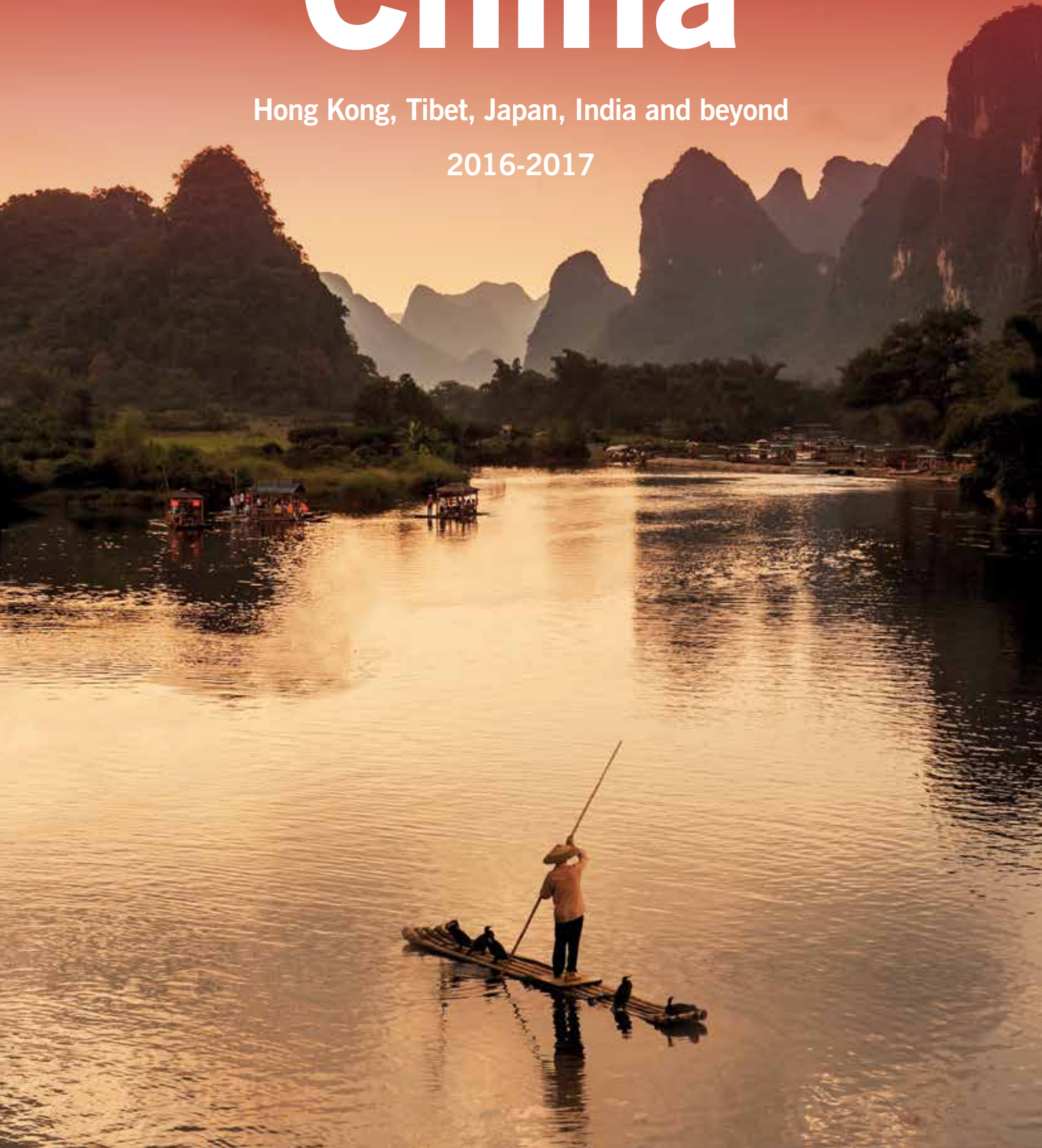


 Wendy Wu Tours

# China

Hong Kong, Tibet, Japan, India and beyond

2016-2017



# WELCOME TO OUR CHINA

At Wendy Wu Tours, we pride ourselves on our vast experience and deep understanding of operating tours in China. Since 1998, we have taken tens of thousands of intrepid and satisfied travellers to what we can only describe as the most fascinating, exhilarating and fast-changing country on the planet.

## See the Real China

We do China like no one else. On a Wendy Wu tour, you will be astounded by China's most impressive sights and natural wonders, and enchanted by cultural traditions. We will provide you with the opportunity to see first-hand how real Chinese people live – from the big cities to the remote countryside. It is our aspiration that everybody travelling in China comes home enthused and inspired, having had the chance to really get to know the country that we are so passionate about.

## Incredible Value

Our thoughtfully designed group tours feature hundreds of inclusions – unique sightseeing with expert guides, every meal, international flights, local transportation, all your accommodation and even your visa – we take care of everything. Don't just take our word for it – 99% of our customers rated our tours as good or excellent on their return, according to independent rating platform feefo.

## Unrivalled Choice

We are pleased to offer the most extensive range of China tours on the market – we have a holiday for everyone. Couples, families, groups and solo travellers all come to us again and again for unforgettable tours and tailor-made holidays.

## 2016: the Year of the Monkey!

This year we are excited about:

- Our new Discovery Tours, with more active and cultural experiences, they are designed to really immerse you in everything that delights us about China.
- Our updated Classic Tours which show you authentic, local China. Visit a local family, learn about modern dating at Matchmakers' Corner, visit a local kindergarden and many more experiences, giving you the opportunity to find out about daily life in this fascinating country.
- Our popular Exclusive Collection, featuring deluxe touring and unique experiences.



*Wendy Wu*

Wendy Wu – Owner, Wendy Wu Tours

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## Award Winning Expertise



# DISCOVER CHINA WITH WENDY WU TOURS

China is a nation of rich heritage, diverse sights and enormous expanse. We have the expertise to cover every inch of this fascinating land; here are some of our favourite destinations.



## BEIJING

The former seat of imperial China, vibrant Beijing is adorned with historical sights including the Forbidden City and the magnificent Great Wall of China.



## YANGTZE RIVER

A voyage on the Yangtze's mighty waters brings together a plethora of unmissable sights including the dramatic Three Gorges and Three Gorges Dam.



## KUNMING

Gateway to verdant Yunnan, laid back Kunming offers easy access to the labyrinthine Stone Forest and the erratically curving rice terraces of Yuanyang.



## SHANGHAI

A vision in neon, steel and glass, Shanghai is a glitzy, high-flying metropolis with traditional streets and ageless culture woven between the skyscrapers.



## GUILIN

Cruise the Li River from Guilin past otherworldly peaks to reach Yangshuo, a village marooned in an emerald sea of paddy fields and towering limestone karsts.



## LHASA

A city on the roof of the world, it's easy to leave modernity behind in Lhasa - wander the Barkhor Circuit and get lost in the magnificent Potala Palace.



## XIAN

Home to the Terracotta Warriors, Xian's heart lies within its ancient City Walls where the effervescent Muslim Quarter hums with activity.



## LIJIANG

Located amongst Yunnan's dramatic landscapes, Lijiang features a romantic old quarter and is guarded by the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain massif.



## KASHGAR

Sitting at the crossroads of the ancient Silk Road trading route, Kashgar has been an historic market town and cultural mixing bowl for the last two millennia.



## CHENGDU

Sichuan's relaxed and cheery capital is home to the adorable Giant Pandas and is the gateway to the natural wonders of the Huanglong Pools and Mt Emei.



## JIUZHAIYOU

Named after the nine Tibetan villages found within its valleys, Nine Villages Valley is a national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes and rushing waterfalls.



## HONG KONG

Sophisticated and lively, Hong Kong's colonial influences and gleaming skyscrapers mask a charming Chinese personality which is unique to this colourful city.

# TRAVEL YOUR WAY

We know that every traveller is different, so we have developed three touring styles to help you see Asia in the way that suits you the best. See the highlights of the region on our Classic Tours, get under the skin of China on our Discovery Tours, or experience the country in luxury with our Exclusive Collection.

## CLASSIC GROUP TOURS

PAGES 14-49



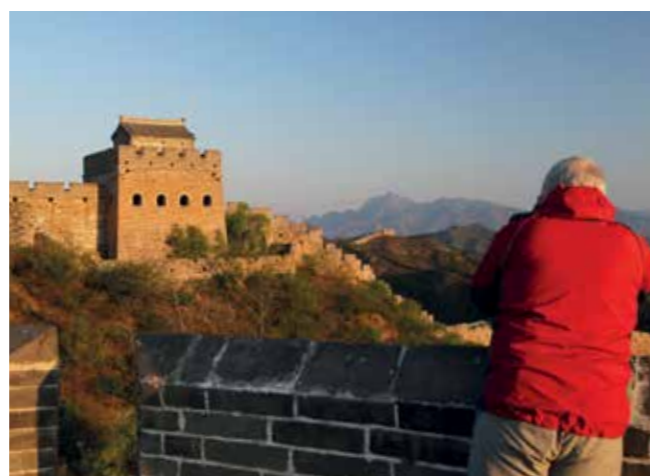
A thoughtfully designed series of journeys for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures on a fully-inclusive, excellent-value group tour.

Ranging from shorter trips that take in the main sights of Beijing, Shanghai, Xian and Guilin to more comprehensive itineraries exploring lesser-visited regions, our classic tours offer the opportunity to tick all the big sights off your list.

Walk on the Great Wall, stand in awe in front of an army of Terracotta Warriors, be charmed by the Giant Pandas or cruise through dramatic gorges on the mighty Yangtze. Spend longer in China and explore the magical landscapes of Yangshuo, wander through antiquated, lantern-lined streets in Lijiang or reach the lofty heights of Lhasa. These enticing destinations are just a tiny sample of what China's vastness and variety has to offer.

Our Classic Group Tours are an excellent way to see Asia, travelling with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of – from international flights, visas, accommodation; and all the touring listed in your itinerary. Whether you are planning a trip by yourself, or as a couple or small group, you will be travelling with like-minded people; and we often find that our customers form friendships on tour that last a lifetime.

You will be accompanied by our industry-leading National Escorts, whose unparalleled knowledge and talent will turn your holiday into a magical and unforgettable experience.



## DISCOVERY TOURS

PAGES 50-79



Meticulously designed with the more discerning traveller in mind, our deluxe journeys through Asia feature distinctive and exclusive experiences which bring the region to life.

Our Exclusive Collection feature a range of life-changing experiences many of which are entirely unique to Wendy Wu Tours. Sip champagne on the Great Wall of China, gain a first-hand account of current excavation projects at the Terracotta Warriors, master the art of Shaanxi dumpling making, and savour a cocktail from the top of a sky scraper with an enviable view over Shanghai's Huangpu River and sleek Pudong. After a day of inspiring touring, you will sample China's classic cuisine such as Peking duck and

Sichuan Hot Pot in some of the country's most revered dining hotspots.

All of this can be experienced in the knowledge that you'll be staying in handpicked luxury hotels in the best possible locations and travelling in smaller groups of eighteen or less. These tours truly offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to see China in true comfort and luxury, bringing home memories that you will talk about for years to come.

Designed for those who wish to be further immersed in the authentic charm of Asia; see China differently on our Discovery Tours by taking part in unique, cultural and active experiences.

Get under the skin of China, whilst taking in the classic sights. Trek along a remote section of the Great Wall of China and feel the history of this ancient cultural edifice; visit Bifengxia's charming pandas, and get lost in a sea of swishing bamboo in Sichuan. Ride a bicycle between Yangshuo's peacefully sentinel limestone karsts, and eat traditional Muslim food in Xian's colourful old quarter.

Take a journey through remote, untouched Asia and get closer

to the locals and their traditions. Meditate on the slopes of a sacred mountain with a Taoist master, or visit a Tibetan village for a home-cooked meal. Hike between ethnic villages along the misty ridges of the Longji Rice Terraces; or trace the Silk Road to the ancient cities of Kashgar or Samarkand.

Travelling in smaller groups of eighteen or less, you will find yourself on an exciting journey of exploration and discovery.

## EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

PAGES 80-93



## THE KEY TO OUR TOURS

To help decide which tour is for you, we have indicated whether our journeys are fully inclusive or feature more free time. Our tours are also graded as comfortable, moderate or active to reflect the level of fitness required. Just look for the icons on the page.

### FULLY INCLUSIVE TOURS

During our fully inclusive group tours, all of your meals are included, starting from dinner on the day of arrival to breakfast on the day of departure. Your knowledgeable Escort will guide you through a wealth of Chinese cuisine.

### TOURS WITH MORE FREE TIME

To allow more flexibility and choice when travelling on selected Discovery Tours and our Exclusive Collection, we have carefully balanced special highlight meals with evenings at leisure so that you can further explore the many culinary delights that China has to offer. Everything else is included as per our Classic Tours.

## TOUR GRADING

### Comfortable

Accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. Tours may involve sightseeing on foot, some climbing of stairs and getting on and off boats.

### Moderate

Tours require a higher level of fitness and may include standard activities and longer periods of sightseeing. Easy walking, high altitude and overnight train journeys may feature.

### Active

Tours require a good level of fitness, as they are physically more demanding. They may involve hiking, and travel to remote or high altitude areas where tourist facilities are less developed.



### Altitude

The mountain icon on the map will tell you the altitude reached on any given tour where applicable.

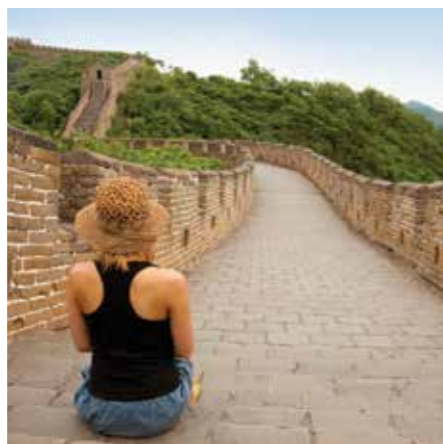
Please see our tour dossiers or contact us if you require any advice.

# THE WENDY WU TOURS DIFFERENCE

## 10 reasons why you should choose Wendy Wu Tours

### 1 No one knows China like we do

All our staff have travelled throughout China and can provide you with detailed information about our itineraries and touring styles, and will help personalise your holiday. We are known as the UK's specialist operator to Asia, and have been building our global reputation since 1998, one satisfied customer at a time.



### 3 Industry-Leading National Escorts

All of our group tours are accompanied from beginning to end by a dedicated, knowledgeable National Escort and local guides with particular expertise in each location. Our experienced teams in Asia ensure that Wendy Wu Tours has a reliable presence on which you can always depend. We regularly receive letters that sing the praises of our team over in China, their knowledge, warmth, supportive nature, passion and gentle humour is something we are genuinely very proud of.



### 4 We Love Solo Travellers

Our group tours are a great opportunity to share your experiences with like-minded people. We welcome plenty of solo travellers on our tours, and receive great feedback from them about the friendly and sociable atmosphere of our groups. Even better, if you are a single traveller and are willing to share a room, you won't have to pay a single supplement.



### 2 Authentic Experiences

Our extensive experience and local expertise means we can take you to places rarely visited and those you have always dreamed of exploring. We have been blazing trails into this ever-developing country for 18 years, and pride ourselves in delivering authentically Chinese experiences. On our tours, you'll meet local children, witness social dance classes and games in leafy city parks, and meet families in the traditional hutongs. Travel to the countryside to learn about the way of life of minority farmers and villagers – there will be endless opportunities to meet local people and see a lifestyle so different to your own.

We continue to redefine travel to China, and are proud to offer the widest variety of tours to this amazing country.



### 5 Hand-Picked Hotels

Over 18 years of taking people to China means we know exactly where to stay. We have superb relationships with our hotel partners in China, meaning our groups are always prioritised and well looked after. We inspect our hotels regularly to ensure that they reach our high standards of cleanliness, safety and comfort. We pick

the right hotel for the specific destination, meaning your accommodation can range from a smart business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. Wherever you are staying you will have a peaceful and comfortable night's sleep in preparation for the next day's adventures. See pages 122-123.

### 6 Unrivalled Airline Choice

We have access to fares from all the leading airlines, giving you the ultimate choice of flights which are convenient for where you live, offering stopovers where you want and the upgrades you require. See pages 120-121.



### 7 Travel in Comfort

The transport selected as part of your tour is intended to combine convenience and comfort with an enjoyably authentic travel experience. You will benefit from our seat-and-a-half policy on our coaches, allowing you to watch incredible scenery in comfort. Our Group Tours are predominantly conducted using air conditioned coaches, internal flights, trains and various types of boat. See page 125.



### 8 Tipping Made Easy

We handle the tipping so you don't have to. We have a simple tipping system whereby all Group Tour passengers contribute to a kitty, paid to the National Escort, who then distributes it throughout the trip. Tipping is not included on any of our Private Tours or Stopovers, but we will suggest appropriate amounts. See page 126.



### 9 Regional Flavour

Meals included in our tours are planned to give you a genuine taste of the regions we visit. We make sure that the food on our tours is safe, fresh, features minimal spice and includes plenty of vegetables. Breakfast is a combination of local and western food, usually served buffet style at the hotel you are staying in. Lunches and dinners consist of traditional cuisine and are served at reputable local restaurants. Highlights may include a dumpling dinner in Xian, Peking duck in Beijing, and east meets west fusions in Hong Kong.



### 10 Our Great Value Fully Inclusive Tours

- ✓ Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges
- ✓ All accommodation
- ✓ All meals
- ✓ All transportation and transfers
- ✓ All sightseeing and entrance fees
- ✓ English speaking National Escort and Local Guides
- ✓ Visa fees for UK and EU passport holders
- ✓ Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- ✓ Comprehensive tour dossiers and travel guides
- ✓ Safe and secure with ABTA, ATOL and IATA

The only things you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping and early check-in or late check-out (this cannot be guaranteed). Meals on our Discovery Tours and Exclusive Collection are indicated on the tour pages.



# YOUR TOUR GUIDES

Your guide is often the difference between a good holiday and a truly remarkable holiday. On all of our group tours you will be escorted by a dedicated National Escort for the entire duration of your trip. Their unrivalled knowledge, passion, experience and expertise will astonish you.

## Award Winning Local Expertise

Our guides are utterly committed to Wendy Wu Tours and the vast majority have been with us for many years. We ensure that the individual tasked with the responsibility to keep you safe, happy, entertained and inspired is someone whom you should have absolute trust in; and that they intimately understand the eccentricities of the Chinese way of doing things.

We own our touring operation in China, meaning our high standards are seamlessly communicated and fully maintained across the organisation. We speak daily to our National Escorts in China to ensure they are aware of what we expect and have been briefed on any customer feedback.

All of our National Escorts go through rigorous and ongoing training programmes, were born and raised in China, and are completely fluent in English.



## All our National Escorts

- Have a minimum of five years experience in guiding
- Are fluent in English
- Are born and raised in China making them unparalleled experts
- Go through rigorous and ongoing training programmes
- Are at your service 24 hours a day



Link Lee

### Ms Gooday, Wonders of China

"Best of all was our guide, Link. He was the most amazing, knowledgeable, interesting, humorous and generally lovely chap I have ever met. He made our holiday so special - he deserves a medal!"



Tom Du

### Mr and Mrs Baty, Glories of China

"Tom was outstanding and the best we have come across on our travels. He was very knowledgeable and skilled in managing the group to ensure we all had a marvellous and memorable experience."



"Years of experience of working as a National Escort tell me the real meaning of a job of service – the best way of making the clients' journey much more meaningful and memorable! I give you my word: from the moment we meet, I will be available 24 hours, 7 days a week, and your mission during your stay with me in China is to relax and enjoy my beautiful country!"

### Mr Williams, Yunnan Adventure

"Our national guide Tony was delightful and very professional. He looked after us so well and made us all feel really welcome to China, even helping me to buy some spices in a market, something I could not have done on my own."



Tony Lee



Linda Yang

"I really enjoy mixing with travellers from all over the world. China is a country with both old and new and I enjoy every single moment when I am sharing my knowledge with my group. I consider each traveller as part of my family – bringing the group together and looking after them is very important to me. I want them all to have the best experience as well as a memorable one, and to love China as much as I do."



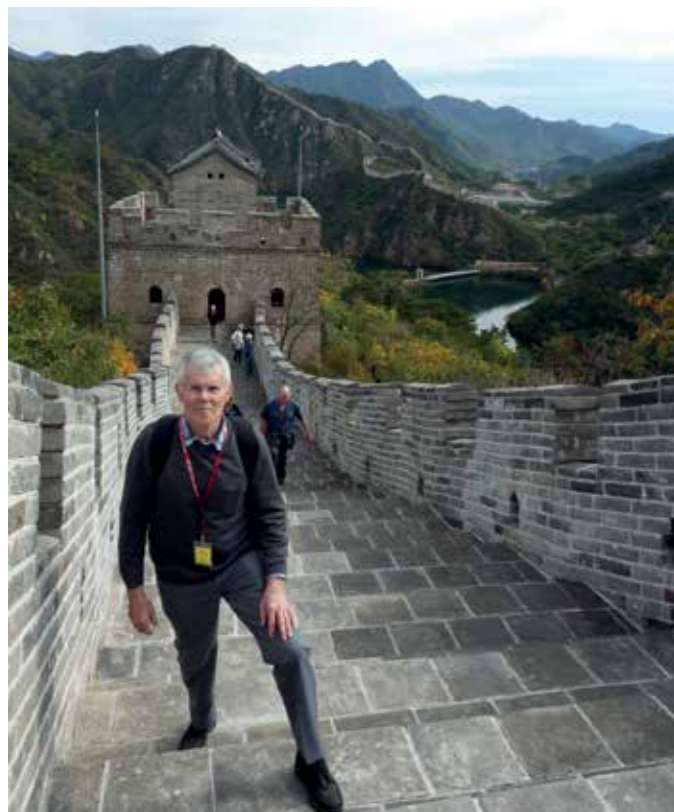
### Mrs Scruby, Classic China

"Linda was friendly, very efficient, and fun to be with; she also showed friendly interest in all of us and we definitely felt like her 'family' as she was fond of calling us."

# TRAVELLERS' FEEDBACK

We love to hear from our customers. Your comments and feedback help to maintain and improve our high standards. We also love to hear your travel stories and discover your holiday highlights.

## WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS THINK OF US



**99%** | customer service rating  
(rated as good or excellent)

**99%** | tour experience rating  
(rated as good or excellent)

Based on over 1,000 feefo customer reviews.

### Organisation was first class

"We have just returned last week from our trip. The organisation was first class. The great success of the trip really owes a huge amount to our national guide Link Lee. I am sure the rest of our party will echo my words when I say he wasn't just good he was outstanding. He was an absolute mine of information. He worked so hard to make our holiday. We have been on a number of escorted tours in various parts of the world and had some very good guides but I would say that Link Lee tops the lot!"

**Mr Keith Hunt, booked with Acomb Travel  
Majestic Yangtze, Mar 2015**

### Well organised and ran like clockwork

"We have just returned from our tour and wanted to say how much we enjoyed our holiday.

Special thanks go to Tony, our national guide whose sense of humour, patience and professional attitude were exemplary. We packed so much into the 12 days but everything was well organised and ran like clockwork. All the guides worked incredibly hard and are a credit to Wendy Wu Tours...The Yangtze cruise provided a welcome respite to relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery and to learn about the construction of the Three Gorges Dam."

**Pam and Maurice Davis  
Discover China with the Telegraph, Oct 2014**



### Organisation was seamless

"We really had a holiday of a lifetime and are still buzzing with the excitement and stimulation of seeing China so closely. We are so pleased we chose a private tour as the organisation by Wendy Wu and the guides was seamless - we felt really looked after and appreciated the level of concern that the guides showed always making sure we were handed over seamlessly from one city to another. A truly amazing experience."

**Mrs Drecksler  
Wonders of China Private, Aug 2014**

### So many highlights

"Thank you Wendy Wu for making our tour such a fabulous and memorable holiday. We saw so much in two weeks and have so many highlights we simply can't single out one favourite part. Our local guides were excellent, all having such a wealth of knowledge to share with us."

**Mr and Mrs Travers  
Glories of China, Nov 2014**



### A holiday I will never forget

"I think the holiday was fantastic and good value. It is so much easier to have the visa done for you and all your meals included. It makes sense. Thank you to our guide Matt for all your help and making this a holiday I will never forget. Such a wonderful holiday I'm still on a high - keep reliving the moments."

