

Let's proceed to the main exhibit hall and look at some of the actual vehicles that have played a prominent role in speeding up mail delivery.

让我们继续去主展厅，然后看看在加速邮递中发挥了重要作用的一些真实的交通工具。

Consider how long it used to take to send a letter across a relatively short distance. 想想曾经要花多久去跨过一个相对短的距离去送一封信。

Back in the 1600's it took two weeks on horseback to get a letter from Boston to New York, a distance of about 260 miles.

上溯到 1600 年代，从 Boston 到 New York 送一封信要在马背上花两周，一段大约 260 英里的距离。

Crossing a river was also a challenge.

横渡一条河也是一种挑战。

Ferry service was so irregular that a carrier would sometimes wait hours just to catch a ferry.

渡轮服务是如此的不规律，以至于运送者会有时等上几个小时就为了赶上一班渡轮。

For journeys inland, there was always the stagecoach, but the ride was by no means comfortable because it had to be shared with other passengers.

对于内陆的旅程，总会有驿站马车，但是旅途是不舒适的，因为不得不同其他的乘客一起乘坐。

The post office was pretty ingenious about some routes.

对于某些线路来说，邮局非常的有独创性。

In the nineteenth century, in the Southwestern desert, for instance, camels were brought in to help get the mail through.

在十九世纪，在西南部的沙漠，举例来说，骆驼被引进来帮助送邮件。

In Alaska, reindeer were used.

在阿拉斯加，驯鹿被使用了。

This practice was discontinued because of the disagreeable temperament of these animals.

这种做法因为这些动物不好相处的性情而被中断了。

We'll stop here a minute so that you can enter this replica of a railway mail car.

我们将在这儿停一分钟，以便你们能进入这个铁路邮件车箱的复制品。

It was during the Age of the Iron Horse that delivery really started to pick up, in fact, the United States transported most bulk mail by train for nearly 100 years.

还是在铁马的时代期间，邮递真正开始发展，事实上，美国通过火车运输大

部分的大宗邮件将近 100 年。

The first airmail service didn't start until 1918.

第一次航空邮件服务直到 1918 年才开始。

Please take a few moments to look around.

请花上片刻来看看。

I hope you'll enjoy your tour.

我希望你们会享受你们的旅程。

And as you continue on your own, may I suggest you visit our impressive philatelic collection.

然后当你们继续你们自己的（旅途、参观、自由活动）时，我建议你们参观我们令人印象深刻的集邮品的收藏。

Not only can you look at some of the more unusual stamps issues, but there is an interesting exhibit on how stamps are made.

你们不仅能看到一些更加不同寻常的邮票发行，而且还有一个关于邮票制作的有趣的展览。