

The Ming Tombs

men at 111 bus terminal. On weekdays, tourists may get on a long-distance bus at Dongzhimen, and then change a mini bus to Sihetang.

2) Car drivers may arrive at the Miyun Reservoir along Beijing-Miyun Road, and then go northwestward for 13 kilometers before reaching the waterfall.

★ Tel: 010-69013288

★ Website: www.diyipu.com

The Ming Tombs

The Ming Tombs lie at the foot of the Tianshou Mountains, some 50 kilometers northwest of Beijing. Thirteen of the 16 Ming emperors were successively buried here, so that the area is known in Chinese as the 13 tombs. Now the Changling and Dingling mausoleums are open to the public. At the southern end of the mausoleum area is a large memorial archway; and then to the north are the Great Red Gate, the Stele Pavilion, and the

Sacred Way. Along the Sacred Way northward are stone animals and statues.

Changling Mausoleum contains the remains of Emperor Chengzu Zhu Di of Ming Dynasty. It is the first and biggest tomb, and occupies the central position of the area. The ground buildings of Changling Mausoleum include the Hall of Prominent Favor, Soul Tower and Precious Dome. The Hall of Prominent Favor is the main building in the mausoleum for holding sacrificial rites. The hall stands on a three-tiered marble terrace, covering an area of 1,956 square meters, with the same scale of the Hall of the Supreme Harmony in Palace Museum. The hall has 60 *nanmu* pillars, 10 meters high; and the four pillars in the center are especially large, 14.3 meters high, and 1.17 meters in diameter. It is the largest *nanmu* hall in China. Though over 500 years old, it still stands firmly, giving off sweet fragrance.

Dingling Mausoleum is the tomb of Emperor Shenzong, Zhu Yijun, of Ming Dynasty. He ascended the throne at the age of 10 with the title Wanli, and reigned 48 years, the longest during Ming emperors. The Dingling was constructed in the imitation of the Changling. The excavation of the underground palace of Dingling Mausoleum was from 1956 to 1958. Now the Dingling



The beautiful scenery of Black Dragon Pond

Underground Palace attracts many tourists every day.

In July 2003 the Ming Tombs was included in the World Cultural Heritage List by the UNESCO.

★ Transport:

1) Take bus No. 345 at Deshengmen to Changping, where they may change bus No. 314 to Changling Mausoleum.

2) Those driving cars may go along Badaling Expressway from Madianqiao to Changping Roundabout, and go further according to the signboards.

★ Opening hours: 08:00-17:30 (May 1-Oct. 31); and 08:30-17:00 (Nov. 1-Apr. 30)

★ Tel: 010-60761423

★ Website: www.mingtombs.com

Black Dragon Pond Scenic Area

Black Dragon Pond is situated in a valley, north of Lupiguan in Shicheng Township in Miyun County, totaling four kilometers long, with a water drop of 220 meters. This scenic area mainly consists of hanging waterfalls, blue ponds, running streams, oddly-shaped rocks, and a pleasant climate. Hence it is an ideal tourist attraction, summer resort and holiday resort.

★ Transport:

1) Special-line buses go from the terminal of bus No. 111 at Chongwenmen to the Black Dragon Pond in the morning of weekends. During weekdays, tourists may get on a long-distance bus at Dongzhimen to Miyun, where they may change a mini bus to Sihetang.

2) Car drivers may go to the Miyun Reservoir by Beijing-Miyun Highway, and then turn northwestward for 13 kilometers to get there.

★ Tel: 010-61025028

★ Website: www.bj-hlt.com

Xiaotangshan Longmai Hot Springs

Located in Xiaotangshan, an old town in Changping, Longmai Hot Springs are only 18 kilometers from the Asian Games Village. Thanks to its unique geological structure, Xiaotangshan

Tips:

You are advised to climb the Badaling section from north entrance. With huge stones as the base, this section was built with large bricks, 7.8 meters high on average and 6.5 meters wide at the bottom.

On the New Year's Day every year, 10,000-climber competition will be held at the Great Wall. In April and May, the concert "Spring in the Great Wall" is held. At every weekend, 650 colorful floodlights are lit on the four beacon towers of the Great Wall, which are open to tourists from 19:00 to 21:00 in the evening on every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Great Wall at Juyong Pass

Standing in Guangou Gorge northwest of Nankou Town in Changping District, Juyong Pass is one of the famous fortifications along the Great Wall. Juyong Pass, the northern gate of Beijing, enjoys a reputation of being the "most impregnable pass on the Great Wall." An old saying goes: "When one defends the pass, 10,000 soldiers can not pass." As one of the three most famous passes on the Great Wall, Juyong Pass has been listed as a historical site



The Great Wall at Juyong Pass

under state protection.