**Mrs Webb, Meet the Pandas with John Craven,  
Sep 2014**

### Exceeded our expectations

"We wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed the trip, which far exceeded our expectations. There was an excellent balance of history, countryside, museums and cities and some amazing optional excursions that only added to the overall experience. If we do decide to take a similar holiday we will definitely choose Wendy Wu and we will recommend the company to our friends."

**Mr and Mrs Carthy  
Wonders of China, May 2015**



### Experience was awe inspiring

"I have just returned from a truly memorable holiday in China. The whole twenty six day experience was awe inspiring. Meals throughout were very good with a large variety of food on offer sampling the specialities of each region visited. I would be more than happy to recommend Wendy Wu to friends and family and I know that we will travel with you again in the future."

**Mr Ian Fraser, booked with the  
Travel Village Group  
Grand Tour of China, Aug 2014**

### Really fabulous

"My brother and I did your Sichuan Explorer trip in May. It was really fabulous and all that we expected it to be. We thoroughly enjoyed it. Our National escort Jian Lei Li was extremely good and went out of his way to help. He could not do enough for all of us on the trip. I would recommend your tours."

**Christine Ong, booked with Bath Travel  
Sichuan Explorer, May 2015**



**feefo**

The Global Feedback Engine

We are keen to receive as much feedback as we can. We have partnered with independent online review site, feefo, to give you the chance to tell us what you think. You will receive an email from feefo after booking and once again after you have travelled so you can rate our service and tour experience.



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# CLASSIC TOURS

Our fully inclusive Classic Tours encompass China's iconic sights, from the Great Wall to the Terracotta Warriors and beyond.

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## Our Classic Tours include:

- Comprehensive touring
  - Award-winning National Escorts
  - Knowledgeable local guides
  - International flights & taxes
  - All accommodation & meals
  - All transportation on tour
  - Visa application & fees
  - Specialist advice from our travel consultants
-





# IN PURSUIT OF PANDAS

Journey from the imperial treasures of Beijing through atmospheric Xian with its enigmatic legions of Terracotta Warriors to reach the charming city of Chengdu, where you will meet its most famous residents – the captivating Giant Pandas.

**9 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £1,790**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**



▲ GIANT PANDA

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,220 (Beijing - Chengdu)
- Single room from £260
- Tipping paid locally US\$47



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ FORBIDDEN CITY



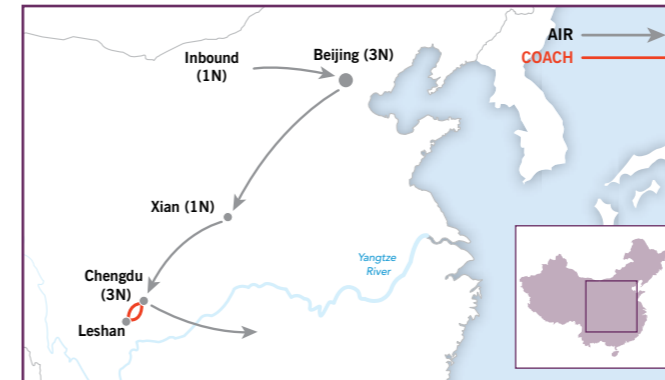
▲ GRAND BUDDHA OF LESHAN



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: TOM DU**

Walk on the Great Wall, discover the Terracotta Warriors and see the adorable Giant Pandas, my favourite of all.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Great Wall of China
- The Terracotta Warriors
- Grand Buddha of Leshan
- Giant Pandas in Chengdu

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Imperial Beijing**  
Begin in Beijing's symbolic heart with a stroll across Tiananmen Square, flanked by imposing government buildings and the mausoleum of Chairman Mao. At the head of the square the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City is a monument to dynasties past. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex of a thousand rooms and many imperial treasures. Later soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

**Day 4: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Stretching thousands of miles from the Yellow Sea to the Gobi Desert, over all sorts of dramatic landscapes, it is one of the world's most impressive feats of engineering. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the

wall itself and the magnificent scenery that it crosses. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Drive back to Beijing, then savour a relaxed afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional gardens and admire exquisite architecture. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 5: Xian City Walls**  
Fly to Xian. An illustrious and age-old city, Xian is one of the four great ancient capitals of China. It is also the capital of Shaanxi province, and the starting point of the fabled Silk Road with a history spanning 3,100 years. Take a leisurely stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th century city walls that enclose Xian's old town to get your bearings, before a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 6: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery by local farmers in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-like warriors who stand in their original formations at the exact location they were excavated. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of

their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Fly to Chengdu.

**Day 7: Grand Buddha of Leshan**  
Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha which, at 71 metres, is the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist monument and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A short boat trip on the river will give even better views of the statue. Returning to Chengdu, there will be a stop at the riverside village of Huanglongxi, where cobbled streets and rickety wooden buildings retain the charms of the Qing Dynasty. Sample a delicious Sichuan meal this evening.

**Day 8: Giant Pandas**  
A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see and learn about China's celebrated bears. See them up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat as they chomp through piles of bamboo. A look around the informative museum gives an overview of the Reserve's breeding programme. Also, visit the Shu Brocade Embroidery Museum, then enjoy a hot beverage in a traditional tea house before visiting Matchmakers Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children.

**Day 9: Fly Chengdu to UK**  
Return flight to the UK, arriving the same or following day.



**IN PURSUIT OF PANDAS CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**  
11 DAYS FROM £2,690PP

Enjoy a Christmas with a difference! Two days longer than the usual itinerary (with extra nights in Xian and Chengdu) there is plenty of time to relax and get into the festive spirit whilst walking the Great Wall on Christmas Day and enjoying a New Year's Eve panda experience. See our website for more details.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
  - Looking for something a little more personal?
  - Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?
- Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Saturday**

2016 DATES											
15 Jan - 23 Jan	£1,790	15 Apr - 23 Apr	£2,290	20 May - 28 May	£2,290	12 Aug - 20 Aug	£2,490	23 Sep - 01 Oct	£2,390	18 Nov - 26 Nov	£1,790
26 Feb - 05 Mar	£1,890	06 May - 14 May	£2,290	27 May - 04 Jun	£2,290	02 Sep - 10 Sep	£2,390	07 Oct - 15 Oct	£2,390	23 Dec - 02 Jan*	£2,690
01 Apr - 09 Apr	£2,290	13 May - 21 May	£2,290	22 Jul - 30 Jul	£2,590	09 Sep - 17 Sep	£2,390	21 Oct - 29 Oct	£2,190		
2017 DATES											
10 Feb - 18 Feb	£1,890	07 Apr - 15 Apr	£2,390	12 May - 20 May	£2,390	21 Jul - 29 Jul	£2,690	08 Sep - 16 Sep	£2,490	20 Oct - 28 Oct	£2,290
03 Mar - 11 Mar	£1,990	21 Apr - 29 Apr	£2,390	19 May - 27 May	£2,390	11 Aug - 19 Aug	£2,590	22 Sep - 30 Sep	£2,490	17 Nov - 25 Nov	£1,890
17 Mar - 25 Mar	£2,190	05 May - 13 May	£2,390	02 Jun - 10 Jun	£2,290	01 Sep - 09 Sep	£2,490	06 Oct - 14 Oct	£2,490	23 Dec - 02 Jan*	£2,690

\*Christmas departure – 11 day itinerary



# A CHINA EXPERIENCE

The quintessential experience, this introductory tour offers a glimpse of China's glorious past, fascinating present and bright future with visits to the exceptional and contrasting cities of Xian, Beijing and Shanghai.

**10 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £1,790**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,240 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £260
- Tipping paid locally US\$58



▲ ZHUJIAJIAO



▲ SHANGHAI



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: LINK LEE**

A comprehensive tour of China's most famous and iconic sights, learn about the country's extensive past, present and future.



▲ XIAN CITY WALLS



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cosmopolitan Shanghai
- Zhujiajiao Canal Town
- The Terracotta Warriors
- The Great Wall

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Zhujiajiao water town**  
Visit Zhujiajiao, one of Shanghai's sleepy water towns, built on an old canal system once used to transport goods all over imperial China. The town's narrow alleyways exude old-world charm, whilst the waterways are lined with ancient buildings and crossed by stone bridges. Return to Shanghai to enjoy the fine arts and antiques of the Shanghai Museum, and explore People's Square. Dinner is traditional Shanghaiese cuisine.

**Day 4: Explore Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the traditional Yu Gardens, the Silk Museum and the atmospheric alleys of the Old Town. Admire the magnificent colonial

architecture with a stroll along the Bund. Wander down bustling Nanjing Road and this evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 5: Tang Dynasty Dancing**  
Fly to Xian, the ancient former capital. Tonight feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 6: The Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors. See the Xian Art Ceramics and Laquer Exhibition, and later stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 7: Xian Muslim Quarter**  
A relaxed morning includes a visit to the lovely Little Wild Goose Pagoda and time to walk through the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter, which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Later, fly to Beijing, China's capital city.

**Day 8: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Later soak up the harmonious

ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Watch a Chinese acrobatic show this evening.

**Day 9: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Savour an afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you see the traditional Chinese gardens and exquisite architecture. Today's sightseeing is the perfect way to build up your appetite for Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 10: Fly Beijing to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



▲ FORBIDDEN CITY



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240pp**

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Monday**

2016 DATES											
23 Jan - 01 Feb	£1,790	02 Apr - 11 Apr	£2,290	07 May - 16 May	£2,290	25 Jun - 04 Jul	£2,190	03 Sep - 12 Sep	£2,390	15 Oct - 24 Oct	£2,290
20 Feb - 29 Feb	£1,890	09 Apr - 18 Apr	£2,290	17 May - 26 May*	£2,290	16 Jul - 25 Jul	£2,590	10 Sep - 19 Sep	£2,390	22 Oct - 31 Oct	£2,190
05 Mar - 14 Mar	£1,990	16 Apr - 25 Apr	£2,290	21 May - 30 May	£2,290	30 Jul - 08 Aug	£2,590	17 Sep - 26 Sep	£2,390	19 Nov - 28 Nov	£1,890
19 Mar - 28 Mar	£2,190	23 Apr - 02 May	£2,290	28 May - 06 Jun	£2,290	13 Aug - 22 Aug	£2,490	24 Sep - 03 Oct	£2,390	26 Nov - 05 Dec	£1,790
26 Mar - 04 Apr	£2,290	03 May - 12 May*	£2,290	04 Jun - 13 Jun	£2,190	27 Aug - 05 Sep	£2,390	08 Oct - 17 Oct	£2,390		
2017 DATES											
04 Feb - 13 Feb	£1,890	01 Apr - 10 Apr	£2,390	06 May - 15 May	£2,390	24 Jun - 03 Jul	£2,290	02 Sep - 11 Sep	£2,490	14 Oct - 23 Oct	£2,390
18 Feb - 27 Feb	£1,890	08 Apr - 17 Apr	£2,390	13 May - 22 May	£2,390	15 Jul - 24 Jul	£2,690	09 Sep - 18 Sep	£2,490	21 Oct - 30 Oct	£2,290
04 Mar - 13 Mar	£1,990	15 Apr - 24 Apr	£2,390	20 May - 29 May	£2,390	29 Jul - 07 Aug	£2,690	16 Sep - 25 Sep	£2,490	18 Nov - 27 Nov	£1,990
18 Mar - 27 Mar	£2,190	22 Apr - 01 May	£2,390	27 May - 05 Jun	£2,390	12 Aug - 21 Aug	£2,590	23 Sep - 02 Oct	£2,490	25 Nov - 04 Dec	£1,890
25 Mar - 03 Apr	£2,290	29 Apr - 08 May	£2,390	03 Jun - 12 Jun	£2,290	26 Aug - 04 Sep	£2,490	07 Oct - 16 Oct	£2,490		

\* Days of the week different from those stated.



# GLORIES OF CHINA

Combining the contrasting urban splendour of Shanghai, Beijing and Xian with the majestic sights of the Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors and extraordinary landscapes of the Li River, this tour showcases China's most glorious highlights.

**14 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,190**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**



▲ FISHERMAN, YANGSHUO

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,640 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £360
- Tipping paid locally US\$66



▲ TEMPLE OF HEAVEN



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ SUMMER PALACE



▲ OLD AND NEW SHANGHAI

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: SAM GAO**

Experience both China's natural beauty and fast-paced modernization along with its long and turbulent history.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cosmopolitan Shanghai
- Li River Cruise
- The Terracotta Warriors
- The Great Wall

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**

Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Explore Shanghai**

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Start with a visit to Zhujiajiao, one of Shanghai's sleepy water towns. Afterwards see the antiquities of the Shanghai Museum and the Silk Museum before admiring the magnificent architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening enjoy a meal of Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 4: Huangpu River Cruise**

Visit the peaceful Yu Gardens and wander the bustling streets of the Old Town and visit the Silk Museum. View the city at night from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 5: Discover Guilin**

Fly to the scenic city of Guilin. Visit the Seven Star Park which is not only home to two Giant Pandas but also has beautiful scenery to stroll through. The

South China Pearl Museum covers the fascinating 1,700 year history of pearling in the South China Sea with displays and demonstrations. There are also beautiful pieces available to buy.

**Day 6: Li River Cruise**

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

**Day 7: Yangshuo**

Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by landscapes of jewel-green paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before having an afternoon at leisure. There are many optional activities available including cycling, rafting and walking though you may prefer to relax in the town. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 8: Tang Dynasty Dancing**

Return to Guilin and fly to ancient Xian. Tonight feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 9: Terracotta Warriors**

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors. Visit the workshop

of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Later stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 10: Bullet train to Beijing**

Visit the lovely Little Wild Goose Pagoda, then, board the bullet train to Beijing, the capital of China.

**Day 11: Forbidden City**

Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Round off the day with an evening Chinese acrobatic show.

**Day 12: The Great Wall**

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. Visit a Jade Museum where you can understand the delicate process of carving this stone. In the afternoon savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander amongst traditional Chinese gardens and view the exquisite architecture.

**Day 13: Temple of Heaven**

Enjoy a fascinating rickshaw ride through the warren-like hutongs, and visit a local family to gain a deeper insight into Chinese culture and local customs. Later soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. This evening, relish Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 14: Fly Beijing to UK**

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
  - Looking for something a little more personal?
  - Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?
- Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**DUBAI**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £220PP

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination full of futuristic architecture and cosmopolitan nightlife fronted by beautiful beaches. Dig a little deeper and you'll find a rich culture centred on the labyrinthine old city.

See page 118.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Friday**

2016 DATES											
13 Feb - 26 Feb	£2,190	09 Apr - 22 Apr	£2,690	25 Jun - 08 Jul	£2,590	10 Sep - 23 Sep	£2,790	15 Oct - 28 Oct	£2,690		
12 Mar - 25 Mar	£2,490	23 Apr - 06 May	£2,690	23 Jul - 05 Aug	£2,990	17 Sep - 30 Sep	£2,790	29 Oct - 11 Nov	£2,490		
26 Mar - 08 Apr	£2,690	07 May - 20 May	£2,690	13 Aug - 26 Aug	£2,890	24 Sep - 07 Oct	£2,790	19 Nov - 02 Dec	£2,190		
02 Apr - 15 Apr	£2,690	21 May - 03 Jun	£2,690	03 Sep - 16 Sep	£2,790	08 Oct - 21 Oct	£2,790				
2017 DATES											
25 Feb - 10 Mar	£2,290	08 Apr - 21 Apr	£2,790	24 Jun - 07 Jul	£2,690	09 Sep - 22 Sep	£2,890	14 Oct - 27 Oct	£2,790		
11 Mar - 24 Mar	£2,490	22 Apr - 05 May	£2,790	22 Jul - 04 Aug	£3,090	16 Sep - 29 Sep	£2,890	28 Oct - 10 Nov	£2,590		
25 Mar - 07 Apr	£2,690	06 May - 19 May	£2,790	12 Aug - 25 Aug	£2,990	23 Sep - 06 Oct	£2,890	18 Nov - 01 Dec	£2,290		
01 Apr - 14 Apr	£2,790	20 May - 02 Jun	£2,790	02 Sep - 15 Sep	£2,890	07 Oct - 20 Oct	£2,890				



# MAJESTIC YANGTZE

Savour the natural grandeur of the Three Gorges on a relaxing Yangtze River Cruise – just one part of a wonderful tour that also includes China's enthralling cities of Shanghai, Xian, Beijing, and of course the unforgettable Giant Pandas of Chengdu.

**14 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,690**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,140 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £460
- Tipping paid locally US\$91



▲ YANGTZE RIVER



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ SHANGHAI



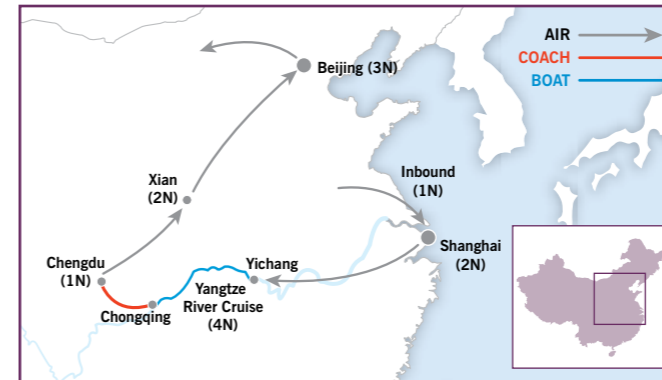
▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ GIANT PANDAS

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: JASON PENG**

*This is a breathtaking tour with many highlights, the spectacular Yangtze, the adorable pandas, the Terracotta Warriors and many more.*



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Four-night Yangtze cruise
- Giant Pandas in Chengdu
- The Terracotta Army
- The Great Wall

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Explore Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the peaceful Yu Gardens, the atmospheric alleys of the Old Town, and the fine arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum. Admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. Follow the age-old silk production process at the Silk Museum, from the cultivation of silkworms up to creating the final piece. There are also many gorgeous, handmade items for sale. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise. The skyscrapers and glimmering lights are a sight to behold, Shanghai is unlike any other city in the world. Later on you will sample some traditional cuisine.

**Day 4: Modern Pudong**  
Take the morning to see the sights of the ultramodern Pudong area of the city with its sci-fi skyscrapers before flying to Yichang to board the Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 5-7: Yangtze River Cruise**  
A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But as you cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 8: Historical Ciqikou**  
Disembarking the cruise vessel in Chongqing, explore old Ciqikou, a district known for its porcelain production during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Ciqikou's narrow streets are perfect for a morning stroll to admire the historical, traditional architecture. Transfer to Chengdu and visit the Shu Brocade Museum. This evening there will be a delicious Sichuan meal to enjoy.

**Day 9: Pandas**  
A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see and learn about China's celebrated bears up close in surroundings that mirror their

natural habitat. A look around the informative museum gives an overview of the reserve's breeding programme. You'll then fly to the former imperial capital of Xian. This evening a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing awaits.

**Day 10: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Later stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 11: Muslim Quarter**  
A fascinating morning includes a visit to the lovely Little Wild Goose Pagoda. Take time to walk through the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Later, fly to Beijing, China's capital city.

**Day 12: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Later, enjoy a Chinese acrobatic show.

**Day 13: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best

way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. In the afternoon, visit the Jade Museum then savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens and view the exquisite architecture. This evening, savour Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 14: Fly Beijing to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.



**STOPOVER IN... HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlies colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Monday returning Sunday**

2016 DATES													
10 Mar - 23 Mar*	£2,790	11 Apr - 24 Apr	£2,990	09 May - 22 May	£2,990	13 Jun - 26 Jun	£2,890	22 Aug - 04 Sep	£3,090	12 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,090	10 Oct - 23 Oct	£3,090
15 Mar - 28 Mar*	£2,890	18 Apr - 01 May	£2,990	16 May - 29 May	£2,990	18 Jul - 31 Jul	£3,290	29 Aug - 11 Sep	£3,090	14 Sep - 27 Sep*	£3,090	17 Oct - 30 Oct	£2,990
22 Mar - 04 Apr*	£2,990	25 Apr - 08 May	£2,990	23 May - 05 Jun	£2,990	01 Aug - 14 Aug	£3,290	31 Aug - 13 Sep*	£3,090	19 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,090	24 Oct - 06 Nov	£2,890
29 Mar - 11 Apr*	£2,990	02 May - 15 May	£2,990	30 May - 12 Jun	£2,990	08 Aug - 21 Aug	£3,290	05 Sep - 18 Sep	£3,090	26 Sep - 09 Oct	£3,090	31 Oct - 13 Nov	£2,790
06 Apr - 19 Apr*	£2,990	04 May - 17 May*	£2,990	06 Jun - 19 Jun	£2,890	15 Aug - 28 Aug	£3,190	07 Sep - 20 Sep*	£3,090	03 Oct - 16 Oct	£3,090	07 Nov - 20 Nov	£2,690
2017 DATES													
09 Mar - 22 Mar*	£2,790	10 Apr - 23 Apr	£3,090	10 May - 23 May*	£3,090	17 Jul - 30 Jul	£3,390	06 Sep - 19 Sep*	£3,190	09 Oct - 22 Oct	£3,190		
13 Mar - 26 Mar	£2,890	17 Apr - 30 Apr	£3,090	15 May - 28 May	£3,090	07 Aug - 20 Aug	£3,390	11 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,190	11 Oct - 24 Oct*	£3,190		
20 Mar - 02 Apr	£2,990	24 Apr - 07 May	£3,090	22 May - 04 Jun	£3,090	14 Aug - 27 Aug	£3,290	13 Sep - 26 Sep*	£3,190	16 Oct - 29 Oct	£3,090		
27 Mar - 09 Apr	£2,990	26 Apr - 09 May*	£3,090	29 May - 11 Jun	£3,090	21 Aug - 03 Sep	£3,190	18 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,190	23 Oct - 05 Nov	£2,990		
03 Apr - 16 Apr	£3,090	03 May - 16 May*	£3,090	05 Jun - 18 Jun	£2,990	28 Aug - 10 Sep	£3,190	25 Sep - 08 Oct	£3,190	30 Oct - 12 Nov	£2,890		
05 Apr - 18 Apr*	£3,090	08 May - 21 May	£3,090	19 Jun - 02 Jul	£2,990	04 Sep - 17 Sep	£3,190	04 Oct - 17 Oct*	£3,190	06 Nov - 19 Nov	£2,790		

\*Days of the week different from those stated.



# CHINA SPLENDOUR

Combine the wonders of the superb cities of Beijing, stylish Shanghai and ancient Xian, with the beauty of the Nine Villages Valley, a magnificent and delightfully undiscovered example of China's resplendent nature.

**14 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,990**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**



▲ NINE VILLAGES VALLEY

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,440 (Shanghai - Chengdu)
- Single room from £480
- Tipping paid locally US\$70



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ HUANGLONG POOLS



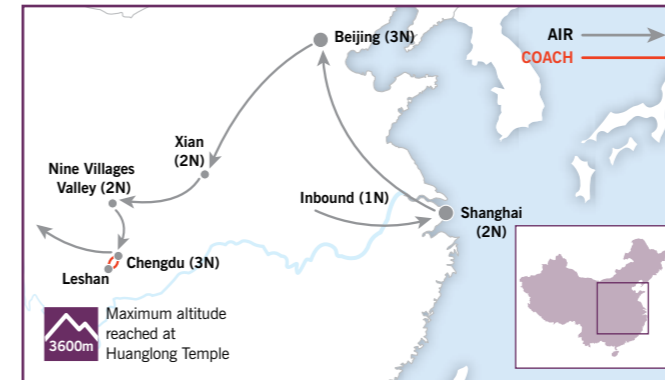
▲ SHANGHAI



▲ GRAND BUDDHA OF LESHAN

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: GARY GUO**

*I love introducing clients to one of my favourite places, the Nine Villages Valley. It's best known for its blue and green lakes, huge mountains and unique wildlife.*



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cosmopolitan Shanghai
- Pandas, the Wall and Warriors
- Spectacular Nine Villages Valley
- Leshan Grand Buddha

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Discover Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Explore the fine arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum, visit the Yu Gardens and admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. Follow the age-old silk production process at the Silk Museum, from the cultivation of silkworms up to creating the final piece. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise and enjoy a delicious meal of traditional Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 4: Temple of Heaven**  
Fly to Beijing, China's fascinating capital. Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. This evening savour Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 5: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City – a monument to China's dynastic past. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find

a complex full of imperial riches. An evening of Chinese acrobatics rounds off the day.

**Day 6: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. An astounding feat of construction, there is no better way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall and the dramatic scenery that it crosses than a fascinating walk along it. Visit the Jade Museum then relax in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you explore traditional Chinese gardens and view exquisite architecture.

