

# **13<sup>th</sup> International Geography Olympiad**



**Beijing, China**

**16—22 August, 2016**

**INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

## CONTENTS

<b>1.Welcome to China iGeo-2016 .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.General information on iGeo .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.iGeo-2016 organisers.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.iGeo 2016 participants.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5.Cost of participation and insurance .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6.Visa to enter Mainland China .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7.Code of conduct .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>8.Tests.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>9.Poster presentation.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>10.Programme outline.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>11.Free time .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>12.Post-iGeo fieldtrip .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>13.Transport information .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>14.Accommodation .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>15.Catering.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>16.Climate and clothing.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>17.Money and banks .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>18.Other useful information.....</b>	<b>24</b>

## 1. Welcome to China iGeo-2016

Welcome to China! We are looking forward to hosting iGeo-2016 participants in Beijing, a region with fascinating natural and cultural landscape. We believe that you will enjoy being placed in it.

The venue of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Geography Olympiad will be Beijing Conference Center. Closing ceremony and awarding of Olympiad winners will take part in the evening of 21 August 2016 at Beijing Conference Center (BCC), and gold medals will be awarded at Opening Ceremony of IGU Congress in the morning of 22 August 2016 at China National Convention Center on the opening ceremony of International Geographical Congress 2016.

The Olympiad is held under the auspices of the International Geographical Union (IGU) and organized by the IGU Olympiad Task Force. Local organisers are the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, China Association for Science and Technology, the Geographical Society of China, and Beijing Normal University.

## 2. General information on iGeo

The International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) is an annual competition for the best 16 to 19 year old geography students from all over the world. Students chosen to represent their countries are the very best, chosen from thousands of students who participate enthusiastically in their own National Geography Olympiads. The iGeo consists of three parts: a written test, a multimedia test and a substantial fieldwork exercise requiring observation, leading to cartographic representation and geographical analysis. The programme also includes poster presentations by teams, cultural exchanges, and time for students to get to know their fellow students and explore the host city.

The aims of the Olympiad are to:

- stimulate active interest in geographical and environmental studies among young people;
- contribute positively to debate about the importance of geography as a senior secondary school subject by drawing attention to the quality of geographical knowledge, skills and interests among young people;
- facilitate social contacts between young people from different countries and in doing so, contribute to the understanding between nations.

The iGeo-2016 in Beijing, China is the thirteenth event (until 2012 Olympiads were organized on a biennial basis). In 2015 the Olympiad took place in Tver, Russia. The next iGeo in 2017 will be conducted in Serbia.

### 3. iGeo-2016 organisers

#### 3.1 Contact information

Prof Wang Min and Dr Wei Dongying

Organising Committee of 2016 International Geography Olympiad

School of Geography, Beijing Normal University

No. 19 Xijiekouwai Street, Haidian District, Beijing 100875, P.R. China

Phone: + 86-15801353069

Email: [weidy@bnu.edu.cn](mailto:weidy@bnu.edu.cn)

Information on iGeo-2016 updates on: [www.igeo2016.org](http://www.igeo2016.org)

#### 3.2 Organising committee

##### **Co-Chairs:**

Prof. Wang Min (Beijing Normal University)

Dr. Wei Dongying (Beijing Normal University)

##### **Members:**

Prof. Zhang Guoyou (Geographical Society of China)

Prof. Li Yi (Beijing Municipal Commission of Education, China)

Dr. Qiu Li (Hunan University, China)

Prof. Tang Xiaofeng (Peking University, China)

Prof. Tian Shulin (Beijing No. 80 High School, China)

Ms. Du Wenhong (Beijing No. 80 High School, China)

Mr.Dang Weimin(Chaoyang Teacher Education Institute)

Ms.Ji Xiaomei (Haidian Teacher Education Institute)

Ms. Li Yanmei (Beijing Educational Science Academy)

Mr. Gao Zhenfen (Beijing Educational Science Academy)

Ms.Zhu Kexi (Fengtai Teacher Education Institute)

Dr.Chen Hong (Beijing Educational Science Academy)






Ms. Li Huimin (Haidian Teacher Education Institute)

Ms. Song Hao (Xicheng Teacher Education Institute)

### 3.3 iGeo-2016 supporters

The iGeo-2016 organisers are grateful to supporters, without whom this enterprise could not take place. We would therefore like to thank the following institutions which have declared their support so far:

	Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China <a href="http://www.moe.edu.cn/">http://www.moe.edu.cn/</a>
	China Association for Science and Technology <a href="http://english.cast.org.cn/">http://english.cast.org.cn/</a>
	The Geographical Society of China <a href="http://www.gsc.org.cn/">http://www.gsc.org.cn/</a>
	Beijing Normal University <a href="http://www.bnu.edu.cn/">http://www.bnu.edu.cn/</a>

