



Ruth Lor Malloy's Beijing

A Travel Writer's Guide to One of Her Favorite Cities

Olympics 2007 - 2nd Edition

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About the Author



I was born in Brockville, Ontario, Canada into a family with its roots in Taishan, Guangdong, China. We operated a Chinese-Canadian restaurant. We frequently visited other restaurants for ideas and we learned early what good quality was. After graduating from the University of Toronto and working as a social worker, I started traveling whenever possible as a travel writer and photographer and an organizer of international conferences. Along the way, I married journalist Michael Malloy and had three children.

Figure 1 - Author - Ruth Lor Malloy

We currently live in Toronto, but have also lived in Hong Kong, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, and Taiwan. During my travels, I also collect textiles and footwear for three museums in Canada, and write travel articles for newspapers and magazines. You can find information about these in my web site www.china-travel-guide.com. You can also find logistical information there about various cities in China and destinations with few people and clean air like Mongolia and Easter Island elsewhere.

In 1975, I published the first of 14 editions of a guidebook on China. After its last edition in 2002, I gave up trying to keep track of the whole country. Too many things were happening. So in 2004, I wrote my first e-Book guide solely on one city, Beijing. Keeping up with the whole of China was impossible. This update was completed in 2007. We endeavor to update the ever changing information in this book whenever possible.

About the Publisher

L&G Tourism Development Corporation is devoted to enhancing and promoting the pleasure of tourism anywhere in the world. It is a privilege to work with a professional travel writer such as Ruth Lor Malloy in the publication of her second e-Travel Book in editing, formatting, on-line promotion, distribution and the selling of her book.

It is our hope that we will publish several more.

Over the past 20 years this corporation has published several publications relating to tourism in a number of mediums.

Web Sites

“Ruth Lor Malloy” – Author China Guide - <http://www.china-travel-guide.com/>

“Chisisibi Mandow Agency” – Mandow Agency <http://www.mandow.ca/>

“Brockville Farmers’ Market” - <http://www.brockvillefarmersmarket.ca/>

“Countryman’s” - <http://www.countrymans.ca>

“Kool Pine Cottages” - <http://www.koolpinescottages.com/>

“Island View Bed and Breakfast” – <http://www.islandviewbandb.ca>

CD-ROMs

“How to Build an Authentic Cree Teepee”

“50th Anniversary Commonwealth School Brockville”

e-Books

“Hijras” – Ruth Lor Malloy

“How to Build Your Own Backyard Greenhouse”

“Cooking for Just Me and Whomever I want...”

“Hockey Made Easy”

Print Media

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Introduction

So you're thinking of going to Beijing and you want to know what you can do there, where you can stay, and how you can get around with little or no knowledge of Chinese.

I have been researching over a dozen guidebooks on China since 1965 and have escorted a lot of foreign tour groups so I think I know what you want. I'm a native Canadian so I look at the country from a foreigner's perspective. I've also traveled there a lot on my own. I can tell you how to get around without using much "putong hua," the local language, because I don't speak much of it myself. I'll even give you some maps and tell you how to get more. And I'll dig into my personal collection of business cards with names and addresses in Chinese to help your taxi driver get you where you want to go. You'll have to excuse the notes I've scribbled on them.

If you want information about the rest of China, visit my web site at <http://www.china-travel-guide.com/>. This web-site gives updates about some of the interesting destinations in China listed in my 2002 China guide book that I've been able to visit since then.

Note:

Please be aware that the information in this book is as accurate as humanly possible at press time and is subject to change. Please let me know by e-mail through my web-site www.china-travel-guide.com of any mistakes and your suggested changes. I will try to update this book at least once a year or more. Like many other cities, Beijing is a work in progress especially now as it approaches the Olympics.

Why Buy The Updated Olympic Version of this Book?

Because:

- ▶ there is an added section on **Olympics** with links to sites on venues, opening ceremonies, etc.
- ▶ we have added more hotels -- not only are there a lot more new hotels in Beijing, but we give readers more choices and a wide price range.
- ▶ we added a couple new neighborhoods. The whole book is organized mainly in neighborhoods that people can walk around near your hotel. Because of the pollution, we don't recommend that you walk more than one kilometer away from your hotel to a restaurant or tourist attraction
- ▶ of the traffic jams, we list restaurants a short distance away by taxi
- ▶ links to maps including the new subway map showing planned route to 2009.
- ▶ there are cheap cell phones you can use in China and around the world for emergencies

▶ hotel prices change daily according to season, we list prices for a date in low season (February 28, 2007) from the hotel's own web site and/or some hotel booking agency like Travelocity, Expedia or e-Long. This will indicate a minimum. Maximums will depend on date, quality of room, and inclusion of breakfast. Because of our descriptions, you need only spend time getting comparative prices on the hotels that interest you.

