



*Splendeurs de Peking*

# Welcome to China

Come join us and spend a magical weekend in the Northern Capital of the Middle Kingdom – Beijing, People's Republic of China. Together, let's discover gastronomic and oenological delights amidst the cultural heritage of ancient and modern Beijing; sharing moments that will be imprinted into our memories as the "Splendeurs de Pekin."

China, a country where until the 20th Century, the visits and exploration were the preserve of intrepid travellers and in times gone by, of missionaries who often never returned to their native lands. Today, as we try to compare "New China" with the image of "Old Cathay", we see that although much has changed in this rapidly developing country, much has remained the same and it welcomes visitors with open arms to come and experience its cultural and gastronomic heritage.

China is a country with a complex history encompassing thousands of years, many dynasties, upheavals, flourishing civilisations and cultures, this ancient and yet new country offers a most unusual experience to visitors.

Designed originally to mirror the order of Heaven, Beijing of today retains a unique feeling that one does not find anywhere else. And although modernisation proceeds at a frenetic pace, the old, unusual and exciting remains present in the city.

Looking around, it is fun to imagine what the city looked like in ancient times when the caravans arrived and the camels were unloaded bringing spices and goods from such far away places as France, Italy and the Middle East.

To understand Beijing one should explore it on foot. One should touch the ancient walls of the Forbidden City and listen to what they have to say. One should smell the air in the many parks and hutongs where even today peddlers offer their goods in the centuries old tradition.

We hope you take this opportunity to join us here in Beijing, the ancient, yet modern capital of The People's Republic of China!



**Vlad Reyes**  
**BAILLI, Bailliage de Pekin**  
**BAILLI DELEGUE, Bailliage National de Chine**



BAILLIAGE NATIONAL  
DE CHINE



PREMIER GRAND CHAPITRE DE  
CHINE  
3RD – 5TH SEPTEMBER 2010





# *Grand Chapitre Program*

## *Friday, 3rd September 2010*

Afternoon: Tour of Tian'anmen Square including view from the Rostrum

Evening: Cocktail and Gala Dinner at Dadong Restaurant, Jinbao Place

## *Saturday, 4th September 2010*

Morning: Panjiayuan Antique Market

Afternoon: Bus ride to the Great Wall

Evening: Induction & Gala Dinner at Juyong Pass

## *Sunday, 5th September 2010*

Morning: Forbidden City tour with a historian

Afternoon: Cruise on Kunming Lake at The Summer Palace

Evening: Farewell Dinner at Maison Boulud, Legation Quarter

## Day 1 Friday, 3rd September 2010

Breakfast at leisure

15:30 hrs Depart for the Rostrum overlooking Tian'anmen Square  
18:00 hrs Cocktails at the DaDong Restaurant at Jing Bao Hui  
19:00 hrs Roast Duck Dinner at DaDong Restaurant  
21:30 hrs Return to hotel



### *The Rostrum*

Tian'anmen Gate (the "Rostrum")

On the north side of the Tian'anmen Square stands a gate of the same name, the Tian'anmen Gate or as often called, the Rostrum.

On October 1, 1949, Chairman Mao Zedong ascended the Rostrum and proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China. Since then, the Rostrum has become an important place for parades and mass assemblies in China.

Like emperors in ancient China and government leaders of modern, new China, you will ascend the Rostrum and overlook the largest square in the world and imagine the historical scene that took place 61 years.



### *DaDong Restaurant at Jing Bao Hui*

Da Dong in Beijing is synonymous with the best roast duck in Beijing, and Chef Dong's "super lean" glazed duck simply melts in ones mouth. Chef Dong has been singled out as one of China's most creative chefs and was recently awarded second best restaurant in China by the Miele Guide.

Space is limited, so book early.

*Dress code: business, please wear your ribbons*





## Day 2 Saturday, September 4

Breakfast at leisure

09:00 hrs Depart for Panjiayuan Market

12:30 hrs Return to hotel ( Lunch on own)

15:00 hrs Depart for the Great Wall at Juyongguan Pass

17:30 hrs Induction ceremony for the Chaine des Rotisseurs  
and the Ordre Mondial des Gourmets Degustateurs

18:30 hrs Cocktails followed by Gala Dinner on the Great Wall

23:30 hrs Return to town



### *Panjiayuan Market*

From trinkets to treasures, Mao caps to Ming pottery, whatever your heart desires, Yinxing teapots, Tibetan rugs – will likely be found at Panjiayuan, Beijing's most famous dirt market.

*Dress code: casual, comfortable*



### *Great Wall at Juyongguan Pass*

Juyongguan Pass, about 60 kilometers (37 miles) from Beijing is situated in a valley surrounded by mountains. In the ancient times Juyongguan Pass has been a military stronghold guarding the Middle Kingdom from the barbarians attacking from the north. This pass served as a natural barrier to the capital of Yuan (1271–1368) and Ming (1368–1644) Dynasties. The pass is circular in the shape with a perimeter of about 4,142 meters (about 4,530 yards). It consists of two passes, one in the south and one in the north, and respectively called 'Nan Kou' and 'Badaling'.

