







说起工业革命,没有谁比英国更有发言权了。

作为英国的首都,伦敦的角角落落里,无不储存着工业革 命的记忆和片段。这不,那条在工业革命时期被称作"黄金水 路"的大联合运河就在眼前,泛舟其上,一个不一样的伦敦走 上了历史舞台。

运河一通,黄金万两

在英国工业革命初期,水路成了最快捷的运输大动脉,也 由此引发了英国开拓构建运河体系的设想。18世纪,英国通 过各种形式的投资,积极开凿运河,终于,一条被称为"黄金 水路"的大联合运河落成。这条主干水系起于伦敦,终于200 公里以北的伯明翰,主要由联合运河、摄政运河和华威运河 组成。

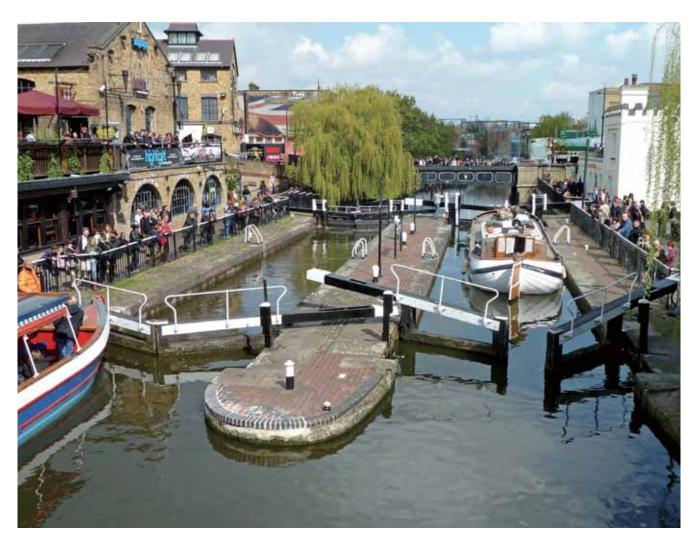
联合运河是连接伦敦与英国其他运河系统的主要通道。从

英国北部和中部的工业城市运送到伦敦的货物主要是通过这个 渠道。其中有一条到帕丁顿的支线,很快变成了一个繁忙的内 陆转运枢纽。货物在这里卸下驳船,再用马车转运到伦敦其他 地区。

如今的帕丁顿已不再是货物运输中转站,取而代之的是宏 伟的帕丁顿火车站和新兴的商业区。尤其是帕丁顿火车站,已 经成为英国繁忙的交通枢纽。在大家熟悉的英国电影《帕丁 顿熊 1》里,那头可爱的小熊到伦敦的第一站就是帕丁顿火车 站,现实中的车站的确有一座小熊的雕塑。

在帕丁顿火车站附近,还有一处不能错过的景致,那就 是运河边上充满现代感与时尚感的迷你钢结构作品——帕丁顿 折叠桥。设计者构思精妙,让桥做到收放自如,既可以卷起来 让船只通过,又可以放下供行人过河。从帕丁顿沿着运河往北 走一会儿,就到了一片三角形的运河交汇处,人称"小威尼 斯",这隐匿在伦敦城里的"弹丸水城"别有洞天。徜徉于水





面上的各种小船,体态各异,色彩斑斓。风和日丽的下午,悠 然惬意地享受远离尘嚣的宁静何尝不是一种幸福? 抑或来到 河边的伦勃朗花园看看花草也行。那里种植着荷兰赠送的郁 金香。

运河从小威尼斯向东到摄政公园附近的一段就是摄政运 河。联合运河的帕丁顿支线和泰晤士河就是通过这条运河连接 起来的,这样,货物就可以通过运河直接从伯明翰运输到泰晤 士河码头。

摄政运河曾经繁华热闹过一个半世纪。进入20世纪后, 火车成了最快捷的交通工具,运河逐渐沉寂,与运河相关的产 业也随之萧条。货船在运河上川流不息的热闹景象已然成为历 史,甚至一度由于运河多处失修、河道漂满垃圾而堵塞、荒 废,"黄金水路"成了被人遗忘的角落。

