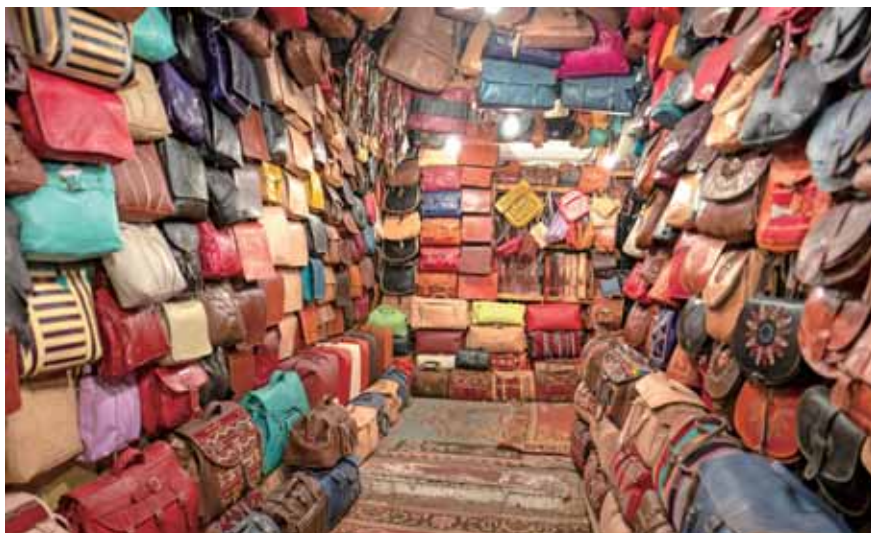


非斯，FES， 手工位譚 THE MYSTERIOUS HANDICRAFT CITY 手工艺迷城

文、图 / 行者老湖







非斯古城，仿佛是古代给现代人设置的一座迷宫，即使你有现代的电子地图在手，九千条密集交织的小巷子，沿街集市，形形色色的陶瓷、皮革、地毯和染色手工作坊，众多的小商店和摊点，定会让你无所适从。去摩洛哥旅行，无论是谁的行程单，必定少不了非斯，作为摩洛哥伊斯兰文化的中心，游客为之痴迷的不仅是非斯的古老建筑，还有那些工业革命无法取代的家庭工厂。

向导带我们穿梭在非斯古城的小巷，欣赏伊斯兰特色和古老犹太文化相交融的宫殿、寺庙和手工艺作坊，集市里干果、草药混合着皮革、染料的气味，加上眼花缭乱的瓷器、地毯、皮包和铜器，让人多少有点迷失在这座手工艺之城的感觉。



炫目的蓝色马赛克陶瓷

我们参观了一家叫作 Poterie de Fes 陶瓷工坊，是一个还保留着古窑遗址的小工厂，工厂用一个小院子分开不同工序的区域，每个区域有许多的工艺师在一丝不苟地制作瓷器的每道工艺，从陶土的毛坯、上色、烧制、描图和粘贴，习惯了游客们的围观，丝毫不理会周围镜头狂闪。非斯特有的马赛克陶瓷完全不同于中国的瓷器，蓝色的马赛克陶瓷是由非斯特产的一种灰色矿物质黏土烧制而成，以蓝色为主调，利用一块块细小的瓷片，拼成各种花色和复杂的图案，贴在房屋墙壁上，甚至洗脸盆、碗和盘子等器具上，当地叫作 Zillige。

非斯的路面马赛克陶瓷配合多种色彩鲜艳的点缀，有些类似中国的景泰蓝，不过景泰蓝是铜与陶瓷的结合，而蓝色马赛克陶瓷则是陶土与瓷片的组合。中国瓷器和景泰蓝工艺品以雅致精巧为美，而摩洛哥的陶瓷色彩绚丽，热情奔放，风格强烈。每一件产品都是独一无二的手工作品，花色看似相似，件件又有不同，因为独特，作坊式的小工厂得以保持到今天。

非斯古城之旅，游客们兴趣最大的就是这些陶瓷作坊和工厂，这些蓝色基调的 Zillige 从洗脸盆、桌面、天花板、地板砖，到罐子、杯子、水壶、碗和盘子，涉及生活的每一个元素，有上万元一件的奢侈品，也有十几块钱的可爱的小盘子，面对琳琅满目、五颜六色的彩

色陶瓷工艺品，谁都会忍不住买上一两件当作手信。

低调而奢华的摩洛哥地毯

穿过狭窄的巷子，走进一户人家，别看门脸毫不起眼，里面却别有洞天，这是一家手工地毯工厂。进入建筑内，是三四层楼高的庭院天井，各色地毯像瀑布一样倾泻而下。阁楼上几位妇女，正编织着地毯，与其说这是生产，倒更像是对游客的一种展示。

