

Botanical Gardens

北京植物园

A Site Guide



Botanical Gardens

北京植物园

A Site Guide

Overview

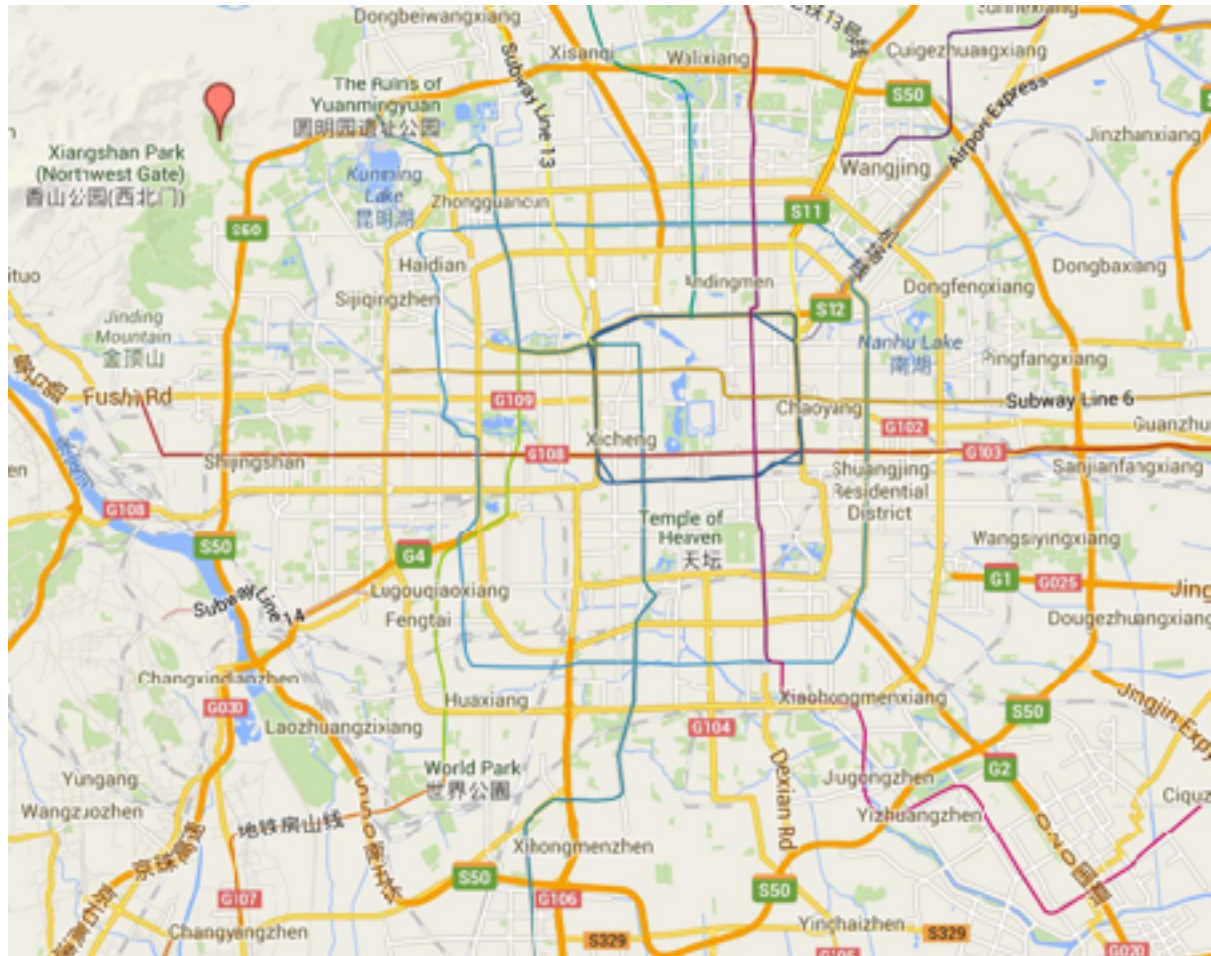
The Botanical Gardens is a good all-year round birding destination but is perhaps at its best in winter. It is a good place to see some of Beijing's special birds, including **CHINESE NUTHATCH**, **BEIJING BABBLER**, **PLAIN LAUGHINGTHRUSH** and **YELLOW-BELLIED TIT**. In spring and autumn, the ridge at the back of the gardens (to the north) can be good for visible migration, including passerines and raptors (**GREATER SPOTTED**, **IMPERIAL**, **STEPPE** and **GOLDEN EAGLES** have been seen from here in the same day in October). In early winter, it is a good site for **waxwings** (if it is an invasion year), winter thrushes (**NAUMANN'S**, **DUSKY**, **RED-THROATED** and **BLACK-THROATED**) and buntings (**YELLOW-THROATED**, **TRISTRAM'S**, **LITTLE** etc). Other unusual, or difficult to see species in Beijing that have been encountered here include **CHINESE TAWNY OWL**, **EURASIAN BULLFINCH** (the first documented Beijing record), **VARIED TIT** and **RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER**.

