



THE VICTORIA CHINESE MESSENGER

维多利亚华人信息

October 2014 (1st Ed.)

Victoria, British Columbia

A History of Halloween and it's Influence in China

Halloween is a much anticipated celebration on the night of October 31st in many Western cultures. With roots in Gaelic culture, Halloween has become a popular event around the world, entering foreign cultures through Western influences over the years.



The word Halloween is a shortening of All Hallows' Evening also known as Hallowe'en or All Hallows' Eve. Traditional activities include costumes, masks, trick-or-treating, bonfires, "haunted houses" and carving pumpkins

or jack-o-lanterns. Irish and Scottish immigrants carried versions of the tradition to North America in the nineteenth century. Other western countries embraced the holiday in the late twentieth century including Ireland, the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and the United Kingdom as well as of Australia and New Zealand.

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Halloween has its origins in the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain (pronounced 'sah-win'). The festival of Samhain is a celebration of the end of the harvest season in Gaelic culture. Samhain was a time used by the ancient pagans to take stock of supplies and prepare for winter. The ancient Gaels believed that on October 31, the

boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped and the deceased would come back to life and cause havoc such as sickness or damaged crops. Masks and costumes were worn in an attempt to mimic the evil spirits.

Chinese traditional days of the dead differ from the Western Halloween tradition. The Hungry Ghost Festival, the Qing Ming Festival, the Double 9th Festival, and the Spring Festival are traditional Chinese days of the dead that are much more popular than Halloween across China. However, Halloween has made its way into Chinese culture through foreign influence on television, media and through Western expats or foreign English teachers. For example, foreign teachers in China might have a Halloween party for their students and a lesson about Halloween in their country. Or expat-oriented bars and restaurants, such as those in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou, host Halloween parties each year and decorate their space with pictures of black cats, ghosts, and monsters, and Halloween lanterns. Similarly, in Hong Kong two large theme parks, Ocean Park and Disneyland have Halloween-themed activities. The Masquerades, haunted houses, movies, and costumed people could give you a fright. Finally, in Shanghai a building built in 1933 by the British called *1933 Shanghai* was a former slaughterhouse that has now been transformed into a chic office building, hosting a Halloween masquerade party every year.

Information taken from: halloweenhistory.org and chinahighlights.com/festivals/halloween.

The Five Best Places to Visit in China in October

红艳似火 十月邂逅中国五个最美的秋天

October is the middle of autumn in China, making it is the best month to appreciate the colorful autumn scenery. Cooler weather in October can make your tour in China more comfortable and enjoyable.

在中国 十月正值金秋 是欣赏最美秋色的最佳时期。凉爽的天气也会让你的中国之行变得舒适和愉悦。

Generally speaking, October is a nice month for traveling to most of the popular tourist destinations (including Beijing, Guilin, Xi'an, Shanghai, Cheng du, and the Yellow Mountains) because of cool weather and rare rainy days.

总的来说 十月是游览中国大部分热门旅游胜地的最佳时间 例如北京 桂林 上海 成都和黄山等等。因为此时的这些城市凉爽而且少雨。

Consider avoiding China's National Day holiday, lasting from October 1 to October 7, as there are more visitors in most tourist destinations, and hotels raise their prices during these days.

为了更好地游览 我们建议您避开中国国庆长假，从十月一日到七日。

因为此期间是大多数人都会选择出游 酒店也会提高他们的价格。

1. Jiuzhaigou in Sichuan Province
四川省九寨沟



Jiuzhaigou is worth four visits during its four different seasons. However, autumn, especially October, is the best time to visit Jiuzhaigou, because of the comfortable weather, the fairy land of colorful trees (green, yellow, and flaming) the pools, the graceful waterfalls and snow-capped mountains.

九寨沟在一年四季都很值得游览。然而，在秋天，尤其是十月份，可说是游览九寨沟的最佳时期。因为舒适的天气和迷人的景致，加上那些多彩的植物树木，瀑布和雪山，各色各景，尽收眼底。

Autumn in Jiuzhaigou is short (only September and October), and October is already late autumn there. The average altitude of Jiuzhaigou is about 3,000 meters (remember to prepare for possible altitude effects), which causes the temperatures to vary greatly between day and night. Both a thin coat and a down coat are needed.

