



Wendy Wu Tours

Tour Dossier

CHINA CONTRASTS, 11 DAYS

This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the other pre-departure information provided by Wendy Wu Tours including the tour itinerary as described in our brochure and/or website. It aims to provide a straightforward description of the physical activities involved in sightseeing or travelling during the tour. If there are any particular challenges, from the length of time spent on your feet, the length of drives and flights, to the standard of remote accommodation for our more adventurous tours; they will be explained here. All passengers must read this document to ensure the itinerary is suitable for their interests and physical capabilities. This is not your final itinerary and therefore does not mention all the sites visited.

Tour Suitability

This tour is comfortably operated to appeal to most people, shorter in duration but does include some days where long periods of driving, sightseeing on foot and climbing of steps may be necessary.

Anyone with an average level of fitness should be able to complete this itinerary. Of course our local guides always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance, but they cannot be expected to cater for passengers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

If you do have mobility difficulties, please contact us for our range of private tours which are more flexible and can better cater for individual needs.

To fully participate in this tour, you must be able to:

- Walk, sometimes for long distances, and sometimes over uneven surfaces without assistance
- Complete some long days of touring with minimal breaks
- Climb steps sometimes without handrails
- Step on/off coaches without assistance
- Dis/embark between moving pontoons, docks and boats, sometimes without handrails or assistance

Group Size

This tour will operate with a National Escort with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 28 passengers.

Itinerary Changes

1. Order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.
2. The Hall of Supreme Harmony within the Forbidden City complex in Beijing has recently undergone comprehensive restoration work and the majority of work has now been completed.

Tipping

If there are more than 10 people in your group, please allow US\$52 each.

If there are fewer than 10 people in your group, please allow US\$65 each.

NB: Times and distances listed in this section are approximate.

Day 1-2: UK/Shanghai

You will be met at Shanghai's Pudong Airport in the arrivals hall by your Local Guide and/or National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours.

Together with all the other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will transfer (1 hr drive) to your hotel. There is no sightseeing today. A tour Introduction will be held in the hotel later today or tomorrow morning. There will not be food or drinks served at this meeting; it is simply an opportunity for your group to meet and learn more about travelling in China

Day 3: Shanghai

Enjoy a full day of sightseeing in central Shanghai involving approx 3-4 hrs on foot. Beware of your valuables while in the Old Town (Yuan Bazaar) as it is very crowded.

Day 4: Shanghai/Guilin

Transfer (20 mins drive) to Hongqiao domestic airport for your flight to Guilin (flight duration 2 hrs). Transfer (40 mins drive) to the hotel and check-in.

Day 5: Guilin/Li River/Yangshuo

[NB: You will be staying in Yangshuo for a single night before returning to Guilin. We recommend you leave your main luggage in safe storage at our hotel in Guilin; taking only a small, overnight bag with you for days 5 & 6.]

We take a 3 hr cruise from Guilin to the small town of Yangshuo. A simple meal will be served onboard (usually before midday at "Chinese lunch time"). These are small cruise boats, usually holding approx 100 passengers; with an enclosed dining area on lower deck and an open viewing area on upper deck. As it is so popular, there are generally many boats at the docks – please be reassured that the cruise itself will be scenic and relaxing as the boats cruise past unspoilt countryside. Usually the boats depart at 9am, from a dock 1 hr drive from your hotel. However when the river level is low they depart from further downstream which would mean a longer drive and an earlier check-out from your hotel. Disembarking from the cruise, your Local Guide will walk with you to your hotel, approx 15 mins walk from the river. There are electric carts offered by private vendors which can be organised at your own cost.

Day 6: Yangshuo/Guilin/Xian

The drive back to Guilin takes 1 hr (65km). En-route, visit the Reed Flute Caves. It usually takes approx 1 hr to complete the route, and is very cool inside. Transfer (1 hr drive) to the airport for your flight to Xian (flight duration 2.5 hrs). Upon arrival, transfer (40 mins drive) to your hotel.

Day 7: Xian/Beijing

The Museum of the Terracotta Warriors is located just over 1 hr drive outside of Xian. From the bus park to the Museum entrance is a 15 mins walk, usually without any shade. There are electric carts offered by private vendors which can be organised at your own cost. There is no electric cart available for the return from the Museum exit to Bus Park. Within the Museum area the warriors can be seen in 3 different "pits", which are active archaeological digs. Sightseeing here involves 2.5 hrs on foot. This afternoon we visit the City Walls. The Local Guide will give you time to explore at your own pace. There are options here to hire a bicycle or an electric cart to drive along the length of the walls. These are offered by private vendors and can be organised at your own cost.

Day 8: Xian/Beijing

Sightseeing at the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and Shaanxi Museum involves approx 2.5 hrs on foot. Beware of your valuables while browsing the Muslim Quarter's alley market stalls. Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Beijing (flight duration 1 hr 40 mins). Upon arrival, transfer (1 hr drive) to your hotel.

Day 9: Beijing

Sightseeing in central Beijing involves approx 3-4 hrs sightseeing on foot to see Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. Visiting Mao's Mausoleum is subject to the length of the queue, as so many domestic tourists visit every day. This afternoon, visit the Temple of Heaven – at least 2 hrs on foot here

Day 10: Beijing

We rise early this morning to drive 1.5 hrs (50km) northwest of the city to the Great Wall. The aim of this is to avoid the crowds of tourists who will arrive later in the morning, and the heat of the day. Visiting the Wall involves walking 200m from the bus to the first section. After your group has been given an introduction to the Great Wall's unique history you will have free time to explore the rest at your own pace. This afternoon, drive approx 1.5 hrs to the Summer Palace in the north of the city. The palace is set over an extensive park and man-made lake complex and there is approx 2-3 hrs walking involved at this site.

Day 11: Depart Beijing

Transfer from your hotel to Beijing Airport for your flight to the UK.

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