The gardens can be very busy at weekends and during holidays, in particular in Spring when the blossom is very popular with Beijingers. However, despite the high visitor numbers, it is relatively easy to get away from the masses, especially if one hikes up the hill to the north. This ridge is worth the 45-minute steep hike - it can be excellent. The road at the top is the best place to see **PLAIN**

LAUGHINGTHRUSH and **BEIJING BABBLER** as well as raptor migration. In winter 2012/2013 the ridge hosted well over 50 **PALLAS'S ROSEFINCHES** (an exceptional influx but this species is probably annual here). It is a rewarding site at any time of year.

If you visit, please send your sightings to birdingbeijing@gmail.com.

Location and Directions



By Public Transport:

Take the metro Line 10 to Bagou then transfer to the Xijiao (Western Suburbs) Line in the direction of Fragrant Hills, alighting at the Botanical Gardens (4th stop).

By Taxi:

Show the taxi driver the Chinese name of the Botanical Gardens - 北京植物园

Remember: have the name of your hotel or Beijing address in Chinese for the taxi driver for the return journey.

By Car

The Botanical Gardens is located just NW of the 5th ring road. Take the exit from the 5th ring road signposted "**Xiangshan Road/Xiangshan**" and follow the brown signs to the Botanical Gardens. There is a car park on the right hand side at the intersection of Xiangshan Road and Wofosi Road.

Entrance Fee

Note that there is an entrance fee of 5 Yuan to enter the gardens, with tickets purchased at the entrance.

Opening Times

0600-2100 (1 April to 15 November)

0700-1900 (16 November to 31 March)

Note: It is possible to buy drinks and snacks at any of the numerous stalls at the Botanical Gardens (these may be closed on weekdays in winter, so do bring something to eat and drink if you are visiting at this time of year).

Map of the Botanical Gardens



Hints and Tips:

CHINESE NUTHATCH: the most reliable areas are in the pines close to the conservatory (near centre of map) and the pines to the northeast of the park around the arboretum.

BEIJING BABBLER and **PLAIN LAUGHINGTHRUSH:** the most reliable area is on the ridge to the north of the gardens. Walk north through the park through Cherry Valley and alongside a small stream. At the northern end of the park there is toilet block on the right hand side (with a sign for a tea shop). Just before the toilet block, there is a narrow concrete road that branches off to the right and up. Follow this road for 100m or so until the road ends at a wall. To the right, there is a path that runs up through the scrubby wood. Take this path. After about 15-20 minutes you will reach a road. Cross the road and continue along the path as it runs, now steeply, for a further 10 minutes until you reach a second road. If you have not encountered the Babblers or Laughingthrushes by now, cross the road at the top and take the road that runs up and left past a loudspeaker announcement (ie don't take the immediate left or right, or go straight on). Follow this road as it winds uphill and then straightens along the ridge. Anywhere along here can be good for laughingthrushes, babblers, buntings, accentors etc. After a km or two there are a couple of open areas with views to the north and south. These areas can be good places from where to watch raptor migration at peak times in spring and autumn.

WAXWINGS (BOHEMIAN and **JAPANESE):** when present (usually early winter) the preferred area is between the southeast gate and the western gate (where there are some ornamental berry bushes).

The stream that runs through the Cherry Valley can be good, particularly in winter as parts of it rarely freeze, providing a place to drink for birds.

The northeast part of the gardens (near the arboretum) is generally quieter, so if you are there on a busy day and want to get away from people, this is a good area to cover.

