

- Beijing Planetarium in brief

- Who we are:

Beijing Planetarium is a public facility dedicated to entertaining and educating the public through astronomy.

Supported by the municipal government of Beijing, it is the first and largest of its kind in China.

- What we do:

Our activities aim to meet the ever-growing interest of the general public in astronomy and related subjects. These activities include: a collection of shows based on the simulated sky, astronomy exhibitions, popular astronomy journal publication, organized astronomical observational activities and national astronomy olympiad. In addition, Beijing Planetarium provides a range of education activities to the interested public, such as public lectures, training, summer and winter camp for students.

- Our facilities:

Beijing Planetarium consists of three facilities: Building A, Building B, and The Ancient Observatory, all located in the city of Beijing, and easily accessible to the general public.

■ Building A:

Building A was completed in 1957, and was the largest planetarium in Asia at the time. Its equipment and building has since undergone several renovations, the most recent of which was completed in July 11, 2008. It now houses the state of the art Zeiss Mark 9 Sky Ball in addition to the 8k Sky-Skan all sky digital projection system.

■ Building B:

Building B first opened to the public in Dec. 12, 2004. The impressive modern glass and steel structure houses 3 theatres, 2 observatories, and a number of classrooms. The most remarkable among them is its SGI-digital Theatre which is the first theatre with laser projectors.

■ The Ancient Observatory:

The renowned Ancient Observatory was first established in 1442. It served as the Royal Observatory for both the Ming and Qing dynasties, and has kept a continuous astronomical observation record for nearly 500 years up to the year 1929. It is now an important part of the planetarium.

Learn more about Beijing Planetarium at www.bjp.org.cn .