lian Hu District  
莲湖区北院门

**E6** **Muslim Street**  
回民街  
Hui Min Street,  
Drum Tower Square  
鼓楼广场回民街

**Book Shops**

**F7** **Belltower Bookstore**  
钟楼新华书店  
#337 East avenue  
东大街377号  
Phone: 029-8721 6194

**F10** **Wang Bang Book City**  
万邦图书城

#126 Xiao Zhai East Road  
小寨东路126号百隆广场一层  
Phone: 029-8793 7360

**F11** **Zhong Shan Book Mall**  
中山书城  
#158 Yan Ta Road, Xi'an.  
雁塔西路158号  
Phone: 029-8523 5456

**Plant Markets**

**E9** **Yanta Flower Market**  
小雁塔苗圃市场  
Zhu Que Avenue  
朱雀大街, 西安体育学院后  
门对面

**Health and Fitness**

**Gyms**

**B9** **Megafit Fitness Center**  
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#3 Gao Xin Lu  
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**E7** **Megafit Fitness Center**  
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Phone: 029-8727 6688

**Hotel**

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Meal Rsv.86-029-89189153  
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#14,4th Gaoxin Road, Hi-Tech District, Xi'an  
www.zuoyouke.cn  
http://blog.sina.com.cn/zuoyouke

**E8** **Swisstouches**  
瑞斯丽酒店  
#22 Feng Hui South Road,  
GaoXin District, Xian.  
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Phone: (86 29) 6858 8888  
ext. 6128  
www.swisstouchesxian.com

**F6** **Sofitel Xi'an**  
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Phone: 029- 8355 0000

**J5 Golden Flower Hotel, Xian**  
西安金花大酒店  
#8 Chang Le Road West, Xian  
西安市长乐西路8号  
Phone: 029-8323 2981

**Citadines**  
西安馨乐庭服务公寓

**E7 Citadines Central Xi'an**  
西安馨乐庭城中服务公寓  
#36 Zhubashi, Beilin District, Xi'an, China  
西安市碑林区竹笆市36号  
Phone: 029-8576 1188

**A9 Citadines Gaoxin Xi'an**  
西安馨乐庭高新服务公寓  
#13 Gaoxin Si Road, Hi-Tech Zone, Xi'an, China  
西安市高新区高新四路13号  
Phone: 029-8843 7888

**J3 Citadines Xingqing Palace Xi'an**  
西安馨乐庭兴庆宫服务公寓  
#159 Xingqing Road, Beilin District, Xi'an, China  
西安市碑林区兴庆路159号  
Phone: 029-8338 0588

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136-0919-3295  
Email: sales@xianease.com

**Spas**

**E9 Real Love Spa**  
真爱年华洗浴广场  
#38, middle of Zhuque Street.  
朱雀大街中段38号  
Phone: 029-8840 1234

**A9 Victoria Spa**  
维多利亚浴场  
#210 West Taoyuan, West of 2nd South Ring  
南二环西段西桃园210号  
Phone: 029-8428 8888

**E7 Qing Jian Bathing Place**  
清见御所  
Northeast Corner of Wuwei Cross, #53 Nanyuan Gate  
南院门53号五味十字东北角  
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**Xi'an Book Club**  
Look for us at various location around the city for general talk, catch-up, and sometimes it's about books, in general a great way to grab a cup of coffee (or tea!), sit around and talk to like minded people.

**Xi'an International Business Forum**  
The Xi'an Foreign Business Forum is a non-profit organisation. The Forum exists as a stage for bringing the Xi'an foreign business community together socially, providing a support mechanism to its members and as a vehicle to be able to voice opinions and plans to local government.  
www.xianfbf.com/

**The Yellow River Soup Kitchen**  
The Yellow River Soup Kitchen is a not for profit NGO, registered in the UK. A secular organisation that is open to everybody, it is wholly run by volunteers for volunteers and as such has no overheads of any description. To learn more about The Yellow River Soup Kitchen, please check

out their web site at:  
www.yellowrivercharity.com

**Japanese Society**  
The Japanese Society has been in Xi'an for a number of years, meeting once a month at various locations around the city it's open to all Japanese and Japanese speakers living, visiting, and working in Xi'an.  
www.xian-jpn.com/

**Korean Free Paper**  
The Korean Free Paper is the link to the Korean population in Xi'an. The random get together and other news can all be found in their online paper.  
www.xasilkroad.com

**Xi'an Photo and Video Club**  
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**Education**

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Cellphone: 13772074121  
(24 hours)  
Email: yaxiya1981@163.com  
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# MARCH

## Pub Quiz Questions



### Across

- After being tortured and convicted for his involvement in the Gunpowder Plot, who famously broke his own neck when he jumped from the gallows before his execution?
- What is another term for Ultra High Temperature when it comes to Milk?
- Who led the Argonauts in their search for the Golden Fleece?
- What is the largest country through which the equator passes?
- In which epic poem does Satan famously claim 'better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven'?
- Who is Dr. Bunsen Honeydew's laboratory assistant in Muppet Labs?
- Whose ear did Mike Tyson bite in 'The Sound and the Fury' fight in 1997?
- What former Olympic sport required athletes to move backwards in order to win?
- What is one of the names of the collection of Arabic stories includes the tale of 'Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp', 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves', and 'the Seven Voyages of Sinbad'?
- The two most commonly grown coffee beans are robusta and what?
- Bourbon County, America's famous whiskey-producing region, is in which American state?
- What is the largest of the five countries that share borders with Azerbaijan?