	SinoMaps Press <a href="http://www.sinomaps.com/english/html/home.html">http://www.sinomaps.com/english/html/home.html</a>
	Guangzhou Teenature Natural Education Consulting CO., Ltd
	Beijing Conference Center <a href="http://www.beijingshuiyizhongxin.com/en/">http://www.beijingshuiyizhongxin.com/en/</a>
	Beijing Geographic and Scientific Culture Communication Co., LTD
	Beijing NO. 80 High School <a href="http://www.bj80.com/">http://www.bj80.com/</a>

## 4.iGeo 2016 participants

### 4.1 Students

Each participating country, as defined by IGU Statute II A, can send a team of four students.

They must be students of secondary schools (general or technical), or ex-students who finished school in the year of the Olympiad and have not yet commenced regular education at university level by 30 June in the year of the Olympiad.

- Their ages must be between 16 and 19 years old (inclusive) on 30 June of the year that the Olympiad takes place.
- Students must be able to answer test questions in the official language of the Olympiad (English). Non-native English speakers get extra facilities

such as the use of a language dictionary, translations of selected geographic terms from the tests, and extra time for long written tests.

- Students must be selected through a national geography competition. Students selected through this national competition must be enrolled in the school system of the country they represent. They do not necessarily have to be citizens of that country.
- Students who participate more than once must gain selection each time through their national competition. A student may participate no more than twice. (Please note this new condition.)
- Students must answer the test questions independently, except for any collaboration specified as allowed in the Fieldwork Test. Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification of the student from the Olympiad.

## 4.2 Team leaders and International Board

In addition to the students, two adult team leaders are invited.

- They must be involved in geography teaching or geography in education in their country.
- Each of them must be able to speak and write the official language of the Olympiad (English) and one of them must be able to mark students' test papers in English.
- One leader has membership of the International Board. S/he shall maintain absolute security about the contents of any test until after that particular test has taken place. S/he is eligible to participate on one of the jury panels, vote on the Statutes, review marking guidelines, translate geographic terms, etc.
- The other leader is the person responsible for the students. S/he may also assist in supervision of the tests and other activities related to the Olympiad.
- Both of them have equal rights at the event evaluation meeting of team leaders, which takes place at the end of the Olympiad.

The International Board consists of one adult representative of each country participating in the present or last Olympiad. The chair of the Task Force chairs the meetings of the International Board. Decisions of the International Board are passed by a majority vote. The chair has a casting vote. Members of the Task

Force have the right to attend meetings of the International Board but, apart from the chair's casting vote, only have a vote if they are a country's representative. The decisions of the International Board are final. The International Board has the following responsibilities:

- help the Task Force and local organiser to conduct the Olympiad according to the Statutes;
- maintain and preserve confidentiality concerning the assignments and tasks and offer no assistance to any participant;
- mark the students' test assignments, this task to be carried out by subsets of the International Board acting as juries;
- ensure correct and just classification of the prize winners;
- summarise the results of the Olympiad;
- select the country to organise the next Olympiad.

### 4.3 Observers

The organisers of the next Olympiads may each send an observer. A country planning to participate in the next Olympiad for the first time may send an observer. Observers may be present at meetings of the International Board, but may not vote.

## 5. Cost of participation and insurance

The cost of participation in iGeo-2016 is 350 USD per person, which must be paid by 20 May. Information on how to pay the fee is given in the registration form and at the Olympiad web site ([www.igeo2016.org](http://www.igeo2016.org)).

The organizers provide accommodation, catering, transport during excursions, all scheduled functions and awards. The organizers also provide transfer by bus from Beijing Capital International Airport to Beijing Conference Center (iGeo-2016 site) for free. However organizers do not provide transportation from your country or region to and from Beijing, or another point of entry to the Chinese territory, medical and travel insurance (compulsory) and visas (if needed).

Medical and travel insurance must be taken out to cover all international participants — students, team leaders and observers for the period of their stay



in China. Photocopies of insurance policies have to be sent to the organizers in advance. They should show the name of the company and their emergency contact information, policy type and number. The insurance shall be for an appropriate amount — for a recommended amount please contact your insurance broker. Participants of post-iGeo fieldtrip have to be insured for until 26 August, when the fieldtrip finishes, or until when they leave China if that is later.

## 6. Visa to enter Mainland China

Any participant from countries with no special visa exemption arrangement with China should obtain an entry visa before entering. You are advised to check with the respective Consulate(s) and/or Embassy(ies) for obtaining required visa, including any transit visa, as soon as possible. Please also ensure the validity of your passport.

