

《青岛人民喜迎元宵》

The Lantern Festival is still a few days away, but celebrations are already in full swing, with parades, stilt-walking, and dragon dances. We get a taste of the action in China's east-coast city of Qingdao.



The Lantern Festival celebrated in Qingdao

Led by stilt-walkers, the Lantern Festival parade offers much to cheer. All the performers are teenagers, their average age being 14 years old.

"My grand father was a stilt walker, I used to see him performing and was amazed by him. So I started to learn stilt-walking. I'm a little nervous, but still very excited to perform today," said Zang Wenshuai, stilt walker.

Stilt-walking is a popular traditional performing art that originated in northern China.

The celebrations also include a drum performance, dragon dances, another dance form known as 'Yangge', and even land-boat racing!

The celebration runs through the 16th day of the first lunar month. •