



Huxian Farmer Paintings

As a folk painting art, Huxian Farmer paintings mainly display figures, animals, flowers and birds, in the traditional ink and brush style, and show the characteristics of "freehand brushwork in traditional Chinese painting" — being both bold and exquisite, brightly colored and quietly elegant, simple and skillful. Every farmer in Huxian County, is good at drawing paintings. They describe their real life with paintings, and drawing paintings has become a part of their life. Over the past few years, Huxian farmer paintings have become an art form with ethnic flavor, and have marched toward the world. Since 1966, Huxian

farmer paintings have been exhibited for more than 8,000 times in over 60 countries and regions.

Festivals and Celebrations



Xi'an City Wall International Marathon Friendship Race

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The Xi'an City Wall International Marathon Friendship Race is held on the city wall in November every year, including 5,000-meter, 10,000-meter and half-distance races for men and women. Attendants are foreign tourists, foreign organizations, delegations of friendship cities and local residents. This annual race expresses the good wish of Xi'an people for international exchanges.

Huxian farmer paintings



Chang'an Annual International Calligraphy Meeting

It is a large international calligraphy exchange activity sponsored by the Shaanxi Provincial Tourism Administration. Since ancient times, Xi'an has given birth to a large number of calligraphists, and preserved numerous famous calligraphic works (steles) of the past ages, hence the name the "land of calligraphy." In 1986, a large number of domestic and foreign calligraphers came to the first annual meeting to display their skills, evoking great repercussions at home and abroad.

The meeting is held in the last week of March every year, when famous domestic and overseas calligraphers and lovers of calligraphy gather at Xi'an to exchange views and experiences, make friends and do sightseeing. During the meeting, various kinds of activities are held, such as the large Tang-style ceremony for inscribing the name of Greater Wild Goose Pagoda, the exhibition of calligraphic works by celebrities of the past ages, the Chinese

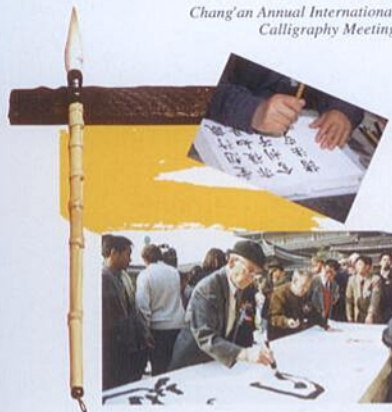
and foreign calligraphers' meeting, the exhibition of the high-quality four treasures of the study (writing brush, ink stick, ink slab and paper), the calligraphy theoretical symposium, and a visit to the Steles Forest, etc.

Xi'an Festival of Terracotta Warriors and Horses and Pomegranates

This festival is held in mid September every year in Lintong, lasting one week. The main activities include visits to terra-cotta warriors and horses, Huaqing Pool, and a pomegranate orchard of 10,000 *mu* (one *mu* = 1/15 hectare), the traditional pomegranate festival, the lighting ceremony at the ancient beacon tower in Mt. Lishan, and so on.

Lintong is the land of terracotta warriors and horses, and a nation-renowned producer of pomegranates. With clear sky and crisp air, autumn is the peak travel season when red pomegranates add beauty to Mt. Lishan. The combination of terracotta warriors and horses and pomegranates will surely make tourists satisfy with their tour.

Chang'an Annual International Calligraphy Meeting



Transportation



Air

As an important air transportation hub of China, Xi'an has 119 air routes to more than 60 cities in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Chongqing, the capital cities of all the provinces and autonomous regions, as well as Guilin, Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou, Sanya, Qingdao, Xiamen, Luoyang, Huangshan, Yan'an, Hanzhong, etc., with a total mileage of over 60,000 kilometers. Air flights also go regularly from Xi'an to Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Niigata of Japan, and Seoul of the Republic of Korea.