**Day 7: Ancient Xian**  
Fly to Xian, historic former capital and visit the lovely Little Wild Goose Pagoda and admire the priceless treasures of the Shaanxi Museum. Tonight feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 8: The Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-like warriors. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and choose to purchase your own little warrior to take home. Later stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town, and soak up the atmosphere in the narrow alleyways of the Muslim Quarter.

**Days 9-10: Nine Villages Valley**  
Fly to Nine Villages Valley. A national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes, abundant forests and rushing waterfalls, the



▲ GIANT PANDAS

Nine Villages Valley (Jiuzhaigou National Park) is considered one of China's most beautiful areas. Named after the nine typical Tibetan settlements scattered throughout the valley, the park is a World Biosphere Reserve, full of endemic flora and 140 species of birds. Whilst the scenery transforms with the seasons it is always spectacular and you will spend time in the depths of it, revelling in your arresting surroundings.

**Day 11: Huanglong Pools**  
Hundreds of vivid pools in striking colours, formed by thousands of years of mineral deposits, tumble gently down through the bright green forests of the Huanglong Valley. The whole area is studded with waterfalls and, as it is relatively undiscovered, is a pleasure to explore. There is an option to take the chair lift up to Huanglong Temple at the head of the valley for excellent views over the whole valley. Later, fly to Chengdu.

**Day 12: Pandas**  
Visit Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre where you can get up close to China's celebrated bears, as they chomp through piles of bamboo, in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Dine on Sichuan cuisine this evening.

**Day 13: Leshan Grand Buddha**  
Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha which, at 71 metres, is the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist monument and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. View the Buddha up close from the adjoining park, then a short boat trip on the river will give even better views of the statue.

**Day 14: Fly Chengdu to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**ABU DHABI**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £190PP

A modern desert metropolis it may be, but Abu Dhabi has retained a distinctive Arabic charm on its attractive streets and whilst thoroughly cosmopolitan, it is a palpably more relaxed city than neighbouring Dubai.

See page 118.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Tuesday**

2016 DATES			2017 DATES		
04 May - 17 May	£2,990	14 Sep - 27 Sep	£3,190	05 Oct - 18 Oct	£3,190
				10 May - 23 May	£3,190
				13 Sep - 26 Sep	£3,290
				11 Oct - 24 Oct	£3,290



NEW

# YUNNAN & SICHUAN

As two of the most fascinating, diverse and colourful provinces in China, Yunnan and Sichuan are a cornucopia of wonders, from the lofty peaks of Jade Dragon Snow Mountain to the colourful calcite pools of Huanglong, to the lovable nature of the Giant Panda.

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £2,990

FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

MODERATE PACE

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,440 (Kunming - Chengdu)
- Single room from £380
- Tipping paid locally US\$74



▲ HUANGLONG POOLS



▲ OLD TOWN, LIJIANG



▲ THREE PAGODAS, DALI



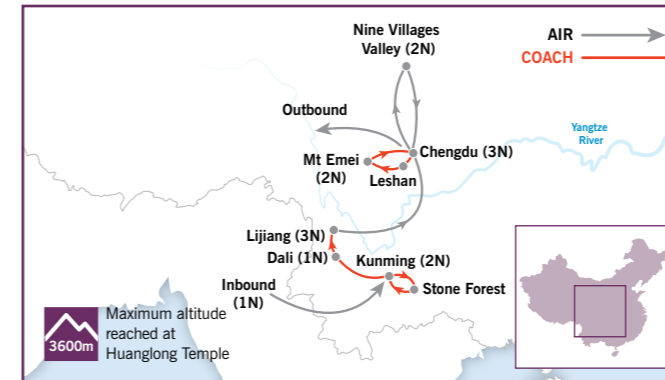
▲ GIANT PANDA



▲ JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: EILEEN LIU**

This is a great tour if you want to see the best highlights of China's most fascinating regions: Yunnan and Sichuan.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Ancient Lijiang
- Tiger Leaping Gorge
- Grand Buddha and Mount Emei
- Spectacular Nine Villages Valley

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Arrive in Kunming**  
Fly to the relaxed city of Kunming. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Stone Forest**  
Meander through the formations of the UNESCO-listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand treelike in a fascinating illusion of woodland. Return to Kunming where you can sample the local delicacy, Across the Bridge Noodles, for dinner.

**Day 4: Discover Dali**  
Transfer to Dali, a charming town that offers a peek at the China of times-gone-by. Begin your touring in the local atmosphere of the fascinating old quarter and lively market. Next visit the age-old Three Pagodas and cruise on Erhai Lake. Later this evening, take a stroll down Foreigners' Street.

**Day 5: Explore Lijiang**  
Pop over to Xizhou village to browse in the local market. Drive to Lijiang set in the foothills of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. The quintessential Chinese 'old town', Lijiang's old quarter is a jumble of cobbled streets, precarious wooden buildings and rustic stone bridges- in short, a delightful place to aimlessly wander. Visit the Black Dragon Pool, where there are wonderful views of the mountains, before

mingling with traditionally dressed Naxi women in the bustling backstreet markets.

**Day 6: Jade Dragon Snow Mountain**  
A magnificent mountain massif, the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain incorporates several peaks, the tallest of which soars 5,500 metres. Taking a chairlift, explore one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. On the way back to Lijiang, admire the fascinating Ming Dynasty frescoes at Baisha and visit the Mu Family Embroidery School.

**Day 7: Tiger Leaping Gorge**  
Over 3,000 metres deep, Tiger Leaping Gorge, with its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is one of China's most extraordinary sights. The whole area is spectacular – prepare for breathtaking views. Return to Lijiang.

**Day 8: Chengdu**  
Fly to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province and home of the Giant Panda. In Chengdu, take a wander through People's Park to see Match Makers Corner and have tea in a traditional tea house.

**Day 9: Leshan Grand Buddha**  
Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha. The 71 metre Buddha is carved into a hillside overlooking the confluence of the Dadu and Min Rivers. Completed in the year 803, it is said that the Buddha's presence has calmed the turbulent waters of the river. A short boat trip will give you an even better perspective. Continue to Mount Emei.

**Day 10: Mount Emei**  
Mount Emei is the cradle of the Buddhist religion in China with

the first temple built here, on its peak, in the 1st century. Pilgrims and tourists mix amongst the lush vegetation and inconspicuous old temples, all admiring the striking and diverse natural beauty of the mountain and its setting. Spend the day soaking up the ambience and exploring. If the weather is right the summit offers extraordinary views over the river below.

- Day 11: Nine Villages Valley**  
Transfer to Chengdu for your flight to Nine Villages Valley (Jiuzhaigou National Park).
- Day 12: Nine Villages Valley**  
A national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes, abundant forests and rushing waterfalls, Nine Villages Valley is considered one of China's most beautiful areas. Named after the nine typical Tibetan settlements scattered through the valley, the park is a World Biosphere Reserve, full of endemic flora and 140 species of birds. Whilst the scenery transforms with the seasons it is always spectacular and you will spend time in the depths of it, revelling in your arresting surroundings.
- Day 13: Huanglong Pools**  
Hundreds of vivid pools in striking colours, formed by thousands of years of mineral deposit, tumble gently down through the bright green forests of the Huanglong Valley. The whole area is studded with waterfalls and, as it is relatively undiscovered, is a pleasure to explore. Visit Huanglong Temple before your flight to Chengdu.
- Day 14: Pandas**  
A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see and learn about China's celebrated icons. See them up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat as they chomp through piles of bamboo. A look around the informative museum gives an overview of the reserve's breeding programme. This afternoon visit Wuhou Temple, dedicated to Zhuge Liang, and Jinli Street, a lively road lined with antique shops and restaurants. This evening dine on mouth-watering Sichuan cuisine.

**Day 15: Fly Chengdu to UK**  
Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
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- Want to travel on a different date?
  - Looking for something a little more personal?
  - Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?
- Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £240pp

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.



▲ GRAND BUDDHA OF LESHAN

**DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Saturday**

2016 DATES						
07 May - 21 May	£2,990	03 Sep - 17 Sep	£3,190	08 Oct - 22 Oct	£3,190	
2017 DATES						
08 Apr - 22 Apr	£3,290	06 May - 20 May	£3,290	02 Sep - 16 Sep	£3,490	07 Oct - 21 Oct £3,490



# CHINA & TIBET DISCOVERY

Journey to the roof of the world to uncover the mysteries of Tibet in the incredible city of Lhasa whilst enjoying the very best cultural, historical and natural treasures that China has to offer – from the Great Wall and Terracotta Army to the Yangtze River.

**16 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,490**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
  - Domestic transportation
  - Accommodation
  - All meals
  - Touring with guides and entrance fees
  - Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders
- Tibet permit conditions are subject to change*

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,940 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £540
- Tipping paid locally US\$99

▲ POTALA PALACE, LHASA



▲ GIANT PANDAS



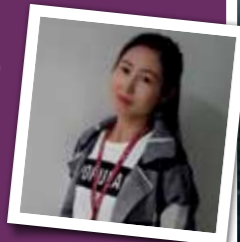
▲ ANCIENT CITY WALL, XIAN



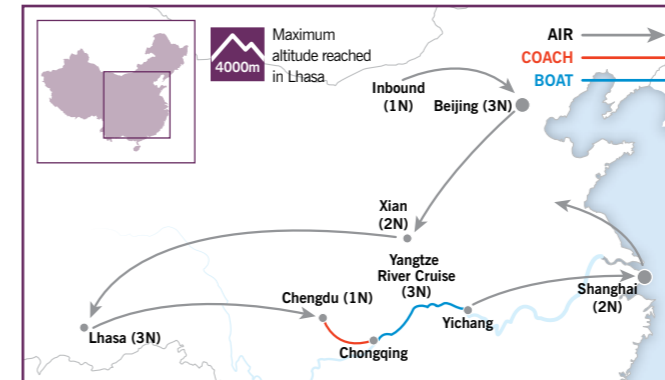
▲ JOKHANG TEMPLE

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: HEBE ZHAO**

*This is a spectacular trip to the Himalayan province of Tibet. On this tour you will get a chance to explore unique Tibetan culture and tradition.*



▲ YANGTZE RIVER



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Great Wall and Terracotta Warriors
- Mystical Tibet
- Giant Pandas in Chengdu
- Three-night Yangtze cruise

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Later soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 4: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. Visit the Jade Museum then savour an afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens and see the exquisite architecture.

**Day 5: Muslim Quarter**  
Fly to Xian, the ancient former capital. Visit the Muslim Quarter and enjoy a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 6: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and visit the workshop where the warriors are intricately recreated. Stroll along the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 7: Mystical Lhasa**  
Fly to the city of Lhasa, the heart and soul of Tibet. You'll immediately notice the difference from the bustling streets of urban China. This afternoon is at leisure to help acclimatise to the altitude.

**Day 8: Jokhang Temple and the Barkhor Circuit**  
Lhasa is a quickly growing modern city, but among the narrow, old streets you'll feel a million miles from the stresses and strains of the modern world. Wander around the Barkhor Circuit to see traditionally dressed locals, stalls of religious trinkets and prostrating pilgrims. Inside the Jokhang Temple, the sacred centre of Tibetan Buddhism, the devotion is palpable as queues of people worship in the flickering light of yak butter candles. There will also be a visit to Sera Monastery, a renowned seat of Buddhist learning.

**Day 9: Potala Palace**  
The Potala Palace is an architectural wonder towering over the city from its seat on Marpo Ri (Red Mountain). The Potala, the winter palace of the Dalai Lama, houses thousands of rooms filled with old treasures from intricate shrines to beautiful frescoes. This afternoon, explore Norbulingka, the summer residence of the Dalai Lama, set in parkland just outside the city. We'll then visit a local Tibetan arts and crafts shop. Enjoy a traditional Tibetan dinner and dance performance in the evening.

**Day 10: Jinli Street**  
Fly to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province, where, after a tour of Jinli Street, there will be a delicious Sichuan meal to savour.

**Day 11: Pandas**  
A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see and learn about China's celebrated icons up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Visit the Shu Brocade and Embroidery Museum for a close up view of the skills necessary to create these beautiful, traditional items. There will also be an opportunity to buy a unique, handmade piece. Travel to Chongqing to board your Yangtze River cruise.

**Days 12-13: Yangtze River Cruise**  
Over the next two days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another as you savour the spectacular scenery of the Three Gorges. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess Stream or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 14: Three Gorges Dam**  
A man-made marvel, touring the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. Disembark your cruise in Yichang and fly to Shanghai.

**Day 15: Discover Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the peaceful

Yu Gardens, the Silk Museum, the atmospheric alleys of the old town and the fine arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum. Admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the historical, waterfront Bund. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise. Also sample some traditional Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 16: Fly Shanghai to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
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- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG & MACAU 4 NIGHTS FROM £490pp**

Combine the lively and sophisticated city of Hong Kong with glittering Macau, a former Portuguese colony, where Mediterranean influences and Las Vegas-esque glitz collide.

See page 117. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Saturday**

2016 DATES											
08 Apr - 23 Apr	£3,490	13 May - 28 May	£3,490	27 May - 11 Jun	£3,490	02 Sep - 17 Sep	£3,590	16 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,590	07 Oct - 22 Oct	£3,590
2017 DATES											
07 Apr - 22 Apr	£3,690	12 May - 27 May	£3,690	26 May - 10 Jun	£3,690	01 Sep - 16 Sep	£3,790	15 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,790	06 Oct - 21 Oct	£3,790



# WONDERS OF CHINA

China is a land of many wonders – both ancient and modern, natural and man-made. This hugely popular tour is a comprehensive journey through China's most iconic sights from the magnificent Great Wall to the mighty Yangtze River.

**16 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,890**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,340 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £490
- Tipping paid locally US\$99



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ YU GARDENS



▲ FORBIDDEN CITY



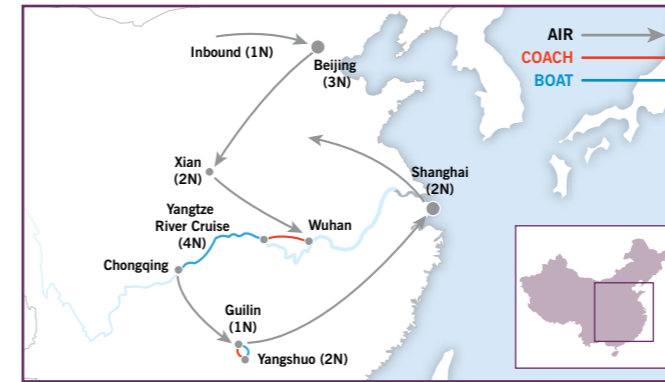
▲ CORMORANT FISHERMAN

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: EDDISON SUN**

Almost all China's great wonders are included in this tour – The Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors, the Yangtze and Li Rivers and the modern city of Shanghai.



▲ YANGSHUO



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Great Wall
- The Terracotta Warriors
- The Li and Yangtze Rivers
- Vibrant Shanghai

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Enjoy a rickshaw ride through the warren-like hutongs, and visit a local family to gain a deeper insight into Chinese culture and local customs. Later, soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate, in a dance class. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

**Day 4: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best

way to appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Savour an afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you see the traditional Chinese gardens and exquisite architecture.

**Day 5: Muslim Quarter**  
Fly to Xian and stroll around the Muslim Quarter. Enjoy a dumpling feast and Tang Dynasty dancing show.

**Day 6: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors. Stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 7: Wuhan**  
Fly to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board the Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 8-10: Yangtze River Cruise**  
A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But

as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 11: Guilin**  
Disembarking from the cruise vessel, visit the Panda House at Chongqing Zoo. Fly to Guilin, and visit the Reed Flute Cave and Pearl Museum.

**Day 12: Li River Cruise**  
Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

**Day 13: Yangshuo**  
Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by landscapes of jewel-green paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before having an afternoon at leisure. There are many activities available including cycling, rafting and walking though you may prefer to relax in the town. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 14: Explore Shanghai**  
Return to Guilin and fly to the exuberant city of Shanghai. Spend the afternoon admiring the fine arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum and strolling around People's Square. This evening visit Matchmakers' Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children and afterwards view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 15: Discover Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the peaceful Yu Gardens the Silk Museum; and the atmospheric alleys of the Old Town. Admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening enjoy some tasty, traditional Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 16: Fly Shanghai to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
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- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**ABU DHABI**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £190PP

A modern desert metropolis it may be, but Abu Dhabi has retained a distinctive Arabic charm on its attractive streets and whilst thorough cosmopolitan, it is a palpably more relaxed city than neighbouring Dubai.

See page 118.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Monday**

2016 DATES													
07 Mar - 22 Mar*	£2,890	14 Apr - 29 Apr*	£3,190	12 May - 27 May*	£3,190	12 Jun - 27 Jun	£3,090	28 Aug - 12 Sep	£3,290	18 Sep - 03 Oct	£3,290	23 Oct - 07 Nov	£3,090
13 Mar - 28 Mar	£2,990	17 Apr - 02 May	£3,190	15 May - 30 May	£3,190	19 Jun - 04 Jul	£3,090	01 Sep - 16 Sep*	£3,290	22 Sep - 07 Oct*	£3,290	30 Oct - 14 Nov	£2,990
20 Mar - 04 Apr	£3,090	21 Apr - 06 May*	£3,190	19 May - 03 Jun*	£3,190	03 Jul - 18 Jul	£3,090	04 Sep - 19 Sep	£3,290	25 Sep - 10 Oct	£3,290	06 Nov - 21 Nov	£2,890
27 Mar - 11 Apr	£3,190	24 Apr - 09 May	£3,190	22 May - 06 Jun	£3,190	17 Jul - 01 Aug	£3,490	08 Sep - 23 Sep*	£3,290	06 Oct - 21 Oct*	£3,290		
03 Apr - 18 Apr	£3,190	05 May - 20 May*	£3,190	29 May - 13 Jun	£3,190	31 Jul - 15 Aug	£3,490	11 Sep - 26 Sep	£3,290	09 Oct - 24 Oct	£3,290		
10 Apr - 25 Apr	£3,190	08 May - 23 May	£3,190	05 Jun - 20 Jun	£3,190	14 Aug - 29 Aug	£3,390	15 Sep - 30 Sep*	£3,290	16 Oct - 31 Oct	£3,190		
2017 DATES													
06 Mar - 21 Mar*	£2,990	13 Apr - 28 Apr*	£3,290	11 May - 26 May*	£3,290	11 Jun - 26 Jun	£3,190	20 Aug - 04 Sep	£3,490	14 Sep - 29 Sep*	£3,390	12 Oct - 27 Oct*	£3,390
12 Mar - 27 Mar	£3,090	16 Apr - 01 May	£3,290	14 May - 29 May	£3,290	18 Jun - 03 Jul	£3,190	27 Aug - 11 Sep	£3,390	17 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,390	15 Oct - 30 Oct	£3,290
19 Mar - 03 Apr	£3,190	20 Apr - 05 May*	£3,290	18 May - 02 Jun*	£3,290	25 Jun - 10 Jul	£3,190	31 Aug - 15 Sep*	£3,390	21 Sep - 06 Oct*	£3,390	22 Oct - 06 Nov	£3,190
26 Mar - 10 Apr	£3,190	23 Apr - 08 May	£3,290	21 May - 05 Jun	£3,290	09 Jul - 24 Jul	£3,590	03 Sep - 18 Sep	£3,390	24 Sep - 09 Oct	£3,390	29 Oct - 13 Nov	£3,090
02 Apr - 17 Apr	£3,290	04 May - 19 May*	£3,290	28 May - 12 Jun	£3,290	23 Jul - 07 Aug	£3,590	07 Sep - 22 Sep*	£3,390	05 Oct - 20 Oct*	£3,390	05 Nov - 20 Nov	£2,990
09 Apr - 24 Apr	£3,290	07 May - 22 May	£3,290	04 Jun - 19 Jun	£3,290	06 Aug - 21 Aug	£3,590	10 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,390	08 Oct - 23 Oct	£3,390		

\*Days of the week different from those stated.





# ANCIENT CHINA

With thousands of years of fascinatingly diverse history, China is one of the world's oldest and most monumental civilisations. Encounter millennia-old culture and religion with visits to some of China's greatest and most intriguing ancient sights.

**18 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,790**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,240 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £440
- Tipping paid locally US\$85



▲ SHAOLIN TEMPLE

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: GARRY WU**

With this tour, travel back in time and witness China's dynastical history and ancient wonders, also travel to the birthplace of Chinese martial art.



▲ LONGMEN GROTTOES, LUOYANG



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ PINGYAO



▲ HANGING TEMPLE, DATONG



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Great Wall and Warriors
- The Hanging Temple
- Buddhism at Wutaishan
- Charming old Pingyao

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Arrive in Beijing, China's fascinating capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you will find a complex full of imperial treasures. Take a rickshaw ride through the charming hutongs and visit with a local family to learn more about living in this traditional area. In the evening sit down to enjoy the local delicacy, Peking duck, followed by a performance of the Beijing Opera.

**Day 4: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate its sheer magnificence. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Savour the idyllic Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens and see the exquisite architecture.

**Day 5: Temple of Heaven**  
Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. Drift your way through Panjiayuan, Beijing's most extensive arts, crafts and antiques market.

**Day 6: Historical Datong**  
Travel by train to Datong, watching the rural splendour of China pass by your window. Arrive in time for a local dinner in this fascinating city.

**Day 7: The Hanging Temple**  
Grottoes carved from sandstone cliffs in the 5th and 6th centuries, Yungang Caves are replete with intricate Buddhist imagery. The 1,400 year old, gravity-defying Hanging Temple seemingly floats 50 metres up the face of Jinxia Gorge. Travel on to Wutaishan.

**Day 8: Wutaishan**  
One of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains, Wutaishan (Five Terraced Mountain), is a place of scenic magnificence. In Wutaishan's shadow an alpine valley shelters many important monasteries, temples and sculptures, some stretching back over 1,000 years. Continue to Taiyuan and visit the Twin Pagoda Temple dating from the Ming Dynasty.

**Day 9: Taiyuan and Pingyao**  
Enjoy the beauty and tranquillity of Jinci Temple. Travel to Pingyao and visit the Shuanglin Temple, home to 2,000 colourful sculptures from the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties.

**Day 10: Pingyao**  
The characterful old town of Pingyao is considered the best

ancient walled town in the country. Stroll along the cobbled streets to view the Zhou Dynasty (827-728BC) city walls and the Rishengchang Financial House Museum. There will also be time to see the Yamen, a former government building from the Qing Dynasty before taking the bullet train to the former imperial capital of Xian.

**Day 11: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of these life-size warriors. Visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition, then stroll on the ancient City Walls. This evening enjoy a delicious feast of Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 12: Discover Xian**  
Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda before admiring the thousands of fascinating relics at the Shaanxi Museum. There will also be time to explore the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter.

**Day 13: Luoyang**  
Board a bullet train from Xian to Luoyang, a city that was the capital for more than 13 dynasties. This afternoon visit the Longmen Grottoes which house tens of thousands of age-old statues and sculptures depicting Buddha and his disciples carved from the limestone cliffs of Xiangshan and Longmenshan.

**Day 14: Shaolin Temple**  
Travel to the famous Shaolin Temple, best known for its association with martial arts, and walk through the Pagoda Forest, a collection of 228 pagodas of various styles built from the Tang through to the Qing dynasties. Witness a Kung Fu demonstration by the famous Shaolin Monks. Continue to Zhengzhou.

**Day 15: Yellow River**  
Learn about the river basin called 'the birthplace of Chinese civilisation' at Zhengzhou's Yellow River Museum before heading to a lookout for panoramic views over the river itself. Fly to Shanghai.

**Day 16: Cosmopolitan Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, east and west colliding on streets lined with skyscrapers and old temples. Visit the peaceful Yu Gardens, the atmospheric old town and the excellent collections of the Shanghai Museum before admiring the colonial architecture on the Bund. In the evening take your seats for a fascinating Chinese acrobatic show.

**Day 17: Shanghai river cruise**  
Wander through the Xintiandi area to admire the 1920s architectural styling. This evening, view the city from the Huangpu River on a scenic cruise. Taste the delicious, traditional Shanghai cuisine for dinner.

**Day 18: Fly Shanghai to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
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- Want to travel on a different date?
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Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**DOHA**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £340PP

Doha, the newest metropolitan player on the Persian Gulf, is a city on the verge of greatness. Perhaps more conservative than Abu Dhabi and Dubai but its exotic skyline, atmospheric souqs and pristine malls can rival both.

