

冬季到圣彼得堡 看极光

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说到极光，北欧国家可能人人有份，你也许首先会想到北极圈以内的极寒之地，又或者是冰岛、斯堪的纳维亚半岛等自带童话光环的地方，总之，很少有人会第一个就想到圣彼得堡。

Saint Petersburg (a city in Russia) wouldn't be the first place that comes to mind when people think about the Northern Lights. Typically, when talking about the Northern Lights, most people think about areas located in the Arctic Circle, those with sub-zero temperatures, and glorified places like Iceland and the Scandinavian Peninsula.

当绚丽多变的晚霞渐渐隐没、极光出现时，整个圣彼得堡的车水马龙仿佛被时光定格，冬宫、夏宫、彼得大帝青铜骑士像……也都被极光洒上了一层绚烂的色彩。轻纱般的黄绿光带，如烟薄雾般缭绕缥缈，飘飘浮浮，弥漫整个夜空，似动似凝，生动活跃的就像一湾春水碧波，这样的有生命力，这样的鲜活。那是一种童话梦境般的宁静。在极光的笼罩下，圣彼得堡的那份美丽、温柔和恬静，让人心醉。

正如俄罗斯诗人罗蒙诺索夫所描述的：

啊！虽说是夜里，

白天却来到了人间。

是什么令明亮的射线在黑夜中抖动，

又是什么在天空中触发了顾长的火？

如同没有雷暴云的闪电，

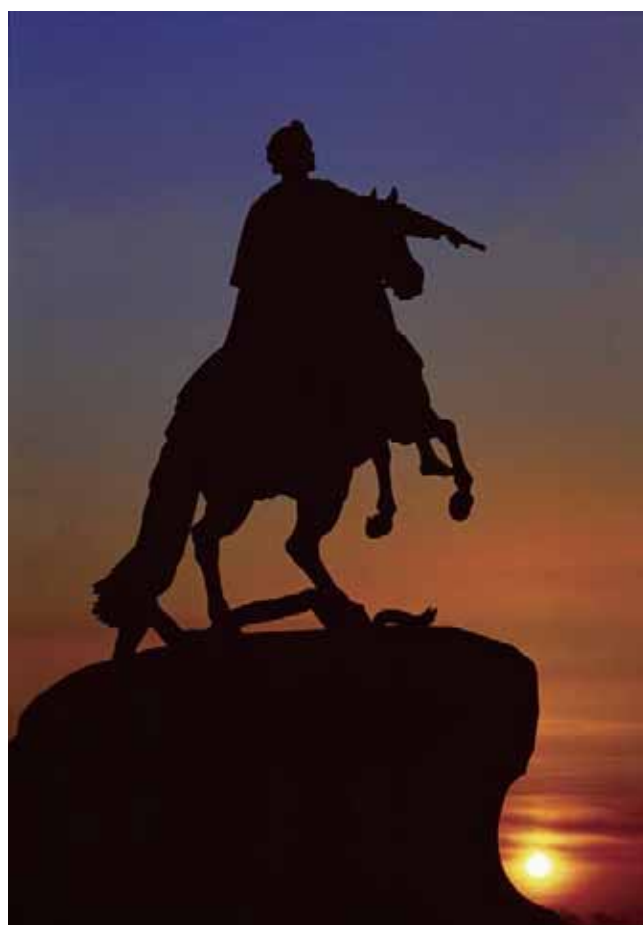
从地面向高空攀登，

它究竟怎样成为凝结的蒸气，

仲冬时节变成了喷涌的火？

从人类第一次仰望天际发现极光开始，北极光就像一个极富吸引力的谜团，从而衍生出了许多传说和神话，其中一个广泛流传的是：上帝最宠爱的小女儿，因为爱上一个猎人，被父亲一怒之下贬为了人间的一只狐狸——北极狐……这只忧伤而美丽的北极狐在人间寻找自己的“猎人”，当飞跃极地时，她的尾巴扫过雪地，产生的火花腾飞上天空形成神秘绚丽的北极光，据说这是无奈的上帝赐予小女儿的祝福，后来北极狐找到了她心爱的人。因此人们相信：北极光降临的城市，是上帝赐福的城市！

圣彼得堡不仅是上帝赐福的城市，更是俄罗斯人引以为豪的城市，历史上，从彼得大帝时期到十月革命的200年间，圣彼得堡一直都是俄罗斯的首都。从1703年5月27日下令建造，到1918年3月10日迁都莫斯科，圣彼得堡见证了沙俄帝国兴衰。1905年1月的一个“血腥星期天”，罢工游行者在冬宫广场遭军队枪击，而后掀起了全国的反抗



