

## **Beijing Facts at a Glance**

### **Passport & Visa:**

A valid passport and visa are required to enter and exit China and must be obtained from Chinese Embassies and Consulates before traveling to China. Americans arriving without valid passports and the appropriate Chinese visa are not permitted to enter and will be subject to a fine and immediate deportation at the traveler's expense. Visit the Embassy of China web site at <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/> for the most current visa information.

### **Language:**

Mandarin is the official language in Beijing. A Beijing dialect is also spoken in the urban areas. People who work in hotels and professional service companies are able to speak fair English.

### **Internet Access:**

Most of the hotels provide free or chargeable Internet access to guests. For details of the charging scheme, please contact your reserved hotel or your Travel Agent directly.

### **Travel To And From The Airport:**

The hotel is just 25 minutes away from the Beijing Capital Airport and during peak hours approximately 40 minutes. At the airport take the immediate airport highway to 3rd Ring Road driving towards Jing Guang Bridge, just 30 meters away you will find Grand Millennium Beijing.

Taxi and city shuttle buses can be found on the ground floor of the domestic and international airport arrival halls.

### **Mobile Services:**

Most of the telephone systems used around the globe (GSM 900, PCS 1800, CDMA and WCDMA) operate in Beijing. If you plan to use your mobile phone on the trip, check with your network provider before traveling to inquire about roaming rates and other fees you might encounter.

If you decide not to bring your mobile phone with you, you can always rent a mobile phone when you arrive in Beijing at the international airport. Stored-value IDD calling cards are also available for purchase.

### **Health & Immunizations:**

No vaccinations are required for travel to China, but it is advisable to check with your doctor for current information.

### **Weather in May:**

Beijing's climate is a rather dry, monsoon-influenced humid continental climate with four distinct seasons. Generally, the warm spring and cool autumn are the more comfortable seasons. In April, the climate is pleasant with an average ranging from 46°F (7.9°C) to 68.5°F (20.3°C).

### **Currency:**

The currency in China is Renminbi (RMB). 1 USD = 6.596 RMB (as of February 9, 2011). Credit cards and US dollars are widely accepted in hotels and major shops.

### **Time:**

Beijing Time = Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)+8 hours

### **Electricity:**

Electricity supply in Shanghai is 220 volts, 50 HZ throughout China. Plugs at hotels are normally two-pin flat (5 amp, 13amp and 18amp). Exhibitors may bring their own suitable plugs or ask for multi-purpose sockets so you will need an adaptor for your 100-volt appliances and electrical equipment. You can buy an inexpensive adaptor for your equipment when you arrive in Shanghai.

### **Useful Websites:**

- Official website of Beijing Capital International Airport (English)  
<http://www.airport-beijing.com/>
- Beijing Tourist Information and Service Centre  
<http://english.visitbeijing.com.cn/>
- Immigration information  
[http://www.beijing.alloexpat.com/beijing\\_information/immigration\\_information\\_beijing.php](http://www.beijing.alloexpat.com/beijing_information/immigration_information_beijing.php)
- U.S. Department of State, information for U.S. citizens traveling abroad  
<http://travel.state.gov/>
- Website of The Grand Millennium Hotel, Beijing  
<http://www.millenniumhotels.com/cn/grandmillenniumbeijing/index.html>