

## 8 文明回眸 | Civilization Glimpse

### **Qilian Mountain National Park: A Concerto of a Community of Shared Destiny**

"Qilian Mountain National Park" covers 12 counties in Gansu and Qinghai. It is located in a cultural intersection where more than 20 ethnic groups live. It is also home to a number of ancient sites, relics, religious buildings, etc. Rich in cultural resources and diverse in ethnic culture, the magnificent and beautiful Qilian Mountain is the mainstay of this national park, a natural ecological barrier in western China, an important water reservoir and a priority region for biodiversity conservation in the Yellow River watershed. The Qilian Mountain Cultural Circle, which unites nomadic ethnic people with shared love for the grassland, can be traced back to the Han Dynasty. Back then, there were four administrative counties here as Zhang Qian pioneered the famed "Silk Road" and helped his emperor expand the rule and the territory. Qilian Mountain National Park is a community of shared destiny and a concerto of "harmony and mutual support".

## 40 特别策划 | Special Focus

### **Guardians Deep in Qilian Mountain**

The guardians deep in Qilian Mountain are as ordinary as the grass and as reliable as the Qilian Mountain. They live in two worlds: one is the quiet mountain, and the other a wonderful world outside. For a long time, they traverse the two worlds, which makes them stoic but brave, shy but fortitude. Their tenacity, sincerity, simplicity and perseverance have impressed lots of people. Those who have a noble character are towering figures like mountains. We firmly believe that they will always be the most beautiful part of Qilian Mountain.

### **Portugal: Sailing to a Sea of Green Forests**

Portuguese forestry is intertwined with its navigation history. The advent of the Age of Discovery took a heavy toll on the rich forest resources Portugal had used to have to make big boats for voyage. After its maritime supremacy has gone, its natural forests were protected and restored. Now it boasts the forest of 3.2 million hectares and a forest coverage rate at 35%. The Royal Ajanda Botanical Garden in Lisbon, which was founded in 1755, and the Monsanto Forest Park, which has been woven into the tapestry of the capital Lisbon, are the representatives of the Portuguese forest.

## 60 理论观点 | Theoretical Views

### **Herald in the Age of Chinese Cultural Tourism**

China boasts the richest cultural tourism resources. Culture renders tourism with soul and tourism serves as a carrier of culture. Adopting the strategy of forging national brands leads to the development of cultural tourism clusters and offers a basic framework for the tourism practices and theories. Some excellent projects of cultural tourism have set good examples: combining capital and cultural resources helps the rise of cultural tourism clusters.

## 68 美丽乡村 | Beautiful Countryside

### **Damiao: An Ancient Village along the Silk Road**

Daimiao Village under Xinglong Township of Gansu is hailed as a stronghold along the Silk Road with its 400 years' history. It is home to Wenfeng Academy, which was established in 1882 and one of the four academies of Jingyuan. It is also a cradle of revolutionaries in the Republic of China. Its exquisite architecture like drum tower, town god's temple and opera house; popular folk culture like Shaanxi Opera and fire ritual; beautiful sceneries like one-hundred-old pear garden, frozen forests, the nine turns of the Yellow River, the morning bell of ancient temple and blazing maple forests; all have attracted lots of tourists.

### **The Turtle City of Yongtai: A Military Stranglehold**

The Turtle City of Yongtai in Jingtai County, Gansu, was built in 1607 AD. It is a rarely well-preserved city built in the Ming Dynasty, and used to be a vital military chokepoint in history, as traces of military facilities are still visible. It resembles a big turtle, thus named as turtle city. Its fame can be attributed to being the hometown of a famous general of the Qing Dynasty; and it is also one of the three primary schools intact since the Republic of China.

## 84 文化采撷 | Cultural Highlights

### **Connected by Qilian**

Qilian Mountain, the life of the Hexi Corridor, has nurtured the land and the local people, and created the scenery that only could be seen in western China. The inclusiveness and the magnificence of the mountain can summon hundreds of armies. It is where we call home and what we dream at night. It will forever have a place in my heart.

### **Black River: A River about Gratitude**

Black River is a river about gratitude. It comes from the high mountains, grows bigger on land, nurtures this vast land of Zhangye and finally flows to Ejin Banner. It has milked civilization, nursed oasis and fence off from sand storms. It is a natural barrier that shelters Hexi Corridor and the grassland of Inner Mongolia. Witnessing the rises and falls in Chinese history, it gives unconditional love to the places between the mountains.