## 7. Code of conduct

Although we do not expect any team members representing their country to behave incorrectly, we want to state some rules to be followed. Participants should all obey the code of conduct, as written below:

- Participants shall conduct themselves towards others in a fair and courteous manner.
- Participants shall accept graciously and without quarrel the decisions of the International Board with regards the tests, and of the local organizer with regards other parts of the program.
- Participants are expected to participate fully in the organised program.
- Participants shall demonstrate honesty and integrity both during the competition and at all related events.
- Participants must show proper care for the property of others and the facilities made available to them.
- Participants are to abide by the laws and customs of the host country.
- Under no circumstances shall students have any alcohol or other drugs in their possession, or consume them at any time.

## 8. Tests

For information on the tests, what skills are needed, and where to find past questions, please visit:

<http://www.geolympiad.org/fass/geolympiad/participation/test-guidelines.shtml>

A student's final score is calculated by allocating 40% for the written response test score, 40% for the fieldwork score and 20% for the multimedia quiz score.

For the written response test, students are required to have stationery items such as a pen, lead pencil, coloured pencils, eraser and ruler, as well as a calculator and a language dictionary if needed. The language dictionary (to and from the student's native language and English) must be a paper book and not electronic. The calculator must be a simple calculator. Phones, tablets and other multifunction electronic devices are strictly prohibited during all tests at iGeo. It is important to **bring all materials for tests in your hand luggage** as tests will not be rescheduled due to luggage loss.

Writing and drawing materials are also required for the fieldwork test. This includes items such as coloured pencils, a ruler and thick felt-tip pens or markers in several colours.

Students cannot communicate amongst themselves during the tests, except if they are specifically told it is allowed during the preliminary data collection in the Fieldwork Exercise. The possibility of any group mark component in the Fieldwork Exercise has been taken away. Clause 9b now reads: "Students complete test assignments individually. However, preliminary data collection in the fieldwork exercise may be carried out in national teams, with all test questions completed individually." Any attempt to violate this rule will result in the disqualification of the participant.

Members of the International Board shall not reveal any information about the contents of any test before it is conducted.

## 9. Poster presentation

Posters will reflect the theme of this year's International Geographical Union Congress: "Shaping Our Harmonious Worlds". Specifically, students are to prepare a poster related to the topic: "Sustainable Cities". Your poster should illustrate a relevant case study from a city in your home country. You should focus

on a strategy the city is using to respond to an environmental, economic or social issue the city faces in planning for a sustainable future. If you'd like some ideas, have a look at the website for the IGU Sustainable Cities Project at <http://www.oursus.org/aboutus>. Go to the 'rainbow colour' issues at the bottom of the page.

Posters have to be prepared and presented by the students taking part in the iGeo. Using a poster prepared by someone else is unacceptable.

The poster presentation is not counted as part of a student's final score in the iGeo. However, a prize is planned for the team whose poster is voted the best. The best posters will most likely be displayed at the IGU Congress venue during the Congress. These posters will not be taken down until the end of the Congress. If a team wants its winning poster back, they will need to leave us an addressed mailing tube to return it.

Here are some hints on producing the poster. The poster is not an advertising-type poster but is similar to the type of posters that geographers would produce for a poster presentation session at a conference. The elements of an effective poster are:

1. Focused, limited topic.
2. Clearly-written title and authors.
3. Self-explanatory graphics. These should dominate the poster. Types of graphics that could be used include maps, photos, graphs, flowcharts, diagrams, and tables (they should contain a reference to the sources of data).
4. A minimal amount of text to describe and analyze the issue and draw some conclusions. Use short sentences and bullet points. The text should be large enough to read from 1.5 to 2 m away.

Some poster 'experts' suggest that the right proportion is about 20-25% text, 40-45% graphics and 30-40% empty space.

Posters should be maximum A0 size (app. 120 x 90 cm). There is no need to go to the expense of printing your poster out on a single sheet of paper. You can use old-fashioned cut-and-paste (with glue!) to put the elements together on a single large sheet of card/paper, and bring it in a protective roll. We will not be providing facilities for you to finish your posters (printing, etc.).

If you are not familiar with conference posters, there is a lot of information on the web on poster design.

The poster presentation will last approximately 1½ hours. During this time there will always be at least one team member beside the poster. Team members do this in shifts. This would usually mean that one student would spend about 20 minutes providing explanations to other students and team leaders and answering their questions, and about 1 hour listening to presentations from other

students and asking them questions. Alternatively students can do this in pairs, spending half the time explaining their poster, and half the time looking at other posters.