九寨沟的秋天相对比较短暂，只有九月和十月。而且十月已可说是晚秋时节。平均海拔高度为3,000米，由此需为高原反应作相应准备。同时，也由于此海拔高度，会使当地昼夜有较大温差，所以需准备较厚和较薄的外套各一件。

2. Daocheng County in Sichuan Province
四川稻城县



Similar to Jiuzhaigou, Daocheng is another place, famous for its picturesque autumn scenery. In autumn, especially in October, the vast red grassland, the wide yellow meadows, the clear blue skies, and the snow-capped mountains offer gorgeous pictures to visitors.

与九寨沟相似，稻城也因其如画景致而成为秋季游览的胜地之一。在秋天，尤其是十月份，广袤无边的红色草场，一望无际的黄色草原，蔚蓝清澈的天空和那白雪皑皑覆盖的雪山为游览者展开一幅难以言喻的美妙景致。

In October it is always sunny in Daocheng. The average temperature is 5°C (41°F) – 20°C (68°F). The temperature differences between day and night vary greatly, so both long-sleeve tee-shirts and down coats are needed.

稻城的十月总是阳光灿烂，平均气温在5°C (41°F) – 20°C (68°F)。昼夜的温差较大，所以长袖T恤和厚外套是必备的。

3. Eji'naqi in Inner Mongolia, a Magical Oasis in a Desert

额济纳旗 内蒙古, 沙漠中的神奇绿洲



The best months for traveling to Eji'naqi are September and October, when the weather cools down and it is less windy and dusty. It is a nice time for traveling deep into the desert.

一年中最佳游览额济纳旗的时间是九月和十月。当天气转凉, 那里就会显得风止尘停。是深入沙漠的好时期。

However, October, especially early and mid-October, is the best time for a photography tour of Eji'naqi, because the vast poplars are all in their bright yellow "coats", which makes great landscape shots together with the clear blue skies and peaceful water.

然而, 十月, 尤其是十月上旬和中旬, 是组团拍摄额济纳旗景致的最佳时期。因为大片杨树林都披上了金黄的外衣, 映衬上蔚蓝的天空和平静的水面, 如梦如幻。

Besides the seas of bright yellow poplars, the largest ancient city site on the Silk Road, the Black City, the sunrise in the desert, and the sunset are other highlights in Eji'naqi.

除了金灿灿的杨树林外, 还能看到丝绸之路上的最大古城 黑城, 欣赏日出大漠, 日落额济纳旗高点的美景。

4. Shangri-La, Yunnan

云南香格里拉



Autumn (September and October) is a great time for a visit to Shangri-La. Shangri-La is a land of idyllic beauty with quiet lakes, verdant forests, vast grasslands with flocks and herds, mysterious monasteries, and snow-capped mountains.

秋季是游览香格里拉的好时节, 因其至美风景, 如镜湖面, 青翠森林, 无边草场与成群部队的牛羊群, 神秘的修道场和白雪覆盖的高山。

In October most places in Shangri-La are decorated in flaming red and yellow colors. Rare foggy weather in this month brings a much clearer view of snow-capped mountains for photographers. The temperature differences at day and night vary greatly in October, ranging on average from 5°C (41°F) to 20°C (68°F). 十月, 香格里拉的大多地区都披上了红黄外衣。因为少有雾气, 清澈的天气给摄影人带了白雪皑皑的如画美景。同样, 昼夜温差也相对较大, 平均可从5°C (41°F) 到20°C (68°F)。

5. The Longji Rice Terraces, Guilin

龙脊梯田 桂林



Most people think that the Longji Rice Terraces are at their most beautiful in early summer, when the entire Longji Rice Terraces are fully irrigated with water. In fact, the Longji Rice Terraces in autumn, especially in the first half of October when the entire rice terraces are decorated with a vast spread of golden rice, are also a great sight to behold.

