

8 文明回眸 | Civilization Glimpse

The Guardians of the Chinese Forests

Since the foundation of the People's Republic of China, our motherland has seen many role-models like Jiao Yulu, Gu Wenchang, Ma Yongshun, Yang Shanzhou, Li Baoguo and Wang Youde, and the heroic communities like Youyu County CPC Committee, Sehanba Forest Farm and Babusha Forest Farm. Those individuals and communities are outstanding representatives of the builders of the nation. They are the loyal guardians, dedicating their life to the noble cause of forest establishment and conservation. Their spirit will be immortal, like the lofty mountains and the evergreen forests.

32 理论视点 | Theoretical Views

Ancient and Famous Trees from the Perspective of Big Data

Ancient and famous trees are the precious heritage left by our ancestors and bestowed by mother nature. Reputed as living fossils, they have recorded the historical changes and the Chinese culture. Each of them is a cultural product of its eco-environment, times and locality as well as the beliefs and aesthetics. Since 2016, ancient and famous trees have remained a topic in the Internet. With the 3rd Session of Finding the Most Beautiful Ancient and Famous Tree Contest, we use the big data to interpret and present the diversified value of the trees.

48 特别策划 | Special Focus

A Trip to Antelope Canyon: A Mysterious Place in Colorado Plateau

Light beams in Antelope Canyon of Colorado Plateau beggar description. Words fail when people see the color transition from the bright orange and the splendid crimson, the magic of light and shadow, and the surreal wonder of nature.

Lima: Where Ocean Meets Desert

Lima, the capital of Peru, is an ancient city with over 400 years' history and is renowned with its vegetation and little rainfall. In 1988, it was listed as a UNESCO heritage. The City of the Kings has witnessed the colonial past of Peru and South America and their fights for independence, and also presented a possibility of a great green future.

70 美丽乡村 | Beautiful Countryside

Lujiang Village: A Shangri-La Bordering China and North Korea

Lujiang Village abutting China and North Korea is hailed as a Shangri-la of the North, thanks to its green mountains, clear rivers and well-preserved Korean culture. The zigzagging Yalu River cuddles the villages, shaping a small peninsula and creating wonderful water scenery. In spring, a sea of rape flowers against the backdrop of green mountains, clean rivers and floating clouds, is an unfolded landscape painting. Blessed with unique natural and cultural resources, Lujiang Village has trailblazed a path of green development. Its endeavors to develop green infrastructures and eco-tourism have improved the livelihood of the villagers and protected the local environment.

Laoniawan Village: By the Side of the Yellow River and the Great Wall

Laoniawan Village, by the side of the Yellow River, is hidden in valleys and hills, where there is the best-preserved ancient fault systems in the northern tip of Northwestern China. Its cultural roots also run deep, as it boasts one section of the Great Wall built in the Ming Dynasty, ancient kilns and ancient residences. In the 1980s, the village launched a campaign to plant trees and grow fruits on over a million mu of land to alleviate poverty. Thanks to such endeavors and tourism development projects like Yellow River Crayon Resort and Laoniawan National Geopark, the village has walked out of poverty by developing robust ecological industry.

86 文化采撷 | Cultural Highlights

The Magic Annanba

Annanba at the foot of Altun Mountains, is home to wild camels, wild Tibetan donkeys, snow leopards, bears, wolves, golden eagles, white-tailed sea eagles, among other 100 species of wild animals. Wild camels are extremely endangered species, as there are in total about 800 ones in the world, and less than 500 ones in China. They are the only land animals that can survive drinking salty water, even rarer than giant pandas. Staff working in Annanba Reserve are committed to protecting their habitat that has sheltered about 1/3 of the wild camel in China. Thanks to their hard work, the population of wild camels and other wild animals keeps growing, a sign of harmonious coexistence of man and nature.

A Trip to the Homeland of Wild Camels

In scorching hot August, we arranged a photo-shooting in Annaba National Reserve of Wild Camels, in the west of Aksai County and northern slope of Altun Mountains. I was awed when I saw the grassland my long-cherished destination and the snow-capped peak of the Altun Mountains towering over the clouds. I prayed that this sacred land may remain pristine as ever.