

owns the best freshwater hot springs. The past few years have witnessed the establishment of Longmai Hot Spring Recreation Palace, Imperial Holiday Resort, Hot Spring Ecological Garden and Dragon Culture Museum to promote dragon culture.

The Longmai Hot Spring Recreation Palace houses one of the largest indoor hot spring swimming pool in Asia, with a swimming pool, a diving pools and an 800-square-meter water playing pool up to the international standards. Here 2,000 people can do swimming at the same time. Other facilities include guestrooms, restaurants, tea-houses, medicinal bath pools, and water therapy center. Imperial Holiday Resort is another ideal place for holiday-making.

★ **Transport:**

Tourists can get on bus No. 949 at Mudanyuan, and get off at Xiaotangshan. Car driv-

ers may go from the Asian Games Village to the north, via Beiyuan Road, Lishuiqiao, and Daliushu Roundabout, and turn to right at the Building of Industrial & Commercial Bank of China.

★ Tel: 010-64948115

★ Website: [www.longmai-wenquan.com](http://www.longmai-wenquan.com)

### Kangxi Grassland

On the western side of the Great Wall at Badaling in Yanqing County, Kangxi Grassland covers an area of more than twenty million square meters. It borders Guanting Lake in the west, and Haituo Mountain in the north, with picturesque scenery. Green grassland, galloping horses, snow-white yurts, herds of cattle and flocks of sheep all make tourists enjoy life full of Mongolian flavor.

The average temperature on Kangxi Grassland comes to 8.4 °C all the year round, hence an ideal summer resort. The grassland includes the largest state-run racecourse, a horsemanship club, a large ethnic holiday resort, and high-class international aviation club. In summer people can appreciate the vast green grassland, and in winter, tourists can participate in various snow and ice activities.

★ **Transport:**

1) Tourists may get on a tour train from

Beijing North Railway Station (at Xizhimen) to Kangzhuang, or take a Beijing-Baotou train at Beijing Railway Station to Kangzhuang. After getting off the train, you may go to the grassland by shuttle bus or cart.

2) Tourists may get on bus No. 919 (branch) at Deshengmenwai to the grassland. The buses depart at 07:00-09:00 a.m., and return to the city proper at 14:00-17:00 every day.

3) Those going to the grassland by car may go from Madiantiao to Kangzhuang along Badaling Expressway, and then go westward according to the road signs.

### Cuandixia Village

Located in Xiaobeigou, northwest of Zhaitang Town in Mentougou District, Cuandixia Village is about 90 kilometers from the city proper of Beijing. With a history of over 400 years, the village now has more than 70 quadrangles, totaling 500 rooms. All the houses in the village have been well preserved, the first such village in the country. Every visitor will gasp in admiration at its reasonable outlay, well-knit structure and high architectural art. It is amazing that all the people in the village have the same surname Han, and only no more than 100 villagers live in the 70-some quadrangles.

The houses in the village are scattered like mountain castles, lined by small lanes paved with colored flag-stones. The village rests in green pine and cypress trees, with melodious singing of birds, a tranquil land far away from the bustling city.

Surrounded by mountains, this village was the indispensable place to the road leading to Shanxi and was once very prosperous. Now it has become a historical site under municipal protection, attracting a large number of photographers and tourists every day.

★ **Transport:** Tourists may first go to Pingguoyuan by subway, and then change bus No. 336 and get off at Hetan Bus Stop, where they will get on a bus to Zhaitang Town, and then change a mini bus to the village. Tourists may also take bus No. 929 (branch) at Pingguoyuan to the village.