抗热潮。1917年十月革命建立的布尔什维克政权，由于害怕外国军队的进攻而迁都莫斯科。圣彼得堡在苏联时期更名列宁格勒。

其实很多中国人对圣彼得堡的第一印象都来自课本中的英雄城市列宁格勒，作为布尔什维克的诞生地，希特勒曾发誓要将她从地图上抹去，但圣彼得堡人民在被围困900天的情况下顽强地坚持了下来，足以证明他们的坚强和勇敢。1991年苏联解体后，经过市民投票，决定重新使用“圣彼得堡”来称呼这座城市。

圣彼得堡是彼得大帝用梦想建造的杰作。作为俄罗斯最欧化的城市，它被普希金赞颂为俄罗斯“通往欧洲的窗口”。无论是作为世界四大博物馆之一的冬宫，还是典雅豪华的皇家园林夏宫与皇村，或者是喀山大教堂和伊萨基耶夫斯基大教堂，都让人感到高贵、唯美、壮观。

当极光光临圣彼得堡时，整个城市的唯美、神秘、梦幻、浪漫、壮观都被成倍放大。一时间，整个城市亦真亦幻，光带交织错落，如同仙境一般，似乎所有美好的词汇都不足以形容极光降临后的圣彼得堡之美！只有身临其境，亲眼看到了这“上帝的烟火”、倾听了这“狐狸尾巴扫过的声音”才能真正明白那种震撼！

It's Winter, Let's Go See the Northern Lights in Saint Petersburg

As the glow of the sunset began to fade out, the entire city of Saint Petersburg was cast in a rainbow of colours; Hermitage Museum (the Winter Palace), Peter the Great's Summer Palace, the Bronze Horseman, it was as if everything had frozen in time. The fine yellowish-green rays of light danced and darted about, spanning across the entire night sky. The lights seemed to swirl together, like faint clouds of mist, drawing attention. They glided across the night sky just like the light green ripples of water gliding across the bay in the spring; so lively, so vivid. Such tranquility was like it was straight out of a children's story book. Under the shroud of the Northern Lights, the beauty, warmth, and tranquility of Saint Petersburg is enough to enchant anyone. It is precisely as the Russian polymath and writer Mikhail Lomonosov (1711-1765) described in one of his poems:

Alas!

Though it is nighttime, day has graced the earth with its presence.

What is it that has commanded this shining ray of light to

tremble during the middle of the night?

What is it that has triggered this raging fire in the sky?

Like lighting without thunder clouds,

climbing from the ground up into the sky,

how does it become condensed steam,

when it becomes a bursting flame in midwinter?

From the very first moment that human beings discovered the Northern Lights, they have captured the hearts of many with their alluring and elusive force. The Northern Lights have spawned much folklore and legends far and wide. The one that has spread the farthest goes like this: Once upon a time, the youngest and most beloved daughter of God fell in love with a hunter. As a form of punishment, her father sent her to the secular world as a fox, an arctic fox...The distressed, yet beautiful, arctic fox wandered the earth looking for her "hunter." When she leapt through the air her tail would brush against the snow-covered ground, causing sparks to fly upwards into the





sky. These sparks gave birth to the mysterious and magnificent Northern Lights. It is said that this was a blessing bestowed upon the daughter of the helpless God. In the end, the arctic fox was able to find her lover thanks to the Northern Lights. As a result, people believe that the cities graced by the Northern Lights are cities blessed by God!

Not only is Saint Petersburg a city blessed by God, it is also believed to be a heroic city by the Russian people. Historically, from the reign of Peter the Great to the October Revolution of 1917, for more than 200 years, Saint Petersburg has been the capital of Russia. Saint Petersburg witnessed the rise and fall of the Tsarist Empire from the time of its establishment as the capital on May 27, 1703 until the moving of the capital to Moscow on March 10, 1918. On Bloody Sunday, January 22, 1905, unarmed demonstrators were fired upon by soldiers in the public square of the Winter Palace. The incident caused nationwide outrage. The Bolshevik Regime, responsible for the October Revolution of 1917, moved the capital to Moscow for fear of attack by foreign army troops. During the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) period (1922-1991), the city of Saint Petersburg changed its name to Leningrad.

