



# Day Trips from Běijīng

## Ming Tombs 十三陵 p181

Unesco-protected burial site and the final resting place for 13 of the 16 Ming-dynasty emperors.

## Chuāndìxià p182

Gorgeous, well-preserved Ming-dynasty village nestled in a remote valley.

## Tánzhè Temple & Jiétái Temple 潭柘寺 & 戒台寺 p183

Two of Běijīng's oldest Buddhist temples.

## Other Historic Villages p186

Skip the crowds at Chuāndìxià and seek out some less-visited ancient settlements.

## Hóngluò Temple 红螺寺 p187

Once a revered ancient temple, now a low-key, family-friendly day out.

## Shídù 十渡 p187

Popular scenic valley with outdoor activities and pleasant walks.

# Ming Tombs

## Explore

The Unesco-protected Ming Tombs (十三陵; Shísān Lǐng) – Běijīng's answer to Luxor's Valley of the Kings – is the final resting place for 13 of the 16 Ming-dynasty emperors and makes a fascinating half-day trip. The scattered tombs, each a huge temple-like complex guarding an enormous burial mound at its rear, back onto the slopes of Tiānshòu Mountain. Only three tombs are open to the public, and only one has had its underground burial chambers excavated, but what you can see is impressive enough, and leaves you wondering how many priceless treasures must still be buried here.

## The Best

- ➔ **Sights** Hall of Eminent Favours at Cháng Líng (p181), burial chambers at Dìng Líng (p182)
- ➔ **Best Place to Eat** Nóngjiāfàn Kuàicān (p182)

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Get Here** Bus 872 (¥9, one hour, 7.10am to 7.10pm) leaves from the north side of Dèshèngmén gateway (德胜门; Map p294), passing all sights except Zhāo Líng, ending at Cháng Líng. Last bus back at 6pm.
- ➔ **Get Around** It's easy to bus-hop. Start at Cháng Líng, then take bus 872 (¥2) or 314 (¥1) to Dìng Líng. From there, bus 67 (¥1) goes to Zhāo Líng (or walk 2km). Then take bus 67 to the Hu Zhuang (胡庄) stop, from where you can walk along Spirit Way. At the end of Spirit Way is the Da Gong Men (大宫门) stop, for the 872 to Běijīng.

## Need to Know

- ➔ **Entrance** ¥35 to ¥65
- ➔ **Location** 50km from Běijīng

## SIGHTS

### CHÁNG LÍNG

TOMB

(长陵; admission ¥45, audio guide ¥50) The resting place of the first of the 13 emperors to be buried at the Ming Tombs, Cháng Líng contains the body of Emperor Yongle

## Ming Tombs



## Ming Tombs

### Sights

- |                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| 1 Cháng Líng.....                     | B1 |
| 2 Dìng Líng.....                      | A1 |
| 3 Great Palace Gate (Dàgōng Mén)..... | A2 |
| 4 Káng Líng.....                      | A1 |
| 5 Mào Líng.....                       | B1 |
| 6 Stele Pavilion.....                 | A2 |
| 7 Yǒng Líng.....                      | B2 |
| 8 Zhāo Líng.....                      | A2 |

### Eating

- |                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| 9 Nóngjiāfàn Kuàicān..... | A1 |
|---------------------------|----|

### Drinking & Nightlife

- |              |    |
|--------------|----|
| 10 Cafe..... | A2 |
|--------------|----|

### Transport

- |                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| 11 Da Gong Men Bus Stop..... | A3 |
| 12 Hu Zhuang Bus Stop.....   | A2 |
| 13 Terminus for Bus 67.....  | A2 |

(1402–24), his wife and 16 concubines, and is the largest, most impressive and most important of the tombs here. Like all the tombs, it follows a standard imperial layout, a main gate (棱恩门; *lín'ēn mén*) leading to the first of a series of courtyards and the main hall (棱恩殿; *lín'ēn diàn*).