### Down

- In which building does the Papal Conclave convene to elect the new Pope?
- What Middle Eastern dish is made by blending chickpeas with tahini, olive oil, lemon, salt, and garlic?
- Christian Bale and George Clooney are the only two Oscar-winning actors to have played which character on film?
- What band's original lineup included Paul Stanley, Gene Simmons, Ace Frehley, and Peter Dinklage?
- What 1983 Billy Joel song was re-popularized in 2001 when it was covered by Westlife?
- Which Australian actor played James Bond?
- At 48, what boxer recently became the oldest man in recorded boxing history to win a world boxing championship title?
- In which of Shakespeare's plays did the king offer his kingdom for a horse?
- What Welsh writer wrote Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, and the screenplay to the James Bond film, You Only Live Twice?
- The 25km long King Fahd Causeway links Saudi Arabia to which other country?
- With just under 32,000, which country has the most lakes?
- At the start of a game, how many balls are on a snooker table?
- On the cover of the 'Bad' album, what colour is Michael Jackson wearing?

Five teams competed for the "Tower of Power" in March and Patch Atkinson pulled it out once again with a run of 24. There are new arrivals in Xi'an this month so why not come on out to see if you can meet up and make a team and try to stop Patch in their reign of terror.

Want the answers? Head over to [www.xianease.com/trivia](http://www.xianease.com/trivia) for this month's answers

## Movie Review

Article By *Daemon Klute*

### Skyfall: I Remember When Bond Was Cool

One of the great tragedies of aging is that sooner or later someone will remake something you once loved... and it will be bad. Whether it is Sheryl Crow butchering "Sweet Child of Mine", a G.I. Joe film with jet-packs, or the latest Bond installment; the experience will be unpleasant and reminiscent of watching your childhood home being torn down to make room for a strip mall.

Bond always worked because 007 didn't live in the world we did. Ian Fleming wrote him as a fantasy character that did not adhere to the limits of mere mortals. He was not an old man, he was not gritty, and he definitely didn't get emotionally involved in any case (save for the desire of revenge). He was the man all boys and men wanted to be. Impeccably dressed, uber-suave in

any situation, and he had access to an array of gadgets that fueled childhood fantasies for decades.

I know Bond was a misogynist archetype who would be living with a smorgasbord of STD's. I know that his liquor consumption meant his liver should be the size of a large pumpkin and the very fact he was alive was a miracle. But that is why we loved Bond; he was the man we could never be.

Maybe I am a relic and a dinosaur; but I weep for the next generation. Vampires shine in sunlight and fall in love with teenagers, every man seems to cry in the movies, and now Bond has been castrated. These are sad times; the characters of my past are being pulled from history and revamped to fit a modern world where the iconic masculine hero is no longer wanted.



Daemon is an American/Canadian and has been living in Xi'an since 2004. He teaches at a local University and loves this city and everything it has to offer. If you would like to contact him or recommend a movie/book/album for him to review contact him at [daemon.klute@xianease.com](mailto:daemon.klute@xianease.com)

R.I.P. 007, I will always have your box set to remind me of who you were.

## Book Review

Article By *Huey Ly*

### The Xian Book Club Report: The Life of Pi

When the book the Life of Pi came out in 2001, I was in college and working my ass off to pay the bills and wasn't too paying too much attention. The book didn't make much of a splash in the U.S. as I recall; I only heard of it in passing from a waiter friend who touted it as one of the greatest philosophical books ever written. Now that I have seen the movie and subsequently, read the novel, I wish I had read it way back then. I am sure if I did it would've shaped the outlook and philosophies of the twelve odd years in between then and now. Maybe I would've embraced a religion or became a hard core atheist, instead of turning into the wanderlust agnostic that I am today.