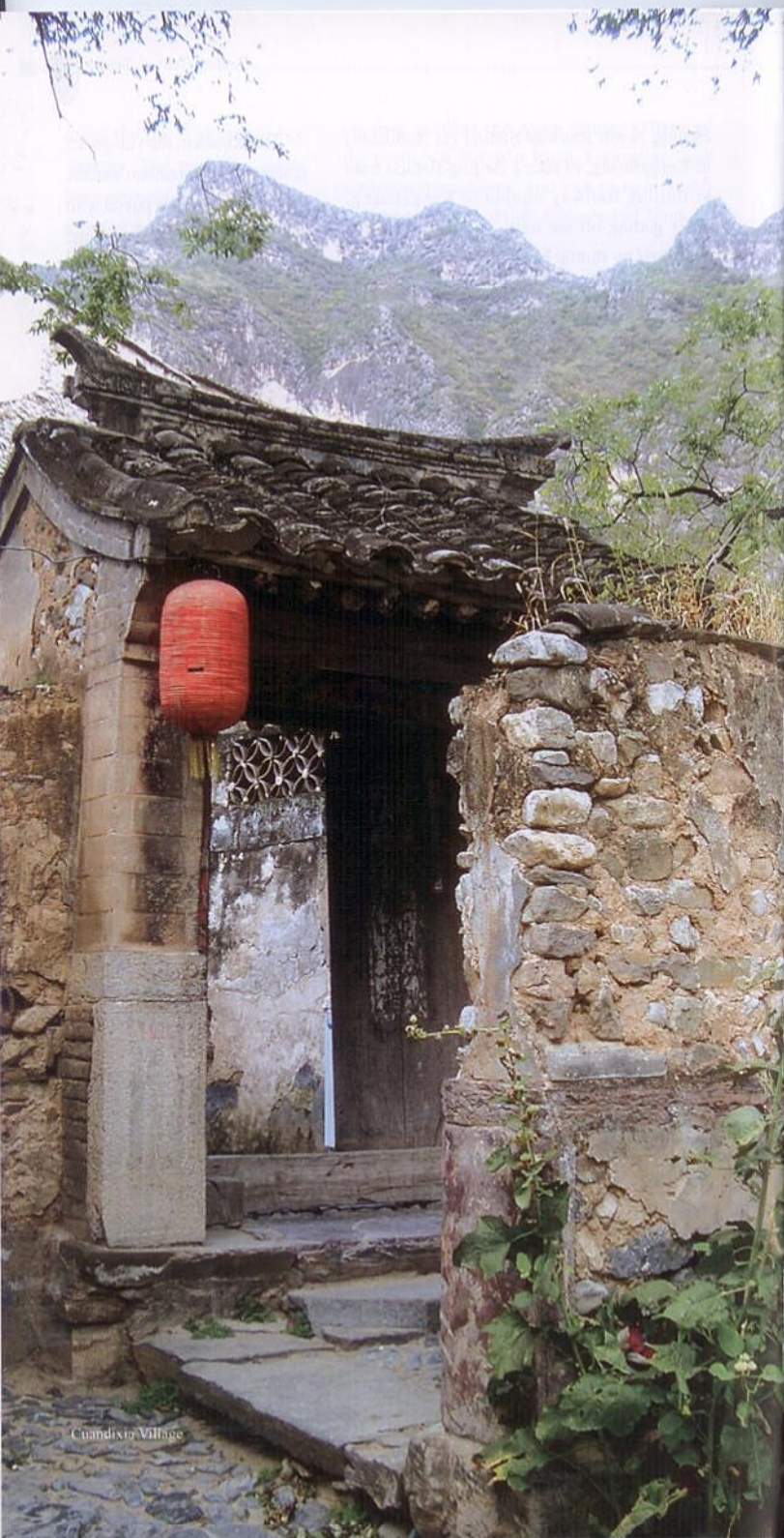
★ **Opening hours:** 06:00-20:00

Kangxi Grassland



Cuandixia Village





Cuandixia Village

### Ancient Cangmi Road

Located in the eastern mountain areas of Yanqing County, the Ancient Cangmi Road Scenic Area is 90 kilometers from the city proper, and covers an area of 950 square kilometers, being the largest natural scenic area in Beijing. With an elevation of between 400 and 1,500 meters, this scenic area has distinct four seasons with an annual average temperature five degrees lower than that of city areas. More than 780 species of luxuriant plants scatter and over 180 species of wild animals play in the mountain, a paradise of plants and animals. Places of scenic and historical interest can be seen everywhere in the zone; hence an ideal place for tourists to return to nature, enjoy holidays, do sightseeing and take ecological tours.

#### ★ Transport:

1) Tourists may take bus No. 919 from Deshengmen to Yanqing Bus Station, and then buy admission tickets at Yanqing Hotel. A guide will take tourists to the scenic area.

2) Those driving cars may go from Madianqiao to Badaling Expressway. After arriving at Kangzhuang Town, they can continue to drive northward to Yanqing for about 30 minutes, and then buy admission tickets before leaving for the scenic area.

### Shidu Scenic Area

Shidu is located on the upper and middle reaches of the Juma River in the southwest of Fangshan District, 80 kilometers from the city proper, with an area of 301 square kilometers. It serves as a municipal scenic area, a nature reserve of wild aquatic animals, as well as a comprehensive economic development demonstration zone with tourism as the mainstay.