See page 119.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Monday returning Thursday**

2016 DATES													
04 Apr - 21 Apr	£2,790	28 Apr - 15 May*	£2,790	09 May - 26 May	£2,790	23 May - 09 Jun	£2,790	05 Sep - 22 Sep	£2,890	19 Sep - 06 Oct	£2,890	08 Oct - 25 Oct*	£2,890
2017 DATES													
03 Apr - 20 Apr	£2,890	24 Apr - 11 May	£2,890	08 May - 25 May	£2,890	22 May - 08 Jun	£2,890	04 Sep - 21 Sep	£2,990	18 Sep - 05 Oct	£2,990	09 Oct - 26 Oct	£2,990

\* Days of the week different to those stated.



# GRAND YANGTZE

Following a course carved from the landscape over millions of years, the Yangtze runs through a wealth of spectacular scenery. From dramatic gorges and pastoral panoramas to man-made wonders and imperial cities, enjoy it all at a relaxed pace on board your cruise ship.

**18 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,290**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

▲ YANGTZE RIVER

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,710 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £990
- Tipping paid locally US\$132



▲ GIANT PANDAS



▲ SHANGHAI



▲ NANJING

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: SUMMER XIA**

Explore the natural beauty along the Yangtze River. On board, feel like you are wandering through a traditional Chinese ink painting.



▲ WUHAN



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Eight-night Yangtze cruise
- Cosmopolitan Shanghai
- Pandas in Chengdu
- Great Wall and Warriors

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Explore Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the peaceful Yu Gardens; the Silk Museum, the atmospheric alleys of the old town; and the fine arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum. Admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 4: Yangtze River Cruise**  
Board the Victoria Cruises Yangtze ship to begin an eight-night cruise to Chongqing.

**Day 5: Nanjing**  
Half day excursion to historical Nanjing, China's capital under six dynasties. Visit the mausoleum of Dr Sun Yat Sen, set majestically on the slopes of Mount Zijin.

**Day 6: Mt Jiuhua**  
One of the four sacred mountains of Chinese Buddhism, Mt Jiuhua is a beautiful and tranquil place dotted with age-old temples,

waterfalls and pine trees. Follow one of many winding paths to find the most scenic spots.

**Day 7: Wuhan**  
Take a shore excursion to the characterful city of Wuhan, the capital of Hubei province, and home to the Hubei Provincial Museum.

**Day 8: Cruising the Yangtze**  
Spend the day soaking up the sights and sounds of the river.

**Day 9: Three Gorges Dam**  
Sailing through the Gezhou Dam close to Yichang, we begin the approach to the Three Gorges Dam. There will be time to visit the viewing area to truly appreciate the scale of this hydroelectric project. Continuing upstream, passing through the Xiling Gorge, our boat must negotiate the five-tiered Three Gorges Dam ship lock!

**Day 10: Wu and Qutang Gorges**  
Prepare for breathtaking vistas as the ship passes through Wu and Qutang gorges. Switching to smaller vessels take a relaxing trip into the attractive gorges of the Goddess or Shennong streams.

**Day 11: Fengdu Ghost City**  
Explore the captivating temples of Fengdu and come face to face with statues of ghosts and devils on Mingshan Hill or visit the splendid Shibaozhai pavilion.

**Day 12: Ancient Ciqikou**  
Disembark in Chongqing and visit the ancient district of Ciqikou before transferring to Chengdu. This evening, there will be a delicious Sichuan meal to enjoy.

**Day 13: Pandas**  
A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see, and learn about, China's celebrated icons up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Visit the Shu Brocade Museum then fly to Xian, the ancient former capital where, this evening, there will be a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 14: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of these life-sized warriors. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and choose your own warrior to take home. This afternoon stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 15: Explore Xian, fly to Beijing**  
A relaxed morning includes time to walk through the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Later, fly to Beijing, China's capital city.

**Day 16: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Later soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 17: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself

and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. In the afternoon visit the Jade Museum, then savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens and view the exquisite architecture. This evening, savour Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 18: Fly Beijing to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
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**STOPOVER IN...**



**ABU DHABI**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £190pp

A modern desert metropolis it may be, but Abu Dhabi has retained a distinctive Arabic charm on its attractive streets and whilst thoroughly cosmopolitan, it is a palpably more relaxed city than neighbouring Dubai.

See page 118.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Tuesday returning Friday

2016 DATES							
12 Apr - 29 Apr	£3,390	10 May - 27 May	£3,390	06 Sep - 23 Sep	£3,490	04 Oct - 21 Oct	£3,490
26 Apr - 13 May	£3,390	24 May - 10 Jun	£3,290	20 Sep - 07 Oct	£3,490	18 Oct - 04 Nov	£3,290
2017 DATES							
11 Apr - 28 Apr	£3,590	09 May - 26 May	£3,590	05 Sep - 22 Sep	£3,690	03 Oct - 20 Oct	£3,690
25 Apr - 12 May	£3,590	23 May - 09 Jun	£3,490	19 Sep - 06 Oct	£3,690	17 Oct - 03 Nov	£3,490



# CHINA DELIGHTS

From international Shanghai and the pandas of Chengdu to the imperial highlights of Beijing and all the dramatic landscapes in between, relish the historical, cultural and natural delights of China on this comprehensive trip.

**18 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,490**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**



▲ GRAND CANAL, SUZHOU

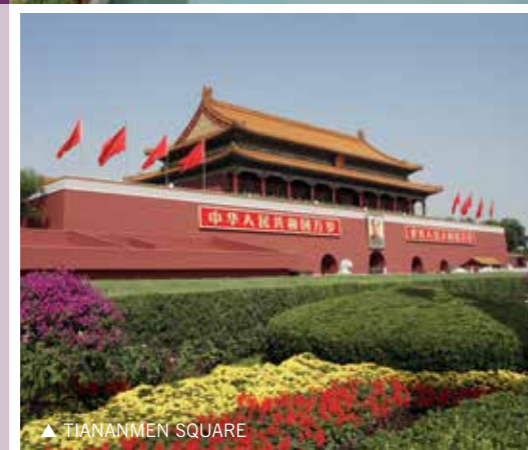
**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

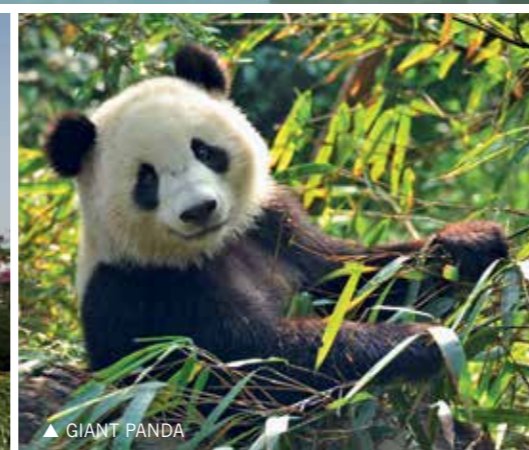
**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,940 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £390
- Tipping paid locally US\$90



▲ TIANANMEN SQUARE



▲ GIANT PANDA



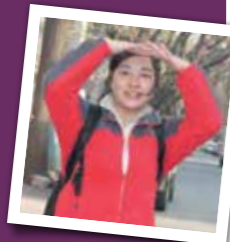
▲ LI RIVER



▲ WEST LAKE, HANGZHOU

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: EILEEN LIU**

As the name of the tour suggests, this journey is delightful and a truly splendid experience. Sample all aspects of China.



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ultramodern Shanghai**
- **Suzhou and Hangzhou Garden cities**
- **Li River Cruise**
- **Pandas, Warriors and the Wall**

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai, called 'the Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Days 3-4: Explore Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th century temples. Visit the peaceful Yu Gardens and atmospheric old town before admiring the colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. Round off the day with a delicious meal of traditional Shanghai cuisine. The next day explore ultramodern Pudong and the arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum. Later visit Matchmaker's Corner in People's Square where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 5: Historic Suzhou**  
Suzhou's centre has managed to retain a sense of quaint charm even as the city has grown up around it. Renowned for its gardens, visit one of its finest, the Humble Administrator's Garden, typical of the Chinese appreciation of balance and harmony. There will also be a visit to a local silk mill.

**Day 6: Grand Canal and Wuzhen**  
Cruise on the thousand-year-old Grand Canal. Transfer to the water town of Wuzhen – a charming place of old-world timber buildings, cobbled streets and narrow waterways; it is an easy place to while away the day. Transfer to the city of Hangzhou.

**Day 7: Spiritual Hangzhou**  
A restful morning is spent wandering around the Temple of Inspired Seclusion, one of China's most renowned Buddhist temples. Visit the Six Harmonies Pagoda before cruising on Hangzhou's West Lake and admiring the gardens, pagodas and old bridges on its shores.

**Day 8: Lush Tea Plantations**  
Browse the bustling local markets and visit the plantations of Meijiawu to learn the tea-making process, from bush to brew. Enjoy a cup of organic green tea and decide which of the locally produced teas you might like to purchase. Fly to the attractive city of Guilin.

**Day 9: Li River Cruise**  
Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

**Day 10: Yangshuo**  
Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by landscapes of paddy fields and limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before an afternoon at leisure. There are many activities available including cycling,

rafting and walking. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 11: Chengdu**  
Return to Guilin visiting Reed Flute Cave to admire the colourful stalagmites and stalactites. Visit the Pearl Museum, then fly to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province.

**Day 12: Grand Buddha of Leshan**  
Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha which, at 71 metres, is the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist monument. Get a bird's eye view of the Buddha from the adjacent park, then a short boat trip will give excellent views from the river. Sample a delicious Sichuan meal this evening.

**Day 13: Giant Pandas**  
Visit Chengdu's famous reserve to see and learn about China's celebrated bears up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Fly to Xian, the ancient former capital. This evening sit down to a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 14: Terracotta Warriors**  
Visit the Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang. The warriors have intrigued visitors ever since their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s – spend the morning viewing their enigmatic ranks. Next visit a local kindergarten to see the differences between western and Chinese primary education systems and later stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

**Day 15: Bullet Train to Beijing**  
Take a fascinating morning visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. Board a bullet train to Beijing, the capital of China.

**Day 16: Imperial Beijing**  
Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, cross Tiananmen Square and head into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City – a complex full of imperial

treasures. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 17: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. Later on you'll visit the Jade Museum. Take some time in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace before dining on Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

**Day 18: Fly Beijing to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



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  - Looking for something a little more personal?
  - Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?
- Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM **£240PP**

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Monday returning Thursday

2016 DATES									
11 Apr - 28 Apr	£2,990	23 May - 09 Jun	£2,990	05 Sep - 22 Sep	£3,090	03 Oct - 20 Oct	£3,090	14 Nov - 01 Dec	£2,490
02 May - 19 May	£2,990	01 Aug - 18 Aug	£3,290	19 Sep - 06 Oct	£3,090	17 Oct - 03 Nov	£2,890		
2017 DATES									
10 Apr - 27 Apr	£3,190	22 May - 08 Jun	£3,190	04 Sep - 21 Sep	£3,290	09 Oct - 26 Oct	£3,290	13 Nov - 30 Nov	£2,690
08 May - 25 May	£3,190	07 Aug - 24 Aug	£3,490	18 Sep - 05 Oct	£3,290	23 Oct - 09 Nov	£2,990		



# CITIES OF THE ORIENT

Embark on a comprehensive journey through the great cities of China – Shanghai, Beijing, Xian and Hong Kong, interspersed with unmissable sights that encompass ancient treasures, natural wonders and tranquil landscapes.

**20 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,590**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

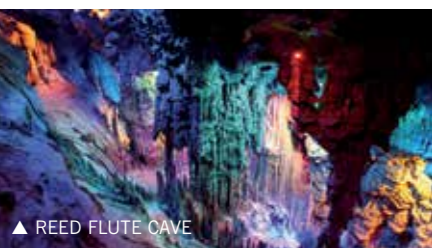
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals (excluding Hong Kong)
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

Please note that to allow you the greatest degree of flexibility for your time in Hong Kong not all meals have been included.

**Flight and supplement information**

Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,190 (Shanghai - Hong Kong)
- Single room from £740
- Tipping paid locally US\$99 & HKD280



▲ REED FLUTE CAVE

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: LILY GAO**

The cruise down the Li River through the magnificent limestone hills to the scenic town of Yangshuo is a great contrast to the developed city of Shanghai.



▲ HONG KONG



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ GIANT BUDDHA, LANTAU



▲ YANGSHUO



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Cosmopolitan Shanghai
- Great Wall and Warriors
- The Yangtze and Li Rivers
- Illustrious Hong Kong

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai**  
Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Explore Shanghai**  
Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Visit the peaceful Yu Gardens, and the atmospheric alleys of the Old Town before admiring magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the famous Bund. Follow the age-old silk production process at the Silk Museum, from the cultivation of silkworms up to creating the final piece. There are also many gorgeous items for sale. This evening cruise on the Huangpu River, then sample some traditional Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 4: Peking duck dinner**  
Spend the morning admiring the arts and antiquities of the Shanghai Museum and walking around People's Square. Visit Matchmaker's Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children before flying to Beijing. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

**Day 5: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen

Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class.

**Day 6: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Savour an afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional gardens. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 7: Xian City Walls**  
Fly to Xian, the ancient former capital. Take a stroll on the 14th-century city wall before a delicious feast of Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 8: Terracotta Warriors**  
After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks. Later, explore the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter.

**Day 9: Wuhan**  
Fly to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board the Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 10-12: Yangtze River Cruise**  
A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess of Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 13: Reed Flute Cave**  
Disembark in Chongqing and visit the Panda House at Chongqing Zoo. Fly to the scenic city of Guilin and visit the colourful formations of Reed Flute Cave and the Pearl Museum.

**Day 14: Li River Cruise**  
Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

**Day 15: Yangshuo**  
Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by landscapes of paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before an afternoon at leisure. There are many activities available including cycling, rafting and walking if you wish. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 16: Colourful Hong Kong**  
Return to Guilin airport, then fly to Hong Kong. Metropolis and wilderness collide – a futuristic cityscape backed by green-cloaked hills and the blue of the South China Sea. Full of colonial heritage, Chinese character, and a varied and distinguished gastronomy this is a wonderful city to explore. The afternoon is yours to spend at leisure. (B)

**Day 17: Victoria Peak**  
Visit Victoria Peak for mesmerizing views over skyscrapers, bays and islands; and bustling Stanley Market. Discover Aberdeen Fishing Village, home to rows of old-fashioned junks and houseboats. (B)

**Day 18: Giant Buddha and Lantau Island**  
Take a ferry through Victoria Harbour to spend the day on the lovely island of Lantau. Explore Hong Kong's natural beauty in Cheung Sha Beach, Tai O fishing village and the Giant Buddha. A ride in the Ngong Ping 360° cable-car gives fantastic panoramas over the island's coastline. Enjoy dinner atop Victoria Peak. (B,D)

**Days 19-20: Fly to the UK**  
Tour the New Territories paying visits to Plover Cove Country Park and the Sam Mun Tsai Fishing Zone, the tranquil Yuen Yuen Institute, Luk Keng bird sanctuary and Tai Mo Shan Mountain to take in the wonderful views. The rest of the afternoon is free before your transfer to Hong Kong airport for your overnight flight back home. (B)



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

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- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**MACAU**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £290pp

Discover the former Portuguese colony of Macau, a glittering combination of Mediterranean and Asian influences, where conservative colonial heritage rubs shoulders with brash, Las Vegas-esque casinos.

See pages 116-117. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Tuesday returning Sunday**

2016 DATES									
15 Mar - 03 Apr	£3,590	03 May - 22 May	£3,590	31 May - 19 Jun	£3,590	13 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,790	01 Nov - 20 Nov	£3,690
12 Apr - 01 May	£3,690	17 May - 05 Jun	£3,590	06 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,790	04 Oct - 23 Oct	£3,890		
2017 DATES									
21 Mar - 09 Apr	£3,790	09 May - 28 May	£3,790	06 Jun - 25 Jun	£3,790	12 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,990	31 Oct - 19 Nov	£3,890
11 Apr - 30 Apr	£3,890	23 May - 11 Jun	£3,790	05 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,990	10 Oct - 29 Oct	£4,090		

# CLASSIC CHINA

Cruise along the Yangtze and Li Rivers and let the spectacular landscapes of Yunnan province take your breath away. Saunter the cobbled streets of old Lijiang, gaze on the magnificent Tiger Leaping Gorge and explore the Stone Forest on this diverse adventure.

**20 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,590**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

### Flight and supplement information

#### Based on London Heathrow departures

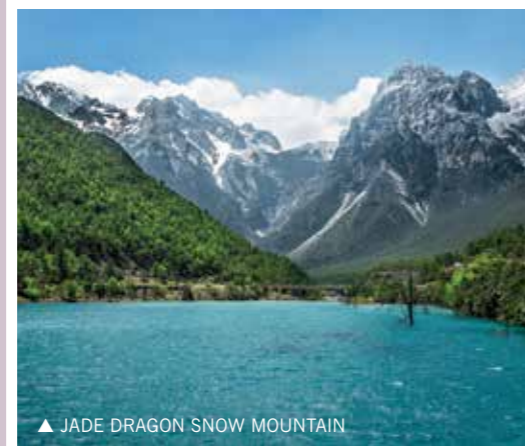
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,040 (Shanghai - Kunming)
- Single room from £720
- Tipping paid locally US\$109

### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: AMY ZHANG

All that you could associate China with is in this itinerary. You will receive a thorough exploration of China, both historically and culturally.



▲ SHANGHAI



▲ JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN



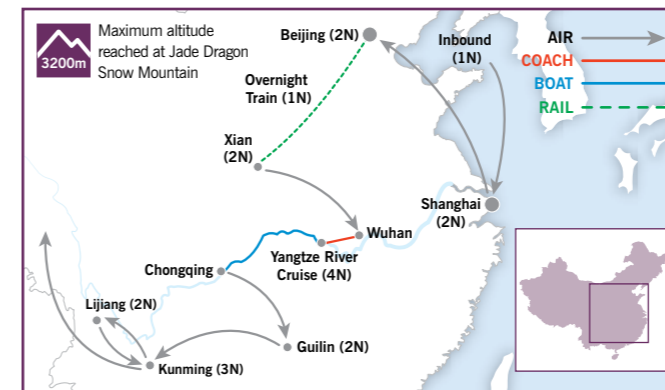
▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ GUILIN



▲ TIGER LEAPING GORGE



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Great Wall and Warriors
- Yangtze River Cruise
- Quaint Lijiang
- Tiger Leaping Gorge

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Shanghai

Fly overnight to the exuberant city of Shanghai. Depending on your time of arrival the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### Day 3: Explore Shanghai

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the peaceful Yu Gardens, the Silk Museum and the atmospheric alleys of the Old Town before admiring the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise before enjoying traditional Shanghai cuisine.

### Day 4: Peking duck dinner

This morning visit Matchmaker's Corner in People's Square where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. Fly to Beijing, China's capital city. This evening, savour Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck.

### Day 5: The Great Wall

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. At the Jade Museum you can understand and appreciate the delicate process of carving

the stone and buy a piece if you wish. Jade has been long cherished by the Chinese. Savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander amongst traditional Chinese gardens and see the exquisite architecture. Enjoy an evening Chinese acrobatic show.

### Day 6: Imperial Beijing

Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Finally, soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Board the overnight train to Xian, the ancient former capital.

### Day 7: Explore Xian

Arrive in Xian, visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. There will also be time to explore the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter, which are lined with Islamic food stalls, before a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing in the evening.

### Day 8: Terracotta Warriors

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of these life-like warriors. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Later, stroll on Xian's beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls.

### Day 9: Wuhan

Fly to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board the Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

### Days 10-12: Yangtze River Cruise

A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

### Day 13: Panda House

Disembark from the cruise vessel and visit the Panda House at Chongqing Zoo before flying to the scenic city of Guilin.

### Day 14: Li River Cruise

Take a relaxed cruise along Li River. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen. Return to Guilin.

### Days 15-16: The Stone Forest

Visit Reed Flute Cave to admire the colourful stalagmites and stalactites. The South China Pearl Museum covers the fascinating 1,700 year history of pearling in the South China Sea with displays and demonstrations. There are also beautiful pieces available to buy. Fly to Kunming and dine on the famous Across the Bridge Noodles. The next day, explore the fascinating formations of the picturesque Stone Forest.

### Day 17: Lijiang Ancient Town

Fly to Lijiang in Yunnan province. The quintessential Chinese 'old town', Lijiang's old quarter is a jumble of cobbled streets, precarious wooden buildings and rustic stone bridges – in short, a delightful place to aimlessly wander. There will also be a visit to Black Dragon Pool where there are wonderful views of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain massif.

### Day 18: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Over 3,000 metres deep, Tiger Leaping Gorge with its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is one

of China's most dramatic sights. The whole area is spectacular – prepare for breathtaking views. You will also visit a local embroidery school where young tribes-people learn vital skills and create handcrafts.

### Day 19: Jade Dragon Snow Mountain

A magnificent mountain massif, the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain incorporates several peaks, the tallest of which is 5,500 metres. Taking a chairlift, explore one of the beautiful high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. Fly back to Kunming.

### Day 20: Fly Kunming to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

### STOPOVER IN...



### HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240pp

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Monday

2016 DATES							
06 Apr - 25 Apr	£3,590	11 May - 30 May	£3,590	07 Sep - 26 Sep	£3,690	14 Sep - 03 Oct	£3,690
2017 DATES							
05 Apr - 24 Apr	£3,790	10 May - 29 May	£3,790	06 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,890	13 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,890



# MAGNIFICENT CHINA

China is home to a great number of magnificent and world-renowned sights. This tour incorporates them all – cruise along the mighty Yangtze and languid Li Rivers, visit the adorable pandas and admire the astonishing Great Wall and Terracotta Army.

**21 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,190**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,610 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £620
- Tipping paid locally US\$110



▲ ANCIENT CITY WALL, XIAN



▲ YANGSHUO



▲ GRAND BUDDHA, LESHAN



▲ TEMPLE OF HEAVEN



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: KEN WANG**

The small town of Ciqikou in Chongqing is an undiscovered wonder and a secret highlight of this comprehensive tour.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Pandas, the Wall and Warriors
- Yangtze and Li Rivers Cruise
- Leshan's Grand Buddha
- Splendid Suzhou

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Imperial Beijing**

Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City to discover a complex full of imperial riches. Later, enjoy a rickshaw ride through the warren-like hutongs and visit a local family to gain a deeper insight into Chinese culture and local customs. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

**Day 4: The Great Wall**

Visit China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. There is no better way to appreciate the magnificence of this incredible structure than a walk along it. Visit the Jade Museum then savour an afternoon in the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace.

**Day 5: Temple of Heaven**

Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of

Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. A Chinese acrobatic show rounds off the day.

**Day 6: Tang Dynasty Dancing**

Fly to Xian, the ancient former capital. See the delicate Little Wild Goose Pagoda, before a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a Tang Dynasty dance show.

**Day 7: Terracotta Warriors**

The Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang has long intrigued visitors. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-like warriors and later visit the Ceramics Exhibition where replicas of the statues are created. Next, take an afternoon stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town. Also explore the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter and the many Islamic food stalls.

**Day 8: Wuhan**

Fly to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board your Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 9-11: Yangtze River Cruise**

The Three Gorges Dam showcases a massive feat of engineering but as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over

the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another, and take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong streams and Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 12: Ciqikou**

After disembarking in Chongqing, explore old Ciqikou, whose narrow streets are perfect for a morning stroll to admire the traditional architecture. Transfer to Chengdu.

**Day 13: Grand Buddha of Leshan**

Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha which, at 71 metres, is the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist monument. A short boat trip will give excellent views from the river. Return to Chengdu and sample a delicious Sichuan meal this evening.

**Day 14: Giant Pandas**

Visit Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre to see and learn about China's celebrated bears in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. A look around the informative museum gives an overview of the Reserve's breeding programme. Visit Matchmaker's Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. Continue to the Shu Brocade Museum, then fly to the attractive city of Guilin.

**Day 15: Li River Cruise**

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

**Day 16: Yangshuo**

Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by green paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before an afternoon at leisure. There are many optional activities available at your own expense, including cycling, rafting and walking. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 17: Reed Flute Cave**

Drive back to Guilin to discover the colourful stalagmites and stalactites of Reed Flute Cave. The South China Pearl Museum covers the fascinating 1,700 year history of pearling in the South China Sea with displays and demonstrations. There are also beautiful pieces available to buy. Fly to Shanghai for a four night stay.

**Day 18: Historic Suzhou**

Travel to Suzhou. Suzhou is renowned for its gardens – visit one of its finest, the Humble Administrator's Garden. Cruise the Grand Canal and visit a traditional silk mill before returning to Shanghai to dine on local cuisine.

**Days 19-20: Discover Shanghai**

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide. Visit the peaceful Yu Gardens and atmospheric Old Town before admiring the architecture on the Bund. You will also visit the Shanghai Museum. The next day explore futuristic Pudong and view the city from the Huangpu River with a panoramic cruise.