For many Chinese people their first impression of Saint Petersburg comes from the heroic city Leningrad that is portrayed in their textbooks. As the birthplace of the Bolsheviks, Adolf Hitler vowed to wipe Leningrad off the face of the earth. However,

the people of Saint Petersburg withstood 900 days of siege attacks which sufficiently proved their strength and bravery. After the dissolution of the USSR in 1991, the people of Leningrad decided to reinstate the city's original name of Saint Petersburg through a municipal vote.

Saint Petersburg truly is a dream-like masterpiece of Peter the Great. As Russia's most Europeanized city, Saint Petersburg has been praised by Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin (1799-1837), a great Russian romantic poet, referring to it as Russia's "window to Europe." Regardless of whether it is the Winter Palace (which is one of the world's four largest museums), the elegant and luxurious royal garden, the Summer Palace of Peter the Great, and the royal village, or the Kazan Cathedral and Saint Isaac's Cathedral, all of these places give the lasting impression of being noble, beautiful, and spectacular.

When the Northern Lights shine down on Saint Petersburg, the whole city's aesthetics, mystery, fantasy, romance, and beauty is magnified. Momentarily, the entire city hovers between fantasy and reality, the light intertwining and scattering as if it were just some ordinary wonderland. All the words in the world are not enough to describe the beauty of Saint Petersburg! One cannot even come close to understanding the capacity of the Northern Lights until they have personally experienced, personally witnessed, the "Fireworks of God" and listened to the sound of the arctic fox's tail brushing against the snow.



印象外的北京天坛

文/图 | 郝文玲

一直以来，只要提及北京天坛，人们最先想到的便是祭天祈福。不论是其建造用途还是主体景观，盛名远扬的它们早已独揽了各国游客的全部目光。但是，随着园内新景和未知故事的出现，我们才知道除了再熟悉不过的天坛名胜，还有一些鲜为人知的秘密，仅一窥探，即可洞天。

唯一“偏向”的皇家建筑

在北京著名的中轴线上，钟鼓楼、故宫、天安门等标志性古建比比皆是。它们均严格压着这条城市命脉修建而成，只有天坛是特例。这个拥有着205公顷的明清皇家祭拜圣地在永乐18年筹备建设之时就已经成为了“重量级”的建筑，无论从使用者还是用途上均颇为庄严神圣。而在那时，祭天就是祭太阳，东南方位恰好是太阳升起且阳气最足的地方，因此在1420年就把它选在了南中轴线靠东一点的位置上了。

方形外观是原貌

作为天坛公园中最有名的建筑，祈年殿是最引人入胜的去处之一。它的奇特之处在于你不管从哪个角度看都是一个模样，叫人不得不对当时工匠的巧夺天工惊叹不已。早期的祈年殿是方形的，直到朱厚熜被破格选为皇帝，才把这里建成了圆形，以顺应“天圆地方”的不变传统，而为了更好的祭天，也是朱厚熜从原本合祭天地的天坛中分别建造了独立的地坛、日坛等其他祭祀地，加强了此地祭天的主旨功能。

无顶儿只为近天

除了祈年殿和回音壁，在天坛里还有一个不得不去的特别地方，这便是圜丘坛了。没有殿宇只有圆坛的建筑外观让人诧异非常。究其原因，主要是源于这里相较祈年殿的祈谷功能，祭天的活动更多，只有祭坛也只是为了能更贴近上天，所以，直至清代，皇家的祭天仪式都是在圜丘坛上进行的。

新景秘事之北宰牲亭

北宰牲亭位于天坛公园东二道门内北侧，是皇家祭天祈谷时用来宰杀牛、羊、猪等祭品的地方。历史上，宰牲亭内屠宰烹制，存放在神厨内，通过长廊送到祈年殿献祭。每年祭坛前，皇帝还要亲自到这里视察准备工作。以往曾多次来这里游览观景的我却从未关注它，或许也是因为其是大修后30年首次对外开放的缘故，今天才有幸一览全貌。从北门进入，顺着指示牌走大概10分钟便能看到一条悠长的回廊，虽然已是寒冬时节，但在其中下棋、打牌、健身、唱歌的老人们却挤满整个廊子，斑驳复古的外观还依然不失当年器宇轩昂的气派。

移步主殿，其他众多文物古迹更是占据了人们的整个视野，长2.8米、宽1.75米、深1.27米的漂牲池居于北宰牲亭的正中间，这是用于牲畜褪毛、洗净污物的场所。池底有排水口，建造设计考虑十分精细。另外，其四周还拥有不同时期篆刻的古迹石碑；锅灶遗物遗址；方便点火照明的亭式烛台等还有与北宰牲亭相关的背景介绍和配套设置，无需讲解就能对这里的历史、作用一目了然了。值得一提的是，北宰牲亭修缮时保存下来的长7米、重400余斤的楠木檩、房屋构件等建筑原料也在其中首次亮相，精致的彩绘、雕刻……均在提醒和展示着这里尊贵的过往。



