

Big Pagoda Tree Ancestor Memorial of Hongtong County

National 5A-class Scenic Spot

"To ask where my ancestors come from, the Big Pagoda Tree in Hongtong County, Shanxi Province." The Big Pagoda Tree Ancestor Memorial is not only a famous migration relic tracing back to the Ming Dynasty, but also a holy spot for millions of descendants to seek the roots of their family tree and worship their ancestors. Zhu Yuanzhang, the first emperor of the Ming Dynasty, issued royal order of large scale migration from Hongtong County to other parts of China. The Big Pagoda Tree was the start point of the 18 successive migrations. Now, the Relic of Big Pagoda Tree and plenty of evidences of migrations are displayed in this memorial. Ji Zu Tang, the biggest ancestor-worshipping temple in China, has 1,230 memorial tablets in memory of those migrants of different family names. Over 200,000 people come to seek their family roots and pay respect to ancestors every year.