《双语：大本钟要维修 可能三年都不会响》

Starting in early 2017, tourists visiting London won ’ t have quitethe spectacular view of this iconic clock tower, nor will they hearthe chimes ring out. The tower will be covered in scaffolding asrestoration work begins.

?2017??

There is much to do for Big Ben that will ensure the historical structure’s integrity for futuregenerations, and an array of problems will be addressed. According to the New York Times, "Maintenance teams have identified problems with the clock’s hands, mechanism and pendulumthat threaten its ability to function properly, according to a Parliament statement. They also foundleaks, erosion, severe rusting and cracked masonry in the tower itself, which does not meet firesafety guidelines."

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There will also be an elevator and bathroom installed, and the overall energy efficiency will beenhanced, including adding modern lighting to the tower face.

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This is only the third time in the 157 year history of Big Ben that the clock won’t chime the hours.There’s no doubt that Londoners and visitors alike will be looking forward to when the much-loved clock and tower are spruced up and ringing once again.

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