## 10. Programme outline

Note: Times in the programme are NOT YET CONFIRMED, except on the first day (Tuesday 16 August) and the last day (Monday 22 August).

### iGeo-2016 Draft Programme

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Aug 15 <sup>th</sup>		Optional early arrival (Accommodation available at extra cost)	
Aug 16 <sup>th</sup>	Teams arrive at Beijing Conference Center (BCC)	16:00 International Board Meeting	19:30 Opening Ceremony
Aug 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-12:30 WRT	Excursion – Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall – The Palace Museum and surroundings	20:00 Field work introduction
Aug 18 <sup>th</sup>	FWE Part I: Field observation and mapping exercise		20:00 Poster Session
Aug 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-12:00 FWE Part II: Decision making exercise	Excursion – The Summer Palace	Free time
Aug 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-11:30 MMT (2 groups)	Free time	20:00 Cultural session: Team presentations
Aug 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00-17:00 Full-day excursion – The Great Wall		20:00 Closing Ceremony
Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00-12:00 Gold medals awarded at Opening Ceremony of IGU Congress	Late afternoon/ evening: Departure	Accommodation at BCC available at extra cost

#### 15 August 2016 (Monday)

Some teams arrive to Beijing; meeting hours to be defined when organisers get all travel details. From 2 p.m. till 8 p.m. we expect to manage transfer by bus in

several turns from Beijing Capital International Airport to Beijing Conference Center. Teams arriving to BCC before 8 p.m. will be offered a hot dinner. Teams will be charged for this extra night.

### **16 August 2016 (Tuesday)**

The rest of teams are transferred from Beijing Capital International Airport to Beijing Conference Center.

- 4:00 p.m. — International Board meeting starts.
- 7:30 p.m. — Opening ceremony of iGeo-2016 starts.

### **17 August 2016 (Wednesday)**

- 9 a.m. — Written Test starts.
- 2:30 p.m. — Teams depart for a 4-hours excursion to Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall and The Palace Museum and surroundings.

The Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall introduces the long history of immortal city-Beijing, showing the great achievements of Beijing urban planning construction as well as the splendid future of Beijing city development.

The Palace Museum is an important cultural heritage, well known for its large and priceless collection of cultural relics.

- 8 p.m. — Briefing on the Field Work Exercise.

### **18 August 2016 (Thursday)**

- 9 a.m.— 5 p.m. During this period of time teams will be transferred to the Fieldwork Exercise (FWE) site and complete Part I of the FWE (observations in the field). After FWE activities, lunch in the field and sightseeing around are planned. By 6 p.m. teams will return to BCC.
- 8 p.m.— Poster session. Each team representative(s) stand near their poster and answer questions. Participants will vote for best posters.

### **19 August 2016 (Friday)**

- 9 a.m. — Part II of the Field Work Exercise (in classrooms).
- 3 p.m. — Teams depart for a 4-hours excursion to the Summer Palace.

The Summer Palace with 70,000 square meters of building space features a variety of palaces, gardens and other ancient-style architectural structures.

- 8 p.m. — Free time.

### **20 August 2016 (Saturday)**

- 9 a.m. — Multimedia Quiz starts. Teams will be divided into 2 shifts to complete the test; each participant will sit in front of a computer and answer questions individually.
- 1 p.m. — Free time.
- 8 p.m. — Cultural session (Team presentations). Teams will be sent information on preparing for the Cultural session later.

### **21 August 2016 (Sunday)**

- Full-day excursion to the Great Wall.

The Great Wall of China possesses thousands of famous passes. Badaling, located in the outer town of Juyong Pass, is eulogized as one of the top nine passes in the world.

- 8 p.m. — Closing ceremony

### **22 August 2016 (Monday)**

- 8 a.m. — All participants depart to China National Convention Center.
- 9 a.m. — Gold medals awarded at Opening Ceremony of IGU Congress
- 12:30 p.m. – Bus departs for airport or to return to BCC

## **11.Free time**

BCC is far from Beijing city centre. If you want to there, please go to the bus-stop at Beijing Huiyizhongxin and take bus route 569 to the subway station Datunlu East. Choose subway line 5. It will take you about 1.5 hours.

If you prefer tourist sites near BCC, visiting the 798 Art District and National Stadium (Bird's Nest) are good choices. The 798 Art District is named after a

factory which was built in 1950s. It is famous for its unique art exhibition and special creation workshop. Now the 798 Art Zone has become one of the new landmarks of Beijing Urban Culture. In 2003, the 798 Art Zone was awarded as “one of the top 22 most famous landmarks throughout the world” by American Time Magazine.