**Day 21: Fly Shanghai to UK**

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**DUBAI 3 NIGHTS FROM £220PP**

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination full of futuristic architecture and cosmopolitan nightlife fronted by beautiful beaches. Dig a little deeper and you'll find a rich culture centred on the labyrinthine old city.

See pages 118. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Saturday**

2016 DATES													
06 Mar - 26 Mar	£3,290	10 Apr - 30 Apr	£3,490	08 May - 28 May	£3,490	19 Jun - 09 Jul	£3,390	02 Sep - 22 Sep*	£3,590	18 Sep - 08 Oct	£3,590	30 Oct - 19 Nov	£3,190
13 Mar - 02 Apr	£3,390	17 Apr - 07 May	£3,490	15 May - 04 Jun	£3,490	03 Jul - 23 Jul	£3,390	04 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,590	25 Sep - 15 Oct	£3,590		
20 Mar - 09 Apr	£3,490	22 Apr - 12 May*	£3,490	22 May - 11 Jun	£3,490	31 Jul - 20 Aug	£3,790	07 Sep - 27 Sep*	£3,590	07 Oct - 27 Oct*	£3,590		
27 Mar - 16 Apr	£3,490	24 Apr - 14 May	£3,490	29 May - 18 Jun	£3,490	14 Aug - 03 Sep	£3,690	09 Sep - 29 Sep*	£3,590	09 Oct - 29 Oct	£3,590		
03 Apr - 23 Apr	£3,490	06 May - 26 May*	£3,490	05 Jun - 25 Jun	£3,390	28 Aug - 17 Sep	£3,590	11 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,590	23 Oct - 12 Nov	£3,390		
2017 DATES													
05 Mar - 25 Mar	£3,290	09 Apr - 29 Apr	£3,590	21 May - 10 Jun	£3,590	06 Aug - 26 Aug	£3,890	06 Sep - 26 Sep*	£3,690	06 Oct - 26 Oct*	£3,690		
12 Mar - 01 Apr	£3,390	16 Apr - 06 May	£3,590	28 May - 17 Jun	£3,590	20 Aug - 09 Sep	£3,790	08 Sep - 28 Sep*	£3,690	08 Oct - 28 Oct	£3,690		
19 Mar - 08 Apr	£3,490	23 Apr - 13 May	£3,590	04 Jun - 24 Jun	£3,490	27 Aug - 16 Sep	£3,690	10 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,690	15 Oct - 04 Nov	£3,590		
26 Mar - 15 Apr	£3,490	07 May - 27 May	£3,590	18 Jun - 08 Jul	£3,490	01 Sep - 21 Sep*	£3,690	17 Sep - 07 Oct	£3,690	22 Oct - 11 Nov	£3,390		
02 Apr - 22 Apr	£3,590	14 May - 03 Jun	£3,590	09 Jul - 29 Jul	£3,890	03 Sep - 23 Sep	£3,690	24 Sep - 14 Oct	£3,690	29 Oct - 18 Nov	£3,190		

\*Days of the week different to those stated.



# CHINA ENCOUNTERS

Encounter all of the magnificent sights that make China a truly spectacular destination. Journey from the iconic Wall and enigmatic Warriors to the more off-the-beaten-track mountain vistas of Yunnan province on this epic cross-country adventure.

**24 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,490**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,940 (Beijing - Kunming)
- Single room from £760
- Tipping paid locally US\$130



▲ GIANT PANDA

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: DAVID ZOU**

*Beautiful Zhongdian or 'Shangri-La' will give you a taste of Tibet – this is my favourite place to show ancient history and family tradition.*



▲ SONGZANLIN MONASTERY, ZHONGDIAN



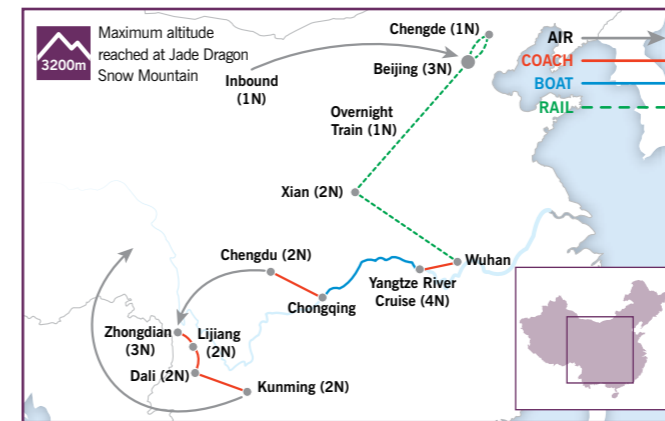
▲ PUTUO ZONGCHENG TEMPLE, CHENGDE



▲ STONE FOREST, KUNMING



▲ THREE PAGODAS, DALI



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Pandas, the Wall and Warriors
- Chengde's imperial architecture
- Spiritual Zhongdian
- Tiger Leaping Gorge

**ITINERARY**

- Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.
- Day 3: Imperial Beijing**  
Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Later soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck and an acrobatics show.
- Days 4-5: Chengde**  
Travel by train to Chengde. The summer retreat of Manchu emperors, this town is home to a wealth of imperial architecture. Over two days visit the magnificent mountain villas and intricate temples, including Puning and Puyou. Return by train to Beijing.
- Day 6: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate its sheer magnificence. Visit the Jade

Museum then savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace before boarding an overnight train to Xian.

**Day 7: Muslim Quarter**  
Arrive in Xian and enjoy a delightful visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda, and Muslim Quarter. Tonight feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 8: Terracotta Warriors**  
View the enigmatic ranks of warriors that make up the Terracotta Army. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and choose to purchase one to take home. Later stroll Xian's 14th-century city walls.

**Day 9: Bullet Train to Wuhan**  
Take the bullet train to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board the Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 10-12: Yangtze River Cruise**  
A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Shibaozhai or Fengdu.

**Day 13: Ancient Ciqikou**  
Disembark in Chongqing and explore old Ciqikou, whose narrow streets are perfect for a

stroll to admire the traditional architecture. Transfer to Chengdu.

**Day 14: Pandas**  
Head to Chengdu's famous Panda Centre to see these celebrated bears in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Visit the Shu Brocade Museum, then continue to Mt Qincheng, an important centre of Taoism. Returning to Chengdu, explore colourful markets before a delicious, typically Sichuan dinner.

**Day 15: Tibetan Zhongdian**  
Start your morning with a visit to Matchmaker's Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. Fly to the monastery town of Zhongdian, also known as Shangri-La.

**Days 16-17: Tibetan Village**  
Tour Zhongdian Old Town and Dafo Temple, then visit magnificent Songzanlin Monastery. Make your way to a rural Tibetan-style village where you will learn about the villagers' way of life and taste home-cooked dishes. Return to Zhongdian.

**Day 18: Tiger Leaping Gorge**  
The 3,000 metre deep Tiger Leaping Gorge, with its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is one of China's most extraordinary sights. The whole area is spectacular – prepare for breathtaking views before you travel on to Lijiang.

**Day 19: Jade Dragon Snow Mountain**  
A magnificent mountain massif, the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain incorporates several peaks, the tallest of which is 5,500 metres. Taking a chairlift, explore one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. Visit Baisha Old Town to view the fascinating murals, painted during the early Ming Dynasty and visit the Embroidery School.

**Day 20: Black Dragon Pool**  
The quintessential Chinese 'old town', Lijiang's old quarter is a jumble of cobbled streets, precarious wooden buildings and rustic stone bridges – in short, a delightful place to aimlessly wander. Also visit Black Dragon Pool where there are wonderful views of Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. Travel to Dali

and explore the lively foreigners Street.

**Days 21-22: Enchanting Dali**  
Dali is a charming place to visit. Explore the old quarter and pop over to Xizhou village to browse the local market. See the Yan family home and witness a tie-dyeing demonstration. Explore Dali's Ancient Quarter and relax with a cruise on Erhai Lake. The next day visit the Three Pagodas and travel by road to Kunming. Tuck into local Across the Bridge noodles for dinner.

**Day 23: Stone Forest**  
Explore the fascinating formations of the picturesque Stone Forest.

**Day 24: Fly Kunming to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG & MACAU**  
4 NIGHTS FROM £490PP

Combine the lively and sophisticated city of Hong Kong with glittering Macau, a former Portuguese colony, where Mediterranean influences and Las Vegas-esque glitz collide.

See pages 116-117. Additional flight costs may apply.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Tuesday returning Thursday**

2016 DATES					
05 Apr - 28 Apr	£3,490	10 May - 02 Jun	£3,490	03 Sep - 26 Sep*	£3,590
2017 DATES					
04 Apr - 27 Apr	£3,690	09 May - 01 Jun	£3,690	05 Sep - 28 Sep	£3,790

\* Days of the week different to those stated.



# GRAND TOUR OF CHINA

This wide-ranging tour has China's top destinations covered, with time to soak up the sights. Whether you are looking for history, character and culture, the modern and marvellous, or a straight-up combination of the two, then this is the itinerary for you.

**26 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,490**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,910 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £760
- Tipping paid locally US\$135



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Pandas, the Wall and Warriors
- The Yangtze and Li Rivers
- Old world China in Dali
- Suzhou & Hangzhou

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Days 3-4: Beijing and The Great Wall**

Visit Tiananmen Square and explore the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you will find a complex full of imperial treasures. This evening sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking Duck. The next morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate its sheer magnificence. Visit the Jade Museum where you can understand and appreciate the delicate process of carving the stone and buy a piece if you wish. Finally savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace. In the evening enjoy a Chinese acrobatic show.

**Day 5: Temple of Heaven**

Browse in Luilichang market before soaking up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, where

you can watch, or participate in, a dance class. Board an overnight train to Xian.

**Days 6-7: Terracotta Warriors**

Arrive in Xian and enjoy a delightful visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda before wandering around the narrow alleys of the Muslim Quarter. Tonight feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings before a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing. The next day, view the enigmatic ranks of warriors that make up the Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Later stroll on Xian's beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls.

**Day 8: Wuhan**

Fly to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang to board your Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Days 9-11: Yangtze River Cruise**

The Three Gorges Dam may be an impressive feat of engineering but as you cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai.

**Day 12: Ancient Ciqikou**

Disembark in Chongqing then explore old Ciqikou, whose narrow streets are perfect for a stroll to admire the traditional architecture. Transfer to Chengdu, visit the Shu Brocade Museum and enjoy a traditional Sichuan dinner.

**Day 13: Pandas**

Visit Chengdu's famous Panda Centre to see these celebrated bears in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Fly to the pleasant city of Kunming and tuck in to the local Across the Bridge noodles for dinner.

**Day 14: Stone Forest**

Explore the fascinating formations of the picturesque Stone Forest.

**Days 15-16: Enchanting Dali**

Dali offers a peek of the China of times-gone-by. On your first day visit the Three Pagodas, whilst the next day explore the old quarter, the Yan Family House and pop over to Xizhou village to browse around the local market. There will also be a cruise on Erhai Lake.

**Day 17: Guilin**

Transfer back to Kunming and fly to the attractive city of Guilin.

**Days 18-19: Li River and Yangshuo**

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to charming Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen. Yangshuo itself sits amongst paddy fields and dramatic karsts – spend the morning exploring. This afternoon is at leisure. There are many optional activities available including cycling, rafting and walking if you wish. In the evening see the famous cormorant fishermen.

**Day 20: Reed Flute Cave**

Drive back to Guilin, visit the Pearl Museum and the Reed Flute Cave where you can admire colourful stalactites and stalagmites. Fly to Hangzhou.

**Days 21-22: Discover Hangzhou**

Spend a morning wandering around the Temple of Inspired Seclusion and visit the Six Harmonies Pagoda before cruising on West Lake, admiring the gardens, pagodas and old bridges on its shores. The next day wander around a local market and visit a tea plantation before transferring to Suzhou.

**Day 23: Suzhou's Gardens**

Suzhou's centre has managed to retain a sense of quaint charm. Renowned for its gardens, visit one of the finest, the Humble Administrator's Garden, typical of the Chinese appreciation of balance and harmony. Cruise on the thousand-year-old Grand Canal and visit a local silk mill.

**Day 24: Shanghai**

Travel to Shanghai. Visit Matchmaker's Corner where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. This evening dine on a delicious meal of Shanghai cuisine.

**Day 25: Explore Shanghai**

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th century temples. Today's explorations include the traditional Yu Gardens and the atmospheric alleys of the old town. Next enjoy a visit to the Shanghai Museum and a wander on People's Square. Later admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund before enjoying a view of the glittering city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

**Day 26: Fly Shanghai to UK**

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



▲ HANGZHOU



▲ THREE PAGODAS, DALI



▲ YANGTZE RIVER



▲ SHANGHAI OLD TOWN

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: BRUCE SONG**

The Grand Tour will offer you a deep insight into the differences and similarities of ancient and modern China.



## DEPARTURES – Departing Thursday returning Monday

2016 DATES											
11 Mar - 05 Apr*	£3,590	14 Apr - 09 May	£3,790	19 May - 13 Jun	£3,790	18 Aug - 12 Sep	£3,890	08 Sep - 03 Oct	£3,890	06 Oct - 31 Oct	£3,890
18 Mar - 12 Apr*	£3,690	21 Apr - 16 May	£3,790	09 Jun - 04 Jul	£3,690	25 Aug - 19 Sep	£3,890	11 Sep - 06 Oct*	£3,890	09 Oct - 03 Nov*	£3,890
27 Mar - 21 Apr*	£3,790	05 May - 30 May	£3,790	07 Jul - 01 Aug	£3,690	01 Sep - 26 Sep	£3,890	15 Sep - 10 Oct	£3,890	13 Oct - 07 Nov	£3,790
07 Apr - 02 May	£3,790	12 May - 06 Jun	£3,790	04 Aug - 29 Aug	£3,990	04 Sep - 29 Sep*	£3,890	22 Sep - 17 Oct	£3,890	27 Oct - 21 Nov	£3,490
2017 DATES											
16 Mar - 10 Apr	£3,690	13 Apr - 08 May	£3,890	18 May - 12 Jun	£3,890	10 Aug - 04 Sep	£4,090	07 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,990	05 Oct - 30 Oct	£3,990
23 Mar - 17 Apr	£3,790	20 Apr - 15 May	£3,890	25 May - 19 Jun	£3,890	24 Aug - 18 Sep	£3,990	10 Sep - 05 Oct*	£3,990	08 Oct - 02 Nov*	£3,990
30 Mar - 24 Apr	£3,890	04 May - 29 May	£3,890	15 Jun - 10 Jul	£3,790	31 Aug - 25 Sep	£3,990	14 Sep - 09 Oct	£3,990	12 Oct - 06 Nov	£3,890
06 Apr - 01 May	£3,890	11 May - 05 Jun	£3,890	13 Jul - 07 Aug	£4,190	03 Sep - 28 Sep*	£3,990	21 Sep - 16 Oct	£3,990	26 Oct - 20 Nov	£3,590

\* Days of the week different from those stated.





# TREASURES OF VIETNAM & CHINA

This epic tour effortlessly blends the captivating charms of Vietnam with the extensive and fascinating history of China. Explore Saigon, cruise Halong Bay, view adorable pandas, marvel at the Terracotta Warriors and walk along the Great Wall on one memorable adventure.

**27 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,490**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**



▲ HALONG BAY

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,930 (Saigon - Shanghai)
- Single room from £680
- Tipping paid locally US\$145



▲ HOI AN



▲ THIEN MU PAGODA, HUE



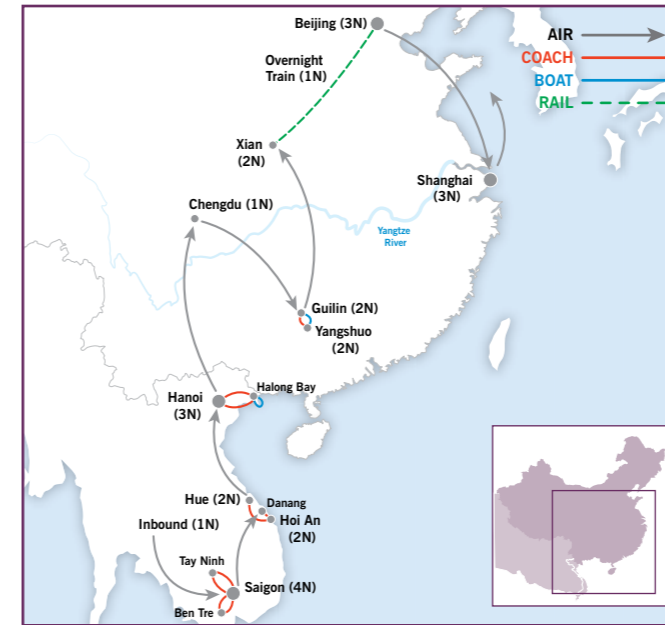
▲ GIANT PANDA

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: GEORGE PU**

Travelling through Vietnam and China, you will experience the differences of these two countries both in tradition and history.



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- The verdant Mekong Delta
- Enchanting Hoi An
- Halong Bay
- Pandas, the Wall and Warriors

**ITINERARY**

- Days 1-2: Fly to Saigon**  
Fly overnight to Saigon, Vietnam's most evocative and largest city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.
- Day 3: Discover Saigon**  
Seamlessly blending past and present, Saigon is both a treasure trove of cultural sights and the city that is driving Vietnam towards a brighter future. Visit the Notre Dame Cathedral and Central Post Office – legacies of a colonial past, the Reunification Palace and Ben Thanh Market. Also visit the War Remnants Museum, Cholon, and Thien Hau Pagoda.
- Day 4: Mekong Delta Cruise**  
Travel to Ben Tre to take a cruise on the Mekong. Called the 'Rice Basket of Vietnam', get a glimpse of daily life on the Mekong Delta. Return to Saigon.
- Day 5: Cu Chi Tunnels and Tay Ninh**  
Contemplate the horrors of guerrilla warfare at the astonishing Cu Chi Tunnels before travelling

to Tay Ninh to attend the noon service at the Cao Dai Temple. Return to Saigon.

- Days 6-7: Historic Hoi An**  
Fly to Danang and transfer to the UNESCO-listed Hoi An, with a stop at the Marble Mountains en route. Take a walking tour of this charming town. A wonderfully laidback and wilfully traditional place, the streets are a delight to wander around – visit an old merchant's house, the elaborate Japanese Bridge and the market. The next day, visit Tra Que Village.

- Days 8-9: Imperial Hue**  
Travel to Hue. Drive to the imposing Imperial Citadel to explore. The next day, voyage along the Perfume River to Thien Mu Pagoda before travelling to An Hien House. Finally visit the UNESCO Royal Tomb of Minh Mang.

- Day 10: Colonial Hanoi**  
Fly to the capital city of Hanoi, dubbed the 'Paris of the Orient'. Visit the Fine Arts Museum, walk to Hoan Kiem Lake and watch a Water Puppet show.

- Day 11: Halong Bay Junk cruise**  
Take a traditional Junk cruise amongst karst peaks on the tranquil green waters of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a vision of awe-inspiring beauty. Return to Hanoi.

- Day 12: Discover Hanoi**  
Hanoi brings all the charms of the past with all the buzz of the future in one fast-paced yet refined city. Explore the Ho Chi Minh Quarter, and walk past Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, the Stilt House and One Pillar Pagoda. Also visit the Temple of Literature and take a cyclo ride through Hanoi's charming Old Quarter.

- Days 13-14: Pandas**  
Fly to Chengdu. This evening, you can sample the delicious Sichuan cuisine. Next day, visit Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre where you can see China's celebrated icons up close. Wander through People's Park see the fascinating Match Maker's Corner and visit a traditional tea house. Fly to Guilin.

- Day 15: Reed Flute Cave**  
This morning, visit Mount Diecai, also known as 'Folded Brocade Hill'. Later, see the colourful formations of the Reed Flute Cave.

- Days 16-17: Li River Cruise and Yangshuo**  
Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to Yangshuo and explore the colourful markets. The next morning, explore this unique rural location before taking the afternoon at leisure. In the evening, see the famous cormorant fishermen.

- Day 18: Shui Jiao dumplings**  
Travel to Guilin and fly to Xian. The start of the Silk Road, Xian is an incredible melting pot of religions and cultures. This evening indulge in traditional Shui Jiao dumplings followed by a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

- Day 19: Terracotta Warriors**  
The Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang has intrigued visitors for years. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks standing sentinel in their mysterious necropolis before strolling on Xian's city walls.

- Day 20: Discover Xian**  
Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda then board an overnight train to Beijing.

- Day 21: Summer Palace**  
Arriving in Beijing, savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace. Stroll through the Long

Walk, admire carefully cultivated gardens and wonder at the Marble Boat built for Empress Dowager Xi Ci. This evening sample the local delicacy – Peking duck.

- Day 22: Imperial Beijing**  
Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you'll find a complex full of imperial treasures. Also visit the lovely Temple of Heaven and wander through the adjacent park where you can see local people playing cards and mahjong.

- Day 23: The Great Wall**  
This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate its sheer magnificence. Round off the day with a Chinese acrobatic show.

- Days 24-26: Modern Pudong**  
Fly to Shanghai and spend the following days exploring this cosmopolitan city. Visits include the Yu Gardens, the Old Town, Shanghai Museum and the colonial architecture of the Bund. Discover modern Pudong, dine on traditional Shanghai cuisine and take a cruise on the panoramic Huangpu River.

- Day 27: Fly Shanghai to UK**  
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Wednesday**

2016 DATES											
25 Mar - 20 Apr	£3,590	15 Apr - 11 May	£3,590	20 May - 15 Jun	£3,490	02 Sep - 28 Sep	£3,590	16 Sep - 12 Oct	£3,590	14 Oct - 09 Nov	£3,590
2017 DATES											
24 Mar - 19 Apr	£3,790	14 Apr - 10 May	£3,790	19 May - 14 Jun	£3,690	01 Sep - 27 Sep	£3,790	15 Sep - 11 Oct	£3,790	13 Oct - 08 Nov	£3,790

# DISCOVERY TOURS

Free your adventurous side on our immersive Discovery Tours; get closer to local culture, and see China from a different perspective.

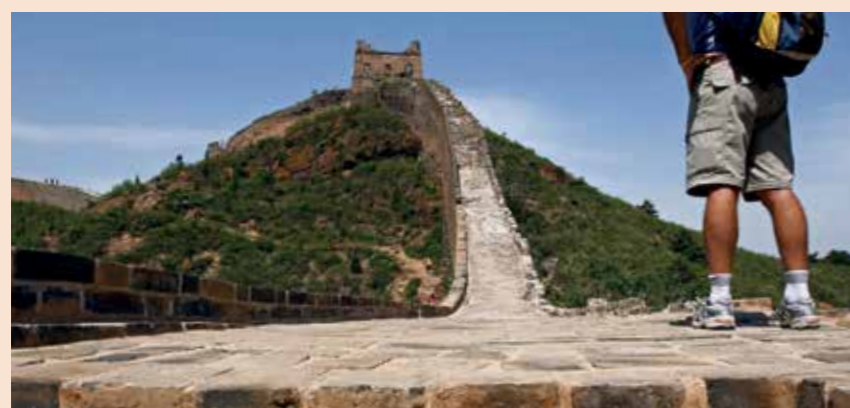
## Our Discovery Tours include:

- Cycling & hiking through classic sites
- Award winning National Escorts
- Knowledgeable local guides
- International flights & taxes
- Fascinating cultural experiences
- All accommodation & most meals
- All transportation on tour
- Visa application & fees
- Specialist advice from our travel consultants
- Small group sizes

# EXPERIENCE THE REAL CHINA

Designed with the more inquisitive traveller in mind, all our Discovery Tours feature authentic cultural and active experiences, bringing you closer to China's extraordinary sights, its local people, and their way of life.

## GET INVOLVED



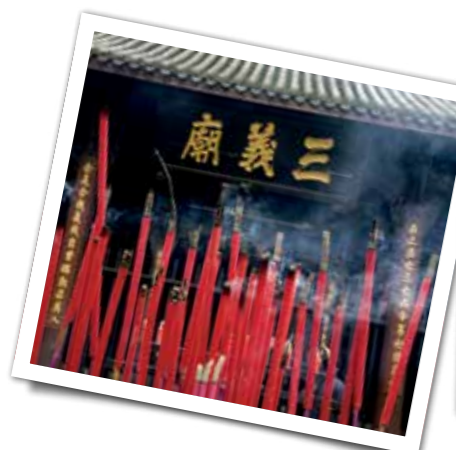
### Hike on the Great Wall

The Great Wall is one of China's most iconic sights, and Jinshanling one of its most beautiful sections. It is also less frequented by tourists than many other parts of the wall. Take the time to acquaint yourself with China's oldest guardian, learn more about its ancient history, and walk over the ancient brickwork as it snakes lazily over the mountain range.