许多人都认为龙脊梯田的夏日最为美丽，因为届时四处灌溉水源。然而，事实上在龙脊梯田的秋天，尤其是十月的上旬，整个梯田都被金黄色灿烂装点，美不胜收。

In October the temperature differences between day and night vary (on average 18°C (64°F) – 26°C (79°F)). The Mid-Autumn Festival falls around early October, and visitors can experience the local celebrations with the Zhuang and Yao people.

十月，昼夜温差相对大，平均介于18°C (64°F) – 26°C (79°F)。

十月初还有中秋节，游客可与当地壮族和瑶族人民一起庆祝中秋佳节。

*Translated by one of our Editors, Daisy Dee.
Information taken from: www.chinahighlights.com*

Happenings

VICTORIA CHINESE COMMERCE ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting: October 15, 2014



5:30 pm at Don Mee Restaurant.

Register online at vcca.ca

October marks the Chung Yeung Festival (Double Ninth Festival)

Thursday, October 2nd is the 2014 Double Ninth Festival. Observed on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month of the Chinese calendar, it is a Chinese national holiday.

The holiday commemorates a legend from the Han Dynasty (BC 202- AD 220) that states that a soothsayer advised the Woon King to take his family to high place for the entirety of ninth day of the ninth moon.

When the King and his family returned home, they found all the townspeople dead.

It is now considered good luck to travel to a high place on the ninth day of the ninth moon, the Chung Yeung Festival.

A traditional custom on this day is to fly kites, as it is said that kites can carry bad luck up into the sky.

Happenings are regularly updated online at www.victoriachinesemessenger.com

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The logo for Raymond's Restaurant features a central circular emblem with a red 'R' and the words 'RAYMOND'S RESTAURANT' around it. The emblem is flanked by two red triangles pointing towards each other. To the left of the emblem are the Chinese characters '威煌' (Wei Huang).

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2014 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Please note that the listed organizations are not limited to persons of Chinese descent.

Victoria Chinese Commerce Association

Check website www.vcca.ca for information on our next Annual General Meeting, October 15, 2014.

Victoria Chinatown Lions Club

If you wish to serve the community, the Victoria Chinatown Lions Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday at Golden City Restaurant. Contact Art Quon at art.quon@rbc.com or Alan Yuen at yuenfam@shaw.ca

Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club

Meetings are second Monday of the month at Golden City Restaurant. You will need to contact

their president for more info. This is a very active club which has won awards for its philanthropy.

Victoria Chinatown Care Foundation

Mandate is to support and fundraise for the needs of the Victoria Chinatown Care Centre located in Chinatown. Volunteers for fundraising events. For information on the foundation go to www.chinatowncarefoundation.com

Victoria Chinese Messenger

You can also volunteer by submitting foodie tips, articles and photos of Victoria things, places and events for posting on our facebook or online publications.

Canada Immigration Changes the Definition of a Dependent Child

Effective August 1, 2014 Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) definition of a dependent child has changed.

The age at which a child will be considered a dependant has been reduced from under 22 to under 19.

The exception for full-time students has been removed. Applicants' children who are 19 or over but are financially dependent on their parents and are enrolled in full-time studies are no longer eligible to be processed as dependent children.

In all cases, a child will continue to be considered a dependant, regardless of age, if they have depended substantially

on their parents for financial support since before the age of 19 and are unable to be financially self-supporting because of a mental or physical condition.

All permanent residence applications received by CIC before August 1, 2014, will continue to benefit from the pre-amendment definition of dependent child.

Reducing the age for dependants to under 19 in the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations* (IRPR) will bring the IRPR in line with provincial definitions of "age of majority," which is currently evenly split between 18 and 19 across provinces and territories.

Young adults will be able to apply to come to Canada on their own merits as foreign students or through various economic programs.

Transitional measures are in place to allow certain applicants under multi-step permanent resident immigration programs who are in the immigration process before August 1, 2014, but who had not yet submitted their application for permanent residence, to have their applications completed based on the previous definition of dependent child.