The stadium affectionately known as Bird's Nest is situated in Olympic Green Village, Chaoyang District. It was designed as the main stadium of 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. The Olympic events of track and field, football, javelin, shotput and discus were held there. Since October, 2008, after the Olympics ended, it has been opened as a tourist attraction. Now, it's the center of international or domestic sports competition and recreation activities. In 2022, the opening and closing ceremonies of another important sport event, Winter Olympic Games will be held here.

Taxi may take you about 20 minutes from BCC to 798 Art District or National Stadium, while public transportation will take nearly 1.5 hours.

## 12. Post-iGeo fieldtrip

There are two options for post-iGeo fieldtrip, and you can choose one of them.

### ● **Line1 City Tour.** Hangzhou-Shanghai

D1 Beijing to Hangzhou by flight CA1716 (16:20 pm/18:30pm) . After arriving have dinner and check in hotel.

D2 After breakfast visit the west lake in a boat. After lunch visit Xixi Wetland, the largest wetland park in South China, and Zhejiang University, the biggest university in Hangzhou.

D3 Visit the ancient town Wuzhen by bus after breakfast. In the evening travel to Shanghai.

D4 Visit the bund and the Oriental Pearl TV Tower and magnetic levitation train and travel on magnetic levitation train.

D5 After breakfast come back to Beijing by Flight CA 1502 (11:55 am /2:15pm).

**Cost:** 763 USD /person

#### **The cost includes:**

- transportation from Beijing to Hangzhou to Shanghai to Beijing
- the scenic spot tickets
- hotel and daily meals

● **Line2 Part of the Ancient Silk Road.** Xi'an - the Hukou Waterfalls of Yellow River

D1 Beijing to Xi'an by train Z19 (08:43 pm /07:58 am).

D2 Arrive in Xi'an at 07:58 am. Have breakfast in a hotel. Visit Terra-Cotta-Warriors after breakfast by bus. In the evening, stay in the hotel.

D3 After breakfast visit China famous mountain Huashan. In the evening return to Xi'an City and the hotel.

D4 Early morning travel to the Hukou Waterfalls of Yellow River by Bus and visit there. In the evening return to Xi'an City and the hotel.

D5 After breakfast come back to Beijing by Flight CA 738. (10:00 am /11:55 am)

**Cost:** 715 USD /person

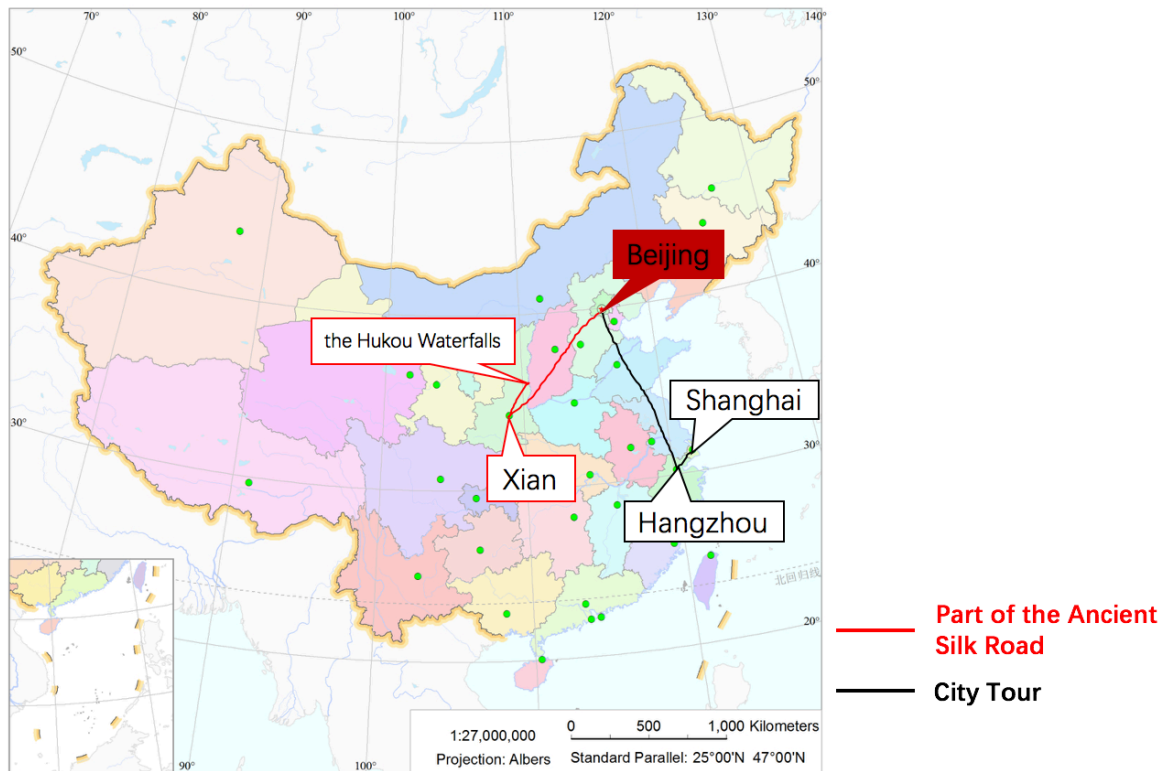
**The cost includes:**

- the round-trip transportation from Beijing to Xi'an
- the scenic spot tickets
- hotel and daily meals