### Cycle in Yangshuo and Dali

What better way to see some of China's most beautiful countryside? In Dali, you will cycle along the lakeside to an ancient village, its beautiful streets ready for exploration. In Yangshuo, you will have the opportunity to cycle through a serene sea of pastures and paddy fields, watched over by towering limestone cliffs.



### Weibaoshan Meditation

Find inner peace on the mystical slopes of Mount Weibao. Wander past ancient Taoist temples nestled in the trees, to Qinzia Temple where a Taoist priest will introduce you to traditional meditative practices.



### Calligraphy on Mt Qingcheng

The birthplace of Taoism, Mt Qingcheng is dotted with ancient and highly decorative temples. Walk to the summit to take in the views from Old Master Pavilion, where you will be met by a Taoist priest who will exchange Taoist ideas and demonstrate the ancient art of calligraphy and painting.



### Walk along the Rice Terraces

Journey to Longji near Guilin, or Yuanyang in Yunnan to walk along the legendary Rice Terraces. Resembling winding, mist wreathed staircases gone awry, the traditional fields will take your breath away. Depending on the time of year, the terraces will be either full of reflective water, or brimming with lush plants.



## GET CLOSER TO NATURE

### Bifengxia Panda Reserve

Near to Chengdu, nestled in the forested mountains of Sichuan, you will visit the charming and beautiful pandas of Bifengxia. Smaller and lesser visited than neighbouring reserves, Bifengxia benefits from more authentic surroundings – the perfect opportunity to get closer to these magnificent and cuddly creatures!

## LIVE LIKE A LOCAL



### Shanghai mornings

Spend a morning like the native Shanghaiese by taking a walking tour through the city's colourful concession areas. Watch the bustle of the city rush past as you devour typical Shanghai breakfast treats such as savoury breakfast pancakes and fried bread sticks.

### Tibetan Village in Zhongdian

Pay a visit to a local family in rural Zhongdian, a deeply Buddhist and Tibetan-style area of China. Here you will dine with your local hosts on savoury home cooked dishes, learn about their way of life, and even try your hand at seasonal farming activities.



### People's Park in Chengdu

Take a walk through Chengdu's beating social heart. Sit back and sip a cup of tea whilst having your ears cleaned, witness the cultural oddity that is Match Makers' Corner, join in with a dancing troupe, or watch the energetic kite-flyers. There is nowhere better to enjoy the welcoming, warm nature of Sichuan.



### Xian's Muslim Quarter

As the start of the Silk Road, Xian is a melting pot of Chinese and Muslim influences. Nowhere is this more evident in the effervescent and industrious Muslim Quarter, where you can sample some of the best street snacks available – watch as noodles are hand-stretched before your eyes!



### Bai Minority Tea Ceremony

Watch the Bai, Dali's main ethnic minority, dance in traditional costume while you take part in the traditional Three Cups of Tea Tasting Ceremony in Xizhou Village. You will also wander the ancient streets, past Bai dwelling houses, and get a glimpse into the lives of this unique minority.



NEW

# CHINA EXPLORER

Pairing the classical sights with a Yangtze cruise, visits to atmospheric ancient towns and a hike on the Great Wall as it weaves through undulating alien landscapes; this itinerary will bring you closer to the authentic charm of China.

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £2,990

INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

## Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

## Flight and supplement information

## Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,410 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £490
- Tipping paid locally US\$110



▲ CIQIKOU

## NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: LINK LEE

My favourite part of China, the Great Wall, is best to see on foot to appreciate its long history and beautiful countryside.



▲ GIANT PANDA



▲ XIAN CITY WALL



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on the Great Wall
- Cycling in Xian
- Bifengxia Pandas & Gorge walk
- Wander ancient Pingle Town

## ITINERARY

## Day 1-2: Fly to Beijing

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

## Day 3: Forbidden City and Summer Palace Walk

Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Walking through this ornately designed complex offers an unsurpassed insight into China's colourful past. Continue to the idyllic Summer Palace and explore the magnificent grounds, before taking a short hike up Longevity Hill to enjoy panoramic views. (B,L,D)

## Day 4: Beijing's Hutongs

Arrive early for a visit to the Temple of Heaven and mingle with the locals as they start their day with tai chi, dancing and card playing in a flurry of sociable activity you would never see in a park at home. Next, you'll visit Dazhalanxijie Street where you'll have free time to wander the Hutongs; these narrow alleys offer an authentic glimpse of the old Beijing, before the emergence of high-rise buildings and modern commerce. Take lunch at a traditional Beijing Noodle House, before driving to the Great Wall at Jinshanling. (B,L,D)

## Day 5: Hike the Great Wall

Rise early to catch an unforgettable sunrise over the Great Wall. Jinshanling is much less frequented by tourists than other parts of the Wall. The stark, yet magnificent surroundings allow you to put yourself in the shoes of those who walked this incredible edifice hundreds of years ago. Your trek will last approximately six hours as the wall improbably courses through dramatic landscapes and rugged terrain. Later, head back to Beijing, where you'll have free time. Buzzing Sanlitun or lakeside Houhai are a great choice for the evening. (B,L)

## Day 6: Cycling in Xian

Fly to Xian. The ancient former capital surrounded by an imposing and enormously wide wall, which is used as a city thoroughfare. You'll enjoy a gentle cycle ride that will take you the nine miles around the wall and past many smiling locals, giving you a unique perspective of Chinese urban life. Take in an optional fountain and light show and be dazzled by the city at night. (B,L,D)

## Day 7: Terracotta Warriors and Muslim Quarter walking tour

Housed in three immense hangars, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis, constructed to protect China's first Emperor in the afterlife. Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, each one unique, whilst your guide introduces you to these life-like soldiers' fascinating story. Visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition then take a walking tour of the narrow and twisting streets of the

Muslim Quarter. Sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road. (B,L)

## Day 8: Pingle Ancient Town

Fly to Chengde and drive to Pingle Ancient Town. Dating back to the Han Dynasty, Pingle was a stopping point on the Tea Horse Road. Take time to walk through its maze of teahouse-lined streets before seeing the forest from above on Jinjigu Suspended Rope Bridge. Lastly, pay a visit to Lugou Bamboo Sea where you can get lost amongst creaking, swishing spears of green. Drive to Ya'an. (B,L,D)

## Day 9: Bifengxia Pandas and Bifeng Gorge Walk

Located high in the Sichuan mountains, lush Bifengxia offers refuge to China's cuddly icon, the Giant Panda. The panda centre's rural location offers one of the most authentic, spacious and natural settings in the country, working towards the conservation of this endangered species. Later walk through Bifeng Gorge, passing fairytale waterfalls trickling through otherworldly forest. (B,L,D)

## Day 10: Ancient Ciqikou

Drive to Chengde, and jump on the bullet train to Chongqing. Visit the charming old town of Ciqikou – there's time to wander the cobbled alleyways and learn about its colourful history. Later board your Yangtze Cruise vessel, home for the next three nights. (B,D)

## Days 11-12: Yangtze River Cruise

During your Yangtze cruise, nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next two days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Take fascinating side trips to Shibaozhai or the Ghost City of Fengdu and Goddess or Shennong Stream. This is a chance to absorb extraordinary countryside and get a glimpse of life on the river banks. (B,L,D)

Day 13: Three Gorges Dam Visit the Three Gorges Dam, then fly to Shanghai. On arrival the evening is at leisure to begin exploring this neon wonder. (B,L)

## Day 14: Shanghaiese Shanghai

Wake up to the buzz of Shanghai, and take a breakfast walking tour between coruscating skyscrapers and traditional streets. Walk through the city's most fascinating districts, marvelling at monuments and rickety buildings before enjoying breakfast as the locals do – sample pancakes, fried bread sticks and tofu. Visit the Yu Yuan Gardens, the Old Town and the Silk Museum before taking an evening stroll along the Bund and a farewell dinner of authentic Shanghaiese cuisine. Your final farewell to China will be a cruise down the Huangpu River, serenaded by the neon lights of Pudong. (B,L,D)

## Day 15: Fly Shanghai to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## STOPOVER IN...



## DUBAI 3 NIGHTS FROM £220PP

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination full of futuristic architecture and cosmopolitan nightlife fronted by beautiful beaches. Dig a little deeper and you'll find a rich culture centred on the labyrinthine old city.

See pages 118.

Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Sunday

2016 DATES											
17 Apr - 01 May	£2,990	15 May - 29 May	£2,990	04 Sep - 18 Sep	£3,190	18 Sep - 02 Oct	£3,190	09 Oct - 23 Oct	£3,190	23 Oct - 06 Nov	£2,990
2017 DATES											
09 Apr - 23 Apr	£3,190	07 May - 21 May	£3,190	03 Sep - 17 Sep	£3,290	24 Sep - 08 Oct	£3,290	22 Oct - 05 Nov	£3,190		
23 Apr - 07 May	£3,190	21 May - 04 Jun	£3,190	10 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,290	08 Oct - 22 Oct	£3,290				



NEW

## A CHINA ADVENTURE

Spend more time hiking on the Great Wall and through the beautiful Rice Terraces of Longji on this active tour of China. Soak up the simple rural beauty of Yangshuo, the history of Xian, the majesty of Beijing and the fast pace of dazzling Shanghai.

16 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£2,990**

INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

### Flight and supplement information

#### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,440 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £390
- Tipping paid locally US\$100



▲ SHANGHAI AT NIGHT

### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: JASON GAO

Walk, hike and cycle with me through beautiful countryside and to see the epic sights of my amazing country.



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ LONGJI RICE TERRACES



▲ TAI CHI



▲ VIEW FROM XIANGGONG HILL



### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike from Gubeikou to Jinshanling on the Great Wall
- Longji Rice Terraces hike
- Explore Yangshuo countryside
- Experience Shanghai like a local

### ITINERARY

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

#### Day 3: Forbidden City and Summer Palace Walk

Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Walking through this ornately designed complex offers an unsurpassed insight into China's colourful past. Continue to the Summer Palace and explore the magnificent grounds, before taking a short hike up Longevity Hill to enjoy panoramic views. Stop for a photo at the Olympic Stadium before dinner. (B,L,D)

#### Day 4: Beijing's Hutongs

Arrive early for an optional visit to the Temple of Heaven and mingle with the locals as they start their day with tai chi, dancing and card playing in a flurry of sociable activity you would never see in a park at home. Next, you'll visit Dazhalanxijie Street where you'll have free time to wander the Hutongs; these narrow alleys offer an authentic glimpse of old Beijing before the emergence of high-rise buildings and modern commerce. Take lunch at a traditional Beijing Noodle House before driving to the Great Wall at Jinshanling. (B,L,D)

#### Day 5: Hike the Great Wall

Take the short transfer to Gubeikou to begin the hike back to Jinshanling. One of the most wild and scenic section-to-section hikes of the Great Wall, your path will traverse ancient and rugged landscapes, only going off-wall briefly to navigate around a Chinese military base. After approximately six hours of hiking, you'll return to Beijing where the rest of the day is at leisure. (B,L)

#### Day 6: Xian by Bullet Train

Ride the bullet train to Xian, the ancient former capital. Take in an optional fountain and light show and be dazzled by the city at night. (B,L,D)

#### Day 7: Terracotta Warriors and Cycling on the City Wall

Housed in three immense hangars, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis, constructed to protect China's first Emperor in the afterlife. Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, each one unique, whilst your guide introduces you to these life-like soldiers' fascinating story. Continue to the ancient city wall for a cycle on the fortifications surrounding the heart of the city. Take a walking tour of the narrow and twisting streets of the Muslim Quarter. Sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road. (B,L)

#### Day 8: Pingle Ancient Town

Fly to Chengdu and drive to Pingle Ancient Town. Dating back to the Han Dynasty, Pingle was a stopping point on the Tea Horse Road. Take time to walk through its maze of teahouse-lined streets before seeing the forest from

above on Jinjigu Suspended Rope Bridge. Lastly, pay a visit to Lugou Bamboo Sea where you can get lost amongst creaking, swishing spears of green. Drive to Ya'an. (B,L,D)

#### Day 9: Bifengxia Pandas and Bifeng Gorge Walk

Located high in the Sichuan mountains, lush Bifengxia offers refuge to China's cuddly icon, the Giant Panda. The panda centre's rural location offers one of the most authentic, spacious and natural settings in the country, working towards the conservation of this endangered species. Later walk through Bifeng Gorge, passing fairytale-like waterfalls trickling through otherworldly forest. (B,L,D)

#### Day 10: Journey to Ping An

Drive to Chengdu and fly to Guilin before transferring to Ping An for an overnight stay. (B,L,D)

#### Day 11: Rice Terraces and Ethnic Villages Hike

Wake up to stunning views of the misty, stepped hills of Longji. Today's full-day hike from Ping An to Dazhai will take you past small hamlets and picture-postcard views of the rice terraces which cover the landscape in intricate patterns. Whether full of water or bursting with rice plants, a walk in Longji provides an unforgettable experience of rural China. Return to Guilin where the evening is at leisure. (B,L)

#### Day 12: Yangshuo Countryside

Take a gentle cruise along the Li River to Yangshuo. Lined with the most dramatic, sci-fi style limestone cliffs on the planet, the serenity of life on the riverbanks is a wonderful sight. Later, take a walk through this idyllic wonderland and get an insight into life here. There's an option to take a short and steep but rewarding hike to the top of Xianggong Hill for epic sunset views. (B,L,D)

#### Day 13: Tai Chi and Country Cycling

Start the day with a relaxing yet invigorating session of tai chi, taking time with a master to learn this ancient martial art. This afternoon there is the option of riding a bicycle through the countryside – another chance

to really soak up the unspoiled surroundings and explore every corner of this exquisite location. (B,L)

#### Day 14: Yangshuo Rafting

This morning is at leisure, or you may wish to join an optional bamboo rafting trip along the Yulong River for one last, tranquil jaunt in Yangshuo. Drift past verdant riverbanks and under ancient bridges as you paddle on glass-like waters. Drive back to Guilin and go from the serene to the supercharged as you fly to Shanghai. (B,L)

#### Day 15: Shanghaiese Shanghai

Wake up to the buzz of Shanghai, and take a breakfast walking tour between coruscating skyscrapers and traditional streets. Walk through the city's most fascinating districts, marvelling at monuments and rickety buildings before enjoying breakfast as the locals do – sample pancakes, fried bread sticks and tofu. Visit the Yu Yuan Gardens, the Old Town and the Silk Museum before taking an evening stroll along the Bund and a farewell dinner of authentic Shanghaiese cuisine. Your final farewell to China will be a cruise down the Huangpu River, serenaded by the neon lights of Pudong. (B,L,D)

#### Day 16: Fly Shanghai to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

### STOPOVER IN...



### HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

### DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Saturday

2016 DATES									
15 Apr - 30 Apr	£2,990	06 May - 21 May	£2,990	09 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,190	23 Sep - 08 Oct	£3,190	07 Oct - 22 Oct	£3,190
2017 DATES									
14 Apr - 29 Apr	£3,190	19 May - 03 Jun	£3,190	15 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,290	13 Oct - 28 Oct	£3,190		
05 May - 20 May	£3,190	01 Sep - 16 Sep	£3,290	06 Oct - 21 Oct	£3,290				



NEW

# CHINA TRAILBLAZER

Take a journey like no other. This is your chance to see the classical sights, and also explore a different side of this beautiful country – be it from the back of a bicycle; on a hike through serene countryside, or a walk through buzzing city streets.

**20 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,390**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,840 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$135



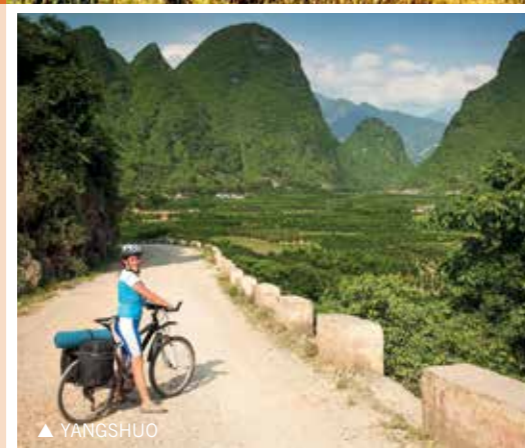
▲ YANGSHUO RAFTING

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: IVY ZHOU

Come with me and get to know the real China. We'll do tai chi, go cycling, eat delicious local food and meet cute pandas!



▲ LONGJI RICE TERRACES



▲ YANGSHUO



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ VIEW FROM LONGEVITY HILL



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike on the Great Wall
- Bifengxia Pandas & Gorge
- Tai Chi & Cycling in Yangshuo
- Longji Rice Terraces Hike

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing

Fly to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### Day 3: Forbidden City and Summer Palace Walk

Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Walking through this ornately designed complex offers an unsurpassed insight into China's colourful past. Continue to the Summer Palace and explore the magnificent grounds, before taking a short hike up Longevity Hill to enjoy panoramic views. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Beijing's Hutongs

Arrive early for an optional visit to the Temple of Heaven and mingle with the locals as they start their day with tai chi, dancing and card playing in a flurry of sociable activity. Next, you'll visit Dazhalanxijie Street where there's time to wander the Hutongs; these narrow alleys offer an authentic glimpse of old Beijing before the emergence of modernity. Take lunch at a traditional Beijing Noodle House before driving to the Great Wall at Jinshanling. (B,L,D)

### Day 5: Hike the Great Wall

Rise early to catch an unforgettable sunrise over the Great Wall. Jinshanling is much less frequented by tourists than other parts of the Wall; the stark, yet

magnificent surroundings will put you in the shoes of those who walked this incredible edifice hundreds of years ago. Your six hour trek improbably courses through dramatic landscapes and rugged terrain. Later, head back to Beijing, where there's time in the evening to explore exciting Sanlitun or Houhai on your own. (B,L)

### Day 6: Xian by Night

Fly to Xian. Take in an optional fountain and light show and be dazzled by the city at night. (B,D)

### Day 7: Terracotta Warriors and Muslim Quarter Walking Tour

Housed in three immense hangars, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis. Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, each one unique, whilst your guide introduces you to these lifelike soldiers' fascinating story. Later in the day, take a walking tour of the narrow and twisting streets of the Muslim Quarter. Sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road. (B,L)

### Day 8: Cycle the City Walls

Xian is surrounded by an imposing and enormously wide wall, which is used as a city thoroughfare. You'll enjoy a gentle cycle ride that will take you the nine miles around the wall and past many smiling locals. In the afternoon, catch a flight to Wuhan and transfer to Yichang. Later board your Yangtze Cruise vessel, home for the next four nights. (B,L,D)

### Days 9-11: Yangtze Cruise

A man-made marvel, The Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. As

you cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. A three day voyage along China's riverine treasure is a chance to relax and enjoy a slower pace, whilst absorbing one breathtaking panorama after another. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Ciqikou Ancient Town

Disembark your cruise vessel and enjoy an early lunch in the charming old town of Ciqikou – there's time to wander the cobbled alleyways and learn about its colourful history. Jump on the bullet train to Chengdu and drive to Ya'an, nestled in a forested valley in the Sichuan countryside. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Bifengxia Pandas and Bifeng Gorge Walk

Located high in the Sichuan mountains, lush Bifengxia offers refuge to China's cuddly icon, the Giant Panda. The panda centre's rural location offers one of the most authentic, spacious and natural settings in the country, working towards the conservation of this endangered species. Later walk through Bifeng Gorge, passing fairytale-like waterfalls trickling through otherworldly forest. (B,L,D)

### Day 14: Pingle Ancient Town

Drive back to Chengdu via Pingle Ancient Town. Dating back to the Han Dynasty, Pingle was a stopping point on the Tea Horse Road. Take time to walk through its maze of teahouse-lined streets before seeing the forest from above on Jinjigu Suspended Rope Bridge. Lastly, pay a visit to Lugou Bamboo Sea where you can get lost amongst creaking, swishing spears of green. Fly to Guilin. (B,L,D)

### Day 15: Rice Terraces and Ethnic Villages Hike

Longji is one of China's premier walking destinations – the mist-wreathed, stepped hills are reminiscent of a rolling, curvy staircase. A three-hour walk between small hamlets will take you past picture-postcard views of the rice terraces which cover the landscape in intricate patterns. Head back to Guilin where there is free time in the evening. (B,L)

### Day 16: Yangshuo Countryside

Take a gentle cruise along the Li River to Yangshuo. Lined with dramatic, sci-fi style limestone cliffs, the serenity of life on the riverbanks is a wonderful sight. Later, take a walk through this idyllic wonderland and get an insight into life here. There's an option to take a short and steep but rewarding hike to the top of Xianggong Hill for epic sunset views. (B,L,D)

### Day 17: Tai Chi and Countryside Cycling

Start the day with a relaxing and invigorating session of tai chi, taking time with a master to learn this ancient martial art. This afternoon there is the option of riding a bicycle through the countryside – another chance to explore every corner of this exquisite location. (B,L)

### Day 18: Yangshuo Rafting and fly to Shanghai

This morning is at leisure, or you may wish to join an optional bamboo rafting trip along the Yulong River for one last, tranquil jaunt in Yangshuo. Drift past verdant riverbanks and under ancient bridges as you paddle on glass-like waters. Drive back to Guilin and go from the serene to the supercharged as you fly to Shanghai. (B,L)

### Day 19: Shanghaiese Shanghai

Wake up to the buzz of Shanghai, and take a breakfast walking tour between coruscating skyscrapers and traditional streets. Walk through the city's most fascinating districts, marvelling at monuments and rickety buildings before enjoying breakfast as the locals do – sample pancakes, fried bread sticks and tofu. Visit the Yu Yuan Gardens, the Old Town and the Silk Museum before taking an evening stroll along the Bund and a farewell dinner of authentic Shanghaiese cuisine. Your final farewell to China will be a cruise down the Huangpu River, serenaded by the neon lights of Pudong. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Fly Shanghai to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Thursday

2016 DATES											
09 Apr - 28 Apr	£3,390	07 May - 26 May	£3,390	03 Sep - 22 Sep	£3,590	10 Sep - 29 Sep	£3,590	24 Sep - 13 Oct	£3,590	08 Oct - 27 Oct	£3,590
2017 DATES											
01 Apr - 20 Apr	£3,590	06 May - 25 May	£3,590	02 Sep - 21 Sep	£3,690	23 Sep - 12 Oct	£3,690	14 Oct - 02 Nov	£3,590		
15 Apr - 04 May	£3,590	20 May - 08 Jun	£3,590	09 Sep - 28 Sep	£3,690	07 Oct - 26 Oct	£3,690				



NEW

# CHINA: THE BIG ONE

The complete Chinese adventure – this itinerary takes more time to explore the highlights of this beautiful and eclectic country, from busy cities, rural utopias and quirky ancient towns where you are free to absorb the relaxed atmosphere.

28 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON  
**£3,490**

INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

## Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

## Flight and supplement information

## Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,940 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £790
- Tipping paid locally US\$155



▲ ERHAI LAKE

NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS:  
WENDY LIU

Let me help you to explore all of China from busy Beijing to laid-back Lijiang, on our longest tour of China!



▲ JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN



▲ TIGER LEAPING GORGE



▲ DALI BY NIGHT



▲ STONE FOREST



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- More time for independent exploration
- Hiking and cycling options
- Shaxi Ancient Town
- Jade Dragon Snow Mountain

## ITINERARY

## Day 1-2: Fly to Beijing

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is at leisure.