摩洛哥地毯中最有名的是柏柏尔地毯。柏柏尔人作为非洲最古老的游牧民族，把崇拜自然的元素融入进了地毯中，地毯的颜色以非洲大地的沙色、岩石的褐色、骆驼的驼色为主，图案有沙漠的波纹、骆驼、植物等。因受伊斯兰和阿拉伯文化影响，星月等图案也会出现在地毯上。

摩洛哥的手工地毯看起来很粗，其用料却很讲究，即使是简单的几何图案，做工也非常细腻、结实和耐用，一张好地毯可以用好几代人。虽然这里有了现代化工厂大批量生产地毯，而且价钱很便宜，但人们更喜欢独一无二的手工编织地毯。Beni Ourain、Tapis Azilal 等名贵的手工地毯被称为软黄金，其价格是机械加工地毯的四五倍，几万元的也不在少数，可谓低调的奢华。

“臭名昭著”的皮革加工工厂

非斯还有一处“臭名昭著”但游客非去不可的地方，那就是皮革手工加工工厂，历史最悠久的工厂有上千年历史，几家有名的皮革工厂俨然成了非斯的旅游景点，反倒感觉是顺带卖点皮革制品。向导带我七拐八拐地进入了一处堆满皮革制品的房间，拿起一片薄荷叶让我放在鼻子前面闻着，清凉的薄荷香味依然无法掩盖刺鼻的皮革制品的气味，难怪被戏称为“臭名昭著”。







穿过墙上挂满的各式皮包皮鞋的房间，销售员向几位外国游客推销着皮包。摩洛哥式的销售很有说服力，销售员一般先从皮子是牛、羊、骆驼身上的部位说起，告诉你这些皮子是如何用花等纯植物染色的，红花来自罂粟花，米色来自石榴花、绿色来自薄荷、咖啡色来自指甲花，让你知道它们并非现代工业产品。看着当地人真诚热情的眼睛，很难有游客不被打动的。眼前的这些真皮皮包、皮鞋款式也许有些繁杂，甚至显得些许土气，但与流水线上生产的皮包不同，它们手工匠人的心血和汗水。

皮革工厂的人知道我是为摄影而来，跳过推销环节，径直带我走到房间的阳台上。一眼看出去，后院是一片庞大的鞣皮梯田，一个个石头的或泥土的染缸连成一片，像是盛着五颜六色的染料的蜂巢。

工人们像蜜蜂一样忙碌着。第一道工序是鞣皮。现代化工厂鞣皮的方法是用明矾和硫酸钠，去掉皮革残余肉类皮毛上的蛋白质，使皮革变软。而非斯古老的方法却是用牛尿、生石灰和盐等物质浸泡皮革，再用鸽子粪浸泡软化，然后染色。尽管用料都是纯天然，但在工厂里，刺鼻的臭味仍然无法散去。拿起一小块已经上过色的鞣皮，摸起来十分柔软。据说，欧洲许多知名品牌的皮革就是来自非斯。

暗色的服装染坊

在非斯，人们更多关注的是皮革加工厂，其实，在街边还有许多多布匹和衣服染坊，小巷子的一边是水池，浸泡着暗色的染料，一沓沓的长袍和莎丽堆放在池边。

摩洛哥人无论男女，都穿长袍，女性长袍以黑色为主，喜庆场合也许会有蓝色等鲜艳的服装，男性长袍则以驼色、棕色为主，最好的袍子都是用羊毛制成的。非斯古城至今还有不少染色作坊，服装都是放在染坊染色的。

穿着胶鞋的工人从染缸里捞出衣服、纱巾和丝绵等材料，挂在小巷子边的墙上晾晒，染料流到地面，街道的路面都染成了黑色。一位染坊的老板站在门前，我举起手里的相机示意给他拍照，他很热情地点头，很开心地让我拍他。染坊的手工艺很容易被生产线所取代，不知道这些染坊还能延续到什么时候，或许，不久的将来，这里就会变成一个参观的景点。

阿拉丁神灯般的铜器

走在非斯古城的小巷，会被各种小商品店铺所迷住，尤其是会被闪闪发光的铜器店所迷住。非斯古城的铜器并非只有铜杯、铜壶、铜盘和铜盆，还有烛台、灯罩，店主把灯放在铜灯罩的后面，灯光会透过铜器的细腻花纹照过来，营造出一种梦





幻的场景，大有阿拉丁神灯的感觉。

铜器几乎都是手工敲打生产出来的，只有这样，才会有独特的肌理和文化历史魅力。店门前，看见手工艺匠人拿着小锤子细细敲打着铜皮，“千锤百炼”之后，慢慢成形为盘子或者灯罩，看着花纹被一点点雕刻在铜器之上，感觉十分神奇。有一个巨大的灯罩，花纹极为细腻，不知道做成这个灯罩需要多少天的敲敲打打。