Both trips depart from the BCC on 22 August, and return to Beijing on 26 August.

Booking forms will be sent later to participating teams by Email.





## 13. Transport information

### 13.1 Arrival and departure of iGeo participants

Teams are expected to arrive 15 August (afternoon) or 16 August (last meeting time 2 p.m.) at Beijing Capital International Airport and will be transferred to BCC by bus. Timetable of bus departure will be tailored according to arrival time.

For departure, there will be a bus transfer from the China National Convention Center to Beijing Capital International Airport at the conclusion of the gold medal ceremony. Flight departure time to be planned after 4:00 p.m. on 22 August. Another bus transfer will return to BCC. Teams may pay extra to spend the night of 22 August at BCC if desired. Those who take part in the post-iGeo Fieldtrip, depart 22 August from BCC.

### 13.2 Beijing airport

All the international participants will be landing at the Beijing Capital International Airport (BCIA), Beijing, China. Tel: +86 10 6465 1100, <http://en.bcia.com.cn/>

If you are arriving before 15 August, or departing after 22 August, you may find the following transport information useful.

The BCIA has three terminals, 1, 2 and 3. Please note which terminal applies to you.

- Airport Express Train

The Airport Express Line of the Subway serves the airport from Terminal 3 to Terminal 2 and then takes passengers to Dongzhimen via Sanyuanqiao. So the airport express has only 4 stops: Dongzhimen, Sanyuanqiao, T3 and T2 and carries passengers to the city center in twenty minutes from the airport. Its operating hours are:

T2: 06: 35-23: 10

T3: 06: 20-22: 50

Dongzhimen: 06: 00-22: 30

Interval:10 minutes

Single Trip: RMB 25/per person

- Airport Shuttle Bus

Currently, there are nine different shuttle bus routes connecting the airport with various locations in the downtown area, such as Xidan, Railway Station, West Railway Station, Nanyuan Airport and others. Prices vary based on your final destination, including rates of RMB 15, RMB 18, RMB 21, RMB 24, RMB 27, and RMB 30. Please see the bus ticket sales kiosk for specific pricing.

- ✚ Shuttle Bus Ticket Counters
  - T1 -- inside Gate 7 on the 1st Floor;
  - T2 -- outside Gate 11 on the 1st Floor
  - T3 -- outside Gate 7 or Gate 9 on the 1st Floor
- ✚ Shuttle buses' pick-up stations:
  - T1 -- Gate 7 on the 1st Floor;
  - T2 -- Gate 13-18 on the 1st Floor;
  - T3 -- at the West Gate on the 1st Floor

For more information, please visit  
<http://en.bcia.com.cn/traffic/airbus/index.shtml>

- Taxi

Capital Airport provides taxi stops at the airport, so you can take a taxi to or from the airport. Please take a taxi with official certification at the airport. Don't forget your belongings when getting off.

T1: Outside Gate 1 on F1

T2: Outside Gate 5 to 9 on F1

T3: Please refer to the signs inside the terminal building

### 13.3 From BCIA to BCC

If arriving outside the times when a free bus transfer will be provided, these are the routes by public transport:

T3 Shuttle bus Line 6 → Beiyuanludatun East Bus Route 569 → Beijing Huiyizhongxin (BCC)