如今的摄政运河已被改造成了观光游览河,当年的拖船马 道被改造成了自行车道和健步道。运河上的桥梁大都采用铸 铁,涂上黑漆。运河、桥梁与绿野林木,构成了运河沿途的道 道风景。当游客乘船沿河游览时,两岸的绿色过滤掉了城市的

噪音,让河道周围充满着野趣。幽静的环境提升了两岸地产的 附加值。

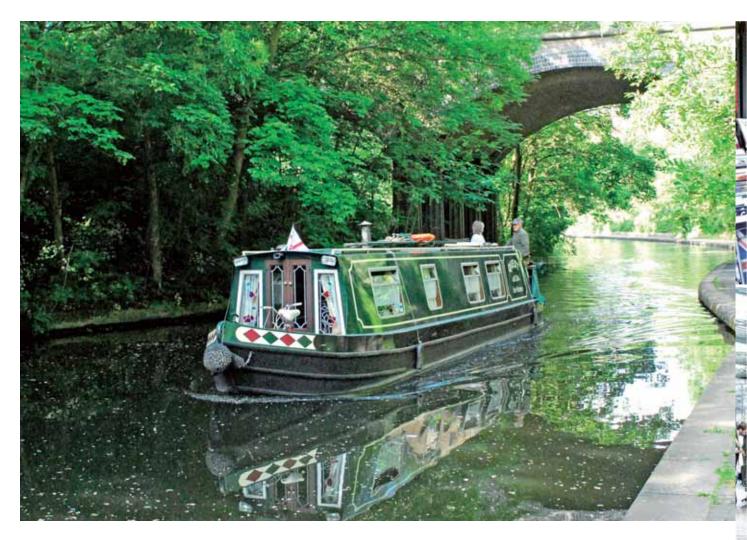
摄政运河最有观光价值的部分在小威尼斯至伊斯灵顿之 间,沿途有许多历史遗迹,其中有一座被命名为"爆炸桥"的 历史遗迹不可错过。铁桥附近还出现了船上人家,这使得摄政 运河更多了一些生活气息。码头旁有着 200 多年历史的卡姆 顿水闸依然在时光中流转。

马厩让工业革命开足了马力

位于卡姆敦水闸旁边的马厩,也曾以独特的方式贡献于英 国工业革命。有历史学家曾说、驱动英国工业革命的蒸汽机和 铁路,最初是用马匹拉来的。因为铺设铁路需要马匹拉钢轨和 各种配件。为了把石材、钢材从英国北部运送到伦敦,当时水 上运输采用的是马拉驳船。有800多匹马在河岸拉纤,场面 十分壮观。为了养护这些马匹,卡姆敦水闸旁这才建起了马 厩,与之配套的是兽医院、马鞍制作车间、钉掌车间等,这也







是维多利亚时期最红火的产业链之一。到了 20 世纪 70 年代,这座维多利亚时期的典型建筑一片破败,只有粗大厚重的铸铁立柱在顽强地支撑着自己的历史。

而今,这座马厩几经易主,最终被开发成了颇有新意的文化市场。外部建筑材料采用的是维多利亚风格的红砖和铸铁立柱。设计师在重要位置陈列布置了多座马的铜雕。马匹或扬鬃长啸,或低头拉车,还有钉马掌的铁匠师傅雕塑等。这些雕塑与墙壁上的历史图画相互映衬,让游客仿佛回到了维多利亚时代的热闹年代。马厩旁边的红砖仓库也被改造了商业媒体中心。

在摄政运河开凿 200 周年之际,伦敦特别创作了一部介绍摄政运河的歌剧,想了解不一样的伦敦,就来这里看黄金水路的前世今生吧。

When it comes to the industrial revolution, there is no country to have more rights to speak than the United Kingdom.

As the capital of the United Kingdom, every corner of

London is filled with memories and fragments of the industrial revolution. The Grand Union Canal, known as the "golden waterway" during the industrial revolution is in sight. Boating on the canal, you will find that a different London is on the scene.

The opening of the canal means tons of the gold

In early days of British industrial revolution, waterway became the fastest transportation artery, which aroused the plan of developing and constructing a canal system in Britain. In the 18th century, through various forms of investment, Britain was actively engaged in canal digging. Finally, known as "golden waterway", Grand Union Canal was completed. The main water system started from London and ended up in Birmingham, located 200 kilometers north to London. It was composed of Grand Junction Canal, Regent's







Canal and Warwick Canal.

