

《南锣鼓巷重新开放，看看有什么变化》

导读:经过长达两个月的整顿后，看看南锣鼓巷的新面貌你满意吗？



Nanluoguxiang, a popular alleyway in central Beijing known for its traditional culture, reopened during the Spring Festival holiday after the completion of a two-month renovation project.

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Work to complete the upgrade of the 800-meter-long narrow alley, which was initiated by shop owners rather than the city government, lasted from Oct 28 to Dec 28.

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Wei Ziyu, 29, visited Nanluoguxiang on Thursday and said the new-look alleyway has a cleaner, fresher feel to it, as there are fewer stores and fast-food stands.

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"However, as a local resident, I still don't think there is enough traditional Beijing culture on display, despite a new cultural center being opened to the public at the south end of the alley," Wei said.

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The cultural center is a nonprofit enterprise that displays and sells folk art, such as New Year pictures.

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"It should be more creative than it is. Beijing has much more to offer in terms of culture," Wei added.

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The major reason for the renovation was that the alley, which was previously a hub of ancient Chinese cultural elements, had become primarily a food street, resulting in complaints from residents, tourists, shop owners and officials.

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Originally, tourists, particularly foreign visitors, were attracted by Nanluoguxiang's small stores offering local crafts and cuisines. However, as visitor numbers increased, more shops began to sell cheap, low-quality souvenirs, while local restaurants selling traditional delicacies were replaced by stalls selling deep-fried chicken.

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"The renovation was undertaken to revive the old alleyway," Xu Yan, head of the shop owners' group that organized the renovation, told Beijing Evening News.

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Xu said stores selling cheap, low-quality goods had resulted in lower consumption, warning that if the situation continued unabated, there would be severe consequences. "We had to make a change," he added.

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After renovation, the total number of stores in the alley has been reduced from 235 to 154.

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