## Day 3: Forbidden City and Hutongs

Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Next visit Dazhalanxijie Street where there's time to wander the Hutongs; these narrow alleys offer a glimpse of old Beijing. Later, there's free time to explore. (B,L)

## Day 4: Huanghuacheng Great Wall and Wangfujing

This particularly scenic section of the wall is reached by boat, and boasts spectacular views from the top. Spend the evening at leisure exploring colourful Wangfujing night market, or enjoy an optional Peking duck dinner. (B,L)

## Day 5: Imperial Summer Palace

Take a relaxed day exploring the beautifully designed grounds of the Summer Palace including the Long Corridor and the Marble Boat. Spend time strolling around pretty Kunming Lake and walk up wooded Longevity Hill. Enjoy a photo stop at the Olympic Park. (B,L)

## Day 6: Temple of Heaven

Visit the Temple of Heaven and mingle with the locals as they start their day with tai chi,

dancing and cards in a flurry of sociable activity. Take the overnight train to Xian. (B,L)

## Day 7: Terracotta Warriors

Housed in three immense hangars, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis, constructed to protect China's first Emperor. Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, while you are introduced to these lifelike soldiers' fascinating story. Take a walking tour of the Muslim Quarter and sample freshly cooked snacks. With the evening free, why not enjoy a cold beer in Defu Lane? (B,L)

## Day 8: Cycling in Xian

Start your day with a gentle cycle ride that will take you the nine miles around the wall and past many smiling locals. This afternoon visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. (B,L)

## Day 9: Beautiful Guilin

Fly to Guilin. Walk around the lakes then enjoy the evening at leisure – you may wish to stroll around Zhengyang Street. (B)

## Day 10: Hiking in Longji

Today there is an option to take a three-hour hike in the stunning rice terraces of Longji. Walk past small hamlets and picture-postcard views of the terraces which cover the landscape in intricate patterns. Otherwise, spend more time in Guilin. (B)

## Day 11: Yangshuo Countryside

Take a gentle cruise along the Li River to Yangshuo. Lined with dramatic, sci-fi style limestone cliffs, the serenity of life on the riverbanks is a wonderful sight. Take a walk through this idyllic wonderland and get an insight into life here. There's an option to

hike to the top of Xianggong Hill for epic sunset views. (B,L)

## Day 12: Yangshuo Tai Chi

Start the day with a relaxing yet invigorating session of tai chi, taking time with a master to learn this ancient martial art. You may wish to join an optional bamboo rafting trip along the Yulong River for one last, tranquil jaunt in Yangshuo. (B,L)

## Day 13: Kunming at leisure

Transfer to Guilin and visit the Reed Flute Cave. Fly to Kunming and visit Green Lake Park then take the rest of the evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 14: Stone Forest

Meander through the formations of the UNESCO listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand treelike in a fascinating illusion of woodland. Listen to the local legends used to explain this mysterious wonder. (B,L)

## Day 15: Dali's Ancient Town

Fly to Dali and spend the rest of the day immersed in the atmosphere of the fascinating old quarter and lively market. Stroll along Foreigners' Street and explore the many dining options here. (B,L)

## Day 16: Erhai Lake Cruise

Enjoy a cruise on spiritual Erhai Lake and visit the Three Pagodas. This afternoon there is an option to cycle from Dali to Xizhou Ancient Town, skirting the lakeside. On arrival, take a walking tour and admire the traditional Bai style architecture before returning by coach to Dali. (B,L)

## Day 17: Shaxi Ancient Town

Drive to Shaxi Ancient Town, nestled deep in the Himalayan foothills. Learn about the fascinating minority peoples that reside in the area and enjoy a local lunch. In the afternoon, continue to Lijiang and spend the evening wandering the street food stalls. (B,L)

## Day 18: Jade Dragon Snow Mountain

A magnificent mountain massif, Jade Dragon incorporates several peaks, the tallest of which soars to 5,500 metres. Take a chairlift to one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy amazing

vistas. Visit the minority Baisha Naxi Village and admire the fascinating Baisha Frescoes. (B,L)

## Day 19: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Today's optional mini-trek to Tiger Leaping Gorge takes you through dramatic cliffs and down into the gorge itself. If you don't join the trek, the day is at leisure in Lijiang. (B)

## Day 20: Chengdu like a local

Fly to Chengdu and walk around People's Park, a hive of activity. See beautiful golden koi, locals dancing and practicing tai chi, visit a local teahouse and most interesting of all, Matchmaker's Corner. Later visit Wide and Narrow Alleys, and enjoy an optional hot pot dinner and face changing show. (B,L)

## Day 21: Giant Pandas

Visit Chengdu's renowned panda base and see these adorably charming creatures up close. Later visit Wuhou Temple. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B,L)

## Day 22: Ancient Ciqikou

Jump on the bullet train to Chongqing. Enjoy free time in the charming old town of Ciqikou then board your Yangtze Cruise vessel, home for the next three nights. (B,D)

## Days 23-24: Yangtze Cruise

A cruise down the Yangtze reveals some of the world's most dramatic scenery. (B,L,D)

## Day 25: Three Gorges Dam

Visit the Three Gorges Dam, then fly to Shanghai. (B,L)

## Day 26: Shanghaiese Shanghai

Wake up to the buzz of Shanghai, and take a breakfast walking tour between coruscating skyscrapers and traditional streets. Visit the Yu Yuan Gardens, the Old Town and the Silk Museum. (B,L)

## Day 27: Suzhou and Huangpu

Join the optional day tour to delightful Suzhou, or spend more time at leisure in Shanghai. Your final farewell to China will be a cruise down the Huangpu River, serenaded by the neon lights of Pudong. (B,D)

## Day 28: Fly Shanghai to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Saturday

2016 DATES			
08 May - 04 Jun	£3,490	04 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,690
09 Oct - 05 Nov	£3,690		
2017 DATES			
02 Apr - 29 Apr	£3,790	07 May - 03 Jun	£3,790
03 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,890	08 Oct - 04 Nov	£3,890

See Tour Dossier for more information about optional excursions on this tour.



NEW

# CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year is the world's biggest festival and there is no better place to experience it than the great cities of China. Immerse yourself in Chinese culture and celebrate this special time of year like the locals do; with fireworks, family festivities and temple fairs.

10 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £2,590

INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

MODERATE PACE



▲ VICTORIA HARBOUR FIREWORKS

## Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

## Flight and supplement information

## Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,170 (Hong Kong - Beijing)
- Single room from £790
- Tipping paid locally US\$66 & HKD280



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ NEW YEAR PARADE



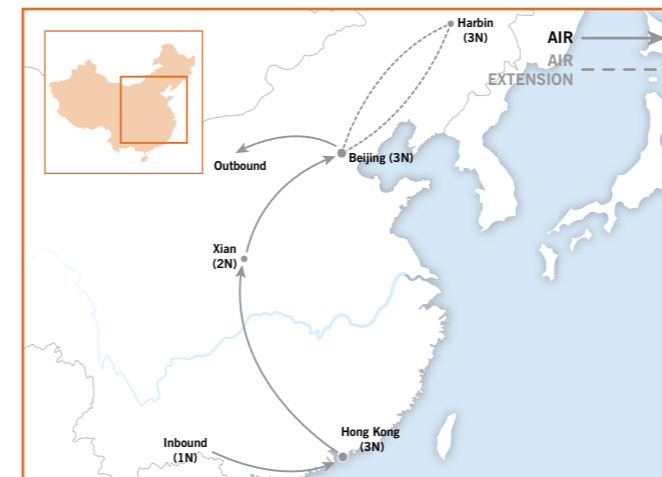
▲ XIAN LANTERN FESTIVAL

## NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: JASON

This is a special opportunity for you to experience the atmosphere of Chinese New Year. You can also get a better understanding of Chinese daily life.



▲ XIAN ANCIENT CITY WALL



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hong Kong New Year Parade
- Fireworks over Victoria Harbour
- Longqing Gorge Ice and Snow Festival
- Ditan Temple Fair, Beijing

## ITINERARY

## Day 1-2: Fly to Hong Kong

Fly overnight to Hong Kong, the ultimate east-meets-west destination. Visit the famous flower markets and enjoy a New Year's Eve celebratory dinner. (D)

## Day 3: Hong Kong Chinese New Year Parade

Hong Kong vibrates with anticipation for the upcoming celebrations as you explore the colourful temples and streets of the city. In the evening take your reserved seats for the Tsim Sha Tsui Night Parade, to witness the truly astonishing variety of colourful floats, live music and dance performances as they pass. (B,L,D)

## Day 4: New Year Fireworks

Visit bustling Stanley Market and Aberdeen Fishing Village, home to rows of old-fashioned junks and house boats, before finishing at Victoria Peak for mesmerising views over skyscrapers, bays and islands. The afternoon is free to enjoy the New Year ambience, then see one of the world's greatest fireworks displays whilst cruising on Victoria Harbour. (B,L)

## Day 5: Lantern Festival

Fly to Xian, terminus of the Silk Road and the greatest of China's ancient capitals. Dumpling-making is considered an art form in China and you will learn the

secret to making these intricate parcels as a master chef prepares them before your eyes. Xian is surrounded by an imposing and enormously wide wall which would have once been patrolled by Ming Dynasty soldiers and is now used as a city thoroughfare. Head to the walls in the evening and discover that they have been decorated in a riot of colours and lights for the dazzling Lantern Festival. (B,L,D)

## Day 6: Terracotta Warriors

Housed in three immense hangers, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis. Gaze over the ranks of crossbowmen, infantry, horses and chariots, all drawn up in traditional battle order, as your guide introduces you to these life-like soldiers' unique stories. Take a walking tour of the narrow twisting streets of the Muslim Quarter; and sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks whilst gaining an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road. Later in the day visit a local family to learn about the ancient traditions of the Spring Festival – a time when millions of people travel thousands of miles to see their loved ones. This is a unique opportunity to discover how local people celebrate China's most important event of the year. (B,L)

## Day 7: Ditan Temple Fair

Fly to Beijing, a city drenched in history and at the heart of China's future. Join the locals with a stroll around the Ditan Temple Fair, sampling traditional lucky snacks and enjoying the

entertainment and games. Later, enjoy a sumptuous Peking duck dinner. (B,L,D)

## Day 8: Champagne on the Great Wall and Longqing Ice Festival

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. The stark, yet magnificent landscape puts you in the shoes of those who guarded this incredible edifice hundreds of years ago. Stop for a well-deserved glass of champagne and to appreciate this magical moment. In the afternoon head to the valleys of Longqing for the Ice and Snow Festival, a bright and colourful display of ice lanterns, ice carving and snow sculptures. (B,L,D)

## Day 9: Family Festivities

Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Walking through this ornately designed complex offers an unsurpassed insight into China's colourful past. In the evening meet up with a local family to learn more of what makes the Spring Festival so special as you create intricate paper decorations and paint elegant Chinese calligraphy. (B,L,D)

## Day 10: Fly Beijing to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## KEEP EXPLORING

HARBIN SNOW & ICE FESTIVAL  
3 NIGHTS FROM £790pp

## Day 10: Fly to Harbin

Depart China's capital for the capital of snow and ice, Harbin. (B)

## Days 11-12: Snow and Ice Festival

Immerse yourself in a magical winter world at this unique festival. Hundreds of masterpieces carved into ice and snow line the banks of the Songhua River, all lit up in a kaleidoscope of colour. You'll have two days to explore this wonderland; see fearless swimmers brave icy temperatures, and explore the Siberian, Jewish and Russian influences of this fascinating city. (B)

## Days 13-14: Fly Harbin to UK

Fly to the UK via Beijing and Hong Kong, arriving home the following day. (B)

Price includes internal flights from Beijing and breakfast daily.

## KEEP EXPLORING

SHANGHAI  
2 NIGHTS FROM £390pp

Shanghai is an ever-growing, futuristic metropolis. Between the colourful skyscrapers, you will find distinctly traditional side streets and markets; the deeply-rooted foundation of a rapidly modernising city.

Price includes connecting flights from Beijing.

## DEPARTURE – Departing Thursday returning Saturday

## 2017 DATE

26 Jan - 04 Feb £2,590





# SICHUAN EXPLORER

Sichuan contrasts markedly from the rest of China, with differing attitudes, cuisine and spectacular landscapes of forest and mountain. Richly endowed with natural and cultural wonders, touring this magnificent province never fails to steal your breath away.

**15** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £2,490

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,920 (Chengdu - Chengdu)
- Single room from £420
- Tipping paid locally US\$85

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: TOM DU

Sichuan is home to the lovable pandas, the beautiful scenery of Nine Villages Valley and the colourful and exciting Huanglong Pools.



▲ NINE VILLAGES VALLEY



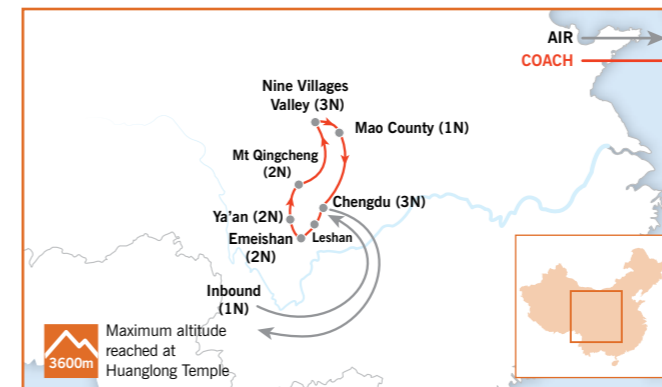
▲ GIANT PANDA



▲ LUGOU BAMBOO SEA



▲ MT. QINGCHENG



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Mount Emei and the Leshan Grand Buddha
- Bifengxia Panda Base
- Spiritual Mt. Qingcheng
- Nine Villages Valley

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Chengdu

Fly overnight to Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### Day 3: Leshan Grand Buddha

Travel to Leshan to see the Grand Buddha. The 71 metre Buddha, the world's largest and UNESCO World Heritage-listed, is carved into a hillside overlooking the confluence of the Dadu and Min Rivers. Completed in the year 803, it is said that the Buddha's presence has calmed the turbulent waters of the river. View the Buddha from above before climbing down the cliff for a close up. A short boat trip will give an even better perspective. Continue to Mount Emei. You'll spend that evening at the foot of the mountain. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Explore Mount Emei

Mount Emei is the cradle of the Buddhist religion in China with the first temple built here, on its peak, in the 1st century. Pilgrims and tourists mix amongst the lush vegetation and inconspicuous old temples, all admiring the striking and diverse natural beauty of the mountain and its setting. Spend the day soaking up the ambience and exploring. (B,L,D)

### Day 5: Peaceful Fuhu Temple

Discover the best-kept secret on Emei Mountain, as you head deep into the forest to

Fuhu Temple. This wonderful structure is remarkably preserved and largely unspoilt, and the surrounding scenery is beautiful. After lunch drive to the subtropical city of Ya'an. (B,L,D)

### Day 6: Bifengxia Panda Base

Visit the world's finest panda conservation centre where you'll gain a real insight into the hard work that goes into caring for and boosting the population of this endangered species. Bifengxia is located high in the mountains and up here the pandas are kept in conditions very close to their natural habitat. Later walk through Bifeng Gorge, passing fairytale waterfalls trickling through otherworldly forest. (B,L,D)

### Day 7: Pingle Ancient Town

Dating back to the Han Dynasty, Pingle was a stopping point on the Tea Horse Road. Take time to walk through its maze of teahouse-lined streets before seeing the forest from above on Jinjigu Suspended Rope Bridge. Lastly, pay a visit to Lugou Bamboo Sea where you can get lost amongst creaking, swishing spears of green. Drive to Mt Qingcheng. (B,L,D)

### Day 8: Taoist Mt. Qingcheng

Mt. Qingcheng is the most important Taoist Holy mountain in China. It is also a truly beautiful spot with numerous peaks covered with lush greenery and secluded temples. You'll be welcomed by a Taoist priest at the Old Master Pavilion on the summit of Mt. Qingcheng. Take the opportunity to speak to him and learn about his religion. You'll also be shown the art of Chinese painting and calligraphy. (B,L,D)

### Day 9: Nine Villages Valley

Enjoy the drive through spectacular mountain scenery to Nine Villages Valley, where you'll spend the next three nights. (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Explore Nine Villages Valley

A national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes, abundant forests and rushing waterfalls, the Nine Villages Valley (Jiuzhaigou National Park) is considered one of China's most beautiful areas. Named after the nine typical Tibetan settlements scattered through the valley, the park is a World Biosphere Reserve, full of endemic flora and 140 species of birds. A trip up to the top of the valley to Long Lake, the highest, deepest and largest in the area, offers spectacular alpine views whilst a short walk to the Five-Coloured Lake and Nuorilang Falls showcase some of the valley's most beautiful sights. Visits to the local paper tree and a Tibetan temple are a relaxing finish to the day's activities. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: Shuzheng Village

Visit Shuzheng village, the largest settlement in the park. Spend some time with a local Tibetan family who will give you an insight into daily life in Nine Villages Valley. A lovely afternoon walk takes you from Rhinoceros Lake, passing Tiger Lake ending at Red Lake – an excellent way to really relish the local scenery. You'll pass an old watermill, many prayer wheels and Tibetan prayer flags en route. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Huanglong Pools

Hundreds of vivid pools in striking colours, formed by thousands of years of mineral deposits, tumble gently down through the bright green forests of the Huanglong Valley. The whole area is studded with waterfalls and hot springs and, as it is relatively undiscovered, is a pleasure to explore. There is an option to take the chair lift up to Huanglong Temple at the head of the valley for excellent panoramic views, before we continue to the delightful Mao County. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Qiang Minority Village

The Qiang people are an ethnic minority group in China with a population of about 326,500. Qiang is actually a Chinese word that translates in English as 'shepherds'. Their customs, architectural style, clothing and religious beliefs are far removed from the western world. You will visit a minority village where you'll be joined by a local elder, who will talk through the history and culture of his people. You'll then visit a local family – strangely you'll join them on the roof of their house. Later in the afternoon, drive to Chengdu. (B,L,D)

### Day 14: Local Chengdu

Spend the morning absorbing the local culture at Peoples Park. People watching here is an endless pleasure, from the grizzled locals playing mah-jong to the lonely singles looking for love in Matchmakers' Corner – there is always something going on. Stop at a local tea house then wander down Jinli Street, a pedestrianised road in the old city which is lined with antique shops and cafes. In the evening enjoy the remarkable 'face changing' show and dinner. (B,L,D)

### Day 15: Fly Chengdu to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)



#### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

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- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Sunday

2016 DATES							
17 Apr - 01 May	£2,490	08 May - 22 May	£2,490	04 Sep - 18 Sep	£2,690	09 Oct - 23 Oct	£2,690
2017 DATES							
16 Apr - 30 Apr	£2,690	07 May - 21 May	£2,690	03 Sep - 17 Sep	£2,890	08 Oct - 22 Oct	£2,890



# YUNNAN ADVENTURE

The most wonderfully complex of all China's provinces, Yunnan boasts a rich diversity of people and landscapes. Explore verdant forest and dramatic mountains, archaeological sites and indigenous cultures on this varied adventure.

**16 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £2,890**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,340 (Kunming - Kunming)
- Single room from £390
- Tipping paid locally US\$90



▲ TIGER LEAPING GORGE

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: WENDY LIU

You will visit the most beautiful and scenic place in China's southwest. You will experience lots of minority culture as Yunnan is home to 25 minority groups.



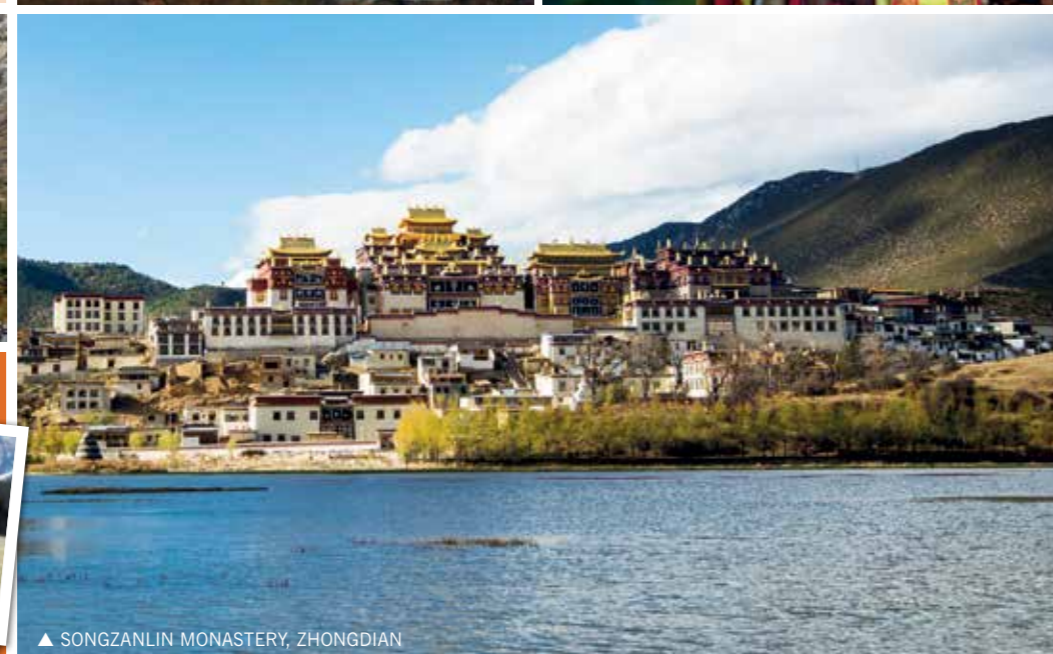
▲ BAISHUI TERRACES



▲ RICE TERRACES OF YUANYANG



▲ SHAMAN MASTER



▲ SONGZANLIN MONASTERY, ZHONGDIAN



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Taoist Mountain Meditation
- Dramatic Tiger Leaping Gorge
- Ancient Jianshui
- Rice Terraces of Yuanyang

## ITINERARY

### ■ Days 1-2: Fly to Kunming

Fly to the relaxed city of Kunming. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### ■ Day 3: Ethnic Bai Tribe

Drive to Dali via the ancient Bai village of Xizhou. See the ancient dwellings and experience the 'Three Cups of Tea Tasting Ceremony', accompanied by traditional music and dance. Continue to Dali, a charming town that offers a peek of bygone China, and wander the Ancient Quarter and market. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 4: Meditation on a Mountain

Journey to Weibaoshan, one of the fourteen sacred Taoist mountains. Steeped in legend, the mountain features 20 Taoist temples nestled on its forested slopes. Walk up the forested hillside to see a handful of these intricately decorated temples, stopping at Qinxia Temple where you will be met by a Taoist priest for a relaxing meditation session. This afternoon, cruise on Erhai Lake. The evening is at leisure. (B,L)

### ■ Day 5: Shaxi Ancient Town

Drive to Shaxi Ancient Town, nestled deep in the Himalayan foothills. Learn about the fascinating minority people that reside in the area and enjoy a local lunch. In the afternoon continue to Lijiang and visit

the Black Dragon Pool before exploring the Old Quarter, a jumble of cobbled streets, precarious wooden buildings and rustic stone bridges. (B,L)

### ■ Day 6: Meet a Shaman Master

Take a chairlift to one of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain's gorgeous meadows and enjoy amazing vistas of this magnificent mountain massif. Continue to Baisha Naxi Village and meet a Dongba Shaman who will demonstrate how to write ancient Dongba written characters, before you attempt this quirky artform yourself. Sample traditional Naxi cuisine. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 7: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Over 3,000 metres deep, Tiger Leaping Gorge, with its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is one of China's most extraordinary sights. The whole area is spectacular – prepare for breathtaking views. Continue on to the Tibetan monastery town of Zhongdian, also known as Shangri-La. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 8: Baishui Terraces

Spring water cascades picturesquely over the white limestone terraces of Baishui. This evening, explore the Old Town Square. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 9: Rural Shangri-La

Visit Songzanlin Monastery before making your way to a rural Tibetan-style village where you will learn about the villagers' way of life, and taste home-cooked dishes. Return to Zhongdian. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 10: Kunming

Visit the Old Town and Dafo Temple before flying to Kunming. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 11: Travel to Jianshui

Travel to Tonghai and visit the unique Xingmeng Mongolian village on the way, where the residents wear traditional costumes and keep old traditions alive. After a stroll around Tonghai market, continue to the antiquated town of Jianshui for an overnight stay and visit the Confucian temple, one of the largest in China. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 12: Yuanyang Market

Visit the Zhang Garden before travelling further south to Yuanyang where you can explore the bustling market, full of fresh produce and locals in traditional, colourful costume. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 13: Yuanyang Rice Terraces

Created by the Hani people over hundreds of years this wide, watery expanse is a spectacular sight to behold. Described as 'land sculpture' in China, the elements turn the terraces into pools of colour that reflect their mood, whether it's the reds and yellows of sunrise or the whites and greys of a mist settling over the valley. Hike through the terraces before visiting Qingkou Hani Ethnic Village. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 14: Stone Forest

Journey to the Stone Forest, stopping en route at Lendun Village Market. Spend the night nearby. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 15: Discover the Stone Forest

Meander through the formations of the UNESCO listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand treelike in a fascinating illusion of woodland. Return to Kunming where you can sample the local delicacy, Across the Bridge noodles, for dinner. (B,L,D)

### ■ Day 16: Fly Kunming to UK

Fly back home, arriving the same or following day. (B)



#### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

#### STOPOVER IN...



#### MACAU

2 NIGHTS FROM £290PP

Discover the former Portuguese colony of Macau, a glittering combination of Mediterranean and Asian influences, where conservative colonial heritage rubs shoulders with brash, Las Vegas-esque casinos.