在一家铜器店门前，遇到两位身着摩洛哥民族服饰的艺人，他们敲着小鼓和铜鼓，唱着摩洛哥民谣，专门为游客表演。我正在拍摄铜器店，店铺的匠人依然不停地敲打着手中的铜器，叮叮咚咚之声仿佛是给艺人的表演所作的伴奏。

在非斯 Borj sud 古堡对面的一处高地，俯瞰静静蛰伏上千年的非斯古城全景，牧羊人带着狗，赶着羊群悠闲地经过，脑海中浮现的还是非斯各色作坊。工业革命用机器取代了手工生产，带来了极高的生产效率，但依然无法消灭手工制造这个承载文化价值的古老行业，手工生产永远不会成为工业社会的主流，但它注定会成为人们怀旧的一种方式。

人们沉醉、迷失在这座天方夜谭般的古城里，犹如迷失在古老文化的海洋之中。

The ancient city of Fes looks like a maze set for modern people in ancient times. Even if you are equipped with modern digital map, you are sure to feel bewildered when you are inside a city with 9,000 densely intertwined alleys, street markets, all kinds of ceramics, leather, carpet and dyeing workshops and numerous grocery stores and stalls. Anyone who travels to Morocco will not omit Fes in his itinerary. As the center of Islamic culture in Morocco, Fes fascinates tourists not only with its ancient architecture, but also family-owned workshops that cannot be replaced the Industrial Revolution.

Following our guide and weaving our ways through the alleys, we were able to admire the palaces, temples and workshops combining Islamic characteristics and ancient Jewish culture, and craft workshops where Islamic features blended with ancient Jewish culture. The aroma of dried fruits and herbs in the markets mixed with the smell of leather and dyes, and the dazzling porcelain, carpets, bags and brassware make you feel a bit lost in this handicraft city.

Dazzling blue mosaic tiles

We visited a pottery workshop named Poterie de Fes, which is a small factory that still retains the ancient kiln

sites. The factory uses a small yard to separate the areas of different processes. Casting, coloring, firing, painting and pasting, each procedure occupies an independent and separate turf in the factory's courtyard. Several craftsmen work meticulously on one procedure, and accustomed to the crowds of tourists, they just ignore the crazy shutterbugs around. Fes' indigenous mosaic tiles are completely different from the Chinese porcelain. The blue mosaic tiles are made from the unique grey clay of Fes. Known as Zillige in local language, the handmade mosaic tilework is to patch small mosaic tiles with blue tones to form various patterns and complex designs, which will then be pasted onto walls of houses, and even to utensils, such as washbasins, bowls and dishes. Fes' mosaic tiles are decorated by a variety of vibrant colors, similar to China's cloisonné technique. However, cloisonné is a combination of copper and ceramics, while blue mosaic tiles are a combination of clay and porcelain. Chinese porcelain and cloisonné wares are elegant and delicate, while Moroccan ceramics are colourful, passionate and stylish. Each product is a unique handmade artwork. Their patterns look alike but differ from each other. It is this uniqueness that renders these small factories or workshops sustain until today.

These ceramics workshops and factory are what visitors to Fes most interested in. These blue Zillige works range from washbasins, table tops, ceilings and floor tiles, to pots, cups, kettles, bowls and plates, involving all the factors in life. There are luxury items priced RMB 10,000, and a cute little dish just tagged no more than RMB 20. Faced with a dazzling array of colorful ceramic artworks and crafts, no one can resist the temptation to buy one or two pieces as gifts.

Low-key luxurious Moroccan carpet

Walking through a narrow alley, we walked into a house with humble appearance but hidden wonders inside. It is a handmade carpet factory. The building has a three or four-story tall atrium, and colored carpets hanging there look like waterfalls.

Several women were weaving carpets in the attic, a scene seeming not so much like production but more a display to tourists.

The most famous Moroccan carpet is the Berber carpet. As the oldest nomadic people in Africa, the Berbers weave their carpets with a touch of worship to the nature. The colors of the carpets are mostly the sandy color, brown and light tan, representing the land of Africa, rocks and camels. The patterns include dunes, camels and plants, and sometimes star and crescent due to the influence of Islamic and Arab culture.

Moroccan handmade carpets look rough, but their materials are very particular. Even carpets with simple geometric patterns are exquisitely made, strong and durable, and a good carpet can be used for generations. Although there are modern factories here mass-producing low-priced carpets, people still prefer the unique hand-woven carpets. Beni Ourain, Tapis Azilal and other luxurious handmade carpets are known as soft gold, whose prices are four or five times the mass produced carpets. Some even cost tens of thousands RMB, which can be best described as low-key luxury.

