

Holiday for Toys 玩偶逍遥游

Everyone dreams of escaping the **monotony** of everyday life and journeying to a foreign land. However, heavy workloads and high travel prices can prevent us from journeying overseas. But that shouldn't stop our **prized possessions** from having some fun. In an unusual trend called toy travel, people are sending their favorite toys overseas for a **spell** of rest and relaxation.

每个人都梦想逃离千篇一律的生活到国外旅行。然而，沉重的工作和高价的旅费使我们却步。但这不应该阻止我们寻求乐趣。有一股不寻常的潮流称之为「玩偶旅行」：人们把自己最珍贵的物品送到国外，让它们得以休息放松一段时间。

Toy travel agencies have recently **popped up** across the globe in places like London, [Prague](#), Paris, and Taipei. It's believed that the idea for toy traveling **stems from** the **infamous** [traveling gnome prank](#), which was featured in the film [Amelie](#). In this **stunt**, a [garden gnome](#) is stolen from someone's lawn and, weeks later, the owner begins to receive pictures of the **dwarf** standing in front of famous landmarks.

玩偶旅行机构近来如雨后春笋般在世界各地盛行，包含伦敦、布拉格、巴黎和台北。人们相信玩偶旅行这个概念源自于电影《埃米莉的异想世界》中恶名昭彰的地精旅行恶作剧。在这出恶作剧中，有人从别人的草地上偷了一个花园里的地精摆饰，几个星期后，物主开始收到这小矮人在知名地标前摄影的照片。

If you're interested in sending one of your dolls abroad, the process is simple. After purchasing a toy travel plan, you package your **plaything** and ship it to the company. When the shipment arrives overseas, someone will **escort** your toy around town and **snap** some photos of your little friend posing in front of famous landmarks. Finally, your toy will be mailed back to you along with a photo album capturing the best moments from its trip. Some companies even provide email **correspondence** from the toys' perspective while they are on their vacation.

如果你对将你其中一只娃娃送到国外也感兴趣，手续很简单。在购买玩偶旅游方案后，把你的玩具打包给公司。当货物抵达海外，会有专人护送你的玩偶游城，并帮你的小玩偶拍几张在知名地标前摆姿势的照片。最后，玩偶会和旅程中捕捉到美好时光的相本，寄还给你。有些公司甚至在旅程中提供以玩偶角度写的电子邮件之通信服务。

So, if you're **toying with the idea** of traveling the world but can't afford it, now you can do it **vicariously** through your favorite doll.

所以，假如你有考虑出国旅行却负担不起费用，现在你可以间接透过你最喜欢的玩偶帮你达成。

—End

Vocabulary

monotony [məˈnɒtəni] n. 单调；无变化

prized [praɪzd] adj. 被看作最重要的，被看作最有价值的

possession [pəˈzɛʃən] n. 所有物

spell [spɛl] n. 一段时间

infamous [ˌɪnfəməs] 声名狼藉的，臭名昭著的

gnome [nom] n. 地精，土地神

prank [præŋk] n. 恶作剧

stunt: [stʌnt] n. 引人注目的花招，噱头 something done to attract attention or publicity

dwarf [dwɔːf] n. 矮子；侏儒

plaything [ˈpleɪθɪŋ] n. 玩具；玩物

escort [ˈɛskɔːrt] v. 护送；陪同

snap [snæp] v. 用快照拍摄

correspondence [ˌkɒrəˈspɒndəns] n. 信件

vicariously [vaɪˈkærɪəslɪ] adv. 代理地；担任代理者地

Idiom

pop up: 突然[意外]地出现，冒出来 appear suddenly or unexpectedly

stem from 起源于

toy with the idea: 不太认真地考虑,半假半真地考虑 to think about the idea but not seriously