Grand Junction Canal was the main channel connecting London with other canal systems in Britain. Goods transported from industrial cities in northern and central Britain to London mainly passed through this channel. One of the branches to Paddington soon became a busy inland transportation hub. The goods were unloaded from barges here and transported to other parts of London by carriage.

Paddington is no longer a freight transfer station; instead, there emerged magnificent Paddington Station and a new commercial district. Paddington Station, in particular, has become the busiest transportation hub in Britain. In the familiar English movie Paddington, the first stop in London that the cute bear arrived at is Paddington Station, and there is actually a sculpture of a little bear in the station.

Near Paddington Station, there is another scene that



cannot be missed, that is, the Rolling Bridge, a miniature steelwork full of sense of modern and design along the canal. The designer is ingenious in his design, allowing the bridge to be freely retracted and released. It can be rolled up to allow ships through and it can also be lowered to allow pedestrians to cross the river. Walk northward along the canal from Paddington for a while, and you will see the triangular confluence of canals. Known as "Little Venice", the "tiny waterside town" is a hidden but beautiful spot in London. Various boats floating on the water are of different shapes and colors. Isn't it happy to enjoy the peace away from the hustle and bustle of modern city on a sunny afternoon? You can also appreciate flowers and plants in Rembrandt's Garden by the river. Tulips given by Netherlands are grown here.

The section of the canal from Little Venice to Regent's Park is the Regent's Canal. It connects Paddington branch of Grand Junction Canal and the Thames, and goods can be transported directly from Birmingham to the Thames Wharf through the canal.

The Regent's Canal was once bustling for a century and a half. In the 20th century, the train became the fastest means of transportation. The canal gradually fell silent and canal-related industries were also depressed. The bustling scene that freighters flowed incessantly on the canal has faded into history and the canal was even blocked and abandoned due to disrepairs and wastes floating over the water. The "golden waterway" became a corner forgotten by people.

Today, the Regent's Canal has been transformed into a sightseeing river while the tugboat lane has been transformed into the cycle track and walkway. Most of the bridges on the canal are made of cast iron and are painted black. The canal, bridges and woods constitute the scenery along the canal. When tourists travel along the river by boat, the greenery on both sides filters out the noise of the city and fills the surroundings of the river with wild interest. The quiet environment has increased additional values to the properties on both sides of the river.

The most scenic part of the Regent's Canal is between Little Venice and Islington. There are many historical sites along the way, among which "Explosive Bridge" should not be missed. The presence of people on board near the iron bridge has added vitality to the Regent's Canal. Camden Sluice, which has a history of more than 200 years near the wharf, continues working as time goes by.

The stable powered the industrial revolution

The stable beside Camden Sluice also contributed to the British industrial revolution in a unique way. Historians once said the stream engines and railways that actuated British industrial revolution were originally drawn by horses, since laying railways requires horses to pull rails and various accessories. In order to transport stones and steel from northern Britain to London, horsedrawn barges were used for water transportation at that time. The scene was very spectacular with more than 800 horses towing the barges along the banks of the river. In order to breed these horses, the stable was built beside Camden Sluice. Meanwhile, veterinary hospitals, saddle-making workshops, horseshoe workshops and other supporting facilities were also set up. It was one of the most prosperous industrial chains in Victorian times. In the 1970s, this typical Victorian building was dilapidated. Only thick and heavy cast iron columns are supporting their histories.

Now, the stable has finally been developed into a creative cultural market after several changes of owners. The materials of external buildings are Victorian red bricks and cast iron columns. The designer displays several bronze sculptures of horses in important positions. The horse may neigh to the sky or lower its head to tow the boat. There is also a sculpture of the blacksmith who is shoeing a horse. The sculptures and historical pictures on the wall set each other off, leading tourists back to the lively Victorian era. The red brick warehouse next to the stable has also been transformed into a commercial media center.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the Regent's Canal, London specially created an opera to introduce it. If you want to know about a different London, come here and watch the past and present of the golden waterway.