*Dress code: black tie, please wear your ribbons*





## Day 3 Sunday, September 5

Breakfast at leisure

10:00 hrs Depart hotel for the Forbidden City (hosted by a historian)

12:30 hrs Depart the Forbidden City for Kunming Lake at the Summer Palace

13:30 hrs Cruise on Kunming Lake (cocktails and light lunch)

16:00 hrs Return to hotel

18:00 hrs Depart hotel for Maison Boulud

18:30 hrs Cocktails on the terrace

19:30 hrs Farewell dinner

23:00 hrs Return to hotel



### Forbidden City

Located in the center of Beijing, the Forbidden City, or Gu Gong was the Imperial Palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Rectangular in shape, it is the world's largest palace complex and covers 74 hectares. Surrounded by a six-meter deep moat and a ten-meter high wall are 9,999 rooms. The wall has a gate on each side. Opposite the Tiananmen Gate, to the north is the Gate of Divine Might (Shenwumen), which faces Jingshan Park. The distance between these two gates is 960 meters, while the distance between the gates in the east and west walls is 750 meters. There are unique and delicately structured towers on each of the four corners of the wall affording views over both the palace and the city outside.

The Forbidden City is divided into two parts. The southern section, or the Outer Court, where the emperor exercised his supreme power over the nation. The northern section, or the Inner Court was where the Emperor lived with the Imperial family. Until 1924 when the last emperor of China Puyi, left the Inner Court, fourteen emperors of the Ming dynasty and ten emperors of the Qing dynasty had reigned here. Having been the Imperial Palace for some five centuries, it houses numerous rare treasures and curiosities. Listed by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage Site in 1987, the Palace Museum is now one of the most popular tourist attractions in China.

*Dress code: casual, wear comfortable shoes*





## *Champagne Cruise on Kunming Lake at The Summer Palace*

In the northwest suburb of Beijing stands the largest imperial garden in China. It was first built in the 12th century as an Imperial Summer Palace. Renovation and extension in the following several hundred years till the end of the 19th century enlarged it into the scale we see today.

Occupying an area of 304 hectares, the landscape of the Summer Palace features green hills and tranquil water scenery. The Kunming Lake makes up four-fifths of the park. The Long Corridor running east-west along the lake as well as the Pavilion of the Fragrance of Buddha, the Sea of Wisdom, and the Hall of Dispelling the Clouds and Suzhou Street standing south to north on the Longevity Hill are the major scenic spots. The Pavilion of the Fragrance of Buddha, 41 meters high, is decorated with glazed tiles. Its walls were carved with 1,008 images of Buddha. The Marble Boat at the western end of the Long Corridor is a noted structure on water. The Marble Boat, Shifang in Chinese, was first built in 1755 during the reign of Emperor Qianlong. It is 36 meters long with two decks. There used to be a Chinese style wooden superstructure on the top part of the boat but it was destroyed by the invading troops in 1860. Empress Dowager Cixi had it restored in 1893, adding two wheels, one on each side of the boat, and a European-style superstructure, which was made of wood but painted to look like marble. There is a big mirror on each deck. Empress Dowager Cixi often enjoyed the beautiful scenery while she had her breakfast and dinner in front of the mirror giving her the feeling of sitting on the ripples of water.

The Summer Palace was added to the World Cultural Heritage list in 1998.

*Dress code: casual, no ribbons*







### *Cocktails and Farewell Dinner at Maison Boulud*

Maison Boulud is located in the former "Legation Quarters" where all embassies were located until the beginning of the 20th century and a stone throw-away from today's Tiananmen square southeast edge, opposite what used to be the Legation railway station.

It is located in a mansion which once served as the US Embassy to the Qing Dynasty and has been restored in tones of gray, tan and black, a modern twist to the compound's stately past.

The restaurant is known for its innovative French cuisine based upon local ingredients and techniques, which Chef Daniel Boulud is widely recognized for weaving thoughtfully into native French know-how.

*Dress code: business, please wear your ribbons*





# WE AWAIT YOUR ARRIVAL



Vlad Reyes  
Bailli, Bailliage de Pekin  
Bailli Delegate, Bailliage National de Chine



Enrico Benni  
Vice Argentier



Maria Boyd  
Charge de Press, Bailliage National de Chine



Gianmaria Azzoni  
Vice Conseiller des Professionel



Peter Troesch  
Vice Chancellor



Carleen Giacalone  
Vice Charge de Missions  
Charge de Missions, Association Caritative



Beat Mueller  
Vice Conseiller Gastronomique  
Conseiller Culinaire, Bailliage National de Chine



Benjamin Thoma  
Echanson