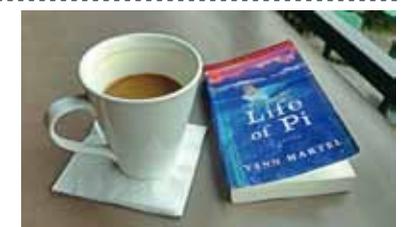
The story of an Indian boy named Pi Patel surviving in the Pacific for 227 days, sharing the boat with a Bengal tiger no less, is a complete work of fiction. To my knowledge such an incident never occurred in the history of the world (I've googled extensively, the closest story I found was about two Kiribati fishermen who spent 177 days in the ocean eating tiger sharks that hounded them). The author, Yann Martel, even confessed that he got the inspiration after reading the review of a novella called Max and the Cats, in which a small part of the story depicts the main character trapped on a boat with a Jaguar. Incidentally, the author of the novella considered taking legal action, but decided not to after talking to Martel and realizing that they were completely two different stories.

If you haven't seen the movie or read the book, you would think a story about a boy being trapped on a boat with a tiger (and

various other animals in the beginning) sounds pretty boring. It could've been, except the narrative of Pi Patel is thoroughly interesting to read. The innocent quality of Pi Patel's voice sometime stood in stark contrast to the horrific realities which surrounded him. The descriptions of the hyena attacking the zebra and orangutan were especially chilling. But don't be mistaken, despite the harsh nature of the story, this book is at times funny and at times inspiring. The bits of information on zoology and animal behaviors, as well as lessons in surviving as a castaway, are well researched and abundant. It even seems at times out of character for Pi to know so much! Despite its minor flaws, such as the prose sometimes trying too hard to be witty and jerking me out of the story, I found it hard to put down and read it cover to cover in less than a week.

You might ask, should I read the book if I have seen the movie? I would offer a resounding yes! The movie and the book offer two different experiences. Although the plot didn't change much, with the movie you are awed by the masterful directing of Ang Lee. But reading the book I found myself much more immersed, as though as I am there with Pi suffering on the boat. The extra background-stories in the book bring much greater depths to the experience.

This book makes me question the nature of Truth and Reality. This book makes me admire the effects of skilled story-telling. This book makes me reflect on my own stubbornness to refuse to believe in things that couldn't be proven (such as a religion).



Despite being an entertaining story, this book has so many layers to explore and to dwell upon long after you've closed the covers. Indeed, if it had only been a straight forward survival story, it would've been an entertaining book. But the unexpected third act (I didn't see it coming when I first saw the movie) just elevates it to a whole new level.

Sometimes after finishing a book that has been out for a while, I am shocked that I have put off reading it for so long. The books we read and internalized can shape the person we become. As readers we can absorb the experiences and world views from so many different sources. Who knows how many other books and experiences I have missed. Regardless of the book being totally made up from the author's imagination or based on true accounts, every story I read can drastically affect my psyche and mental outlook on life. And like Pi Patel's thoughtful point at the end of the novel, a story doesn't necessarily have to be true to be good.

This was a truly memorable read.

Huey Ly is a member of the Xi'an Book Club - they can be reached at [librarian@xianease.com](mailto:librarian@xianease.com)

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My name is Fraser Stewart from the UK. I work for Xi'an Jiaotong University as a maths Professor, and I've been living in Xi'an for 10 months now. I'm looking for a kind, patient, intelligent and open minded woman to be my girlfriend. If you're interested then get in touch.



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### Xi'an to Beijing

Train No.	From	Dep. Time	To	Arr. Time
T8	Xian	00:34	Beijing West	13:28
T70	Xian	01:08	Beijing West	14:36
T76	Xian	03:34	Beijing West	15:49
T42	Xian	18:42	Beijing West	06:22
Z20	Xian	20:16	Beijing West	07:17
T45/T44	Xian	20:34	Beijing West	07:40
T232	Xian	20:40	Beijing West	09:06
T56	Xian	21:22	Beijing West	09:59
T152	Xian	23:12	Beijing West	11:34

### Xi'an to Chengdu

Train No.	From	Dep. Time	To	Arr. Time
K290/K291	Xian	04:01	Chengdu	19:23
T7	Xian	05:17	Chengdu	17:58
K245/K248	Xian	06:25	Chengdu	22:10
K5	Xian	13:20	Chengdu	05:25
K696/K697	Xian	13:32	Chengdu	06:03
K676/K677	Xian	14:06	Chengdu	07:28
K879	Xian	17:30	Chengdu	11:03
K388/K385	Xian	20:05	Chengdu	11:52
K869	Xian	20:57	Chengdu	12:58

### Xi'an to Shanghai

Train No.	From	Dep. Time	To	Arr. Time
K292/K289	Xian	09:51	Shanghai	05:08
K378/K375	Xian	10:54	Shanghai	05:38
K359/K362	Xian	11:05	Shanghai	05:58
K698/K695	Xian	11:19	Shanghai	09:14
Z94/Z91	Xian	17:00	Shanghai	06:42
K559/K558	Xian	17:24	Shanghai	15:49
T140/T137	Xian	19:50	Shanghai	12:02
T166/T163	Xian	21:02	Shanghai	11:15
T118/T115	Xian	21:09	Shanghai	13:40

### Flights

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