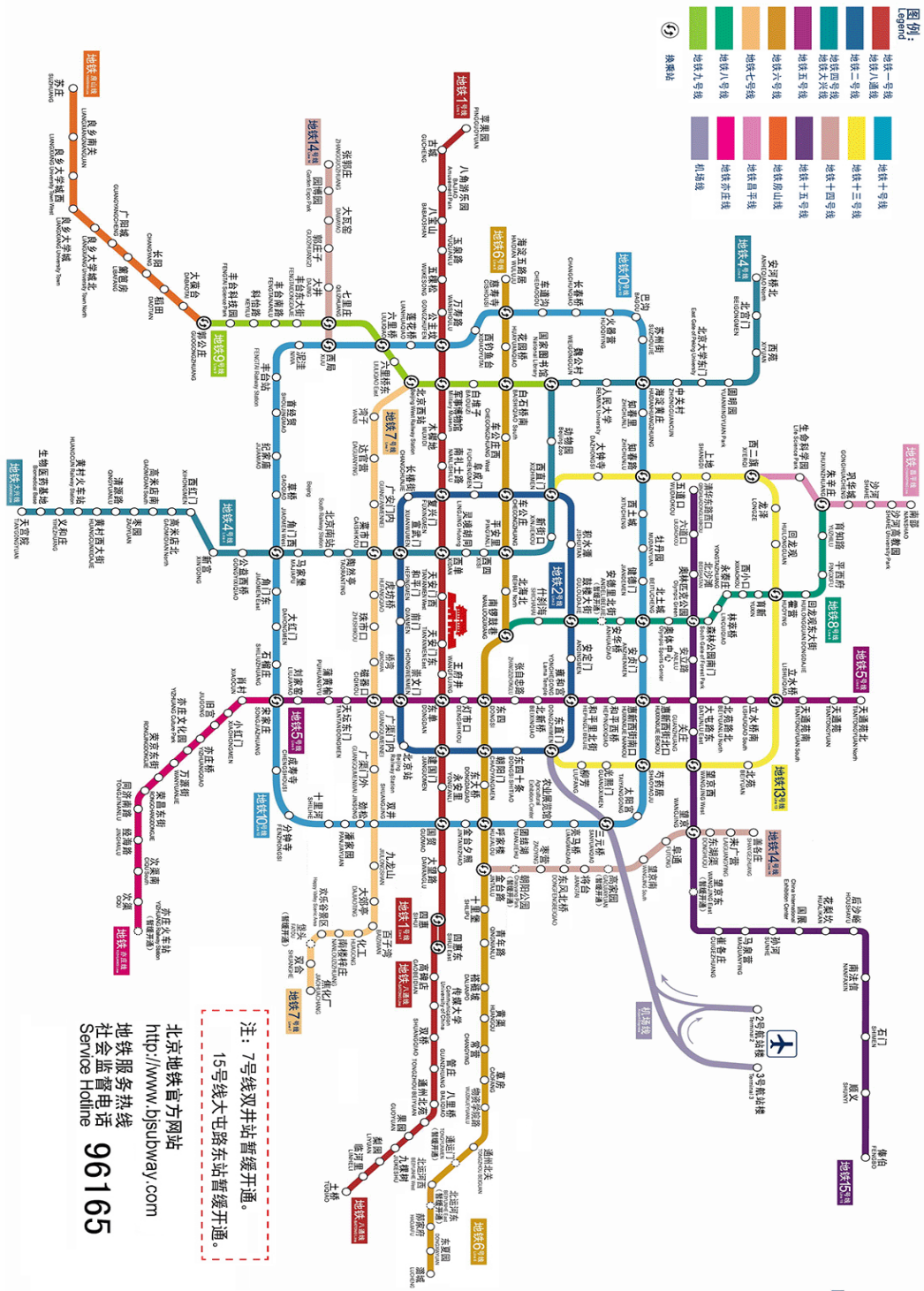
T2 Airport Express → Sanyuanqiao Subway Line 10 → Huixinxijie Nankou Subway Line 5 → Datunlu East Bus Route 569 → Beijing Huiyizhongxin (BCC)

### 13.4 From BCC to the city center

The best and the fastest way to move around Beijing is subway (see Beijing Subway Map below, <http://www.travelchinaguide.com/cityguides/beijing/subway-map.htm>). BCC is not near a subway station. To reach the city center from BCC you need to go to the bus-stop at Beijing Huiyizhongxin. From Beijing Huiyizhongxin to the subway station Datunlu East, you should take the bus route 569. The subway line 5 will take you to the city center.

# 北京地铁线路图

## Beijing Subway Map



## 14. Accommodation

All iGeo-2016 participants will be staying in the BCC. Housing will be managed as follows:

- 4 students or 2 adults per room.
- For adults, some individual rooms are available for extra fee (this option is limited due to the number of rooms).
- WC and shower in each room.
- Internet.

The BCC address: No. 88, Laiguangying Westroad, Chaoyang District, Beijing.

Tel: 8610-84901668

Website: <http://www.beijingshuiyizhongxin.com/en/>

The Beijing Conference Center is located in Chaoyang District Beiyuan, and covers a total area of 518,000 square meters, including landscaping accounting for 66% of the total area. A lake covers an area of 46,667 square meters. The Beijing Conference Center has garden-style meeting, accommodation, catering, entertainment and leisure as one integrated unit. It provides conference services for the central and the Beijing government organs and the Beijing city government.