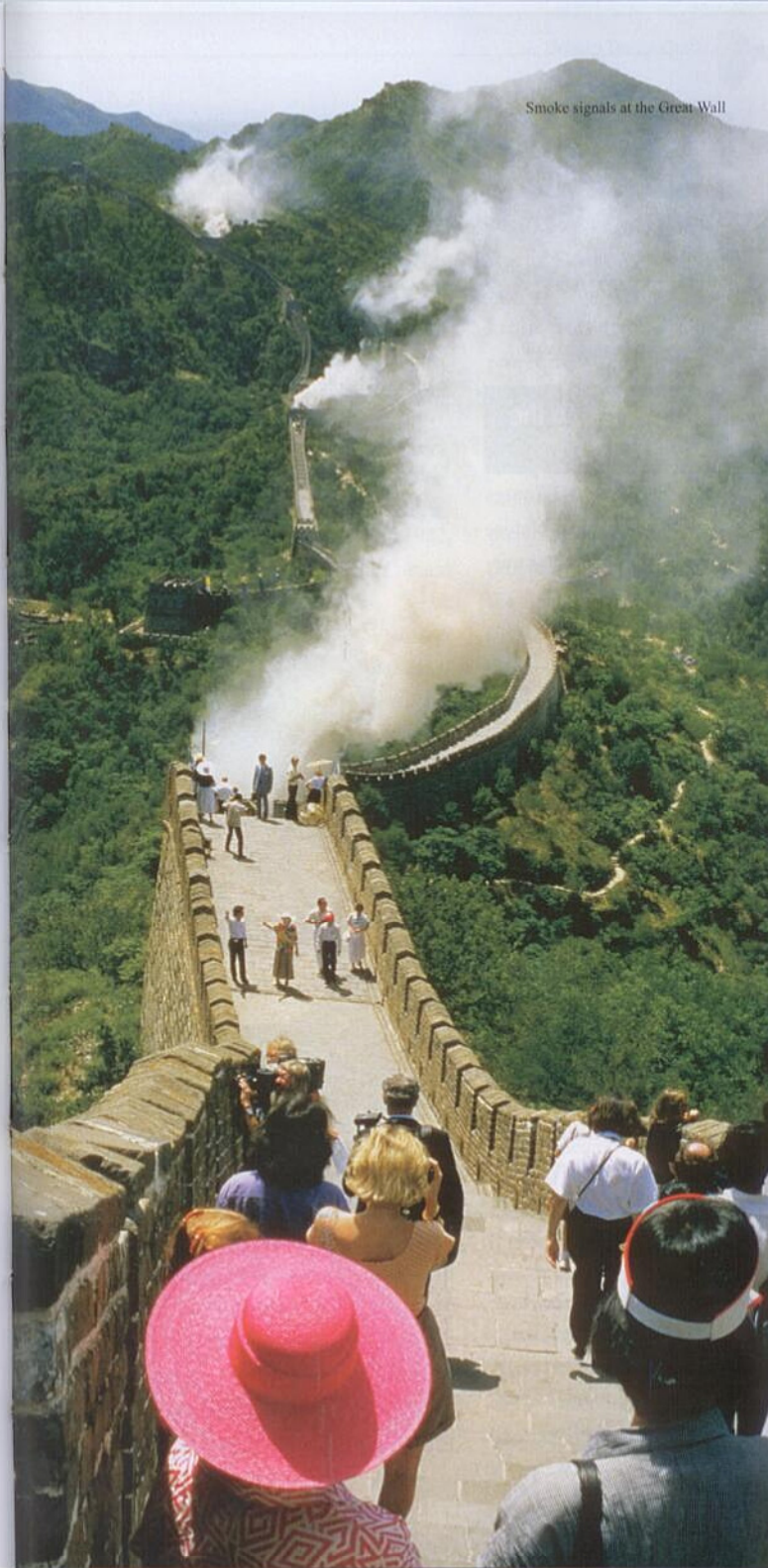
The name of the pass expresses the meaning "letting laborers moving from one place to another," because when Emperor Qin Shihuang, the first emperor of Qin Dynasty, started the construction of the Great Wall, numerous soldiers, prisoners and poor people were forced to move here. The existing pass tower was first constructed in 1368 (the first year of Hongwu reign period of Ming Dynasty). In the early years of Jingtai reign period of Ming Dynasty (1450-1457) and later it was renovated many times. In the late of the Qing Dynasty, the Juyong Pass was gradually neglected and ruined. Now the Great Wall at Juyong Pass was renovated on the basis of the Great Wall built in Ming Dynasty.

As early as in Mingchang reign period of Jin Dynasty (1190-1196), this place was listed as one of the Eight Best Scenic Spots in Beijing for the picturesque scenery. Due to its important cultural and natural value, Juyong Pass was included in the Badaling—the Ming Tombs Scenic Area in 1982.