The Xi'an Xianyang International Airport is located in Xianyangyuan to the northwest of Xi'an, over 40 kilometers from the city proper. A high-class highway goes directly to the airport. Tourists may go to the airport by minibus or taxi.

It is very convenient for tourists to buy air tickets in Xi'an. Air ticket offices spread all over the city including the main

travel services, star-rated hotels, industrial and commercial banks. Tourists may also book air tickets by phone, and free delivery is offered.

Ticket Office of the Northwest Airlines:

029-88702299

Ticket Office of the Chang'an Airlines:

029-84250784

84287905

Ticket Office at the Xi'an Xianyang International Airport:

029-88708486

Express delivery of air tickets:

029-82222222

88222222

86266666

Aviation of Xi'an





Railways

Xi'an is a railway hub, linking north, central south, southwest and northwest China.

Located at the northern end of Jiefang Lu, the Xi'an Railway Station can hold 7,000 passengers at the same time. More than 20 public bus lines go to the station from all directions in the city.

By train, passengers can go directly from Xi'an to all the municipalities, and the capitals of all the provinces (excluding Harbin and Haikou) and autonomous regions (excluding Lhasa). Most trains from Xi'an to Beijing, Shanghai, Changchun, Guangzhou,

Wuchang, Nanning, Chongqing, Urumqi and so on are express trains or high-speed air-conditioned trains.

Train information: 029-87276076

Booking train tickets: 029-87440506

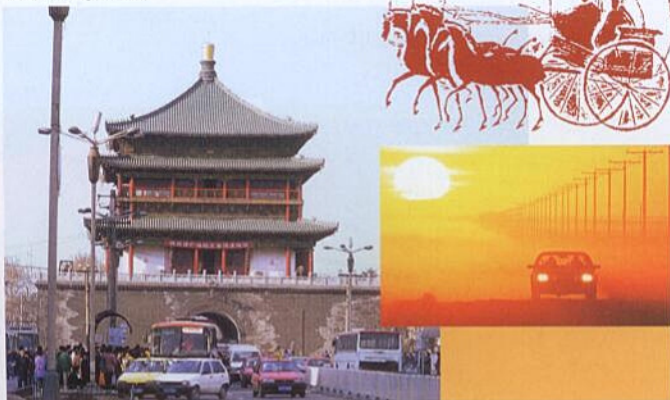
Railway hotline: 029-960016

Urban Transportation

Public Buses

More than 1,000 public buses and trolley buses run in the city proper of Xi'an everyday. The city has over 80 public transportation routes, and an interval between two buses on every route is about 10 minutes. Ordinary public buses in the city proper charge one yuan a person; the starting price for buses going to the suburbs is one yuan, and a passenger will be charged according to the distance of his trip. Air-conditioned public buses charge two yuan per person. Some buses running

Urban transportation



Xi'an Railway Station

on special routes do not have conductors, so passengers need to prepare changes before getting on such a bus.

Mini Buses

The Xi'an Mini Bus Company owns several hundred mini buses, running on 32 routes, which are linked with the main roads in Xi'an. The mini bus charges a passenger 0.5 yuan for every three stations. At the South Gate of Xi'an, tourists can find mini buses to Chang'an District, Mt. Cuihua and Mt. South Wutai.

Taxis

Taxis of Xi'an mainly consist of

Citroën-Fukang, Jetta, Xiali and Auto cars, in addition to some Santana cars. The fare of the Citroën-Fukang and Santana taxis is six yuan for the first three kilometers and 1.4 yuan for one kilometer thereafter. That of the Auto taxis is five yuan for the first three kilometers and 1.2 yuan for one kilometer thereafter. No charges are required when the taxi is waiting because of a red lamp or a traffic jam. From 10:00 in the evening to 6:00 in the next morning, 0.30 yuan per kilometer will be added.

Tourist Buses

Xi'an City has 15 designated tourism automobile companies, which own

Busy traffic in the ancient city of Xi'an