Species possible in the Botanical Gardens

Status: R=Resident; P=Passage Migrant; S=Summer Visitor; W=Winter Visitor;
V=Vagrant

Species English and Scientific Names	Chinese Name	Status
JAPANESE QUAIL <i>Coturnix japonica</i>	鶉鴉	P
COMMON PHEASANT <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	雉雞	R
MANDARIN DUCK <i>Aix galericulata</i>	鴛鴦	PS
MALLARD <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	綠頭鴨	PSW
CHINESE SPOT-BILLED DUCK <i>Anas zonorhyncha</i>	斑嘴鴨	PSW
BLACK STORK <i>Ciconia nigra</i>	黑鶴	R
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	夜鷺	S
PURPLE HERON <i>Ardea purpurea</i>	草鷺	P
OSPREY <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	鵟	P
CRESTED HONEY BUZZARD <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	凤头蜂鷹	P
BLACK KITE <i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	黑鸞	RP
CINEREOUS VULTURE <i>Aegypius monachus</i> NT	秃鷲	RP
SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	短趾雕	P
EASTERN MARSH HARRIER <i>Circus spilonotus</i>	白腹鷺	P
HEN HARRIER <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	白尾鷺	PW
PIED HARRIER <i>Circus melanoleucos</i>	鵞鷺	P
CHINESE SPARROWHAWK <i>Accipiter soloensis</i>	赤腹鷹	PS
JAPANESE SPARROWHAWK <i>Accipiter gularis</i>	日本松雀鷹	PS
EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	雀鷹	PW
NORTHERN GOSHAWK <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	蒼鷹	PW
GREY-FACED BUZZARD <i>Butastur indicus</i>	灰臉鵟鷹	PS
EASTERN BUZZARD <i>Buteo japonicus</i>	普通鵟	PW
UPLAND BUZZARD <i>Buteo hemilasius</i>	大鵟	PW
ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD <i>Buteo lagopus</i>	毛腳鵟	W

GREATER SPOTTED EAGLE <i>Aquila clanga</i> VU	乌雕	P
STEPPE EAGLE <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	草原雕	P
EASTERN IMPERIAL EAGLE <i>Aquila heliaca</i> VU	白肩雕	P
GOLDEN EAGLE <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	金雕	R
LESSER KESTREL <i>Falco naumanni</i> VU	黄爪隼	P
COMMON KESTREL <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	红隼	RS
AMUR FALCON <i>Falco amurensis</i>	阿穆尔隼	PS
MERLIN <i>Falco columbarius</i>	灰背隼	P
EURASIAN HOBBY <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	燕隼	P
SAKER FALCON <i>Falco cherrug</i> EN	猎隼	P
PEREGRINE FALCON <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	游隼	P
COMMON MOORHEN <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	黑水鸡(红骨顶)	S
COMMON COOT <i>Fulica atra</i>	骨顶鸡(白骨顶)	PS
COMMON CRANE <i>Grus grus</i>	灰鹤	PW
BLACK-WINGED STILT <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	黑翅长脚鹬	PS
ROCK PIGEON <i>Columba livia</i>	原鸽	R
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE <i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	山斑鸠	R
SPOTTED DOVE <i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	珠颈斑鸠	R
ASIAN KOEL <i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	噪鹛	S
INDIAN CUCKOO <i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	四声杜鹃	S
COMMON CUCKOO <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	大杜鹃	S
ORIENTAL SCOPS OWL <i>Otus sunia</i>	红角鸮	S
TAWNY OWL <i>Strix aluco</i>	灰林鸮	R
WHITE-THROATED NEEDLETAIL <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	白喉针尾雨燕	P
COMMON SWIFT <i>Apus apus</i>	普通楼燕	S
FORK-TAILED SWIFT <i>Apus pacificus</i>	白腰雨燕	P
COMMON KINGFISHER <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	普通翠鸟	S
EURASIAN HOOPOE <i>Upupa epops</i>	戴胜	RS
EURASIAN WRYNECK <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	蚁鴷	P