★ **Transport:**

No. 919 bus to Juyong pass. The trains from Beijing to Zhangjiakou pass the tourist destination. Those driving cars may go there

Smoke signals at the Great Wall



along Badaling Expressway from Madianqiao.

★ Opening hours: 08:00-17:00 (summer); and 08:30-16:30 (winter)

★ Tel: 010-69771665

★ Website:
www.juyongguan.com

Drifting Along the Guihe River

Guihe River originates from the Songshan Nature Reserve surrounded by towering peaks.

The scenic spots of Yanqing concentrate on Guihe River, and the beauty of Guihe River lies between two lakes. The Golden Ox Lake on the upper reaches of Guihe River at the foot of the Golden Ox Mountain is very appealing. The wide expanse of the misty water surface looks like the dragon head, leading the river to the west; the Guishui Lake on the lower reaches is in the shape of the dragon tail; and the part between two lakes are like the dragon paddling water. With circuitous waters and a clear and serene environment, the area is as picturesque as South China.

Drifting along Guihe River, along 15-kilometer-long waterway with more than 100 bends, is the most fascinating. While drifting along the river, tour-

ists can appreciate the enchanting scenery of Golden Ox Mountain, Nuanquankou, Guanyingwan, Dihuatan, and so on.

★ Transport:

1) Tourists may get on air-conditioned express bus No. 919 at Deshengmen, taking only one hour to the drifting station.

2) Those driving cars may go from Madianqiao along Badaling Expressway to Kangzhuang Town, and to Yanqing according to the road signs.

★ Opening hours: 09:00-14:00 (Apr.-Oct.)

★ Tel: 010-69189876



The bust of Peking Man

The Site of Peking Man at Zhoukoudian

Fifty kilometers from the city proper is the world-renowned Zhoukoudian, where Peking Man lived 250,000-600,000 years ago on Dragon Bone Hill. Dragon Bone Hill has a limestone body. In the course of the ages this land was subjected to constant and corrosive erosion by rain and wind, and gradually was reduced into a group of individual hills, one of which was Dragon Bone Hill. Water and other natural forces gradu-

ally shaped the limestone, forming crevices and caves.

Peking Man lived in the limestone caves on Dragon Bone Hill, created the Old Stone Age culture, and left behind a great quantity of cultural relics and sites. In the 1920s, the Chinese archaeologists discovered many mammalian fossils in the hill, especially the first complete Peking Man skullcap, astonishing the world. Since then Zhoukoudian has become a world research center of relevant subjects, and one of the tourist attractions in the suburbs of Beijing. In 1987, the site was included in the World Cultural Heritage List by the UNESCO.

★ Transport: Tourists may take bus No. 917 at Liuliqiao or Tianqiao and get off at Fangshan Bus Station; then change bus Huan 2 and get off at Zhoukoudian.

★ Opening hours: 08:30-16:30 (summer); and 08:30-16:00 (winter)

★ Tel: 010-69301080

★ Website: www.zkd.cn

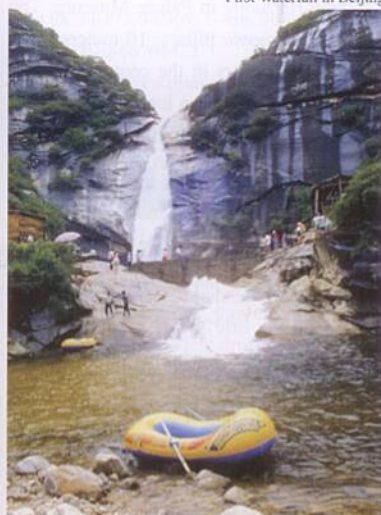
First Waterfall in Beijing

Located in Liukeyu Village in Shicheng Township, Miyun County, it is 104 kilometers from the city proper, four kilometers north of Black Dragon Pond. The waterfall is formed by the spring waters from Yunneng Mountain, with a drop of 62.5 meters. Entering the gorge, people will hear the sound of the flowing waterfall before viewing the magnificent sight. Looking into the distance, the waterfall looks like a jade pillar supporting heaven. Appreciating it closely, visitors will find water flies in all directions, spurring white fog into the skies. Under the bright sunshine, the waterfall resembles seven-color rainbow.

In the valley, streams keep running endlessly all the time. The valley stretches three kilometers, with a drop of 200 meters. There are altogether 10 dragon ponds in different shapes. The largest is Black Dragon Pond, with a peal of waves.

★ Transport:

1) On the morning of every Saturday and Sunday, the special-line bus goes directly to the waterfall from Chongwen-



First Waterfall in Beijing