Impression of the Beijing Temple of Heaven

Since the beginning of time, the first thing people would think of when hearing about the Temple of Heaven in Beijing is worshipping and praying. Whether it is the architecture of the temple or its landscape, both are well known and have long been at the center of tourist attractions, garnering mass attention. However, following the appearance of new scenery and an unknown story in the park, we now know that apart from the familiar Temple of Heaven there are also some lesser known secrets; just with a minimal amount of snooping you can discover a new world.

The Only "Deviant" Royal Building

The famous axis of Beijing is filled with ancient buildings and landmarks such as the Bell Tower, the Drum Tower, the Imperial Palace, and Tian'anmen Square. All of these landmarks were strictly built to follow along the lifeline of the city, only the Temple of Heaven is a special case. The 205-hectare royal sacrificial shrine of the Ming and Qing dynasties had already become a "heavyweight" when preparations for its construction were underway during the 18th year of the Yongle Reign. Whether it was the users of the temple or its application, both were rather solemn and divine. Furthermore, at that time, worshipping heaven was equal to worshipping the sun; it turns out that the sun rose in the southeast, the place where the most Yang energy is concentrated. As a result, in 1420 it was decided that the temple was to be placed a little to the East of the south central axis.

Original Shape: A Square

As one of the most famous buildings in the Temple of Heaven, The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests is one of the most fascinating places to visit. Its peculiarity lies in that regardless of from which angle you look, it all looks

the same, causing people to marvel at the artisans' intricate work. Built long ago, The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests was square-shaped. It was not until Zhu Houcong was promoted to emperor as an exception that the structure was altered to that of a circle so that it would comply with the rigid tradition of "round sky and square earth." Furthermore, in order to improve worship of heaven, it was also Zhu Houcong who constructed and established separate sacrificial places such as the Temple of Earth and Temple of the Sun which were independent from the comprehensive worshipping shrine of the Temple of Heaven. This was said to strengthen the main function of heavenly worship.

Having No Apex to Be Closer to Heaven

In addition to The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests and the Echo Wall, there is another especially must-see place in the Temple of Heaven: Circular Mound Altar. The empty circular platform with nothing surrounding it causes people to feel very surprised. The reason for its structure is mainly derived from its function here compared to that of the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests. Here there are a lot more activities for festive occasions and the only purpose of an altar is in order to be closer to God. As a result, up until the Qing Dynasty, the royal worship ceremonies were all held on the Circular Mound Altar.

Secret Story Behind New Scenery:

North Slaughter Pavilion

The North Slaughter Pavilion is located on the north side of the east gate of the Temple of Heaven Park. It is the place where the sacrificial offerings of cattle, sheep, and pigs were slaughtered by the royal family as ritual sacrifices to heaven. Historically, the slaughter took place in the Slaughter Pavilion and the offerings were stored in the Divine Kitchen, and then were taken through the long corridor to the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests for sacrifice. Every year before the altar, the emperor also went to oversee the preparatory work in person. However, in all my years of visiting the Temple of Heaven, I have never once paid attention to the Pavilion. Perhaps this was because it is the first time in 30 years after the overhaul that this portion has been opened to the public; today I had the honor of seeing the whole picture. Entering from the north gate and after following the signs for about ten minutes, I could see a long corridor. Although it was already winter, elderly people crowded the corridor playing chess, playing cards, exercising, and singing; despite the time-

stained appearance, the imposing atmosphere of the olden days was not in the least bit lost.

The main hall and many other cultural relics occupy peoples' whole field of vision. The 2.8 meter long, 1.75 meter wide, and 1.27 meter deep Stable for Sacrificial Animals is at the center of the North Slaughter Pavilion and is used for shaving of the fur of livestock and washing them. On the ground are multiple drainage outlets, a carefully considered construction design which can be described as fine. At the same time, its four corners also use ancient stone monuments from different periods of time. Supporting settings and backgrounds related to the Slaughter Pavilion such as pot stove relics and the conveniently lit Pavilion kiosk all tell history at a glance without even needing an explanation. One thing worth mentioning is that when the Slaughter Pavilion was under restoration, seven meters and more than 400 pounds of original building materials such as Chinese cedar cross beams and housing components were exposed to the public for the first time; exquisitely painted and engraved...a reminder of the supreme dignity of the past.

