**Historic Hútòng Walking Tour**

Beijing's hútòng are the heart and soul of the city and this walk conveys you through some of their most historic examples, while drawing you away from the crowds.

**Start** Nanluoguxiang subway station

**Distance** 2km

**Duration** one hour

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1. Start at No 77 Chaodou Hutong (炒豆胡同): these courtyards were the former mansion of Seng Gelinqin, a Qing dynasty general.

2. Head through the hallway gate at No 19 Banchang Hutong (板厂胡同) to Dongmianhua Hutong (东棉花胡同). Turn right, then left down an unmarked alley signposted to Pénghào Theatre. Turn left and follow Beibingmasi Hutong (北兵马司胡同).

3. Cross Nanluogu Xiang into Mao’er Hutong (帽儿胡同) where you can admire the entrance ways of this historic hútòng. No 37 is the former home of Wan Rong, who married China's last emperor, Puyi.

4. Wend down Doujiao Hutong (豆角胡同), Fangzhuanchang Hutong (方砖厂胡同) and Nanxiawazi Hutong (南下洼子胡同) with its small fruit and veg street market, and continue north.

5. Turn left at Gulou Dongdajie (鼓楼东大街). Straight ahead is the imperious red-painted Drum Tower.

6. Turn right into Caochang Hutong (草厂胡同) and continue, take the second left: you'll see the magnificent grey-brick Bell Tower in front of you.

7. Follow this wonderfully winding alley to the back of the Bell Tower, then walk around the tower to the recently redeveloped Drum & Bell Sq.

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**Take a Break...** Stop off for some caffeine at Coffee Fix (20 Banchang Hutong: ☕️ 10am-8pm; coffee from ¥22).