



# Beijing Quicklist

TOP 5 LANDMARKS & SIGHTS

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**Daily 9am-4pm**

**Address**

Yong He Gong Dajie 12

**Metro:** Yong He Gong/Lama Temple (215, exit C)

**010-6404-3769**

## Yonghe Gong (Lama Temple)

The Yonghe Temple is a complex of progressively larger buildings topped with ornate yellow-tiled roofs, Yonghe Gong was built in 1694 and originally belonged to the Qing prince who would become the Yongzheng emperor. The entire temple is decorated with Buddha images—all guarded by somber lamas (monks) dressed in brown robes. The Yonghe Temple is arranged along a north-south central axis, which has a length of 480m. The main gate is at the southern end of this axis.

**8:30am-4:30pm**

**Address**

Directly across from Baiyun Guan bus stop

**Bus:** 727 from Muxidi metro (112, exit D2) to Baiyun Guan

**010-6346-3531**

## White Cloud Temple (Baiyun guan)

White Cloud Temple is a huge and fascinating temple complex of shrines and courtyards, tended by distinctive Daoist monks with their hair long and tied in a bun at the top of the head. The White Cloud Temple was first founded in the mid-8th century during the Tang Dynasty, and was initially called Tianchang Abbey (Abbey of Celestial Perpetuity). Out of twenty Quanzhen ordination centers in Qing times, Baiyun guan was the most important. In order to become a Daoist priest, novices first had to spend three years living in a temple. After accomplishing this, they were eligible to be ordained. The ordination was a extremely harsh.

**Daily 8:30am to 5pm**

**Address**

North side of Tian'an Men Square

**Metro:** Tian'an Men Dong, 117

**010-6513-2255**

## Forbidden City

The Forbidden City receives more visitors than any other attraction in the country (over seven million a year, the government says), and has been praised in Western travel literature ever since the first Europeans laid eyes on it in the late 1500s. Since 1925, the Forbidden City has been under the charge of the Palace Museum, whose extensive collection of artwork and artifacts were built upon the imperial collections of the Ming and Qing dynasties. Part of the museum's former collection is now located in the National Palace Museum in Taipei. Both museums descend from the same institution, but were split after the Chinese Civil War.

**Open daily**

**Address**

Xiao Wu Ji Bei Lu, Dong Si Huan (East Fourth Ring Road)

**010-6738-3333**

## Beijing Huanle Gu (Happy Valley Amusement Park)

The park, which is located in the east of Beijing, is one of four chained theme parks with the other three Happy Valley theme parks located in the city of Chengdu, Shanghai. Similar in style with the Disneyland Park, Happy Valley Beijing also featured distinctive landscapes and themes throughout the resort along with featured rides within the different themes. Lines for rides can be 3 hours long, so arrive early and avoid the weekends.

**Daily 6:30 am - 7 pm**

**Address:** Yanqing County, Beijing

**Directions:** 70 km (43 mi) northwest of Beijing

**010-6912-1383**

## The Great Wall at Badaling

China's best-known attraction is still mind-boggling. The Great Wall begins at Shanhai Guan on the Bo Hai Sea and snakes west to a fort at Jiayu Guan in the Gobi Desert. The wall at Badaling has undergone heavy restoration, and in 1957 it was the first section of the wall to open to tourists. Now visited annually by millions, the immediate area has seen significant development, including hotels, restaurants, and a cable car. By car from downtown Beijing it's only one hour.