RUFIOUS-BELLIED WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>	棕腹啄木鸟	P
GREY-CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>	星头啄木鸟	R
GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	大斑啄木鸟	
GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER <i>Picus canus</i>	灰头绿啄木鸟	R
LONG-TAILED MINIVET <i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	长尾山椒鸟	S
BROWN SHRIKE <i>Lanius cristatus</i>	红尾伯劳	SP
CHINESE GREY SHRIKE <i>Lanius s. sphenocercus</i>	楔尾伯劳	WP
BLACK-NAPED ORIOLE <i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	黑枕黄鹂	S
BLACK DRONGO <i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	黑卷尾	S
AZURE-WINGED MAGPIE <i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>	灰喜鹊	R
RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE <i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	红嘴蓝鹊	R
COMMON MAGPIE <i>Pica pica</i>	喜鹊	R
DAURIAN JACKDAW <i>Coloeus dauuricus</i>	达乌里寒鸦	W
ROOK <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	秃鼻乌鸦	S
CARRION CROW <i>Corvus corone</i>	小嘴乌鸦	W
LARGE-BILLED CROW <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	大嘴乌鸦	R
BOHEMIAN WAXWING <i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	太平鸟	WP
JAPANESE WAXWING <i>Bombycilla japonica</i> NT	小太平鸟	WP
MARSH TIT <i>Poecile palustris</i>	沼泽山雀	R
WILLOW TIT <i>Poecile montana</i>	褐头山雀	R
VARIED TIT <i>Poecile varius</i>		V
COAL TIT <i>Periparus ater</i>	煤山雀	R
YELLOW-BELLIED TIT <i>Periparus venustulus</i>	黄腹山雀	S
JAPANESE TIT <i>Parus minor</i>	大山雀	R
EURASIAN SKYLARK <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	云雀	PW
COLLARED FINCHBILL <i>Spizixos semitorques</i>	领雀嘴鹀	V
SAND MARTIN <i>Riparia riparia</i>	崖沙燕	P
BARN SWALLOW <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	家燕	SP
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW <i>Cecropis daurica</i>	金腰燕	SP

ASIAN STUBTAIL <i>Urosphena squameiceps</i>	鳞头树莺	SP
LONG-TAILED TIT <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	银喉 (长尾) 山雀	W
SILVER-THROATED TIT <i>Aegithalos glaucogularis</i>	北长尾山雀银喉长尾山雀	R
DUSKY WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	褐柳莺	P
YELLOW-STREAKED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus armandii</i>	棕眉柳莺	S
RADDE'S WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>	巨嘴柳莺	P
PALLAS'S LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	黄腰柳莺	P
CHINESE LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus yunnanensis</i>	云南柳莺	S
YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	黄眉柳莺	P
HUME'S LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus [humei] mandellii</i>	淡眉柳莺	S
ARCTIC WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	极北柳莺	P
TWO-BARRED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>	双斑绿柳莺	P
ORIENTAL REED WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>	东方大尾莺	s
BLACK-BROWED REED WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>	黑眉苇莺	PS
THICK-BILLED WARBLER <i>Iduna aedon</i>	厚嘴苇莺	S
BAIKAL BUSH WARBLER <i>Bradypterus davidi</i>	斑胸短翅莺	SP
LANCEOLATED WARBLER <i>Locustella lanceolata</i>	矛斑蝗莺	P
PALLAS'S GRASSHOPPER WARBLER <i>Locustella certhiola</i>	小蝗莺	P
ZITTING CISTICOLA <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	棕扇尾莺	S
PLAIN LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Pterorhinus davidi</i>	山噪鹛	R
VINOUS-THROATED PARROTBILL <i>Sinosuthora webbiana</i>	棕头鸦雀	R
BEIJING BABBLER <i>Rhopophilus pekinensis</i>	山鹛	R
CHESTNUT-FLANKED WHITE-EYE <i>Zosterops erythropleurus</i>	红胁绣眼鸟	P
JAPANESE WHITE-EYE <i>Zosterops japonicus</i>	暗绿绣眼鸟	PS
GOLDCREST <i>Regulus regulus</i>	戴菊	W
WINTER WREN <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	鹪鹩	R
CHINESE NUTHATCH <i>Sitta villosa</i>	黑头鹁	R
EURASIAN TREECREEPER <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	旋木雀	W
RED-BILLED STARLING <i>Spodiopsar sericeus</i>	丝光椋鸟	R

