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## China's Forbidden City opens to the general public at night for the first time in 94 years

94 年来, 中国紫禁城首次在夜间对大众开放

Beijing's Forbidden City—traditionally off-limits at night for anyone except emperors, ghosts and visiting dignitaries—was lit up with lanterns and gasps after dark Tuesday as China celebrated the end of the Lunar New Year holiday.

按照传统, 北京紫禁城在晚上谢绝任何人入内, 除了皇帝、鬼魂或者来访的贵客。然而在周二, 中国庆祝农历春节的最后一天, 入夜后的北京紫禁城灯烛辉煌, 游人惊叹声不断。

The palace complex, home to Chinese emperors for five centuries, usually closes by 5 p.m. though VIPs have been taken in after dark on occasion. It was opened at night for the first time since its reincarnation as the Palace Museum 94 years ago. And it opened with a dazzling spectacle for the Lantern Festival, marked on the 15th day of the new year.

中国的皇帝曾在这片宫殿建筑群居住, 时间长达五个世纪。现在, 尽管偶会有贵宾在晚上受邀入场, 但故宫通常在下午五点就关门了。自从 94 年前化身为故宫博物院, 这是它第一次在夜

间开放。为庆祝元宵节，故宫伴随着一场光彩夺目的盛会向公众开启了大门，此举是为了庆祝元宵节，这个节日在每个中国新年的第 15 天到来。

The palace walls were illuminated with red lanterns—designed to recreate the feeling of the royal court of old—and a light show lit up the complex while the China National Traditional Orchestra and the Peking Opera performed. An image of a treasured scroll called “A Thousand Li of Rivers and Mountains” was beamed onto the palace roof.

故宫宫墙被红灯笼装点得熠熠生辉，这一设计旨在重现旧时皇宫之感。伴随着中央民族乐团和京剧的演出，一场灯光秀点亮了故宫建筑群。一幅名为《千里江山图》的珍贵画卷图像被投影到了宫殿屋顶上。

There was a virtual stampede to get tickets, which were free, for the rare night-time opening. They were snapped up within minutes of becoming available online Sunday, but the website still collapsed under the strain as hopefuls continued to flock to it.

为了进入鲜少在夜间开放的故宫，人们蜂拥而上，在网上抢起了免费的门票。上周日，在开售的几分钟内，门票就被抢光了。但是，因为想要抢票的人还在持续地涌入，购票网站仍然不堪重负地崩溃了。

“Creativity makes the 600-year-old palace younger and draws traditional culture closer to the public,” said the People’s Daily. The Palace Museum is now on a campaign to attract even more visitors.

《人民日报》称：“创意让 600 岁的故宫变得更加年轻，还拉近了传统文化与公众的距离。”现在，故宫博物院正在进行一系列宣传活动，以吸引更多的游客。

----- 文章来源 / 华盛顿邮报

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## 重点词汇

**off-limits** /ˌɒf 'lɪmɪts/

adj. 禁止入内的

- 词根词缀：off-（离开，隔开）
- 派生词：off-duty（adj. 不当班的）

**dignitary** /ˈdɪɡnɪteri/

n. 显要人物，要员

- 词性拓展：dignity (n.)
- 英文释义：a person who has an important position in a society

### **light up sth.**

- 照亮, 点亮; 使...流露出喜悦 (兴奋)
- 英文释义: to make someone's face or eyes show pleasure or excitement
- 例句: Suddenly a smile lit up her face.

### **gasp**/gæsp/

n. (尤指由于惊奇或震惊而) 喘息, 倒抽气

- 词性拓展: gasp (v.)
- 搭配短语: gasp at sth. (v.)
- 例句: People gasped at the wonderful view. (v.)

### **complex**/'kɑ:mpleks/

n. 建筑群

- 词性拓展: complex (adj. 复杂的)
- 英文释义: a related group of buildings
- 搭配短语: a shopping complex

### **on occasion**

偶尔, 必要时

- 近义词: at times

### **reincarnation**/'ri:ɪnkɑ:r'neɪʃn/

n. 再生, 化身

- 词性拓展: incarnate (adj. 化为人形的)
  - 搭配短语: devils incarnate
  - 词根词缀: re- (再)
  - 词性拓展: reincarnate (v. 投胎, 转世化身)
- reincarnate 英文释义: appears in a different form

### **dazzling**/'dæzliŋ/

adj. 耀眼的; 精彩的, 光彩夺目的

- 搭配短语: a dazzling light
- 搭配短语: a dazzling performance

### **spectacle**/'spektəkl/

n. 壮观场面

- 英文释义: a public event or show that is exciting to watch

**mark**/mɑːrk/

v. 庆祝, 铭记

- 搭配短语: a ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the war
- 近义词: celebrate; remember

**illuminate**/ɪˈluːmineɪt/

v. 照亮, 使灿烂

- 词根词缀: lumin (光)
- 派生词: luminous (adj.); luminary (n.); lumos

**of old**

从前, 过去

- 搭配短语: in days of old

**scroll**/skroʊl/

n. 卷轴; 画卷

**beam**/biːm/

v. 发光, 投影

- 词性拓展: beam (n.)
- 搭配短语: the beam of the light

**virtual**/ˈvɜːrtʃuəl/

adj. 模拟的, 虚拟的

- 例句: The app allows you to take a virtual tour of the Palace Museum.

**stampede**/stæmˈpiːd/

n. (人群的) 奔逃; 热潮、风尚

- 例句: Falling interest rates have led to a stampede to buy property.

**snap up**

- 抢购 (心仪之物); 抢着做 (某事) 或邀请 (某人)
- 例句: All the best bargains were snapped up within hours.
- 例句: She has been snapped up by Hollywood to star in two major movies.

**collapse**/kəˈlæps/

v. (建筑物) 倒塌; (系统, 组织, 网站) 崩溃, 垮掉

**strain**/streɪn/

n. 压力, 重负

- 词义辨析: strain, tension
- strain: a force or influence that stretches, pulls, or puts pressure on something
- tension: the condition of being held in a state between two or more forces, which are acting in opposition to each other

**hopeful**/'hoʊpfl/

n. 抱有希望的人, 有望成功的人

- 词性拓展: hopeful (adj.)
- 英文释义: a person who wants to succeed at sth.

**flock**/flɒk/

v. 聚集, 蜂拥

- 搭配短语: flock to
- 例句: People flocked to the beach during the holiday.

**draw ... to ...**

把...拉向..., 拉近...和...的距离

**campaign**/kæm'peɪn/

n. (尤指宣传) 活动

- 搭配短语: an advertising campaign
- 搭配短语: conduct a campaign