Stinky but famous leather tanneries

For tourists, another type of must-see places in Fes is the stinky but famous handmade leather tanneries. The oldest tannery here is almost a thousand years old, and several famous tanneries have become tourist attractions, making leather sales a seemingly side business for them. The guide took me passing through tortuous ways to a room full of leather products, and gave me a mint leaf to smell in front of my nose. However, the cool mint fragrance couldn't cover up the smell of pungent leather products. No wonder tanning gets the name of odoriferous trade.

The salesmen at the tannery led foreign tourists through rooms with leather bags and shoes hanging all the walls, and tried to sell some leather bags. The Moroccan sales style is very persuasive. The salespeople usually start with the origin of the









hide, i.e. the hide is from which parts of cows, sheep or camels. They will then introduce how the hides are dyed with pure plants such as flowers: the red color is from poppies, the beige from the pomegranates, green from mint and brown from henna. This is to inform you that the hides are not modern industrial products. Looking into the eyes of local people with sincere enthusiasm, it would be hard for tourists not to be impressed. These genuine leather handbags and shoes may have somewhat complicated and even rustic styles. However, unlike the leather bags produced on the assembly line, these handmade bags come only after craftsmen's painstaking efforts.

Learning that I was there for photography, the man in the tannery skipped the sales procedure and took me straight to the balcony of the room. At first glance, the backyard seemed to be a large tanning terrace. Dye cauldrons made of stone or clay linked up into a single stretch, like a hive with colorful dyes. Workers were busy as bees.

The first procedure is tanning. Modern factories to use alum and sodium sulfate to remove the protein from the remaining flesh and hair on the hides and make the hides soft. However, following the ancient Fes tanning method, hides are first soaked in a mixture of cow urine, quicklime and salt, and then in pigeon poop to soften the hides before dyed. Although all the materials are naturally made, the pungent smell still cannot be dispersed in the tannery. I picked up a small piece of tanned leather, and it felt soft to the touch. It is said that many well-known leather brands in Europe come from Fes.

Dark clothing dye workshop

People are more concerned about leather tanneries in Fes. Actually, there are many cloth and clothes dyeing workshops on the streets. I saw a pool with dark dye at one side of an alley, with stacks of robes and saris beside the pool.

Moroccan people, either men or women, all wear robes. Women usually wear black robes, but they may wear blue and other bright colors for festive occasions. The men's robes are mainly of the light tan and brown color. The best robes are always made of wool. In the ancient city of Fes, there are still many dyeing workshops, where clothes are dyed.

Workers wearing rubber shoes took from the dyeing cauldrons clothes, silk scarves and silk and cotton materials, which were then hung on the wall on the sides of the alley. The dyed water flowed to the ground, dyeing the road into black. Seeing the owner of a dye house standing in front of the door, I raised my camera and gestured to take pictures of him. He nodded warmly and was delightful for the shots. The handicrafts of the dyeing workshop can be easily replaced by the production lines. I was just wondering how long would the dyeing workshop sustain. Maybe, they will be turned into tourist attractions in the near future.

Bronze wares mysterious as Aladdin's lamp

Walking in the alleys of the ancient city of Fes, one will be fascinated by a variety of small stores, especially those sparkling bronze ware shops. The Categories of Fes' bronze wares are not limited to

cups, pots, plates and basins, but instead, expand to candlesticks and lampshades. A shop owner put the lamp behind a bronze lampshade, and the light penetrated through the delicate patterns of the bronze ware was song dreamy that it reminded me of the Aladdin's lamp.

Almost all the bronze wares in Fes are handmade, and only through this way can the bronze wares gain the unique texture and cultural and historical charm.

In front of that shop, I saw a craftsman knocked on the copper sheet with a small hammer, and a plate or lampshade would gradually be knocked into shape. It was really amazing to see the patterns slowly carved on the bronze wares. I also saw a huge lampshade with very delicate pattern, and I just wondered how many days of hammering would it take to make such a lampshade.

I encountered two performers dressed in Moroccan folk costumes in front a bronze ware store. They were beating drums and gongs and singing Moroccan

ballads, a performance catering to tourists. I was there shooting the bronze ware store. The craftsmen inside the store kept hammering the bronze wares in their hands, and the sound of hammering seemed to be an accompaniment to the performers outside.

In the heights opposite the ancient castle of Borj sud, I took a bird's view of the ancient city of Fes, which has been quietly entwined for thousands of years. I saw a shepherd with his dog herded his sheep leisurely, but what remained in my mind were still the various workshops in Fes. The Industrial Revolution replaced the manual production with machines, and brought about extremely high production efficiency. However, it still cannot eradicate the handicrafts in ancient industries bearing the cultural value. Handicrafts will never become the mainstream of industrial society, but is destined to become a nostalgic for people.

People are intoxicated and lost in this splendid ancient city, as if lost in the ocean of ancient culture.