As the largest valley with many karst scenes in north China, this scenic zone

is well known as a natural gallery containing green mountains, ferries, overhanging cliffs, towering peaks, beautifully shaped rocks and serene caves. It embraces both the scenery in north and south China. Its unique karst landforms have given birth to many rarely seen geological scenic wonders, such as the "Village in Solitary Hill," "Sky Line," and "Rock in Rocks", hence the name Lesser Guilin in north China.

The main scenic attractions in Shidu include Nanfang Grand Canyon, Muzhai River, Qingjiang Gorge, Village in Solitary Hill, and Sky Line, in addition to Water Amusement Ground at Yidu, Blue Wave Garden at Liudu, bungee at Badu and swimming pool at Shidu.

#### ★ Transport:

1) Take bus No. 917 (Shidu branch) at Tianqiao.

2) Those car drivers may go from Liuliqiao to the Beijing-Shijiazhuang Expressway, get



Bungee at Badu



Shidu

off the expressway at Fangshan Exit, head for the direction of Runcun Village and Zhangfang, and arrive at Shidu via Changgou and Zhangfang.

★ Tel: 010-61349009

★ Website: [www.shidu.com](http://www.shidu.com)

## Yanqi Lake

Lying at the foot of Yanshan Mountain north of Huairou District, Yanqi Lake borders the imposing Great Wall in the north, and the boundless North China Plain in the south. Its wide expanse of water provides tourists with a choice of waterborne activities. In spring and autumn every year, flocks of big wild geese come here, hence the name.

The Yanqi Lake Amusement Park has a beautiful environment and picturesque scenery, offering more than 40 aquatic and land items, such as hydroplanes, aeroboats, water-screen films, flyers, rock-climbing, and so on, that have been loved by Chinese and foreign tourists. Tourists may also take a boat tour of the lake, or climb

Wanghu Pavilion to have a panoramic view of the picturesque lake.

In hot summer, the lake has a cool and favorable environment. At night, tourists may enjoy new and wonderful water-screen films and colorful sound-control fountains by the lake.

★ Transport:

1) Take buses Nos. 916 and 936 at the Dongzhimen Bus Station.

2) Those driving cars may go along the Capital Airport Expressway from Sanyuanqiao, get out of the expressway at Beigao Exit, then take Beijing-Miyun Highway to Huairou, and go northward along National Highway No. 111.

★ Opening hours: 08:00-17:30 (Apr.-Nov.)

★ Tel: 010-69661696

★ Website: [www.yanqihu.com](http://www.yanqihu.com)

## Longqing Gorge

Longqing Gorge not only boasts the sturdiness of north area, but also includes southern elegance. It is proven that in Ming and Qing dynasties, it was a well-known tourist site. The lamps and ancient Buddhist statues at the Immortals' Academy, the beating of the drum at dusk and the toll of the bell in the morning in Jingang Temple, its long history and legends about the scholars in ancient times make the gorge more mysterious and attractive.

Taking a boat tour along the seven-kilometer-long gorge is just like appreciating a landscape painting including more than 30



Yanqi Lake

scenic spots on the way, such as the Buddha Subduing the Mountain, Bell Hill, Phoenix Crown Island, Moon Bay, and Magpie Bridge Stone, etc.

The average temperature of Longqing Gorge in summer is 6.4 °C lower than that in Beijing proper, and 0.8 °C lower than that in Chengde, hence an ideal summer resort in the suburbs of Beijing. In winter the Ice Lantern Art Festival is held here. Until today Longqing Gorge has been venues of more than 10 such festivals.

Longqing Gorge provides different scenery in four seasons. In early spring when the rivers are still covered with ice, flowers are in full bloom; in summer, Longqing Gorge

is an ideal summer resort; in autumn, the surrounding mountains are covered with red maple leaves; and in winter, it is a world of ice and snow.

★ Transport:

1) Tourists may get on a train at Beijing North Railway Station and get off at Yanqing, where they may take a bus to Longqing Gorge.

2) Take long-distance bus No. 919 at Beijiao Market, Deshengmenwai.

3) Those driving cars may go along Badaling Expressway from Madianqiao to Yanqing, then take Beijing-Zhangjiakou Highway following the road signs.

★ Tel: 010-69191020

★ Website: [www.longqingxia.cn](http://www.longqingxia.cn)



Longqing Gorge