▶ we updated telephone numbers and e-mails for hotels, embassies, airlines, restaurants, travel agencies, stores, etc. and prices for food and tours where we could.

▶ there are updated regulations on free checked baggage allowances and limits on carry-on bags

▶ it will save you a lot of time in planning your trip, and in getting around Beijing. Different sites on the web contradict each other. All the information is here in one place and from a time-trusted and much experienced source.

▶ you can click on our recommended web sites for more information without having to surf the whole web.

▶ you can download the information into your PDA (*Personal Digital Assistant*) and carry it in your pocket or we have the whole book on a web site, which is password protected and you can use an iPhone or similar device to access the web site.

▶ you can also download the information into your computer, or carry its CD around with you – much lighter and less space than a conventional guidebook and use it whenever you have time. Or you can print out only those pages you will need.

▶ once you load this file into your personal computer you can print out only those pages you need on your trip.

▶ it is a handy introduction for first-timers, and an updated guide for those who have been to Beijing before. We are trying to save you time. When you get to Beijing you will find great long lists of restaurants according to cuisine with addresses in tourist handout literature. As a newcomer, you don't know where those restaurants are. We list restaurants by neighborhood around hotels – your hotel.

▶ *I'm not trying to sell you anything but my own experienced opinion based on at least 50 visits to Beijing since 1966. Usually information on the web comes with strings attached – tours to buy and hotels to book. The restaurants and hotels I recommend are those friends and I have used or visited, and liked. No one has paid me to put his or her name in my book. After you spend a couple of weeks in Beijing, I hope you'll send me your recommendations by e-Mail too – for future editions of this guide.*

▶ while I do accept complimentary hotel rooms and the occasional meal, this is after I choose a hotel or restaurant for my book. I don't put them into my book because they have given me a room.

▶ usually you have to arrive first at a place before you can get advice from local people and start collecting handy business cards. I have already done this for you.

▶ your driver or you can telephone for directions with our telephone numbers.

▶ *Ruth Lor Malloy's Beijing* will be periodically updated. You can also ask me a few questions if you purchase this book. When you first buy it, we put your name into a database. If you want full updated information, all you have to do is re-order the latest edition at half the prevailing purchase price.

Note:

Hotels here are in a wide variety of price ranges. The hotels I recommend are those that my tour groups, my readers, my trusted Beijing-based friends and I enjoy and would use again us. Because of the Olympics, we have added more hotels in this edition.

This book is meant to give you a good introduction to the city so that you will feel at home in it, and find your way around -- within a couple of days. It will tell you what is available and give you the spirit of the place -- what you can do and what you can't do.

It tells you not to allow fear of illness and epidemics to rule your life. At the same time, it tells you what precautions to take in case these are real threats.

It gives you options. Do not allow yourself to be at the mercy of your guides. Take charge of your own trip.

After mastering these basics, you can go on to find many more places on your own to explore, and other restaurants to try and enjoy. Hopefully, you will meet other foreigners and locals who live in Beijing and can also give you advice in English. You can find these people in clubs, lectures, bars, and volunteer projects. You can meet them in religious institutions and maybe through your embassy.

[How to Use This Book](#)

The advantage of using an electronic book is that you can find things quickly and if you download this book into a PDA or Computer, then you're in business.

Click on any item in the extensive [Table of Contents](#), and you will zip to it immediately. When you see a reference like "See Religious Services in Chapter Eighteen," go back to the Index and link to Chapter Eighteen. Then hold down the Ctrl key and press "f". A little window will pop up and you can type in or paste in "Religious Services," Then click on "Find Next". That should do it and you don't have to scroll through the whole book. If you want to find all the references to the Park Hyatt Hotel, for example, do the same and type in its name.

Want a restaurant near your hotel? Type in the name of your hotel after the Ctrl/f move, and click on "Find Next." Once found, read on to discover what other services are nearby in this neighborhood.

Not all antique stores are in the Antique section, for example. Just click on "Find," type in "Antiques" and you will get more.

Looking for a list of maps? Just [Click Here](#).

There is even a collection of business cards in Chinese and English. A [Click Here](#) will be beside the name of some establishments.

We have listed a lot of web sites in this book, and you need only hold down the Ctrl key, and then click on the web-site address. This saves you a lot of time looking through pages of Google. We also list the hotel's own **lowest possible prices** and those quoted by on-line hotel booking agencies. If you want more information about the hotel, we also have the hotel's web site – if it has one.

Note: Chinese has no rules about street names like "Sanlitun" which can also be "San Li Tun." Use both when you are looking for a name.

Note: Prices quoted in this book are **Chinese Yuan** and **US \$** dollars.

**[To Purchase Ruth Lor Malloy's
Beijing Olympic Edition Click Here!](#)**

