THE 75 BEST SHOPS IN BEIJING

BRILLIANT BOUTIQUES, AWESOME INDIE STORES, CLASSIC CHINESE BRANDS...

LIPSTICK JUNGLE
The fight to find Beijing’s best ladies’ night

MAJOR LAZER • ROCK’S NEW DAWN • FITNESS GURUS
64. Muma Smart Toys
In the age of PlayStation, there is something endearing about the Beijing based Muma’s collection of wooden educational toys. Largely geared towards infants and younger kids, it specialises in cute jigsaw and puzzles ranging from 20-800RMB. SMG-20, Sanhe Lifestyle Shopping Park, 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Lu, Chaoyang district (5935 6115). Open 10am-10pm daily, 朝阳区朝阳公园路6号蓝色港湾国际商城.

65. Poplar Kids Republic
Poplar is a heaven for kids. On the top floor are books in English and Chinese, toys and even play areas. Regular story times help keep young ones entertained and books such as Beijing ABCs, an illustrated book of translations of Mandarin words associated with Beijing, will see you back 80RMB. Building 13, Jiaomei Soho, 39 Dongdanxi (South) Zhonglu, Chaoyang district (6680 9192). Open 10am-7pm daily. 朝阳区东三环中路39号建外SOHO13号楼一层

66. San Shi Zhai Kite Shop
San Shi Zhai specialise in individually made kites, a hand-painted to resemble a variety of animals. Larger (up to 2m) kites cost up to 800RMB, but it also sells nice starter kits for a reasonable 10-50RMB. 254 Dachen Xidajie (east of Lotus Lane), Xicheng district (6404 4506). Open 8am-9pm daily. 西城区地安门大街25号

67. Tang Roulou
Oriental and vintage style baby apparel from times gone by is the currency of choice at Tang Roulou. Adorable blankets (450RMB), sleeping bags (450RMB) and tops (from 20RMB) all set the heart aflutter. 30 Sanlitun Bei Lu (inside Phoenix Design), Chaoyang district (6416 9671). Open 10.30am-8.30pm daily. 朝阳区三里屯酒吧街北口内30号路西(凤栖内)

68. Tang’s Toys and Crafts
Tang’s Toys and Crafts specialise in handcrafted mini folk caricatures, such as Lord Hari (70RMB). The shop’s recreations of Chinese social scenes (30-50RMB) are also brilliant. 88 Beizhuang Jie. Dongcheng district (8404 7119). Open 11am-2pm daily. 东城区北砖胡同88号

69. Beijing Postcards
Ten years ago, two self-confessed nerds started collecting vintage photographs of China. This collection became the inspiration for the Beijing Postcards, a kit kitting out brilliant little shop on Nong Xi. The real show-stoppers are the fascinating imperial photos turned into postcards (RMB 5 each). 58, 1 Nanningxi Jie, Dongcheng district (6567 6789). Open 11am-5pm daily. 东城区南锣鼓巷58号

70. Boutique De L’Amour
Purple walls and psychedelic ceiling designs are a small price to pay for Beijing’s most diabolical sex shop. Sprayed with sex toys of eye-watering sizes and varieties, Boutique De L’Amour even has a 7,000RMB dildo that was once exhibited in New York’s MOMA. More modestly priced sized toys, games and erotic art will tickle your fancy, and parts beyond. 6 Hongjie Building, Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang district (6587 1278). Open 12pm-1am daily. 朝阳区工体东路中国红街6号楼

71. Brand Nú
The first charity shop of its kind in Beijing, Brand Nú collects and sells unwanted goods to be recycled, repaired and reused, the proceeds going directly to beneficent women in China. They also stock a variety of handicrafts from various NGO supported projects. Be sure to check out the exquisite fair-trade jewellery from Guihou, 61 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng district (1590 1115 3421). Open 11am-10pm Tuesday-Sunday (closed Mon). 东城区五道营胡同61号

72. Fengguo Box
With branches throughout the city, the premise of Fengguo Box is that despite rent a box for around per month, and sell their designs. Discot Communist inspired trinkets, stuffed clothing and mad stuff galore. Jiayi City, Xizhimen Bei Jie, Xicheng district (6561), Open 10am-10pm daily. 西城区西交民巷1号大悦城

73. Mu Handicrafts
Superior curiosities and knick knacks at Mu Handicrafts, where the shelf is lined with great leather bound books and no fewer than 20-30RMB and artisanal jewellery 5RMB. 35 & 99 Nanningxi Jie (6401 1219/404 3217). Open 1-6pm daily. 东城区南锣鼓巷35号和99号

74. Natooke
Natooke is an oh-so-nice trick cycle-juggling bell shop. The fixed-gear bike (from 2500RMB) are circular, diabolos, roller balls and standard juggles are pretty cool too. Bike rentals and workshops are also offered. 19-1 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng district (6402 9829, 9am-6pm Mon-Fri. 东城区五道营胡同

75. Time Travel Store
A haven for second-hand goods. Time Travel owner Robin Liu has bought back many old books, CDs and DVDs he sells for half-price once you’ve finished with them. Check the shop’s handmade planes and cars too. 67 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng district (6407 6091, 11am-8pm daily. 东城区五道营胡同

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