

Top 10 Reasons to Study Abroad in Beijing



1. **ECONOMY.** Beijing's economy is still on the rise. The city is home to 41 of Fortune's Global 500 companies, the second most in the world behind Tokyo. Its real estate and auto industries continue to grow. This global city is also known for its innovative entrepreneurs and high growth **start up companies**. Nokia, the mobile company, has called Beijing a "Global Innovation Hub" and recently set up an Experience & Innovation Center to help 30 start up companies. Understanding China and its global role could give you a head start in your career after graduation.

2. **FOOD.** "Ni chi le ma?" (have you eaten?) is a phrase heard around the city, a common greeting and a point of conversation. Wander the hutongs (Beijing's alleyways) and you'll **stumble upon** some hidden gems - restaurants and street vendors alike. If you find yourself in the Dongcheng district, stop into Xian'r Lao Man (or Xian Lao Man) for some delicious, fat, stuffed dumplings. If you want to try some typical snacks, stop in to Jiumen Xiaochi, or Nine Gates Snacks, in Shichahai. **Keep an eye open for** candied sweet potato chips, stir-fried mung bean jelly cake, Nai lao - rice wine yogurt with red bean, boiled sheep's head (*yang tou*), scorpion skewers and more. In the summertime, sit on the roof of **Nuage** for some Vietnamese comfort food while overlooking the lake.

3. LANGUAGE.

When you study in Beijing, you'll be **immersed in** another culture with mandarin, a critical language for the future, spoken all around you. This is an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill that will **set you apart** in your future career path and open many doors of networking and communication. With more than a billion speakers, Mandarin is the most popular spoken language in the world.

4. **A GLOBAL CITY.** Living in a global metropolis like Beijing - the political, educational and cultural capital of China - you'll find yourself surrounded by people from all over the country as well as a significant diverse international population. It is a vast, urban environment including six inner and eight metropolitan districts. There are nearly 20 million people living in Beijing, a fact that is reflected upon alongside the accompanying diversity of the city in CAPA's Global Cities course.

5. **EXPLORATION.** Beijing **is bursting with** places to explore. There's nothing like wandering through the *hutongs* - Beijing's narrow alleyways with courtyard houses - to

bring the old city alive. To find the Beijing's hippest latte-sipping crowds, head to north to siheyuan where traditional Chinese courtyards have been converted into lounges, creative boutiques and snug cafes. There are **plenty of beautiful parks** to wander through and escape the city chaos. Try Summer Palace for some great Chinese architecture beyond the quiet, peaceful Kunming Lake or Beihai Park. If you **happen to be** in Beijing in mid-October to late November, make sure you check out some of the best place to see colorful Fall foliage - Fragrant Hill, Beigong Forest Park or Labagou Gate. Also, try some of the markets like Xi Dan Marketplace or a visit to the 2008 Olympic park.

6. WONDER OF THE WORLD. At just over an hour on the train, the Great Wall of China is an easy day trip from Beijing. Climbing the Great Wall - a wonder of the world - is something Colin Speakman, CAPA's Resident Director in Beijing, says that everyone should do that at least once in their lifetime. It is a wonder indeed, snaking over the mountain ranges, jutting into view and disappearing, full of history which you'll learn all about on your CAPA Beijing program.

7. HISTORY. A city with a long and rich history, Beijing has a wealth of historical sites to visit. Of course, there is the Great Wall (as mentioned above), but you can also spend plenty of time admiring the awe-inspiring Forbidden City which "common" people could not do in the days of the Emperors. The beautiful Temple of Heaven is a **UNESCO World Heritage** site where annual ceremonies of prayers for good harvest were performed. Tiananmen Square sits in the center of Beijing and is the third largest public square in the world, perhaps best remembered in recent history for the pro-democracy protests of 1989. The Summer Palace is also a must-visit. Be sure to **pop over** to the Long Corridor. Despite the crowds, it's well worth the experience.

8. FREE STUFF. Walking the city (or if you can get your hands on a bike, here's some great routes to explore in Beijing) is the best free activity when you arrive at a new destination. You'll discover more than you would simply by following the guidebooks. There are plenty of free places to visit if you're the type of person who likes an itinerary, like National Museum of China, The Capital Museum and the National Art Museum. Have a look, but don't buy (or, if you like, practice your bargaining skills!) in Beijing's bustling Silk Street Market. To **scope out** some interesting Mao memorabilia and the like, head to Panjiayuan Market.

9. ART & DESIGN. The 798 Art District is the place to go in Beijing for art and design. It has often been compared to New York City's Greenwich Village. It's set in immense industrial spaces - in a former complex of Sino-East German military factory buildings from the 1950s. Also try Caochangdi, another art village outside of the 798. There are plenty of creatives based in Beijing. Here's a few artists to watch. Artist ROBBBB is making noise in the Beijing street art scene. Also on the streets, you'll find water

calligraphy artists and talented (and perhaps some not so talented) buskers. A former Wall Street trader opened a club called D22 where Beijing's growing underground music scene is thriving. The Beijing Opera with its colorful costumes and painted faces is also a highlight for many who visit this creative city.

10. **TRAVEL.** Beijing is a great hub if you're interested in visiting other parts of The Middle Kingdom. Travel on the high speed bullet trains that reach about 185 mph is an experience in itself. You can take a short trip to China's largest city, Shanghai (another CAPA International Education program site), in under five hours. Chuandixia is a quieter option, a tiny village nestled in green hills with narrow alleyways and traditional courtyard architecture. For an adventure break, try rock climbing or bungee jumping in Shidu or visit the picturesque temples and pagodas of Zhengding.

超牛逼雅思寫作用法總整理

1. 新創公司 start up company
 2. 偶然發現 stumble upon
 3. 留意一下 keep an eye open for
 4. 沉浸於 immerse in
 5. 使某人與眾不同 set one's apart
 6. 充滿 be bursting with sth
 7. 碰巧 be happen to be
 8. 聯合國教科文組織世界遺產 UNESCO World Heritage
 9. 短暫拜訪 pop over
 10. 貼近, 依偎 nestle in
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