The Beijing Convention Center is advocating a return to nature through its design concept and the layout of the buildings within the center of an orderly, beautiful environment, surrounded by green trees. At night, a colorful fountain and the beautiful and wonderful rocks add radiance and beauty to each other, resulting in harmonious scenery. Experience nature by taking a relaxed and comfortable stroll and feel refreshed. Complete service facilities are available.

## 15.Catering

There will be three main meals per day provided in the canteen of BCC. After 1<sup>st</sup> part of the FWE and during full-day excursion lunch boxes will be provided to all participants.

Please note that drinking alcohol is strictly prohibited for students by the iGeo code of conduct. Smoking drinking of alcoholic drinks in public places is also prohibited by law.

Please inform the organisers in advance about any special dietary requests you may have, such as vegetarian meals or allergies. Please be specific about what should be avoided in your meals when you fill in the Registration form.

## 16. Climate and clothing

Comparatively speaking, Beijing's August feels much more comfortable than July, but it is still very hot and wet. There may be sauna days and occasional thunderstorms, too. High temperatures of over 35 C (95 F) usually appear in the first two weeks of the month. From middle August, it will become cooler especially in the morning and evening, for the Beginning of Autumn, one of the 24 seasonal segments, usually takes place then.

Data of Beijing Weather in August:

- Average Temperature: 25C / 77F
- Average High Temperature: 30C / 86F
- Average Low Temperature: 21C / 70F
- Average Humidity: 77%
- Average Rainfall: 160 mm
- Average Rainy Days: 12 days
- Time of Sunrise: 05:12 ~ 05:41
- Time of Sunset: 18:49 ~ 19:29

Participants are expected to wear comfortable shoes and clothes for most occasions, and formal clothes for official ceremonies (a team uniform is fine). Summer clothes, including shorts and dresses, are proper during this month. Clothing of cotton is better, since it is breathable and can help to take perspiration away from your skin and keep you dry.

Sunscreen, suntan lotion and sun glasses are still necessary at this time in Beijing. Bring an umbrella to protect you either from the sun or the rain. From mid June to August is the flood season in Beijing, so heavy rains may possibly occur. Remember to check the weather forecast ahead of departure to avoid any extreme weather.

A hat or cap is recommended for days spent outside in the summer sun, and compulsory for outdoor activities during FWE. During FWE, students also need to wear walking shoes.



## 17. Money and banks

Currently there are seven main foreign credit cards available in China, including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, JCB, Federal and Million. Credit cards can be used for withdrawing money, shopping and other transactions in Beijing, but generally not accepted in rural areas. If the symbols and logos of your credit card are shown on the ATMs, then it can be used to withdraw money. It should be noted that different banks have different limits on the sum that can be withdrawn each time from the ATM, with most permitting a withdrawal of 20,000 Yuan in any day. The PIN number of Chinese card is six-digit. You can put two zero before your four-digit PIN to see if it works. Some of the banks also accept the four-digit PIN. However, it is advised to check with your bank first. Keep in mind not to make more than three incorrect number attempts, or your card will be locked.

The currency in China is Chinese Yuan (CNY). Exchange rates vary, for exact data please refer to currency converter sources in the internet.

It is quite easy to exchange money in China and the rates will be more favorable, but it is advisable to exchange a small amount in your country before leaving. ATM is available in BCC and there is a bank near BCC. Remember to take your passport, which need to be presented when converting currency in the country. However, for remote areas, it is difficult to exchange currency or use a credit card, so it is advisable to take enough money when you are going to visit the remote area.

Currently, the paper money used is 1 Jiao, 5 Jiao, 1 Yuan, 5 Yuan, 10 Yuan, 20 Yuan, 50 Yuan, and 100 Yuan. The coin used is 1 Fen, 5 Jiao and 1 Yuan. Do not accept the money of other denominations.

Herein are pictures of China paper money and coins.



## 18. Other useful information

Beijing time zone is GMT + 08:00 hour.

Electricity supply in China is 220V-240V, 50Hz. The sockets are standard Chinese type (as shown in the picture below). Please bring plug adaptors and voltage converters for your electrical equipment if necessary.



In China we drive on the right. Please remember this and be careful while crossing streets. Remember that even crossing the road on pedestrian crossing does not guarantee against possible accidents. General recommendation: be very careful in the city and outside the city, especially near the highways.

The emergency number for ambulance and rescue in Beijing is 120 from every landline telephone on the premises.

For up-to-date information on the iGeo, please check our website ([www.igeo2016.org](http://www.igeo2016.org)) regularly, or contact organisers at [weidy@bnu.edu.cn](mailto:weidy@bnu.edu.cn).