WHITE-CHEEKED STARLING <i>Spodiopsar cineraceus</i>	灰椋鸟	R
BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH <i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	紫啸鸫	S
WHITE'S THRUSH <i>Zoothera aurea</i>	虎斑地鸫	P
GREY-BACKED THRUSH <i>Turdus hortulorum</i>	灰背鸫	P
COMMON [CHINESE] BLACKBIRD <i>Turdus merula mandarinus</i>	乌鸫	SR
BLACK-THROATED THRUSH <i>Turdus atrogularis</i>	黑颈鸫	W
RED-THROATED THRUSH <i>Turdus ruficollis</i>	赤颈鸫	WP
NAUMANN'S THRUSH <i>Turdus naumanni</i>	红尾鸫	WP
DUSKY THRUSH <i>Turdus eunomus</i>	斑鸫	WP
JAPANESE ROBIN <i>Erithacus akahige</i>	日本歌鸫	V
BLUETHROAT <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	蓝喉歌鸫 (蓝点颏)	P
SIBERIAN RUBYTHROAT <i>Luscinia calliope</i>	红喉歌鸫 (红点颏)	P
SIBERIAN BLUE ROBIN <i>Luscinia cyane</i>	蓝歌鸫	SP
ORANGE-FLANKED BLUETAIL <i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>	红胁蓝尾鸫	P
DAURIAN REDSTART <i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	北红尾鸫	SP
COMMON STONECHAT <i>Saxicola maurus</i>	黑喉石脚	P
GREY-STREAKED FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	灰纹鸫	P
DARK-SIDED FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	乌鸫	P
ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	北灰鸫	P
YELLOW-RUMPED FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i>	白眉姬鸫	S
RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula parva</i>	红胸姬鸫	V
TAIGA FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	红喉姬鸫	P
EURASIAN TREE SPARROW <i>Passer montanus</i>	(树) 麻雀	R
ALPINE ACCENTOR <i>Prunella collaris</i>	领岩鹀	WS
SIBERIAN ACCENTOR <i>Prunella montanella</i>	棕眉山岩鹀	W
FOREST WAGTAIL <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>	山鹊鸲	S
EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i>	黄鹡鸰	P
GREY WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	灰鹡鸰	PS
WHITE WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla alba</i>	白鹡鸰	PS

RICHARD'S PIPIT <i>Anthus richardi</i>	理氏鹀	P
OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	树鹀	P
BUFF-BELLIED PIPIT <i>Anthus rubescens japonicus</i>	黄腹鹀	W
WATER PIPIT <i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	水鹀	WP
EURASIAN CHAFFINCH <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	苍头燕雀	V
BRAMBLING <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	燕雀	WP
GREY-CAPPED GREENFINCH <i>Carduelis sinica</i>	金翅(雀)	R
EURASIAN SISKIN <i>Carduelis spinus</i>	黄雀	R
COMMON REDPOLL <i>Carduelis flammea</i>	白腰朱顶雀	PW
COMMON ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	普通朱雀	P
CHINESE BEAUTIFUL ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus pulcherrimus</i>	红眉朱雀	R
PALLAS'S ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus roseus</i>	北朱雀	W
RED CROSSBILL <i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	红交嘴雀	W
EURASIAN BULLFINCH <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	红腹灰雀	
HAWFINCH <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	锡嘴雀	W
CHINESE GROSBEAK <i>Eophona migratoria</i>	黑尾蜡嘴雀	P
JAPANESE GROSBEAK <i>Eophona personata</i>	黑头蜡嘴雀	P
YELLOWHAMMER <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	黄鹀	V
PINE BUNTING <i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>	白头鹀	W
GODLEWSKI'S BUNTING <i>Emberiza godlewskii</i>	戈氏岩鹀	R
MEADOW BUNTING <i>Emberiza cioides</i>	三道眉草鹀	R
TRISTRAM'S BUNTING <i>Emberiza tristrami</i>	白眉鹀	P
CHESTNUT-EARED BUNTING <i>Emberiza fucata</i>	栗耳鹀	P
LITTLE BUNTING <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	小鹀	PW
YELLOW-BROWED BUNTING <i>Emberiza chrysophrys</i>	黄眉鹀	P
RUSTIC BUNTING <i>Emberiza rustica</i>	田鹀	W
YELLOW-THROATED BUNTING <i>Emberiza elegans</i>	黄喉鹀	P
CHESTNUT BUNTING <i>Emberiza rutila</i>	栗鹀	P