These transitional measures apply to certain members of the following groups, including:

- Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) applicants;
- Applicants who have applied under one of Quebec's economic programs;
- Live-in caregivers;
- Refugees abroad and refugee claimants;

- Quebec humanitarian cases;
- Parents or grandparents whose sponsorship applications were received before November 5, 2011; and
- Privately sponsored refugees whose sponsorship applications were received before October 18, 2012.

In addition, effective August 1, 2014, to ensure that children who meet the definition of dependent child at the first stage of a multi-step permanent resident immigration program remain eligible throughout what can be a multi-year process, the child's age will be "locked in" at the first formal step of the immigration process, except for those that benefit from a transitional provision. For example, the age of a child whose parent applies to the PNP will be "locked in" on the date that the application for nomination is made to the province.

(This summary is prepared by Sarina Hoi, BA, MA, RCIC of Ocean Pacific Immigration Associates Ltd. from information from the CIC website. To contact Sarina Hoi email: shoi@oceanpacificca.com or through www.oceanpacificca.com.)

Foodies

Our online version is regularly updated with a "Foodie" comments section. Here are some snippets for your "digestion":

"...a little out of the way...but the House of Lee at the University Heights Mall has some interesting Taiwanese influenced dishes... well worth a try..."

"... Spanish wines at Bodega Tapas (Trounce Alley) pairs particularly well with their

charcuterie and cheese offerings..."

"...Xiang Rui at 980 Blanshard is trying to make a mark with some interesting Sichuan spices... can get it very spicy there"

"...still liking the dumplings at Raymond's add some of their own hot sauce and voila you have a taste and decent heat sensation..."

"... so don't forget the Hotel Grand Pacific provides award winning fine dining under Executive Chef Rick Choy... "

"...spicy seafood noodle soup - have you had some healthy noodle soup at Shanghai Noodle on Quadra Street yet?... just across from Crystal Pool..."

"...put Don Mee's on your list for dim sum, particularly the traditionally Cantonese ones..."



Hotel Grand Pacific

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**About the
Victoria Chinese Messenger:**

We bring and report on happenings in the community. Our focus is on public and community service within the context of your social networks. Our goal is to bring the community closer and to pass on social happenings and community service events. Join us as we work with you to make our community a better place. Help us use social media to make for better communities, grow our community, help others, and bring people together for common purposes.

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and to RSVP.**

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TWITTER

Please join us and invite your friends to follow @VicChineseMsgr on Twitter. We bring and report on happenings in the community through our unique hashtag #VCM. We now have 50 followers and would love you to help us grow our new VCM Twitter Community.

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Estate Planning for the Winter Business

While the winter season is upon us, you will have seen many of the animal kingdom preparing in advance for what may happen in the winter. As humans we also have a winter season as we get more advanced in our age. We also do not know what could happen to our lives as we approach our winter season and when the snow falls.

For family business owners and their family members this is a time to plan for. The sooner you focus on your estate planning goals and develop an estate plan means you will be better equipped to cover your areas of concern. Once in place the plan should be monitored to ensure it continues to work “as planned” or to adjust for any changes that may occur in your life or business.

When your winter comes and you die without an estate plan the law will not assume you have made beneficiary choices, tax elections or financial

planning decisions that are advantageous to your family or to your business. Your surviving family members may be left to deal with your business and may not have the resources or experience to manage its financial decisions.

For business owners, the estate plan will cover your personal and business assets. It addresses both personal and business relationships and the issues relating to business succession. For example, you wish to be able to “cash out” or be paid for the full value of your business or you may wish to avoid taxes on business succession.

There can be innovative ways to take care of the concerns and consulting with a financial advisor and other professionals to plan and implement your plan will not only give you comfort when winter comes but also provide the means for your family members to do what you wish to happen when the snow finally falls.

(This is written by VCM editors. In our ethnic community in particular there is always a reluctance to speak about death, as it is considered bad luck. There have been many instances where lack of planning has resulted in huge losses due to taxes or lack of resources because of that reluctance and we hope to be able to help and remind our business owners of the need for estate planning. We wish to thank Aneal Basi, Wealth Advisor, Sun Life Financial, Aneal.Basi@sunlife.com, 250.580.8011 (cell) for providing information for this article.)



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