See pages 116-117. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Monday

2016 DATES									
05 Mar - 21 Mar	£2,890	09 Apr - 25 Apr	£2,990	03 Sep - 19 Sep	£2,990	29 Oct - 14 Nov	£2,990	12 Nov - 28 Nov	£2,990
2017 DATES									
04 Mar - 20 Mar	£2,990	08 Apr - 24 Apr	£3,090	02 Sep - 18 Sep	£3,190	28 Oct - 13 Nov	£3,190	11 Nov - 27 Nov	£3,190



# HIMALAYAN ADVENTURE

Embark on a journey of extremes, striking across the starkly beautiful landscapes of Tibet, on the roof of the world. Then discover the verdant and chaotic valleys of Nepal under the ever watchful gaze of the mighty Himalayas.

**20** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £3,490

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures**
- Flight upgrades available on request
  - Land only from £2,860 (Chengdu - Kathmandu)
  - Single room from £590
  - Tipping paid locally US\$142 (China) & US\$70 (Nepal)

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: SAM YANG

Visits to the Potala Palace and Mount Everest base camp are unforgettable memories that will forever stay in your life.



▲ HIMALAYAS



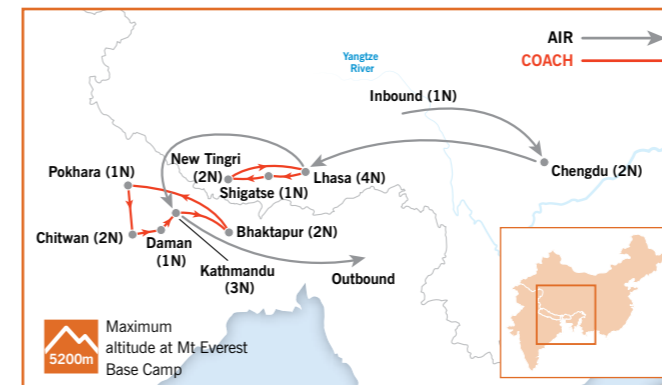
▲ PHEWA LAKE



▲ BODHNATH STUPA



▲ MOUNT EVEREST



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Chengdu's Giant Pandas
- Mystical Lhasa
- Mighty Mount Everest
- Legendary Kathmandu

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Chengdu

Fly overnight to Chengdu. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### Day 3: Giant Pandas

A visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre allows you to see China's celebrated bears up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Stroll through People's Park and see Matchmaker's Corner, and visit a traditional tea house. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Lhasa

Fly to Lhasa and acclimatise. (B,L,D)

### Day 5: Debating Monks

Lhasa is a modern city but among the old streets at its core you'll feel a million miles from the modern world. Venture inside Jokhang Temple where queues of people worship in the flickering light of yak butter candles. Wander around the Barkhor with traditionally dressed locals and prostrating pilgrims. There will also be a visit to Sera Monastery to witness the debating monks. This evening, try yak burgers for dinner. (B,L,D)

### Day 6: The Potala Palace

The Potala Palace is an architectural wonder towering over the city. The winter palace of the Dalai Lama, it houses thousands of rooms filled with

old treasures. This evening enjoy a traditional Tibetan dance performance. (B,L,D)

### Day 7: Shigatse

Travel across Tibet's stark plains to Shigatse, Tibet's second city and the traditional home of the Panchen Lama. En route stop at the pleasant town of Gyantse to visit the famous kumbum. This fascinating monastery is home to the largest chörten in Tibet – climb it for a secession of colourful mural-filled chapels and wonderful views. (B,L,D)

### Day 8: Tashilhunpo Monastery

Visit Tashilhunpo Monastery, the hilltop complex that is the monastic seat of the Panchen Lama. From here drive to New Tingri admiring awe-inspiring Himalayan views. (B,L,D)

### Day 9: Everest Base Camp

Rise early to make the final assault across the Gue La to Pasum and Rongbuk, a monastic village festooned in colourful prayer flags. Visit the world's highest post office, then continue to Everest Base Camp, situated under the gaze of Everest's north face, from where the views of the world's highest peak are unsurpassed (weather permitting). (B,L,D)

### Day 10: New Tingri to Lhasa

Drive from New Tingri back to Lhasa via Shigatse. Stay one night in Lhasa. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: Into Nepal

Fly to Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. Meet your Nepalese guide and transfer to Bhaktapur. En route stop in Dhulikhel to see the traditional Nuwari houses and browse the local market. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Bhaktapur

Take a visit to Changu Narayan Temple before taking a hike to Telkot through the forest landscapes, admiring the stunning Himalayan scenery. Return to Bhaktapur and visit the Old Houses before enjoying a traditional Nepalese lunch. This afternoon wander Bhaktapur's cobblestone streets where you'll stumble across many old courtyards, temples and artisans busy at their craft. Visit the Golden Gate and the Palace of 55 Windows on Durbar Square. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Pokhara

Travel to Pokhara. The town sits on the verdant banks of Phewa Lake with virtually uninterrupted views of the majestic Annapurna and Manaslu ranges. Enjoy a boat ride on picturesque Phewa Lake, the second largest lake in Nepal. (B,L,D)

### Days 14-15: Chitwan National Park

Admire the sunrise and enjoy the serenity of a Hindu temple before departing for Chitwan National Park. A jungle safari delivers you to the Terai, or plains region. Tomorrow, take an early morning nature walk, and visit the elephant stables. Later, enjoy a serene trip down the Rapti River to view the animals on the river banks. Observe an elephant bath and this evening enjoy a traditional Tharu Stick dance performed by local farmers. (B,L,D)

### Day 16: Daman

Drive to Daman which has one of the most spectacular outlooks over the Himalayan range of anywhere in Nepal. The afternoon is free for you to stroll about the town, visit the viewing tower and soak in the staggering views. (B,L,D)

### Day 17: Kathmandu

A spectacular sunrise awaits if you feel like rising early. Depart Daman to travel to the legendary Kathmandu. The afternoon is free for independent explorations. (B,L,D)

### Day 18: Lama Blessing

Essentially a suburb of Kathmandu, Patan was once the capital of an independent

kingdom, something that is noticeable in its distinctiveness. See the UNESCO World Heritage Royal Palace and the sights of Patan's Durbar Square. Returning to Kathmandu, visit the Bodhnath Stupa and Monastery for a very special Lama blessing. Continue to Pashupatinath Temple. (B,L,D)

### Day 19: Swayambhunath

Kathmandu is a city of many layers – a modern day assault on the senses, a hub of cultural and artistic heritage and a monument to the medieval era. Today's visits include Swayambhunath Temple, Durbar Square, the Kumari Temple and Thamel Market. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Fly Kathmandu to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)



#### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

#### STOPOVER IN...



#### ABU DHABI

3 NIGHTS FROM £190PP

A modern desert metropolis it may be, but Abu Dhabi has retained a distinctive Arabic charm on its attractive streets and whilst thoroughly cosmopolitan, it is a palpably more relaxed city than neighbouring Dubai.

See page 118.  
Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Monday

2016 DATES							
20 Apr - 09 May	£3,490	11 May - 30 May	£3,490	07 Sep - 26 Sep	£3,590	05 Oct - 24 Oct	£3,590
2017 DATES							
19 Apr - 08 May	£3,690	10 May - 29 May	£3,690	06 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,790	04 Oct - 23 Oct	£3,790



# DREAMS OF NATURE

Towering pinnacles swathed in mist, sky-skimming mountains and nature at its most verdant are just some of the wonders included on this scenic tour. Indulge your senses with China's most spectacular, mysterious and dramatic natural highlights.

**22 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,290**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,740 (Guilin - Chengdu)
- Single room from £640
- Tipping paid locally US\$135



▲ NINE VILLAGES VALLEY

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: GRACE GAO

Fully explore the scenic beauty of China, with visits to Yangshuo, Jiuzhaigou and Zhangjiajie.



▲ ZHANGJIAJIE



▲ HUANGLONG POOLS



▲ RED PANDA



▲ YANGSHUO



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Yangtze & Li River Cruises
- Nine Villages Valley
- Pinnacles of Zhangjiajie
- Bifengxia Panda Base

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Guilin

Fly overnight to Guilin. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### Day 3: Yangshuo's Landscapes

Take a gentle cruise along the Li River to Yangshuo. Lined with dramatic limestone cliffs, the serenity of life on the riverbanks is a wonderful sight. Later, take a walk through this idyllic wonderland and get an insight into life here. There's an option to take a short and steep but rewarding hike to the top of Xianggong Hill for epic sunset views. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Tai Chi & Country Cycling

Start the day with a relaxing and invigorating session of tai chi, taking time with a master to learn this ancient martial art. This afternoon there is the option of riding a bicycle through the countryside – another chance to explore every corner of this exquisite location. (B,L)

### Day 5: Yangshuo Rafting

This morning is at leisure, or you may wish to join an optional bamboo rafting trip along the Yulong River for one last, tranquil jaunt in the countryside. Drift past verdant riverbanks and under ancient bridges as you paddle on glass-like waters. Drive back to Guilin and visit the Reed Flute Caves. (B,L,D)

### Day 6: Longji Rice Terraces

Travel to the iconic Longji Rice Terraces and head out for a three

hour walk through the traditional rural landscapes. There are several viewpoints boasting picture-postcard views of the extensive rice terraces that cover the hillside in intricate patterns. Drive back to Guilin. (B,L,D)

### Day 7: Zhangjiajie

Catch the bullet train to Changsha, then enjoy the breathtaking drive to Zhangjiajie. (B,L,D)

### Days 8-9: Zhangjiajie

A scenic area of over 3,000 sandstone pillars, rising from misty folds of subtropical forest and cloaked in vibrant green vegetation, Zhangjiajie's striking beauty is unforgettable. Ravines and gorges, streams and waterfalls and a plethora of endangered plants and animal species complete this idyllic scene. During your time here you will enjoy some beautiful walks, as well as taking a cruise on Lake Baofeng and a visit to Huanglong Cave and Huangshi Village. (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Yichang

Catch the train to Yichang, where you'll board your Yangtze Cruise vessel, home for the next four nights. (B,L,D)

### Days 11-13: Yangtze River Cruise

A man-made marvel, The Three Gorges Dam showcases this massive feat of engineering. But as we cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. A voyage along China's riverine treasure is a chance to relax and enjoy a slower pace, whilst absorbing extraordinary countryside. Take a side trip to the attractive Goddess or Shennong Stream and enjoy shore excursions to the Ghost City of Fengdu or Shibaozhai. (B,L,D)

### Day 14: Ciqikou

Disembark your cruise vessel and enjoy lunch in the charming old town of Ciqikou. Fly to Nine Villages Valley. (B,D)

### Day 15: Nine Villages Valley

A national park of ragged peaks, sapphire lakes, abundant forests and rushing waterfalls, the Nine Villages Valley (Jiuzhaigou National Park) is considered one of China's most beautiful areas. A trip up to the top of the valley to the Long Lake, the highest, deepest and largest in the area, offers spectacular alpine views whilst a short walk to the Five-Coloured Lake and Nuorilang Falls showcases some of the valley's most beautiful sights. Visit the local paper tree, a Tibetan temple and later enjoy traditional lamb skewers. (B,L,D)

### Day 16: Shuzheng Village

Visit Shuzheng Village, the largest settlement in the park. Spend some time with a local Tibetan family who will give you an insight into daily life in Nine Villages Valley. A lovely afternoon walk takes you from Rhinoceros Lake, passing Tiger Lake ending at Reed Lake – an excellent way to really relish the local scenery. You'll pass an old watermill and Tibetan prayer flags en route. (B,L,D)

### Day 17: Huanglong Pools

Hundreds of vivid pools in striking colours, formed by thousands of years of mineral deposits, tumble gently down through the bright green forests of the Huanglong Valley. The whole area is studded with waterfalls and hot springs and is relatively undiscovered. There is an option to take the chair lift up to Huanglong Temple at the head of the valley for excellent panoramic views, before catching a flight to Chengdu. (B,L,D)

### Day 18: Pingle Ancient Town

Drive to Ya'an via Pingle Ancient Town. Dating back to the Han Dynasty, Pingle was a stopping point on the Tea Horse Road. Take time to walk through its mass of teahouse-lined streets before seeing the forest from above on Jinjigu Suspended Rope Bridge. Lastly, pay a visit to Lugou Bamboo Sea where you can get lost amongst creaking, swishing spears of green. (B,L,D)

### Day 19: Bifengxia Panda Base

Visit the world's finest panda conservation centre where you'll gain a real insight into the hard work that goes into caring for and boosting the population of this endangered species. Bifengxia is located high in the Sichuan mountains and up here the pandas are kept in conditions very close to their natural habitat. Later, walk through Bifeng Gorge, passing fairytale-like waterfalls trickling through otherworldly forests. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Mengdingshan Tea Plantation

Travel through lush countryside to the tea plantations of Mengdingshan. Take a tour of a plantation with a local farmer to learn about the entire tea-making process and its fascinating history. Back in Chengdu the evening is at leisure – the restaurant lined streets of the Wide and Narrow Alleys are a great choice for dinner. (B,L)

### Day 21: Chengdu

Spend the morning absorbing the local culture at Peoples' Park. People watching here is an endless pleasure, from the grizzled locals playing mah-jong to the lonely singles looking for love in matchmaking corner – there is always something going on. The afternoon is free. In the evening enjoy the remarkable 'face changing' show and tuck into a delicious farewell meal of Sichuan cuisine. (B,D)

### Day 22: Fly Chengdu to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

#### STOPOVER IN...



#### HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Friday

2016 DATES		2017 DATES	
20 May - 10 Jun	£3,290	09 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,490
07 Oct - 28 Oct	£3,490	07 Oct - 28 Oct	£3,490
07 Apr - 28 Apr	£3,490	05 May - 26 May	£3,490
08 Sep - 29 Sep	£3,690	06 Oct - 27 Oct	£3,690



# TIBETAN WONDERS

Journey through the diverse landscapes of Yunnan Province up to 'the roof of the world' where you will experience the many wonders of Tibet. Admire ancient monasteries and Himalayan vistas before taking in the ultimate view of Everest.

**23 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,890**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

▲ VIEWS OF EVEREST

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
  - Domestic transportation
  - Accommodation
  - Meals as per itinerary
  - Touring with guides and entrance fees
  - Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders
- Tibet permit conditions are subject to change*

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,340 (Kunming - Chengdu)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$110



▲ JOKHANG TEMPLE, LHASA

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: NICK LIU

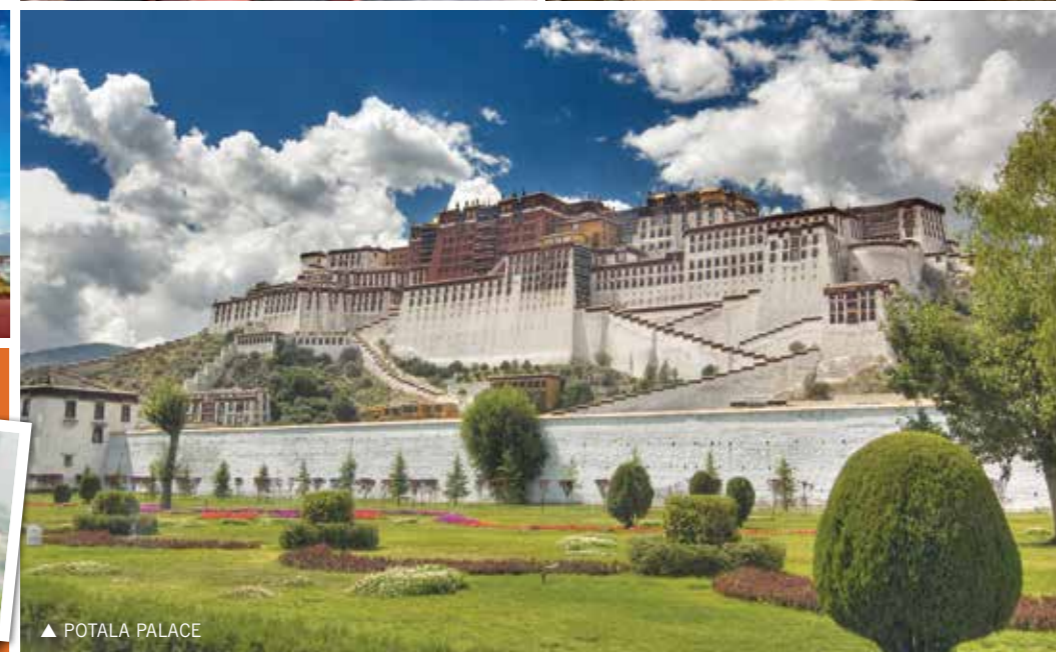
With this tour you will visit the highest palace of the world Potala palace and adventure to the Everest Base camp.



▲ PRAYER WHEELS



▲ TIBETAN MONK



▲ POTALA PALACE



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Taoist Mountain Meditation
- Ethnic Tibetan Village
- Unforgettable Lhasa
- Mt Everest base camp

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Kunming

Fly overnight to the relaxed city of Kunming, 'the city of Eternal Spring'. (D)

### Day 3: Discover the Stone Forest

Meander through the formations of the UNESCO listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand treelike in a fascinating illusion of petrified woodland. This afternoon visit Dianchi Lake and the Western Hills, often referred to as 'Sleeping Beauty Hills'. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Ethnic Xizhou Village

Transfer to Dali, then drive to Xizhou on the shores of Lake Erhai. Take part in a traditional Bao Minority Tea Ceremony accompanied by costumed dancers and see the ancient dwelling houses. This evening, there's free time to wander around the fascinating old quarter and lively market. (B,L)

### Day 5: Taoist Mountain Meditation

Weibaoshan is one of the Taoist religion's most sacred mountains, and has twenty temples dotted on its forested slopes. Take a scenic walk and discover a handful of these temples, stopping at Qingxia temple where you will be met by a Taoist priest who will introduce you to Taoist meditation techniques. This afternoon, cruise on pretty Erhai Lake. (B,L)

### Day 6: Shaxi Ancient Town

Drive to Shaxi Ancient Town, nestled deep in the Himalayan foothills. Learn about the fascinating minority peoples who reside in the area and enjoy a local lunch. Continue to Lijiang and spend the evening wandering the street food stalls. (B,L)

### Day 7: Jade Dragon Snow Mountain & Dongba Shaman

A magnificent mountain massif, the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain soars to 5,500 metres. Taking a chairlift, explore one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. Admire the fascinating Ming Dynasty frescoes at Baisha and see the intricate creations of the embroidery school. Next, meet a genuine Shaman who will teach you to write the forgotten language of Dongba Pictograms. (B,L,D)

### Day 8: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Over 3,000 metres deep, Tiger Leaping Gorge, with its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is one of China's most extraordinary sights. Continue on to the Tibetan monastery town of Zhongdian, also known as Shangri-La. (B,L,D)

### Day 9: Baishui Terraces

Spring water cascades picturesquely over the white limestone terraces of Baishui. Explore the Old Town Square in the evening. (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Tibetan Zhongdian

Visit the magnificent Songzanlin Monastery and its many treasures, tour Zhongdian old town and catch a glimpse of old Tibet in a traditional village. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: Lhasa

Fly to Lhasa, the heart and soul of Tibet. The afternoon is free to relax and acclimatise to the altitude (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Jokhang Temple and Spiritual Barkhor Circuit

Lhasa is a quickly growing modern city but among the narrow, old streets you'll feel a million miles from the stresses and strains of the modern world. Wander around the Barkhor Circuit to see traditionally dressed locals, stalls of religious trinkets and prostrating pilgrims. Inside the Jokhang Temple, the devotion is palpable as queues of people worship in the flickering light of yak butter candles. There will also be a visit to Sera Monastery, to witness the debating monks. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Potala Palace

The Potala Palace is an architectural wonder towering over the city from its seat on Marpo Ri (Red Mountain). The Potala, the winter palace of the Dalai Lama, houses thousands of rooms filled with old treasures from intricate shrines to beautiful frescoes. This afternoon, explore Norbulingka, the summer residence of the Dalai Lama, set in parkland just outside the city, before visiting a local Tibetan arts and crafts shop. Enjoy a traditional Tibetan dinner and a dance performance in the evening. (B,L,D)

### Days 14-15: Shigatse

Travel across Tibet's stark plains to Shigatse. Dominated by a fort reminiscent of the Potala, Shigatse is Tibet's second city and the traditional home of the Panchen Lama. The rest of the day is spent exploring. The next day continue by road to New Tingri admiring the awe-inspiring views of the mighty Himalayas as we go. (B,L,D)

### Day 16: Everest Base Camp

Traverse some of the world's most incredible scenery stopping enroute at the world's highest post office, with the Himalayas dominating the horizon, as we make our way to base camp. Here, situated under the gaze of Everest's north face, the views of the world's highest peak are unsurpassed. Visit Rongbuk Monastery, draped in colourful prayer flags, and stay overnight in the township. (B,L,D)

### Day 17: Everest sunrise

Rise early to see a glorious sunrise over Everest before driving to Old Tingri. (B,L,D)

### Days 18-19: Shigatse and Gyantse

Return to Shigatse and join the pilgrims on their evening 'Kora' (circumnavigation) of the monastery. The next day visit Tashilhunpo Monastery, then continue to the pleasant town of Gyantse to visit Pelkor Monastery and the Gyantse Kumbum. Visit a traditional folk house for some home brewed 'chang'. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Tsedang

Drive to Tsedang, called the 'cradle of Tibetan civilisation'. (B,L,D)

### Day 21: Yumbulhakang Palace

Perched on a hill over the Yarlung River, legend says that the ancient Yumbulhakang Palace was the first building in Tibet and the palace of the first Tibetan king. Continue on to the Chang Chun Monastery, Gangpo Ri and the King's Tombs before returning to Lhasa. (B,L,D)

### Day 22: Pandas

Fly to Chengdu. Visit the famous Panda Conservation Centre where you can get up close to China's celebrated bears in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Visit the fascinating Shu Brocade Factory. Tonight, sample delicious Sichuan cuisine for dinner. (B,L,D)

### Day 23: Fly Chengdu to UK

Fly back home arriving the same or following day. (B)

#### STOPOVER IN...



#### HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Sunday

2016 DATES		2017 DATES	
30 Apr - 22 May	£3,890	14 May - 05 Jun	£3,890
03 Sep - 25 Sep	£3,990	02 Sep - 24 Sep	£4,190
17 Sep - 09 Oct	£3,990	16 Sep - 08 Oct	£4,190



# MONGOLIA & THE NAADAM FESTIVAL

To most, Mongolia is a place of mystery as remote as they come. This tour is a journey of discovery through the land of Genghis Khan, traversing the endless plains to explore sites of immeasurable natural beauty. Meet the lovely people and get involved in local festivities.

**23** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £5,290

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

▲ FLAMING CLIFFS

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £4,240 (Ulaanbaatar - Ulaanbaatar)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$100



▲ TERELJ NATIONAL PARK



▲ MONGOLIAN WRESTLER



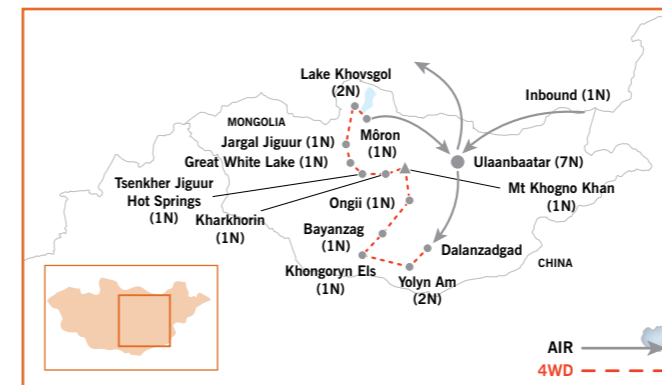
▲ GER CAMP

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MR. CHUKA

At the Flaming Cliffs, watching the sunset turn the cliffs into a bright red flame makes me think of Roy Chapman Andrews and his expeditions.



▲ MONGOLIAN GRASSLAND



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Naadam Festival
- Gobi Desert
- Lake Khovsgol
- Terelj National Park

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Ulaanbaatar

Fly overnight to Mongolia's capital Ulaanbaatar. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### Days 3-4: Gobi Desert

Fly to Dalanzadgad which sits on the edge of the legendary and inhospitable Gobi Desert. Transfer to the ger camp near Gurvansaikhan National Park for two nights. You'll spend two days immersed in natural beauty amongst jagged mountains and undulating sand dunes. We also visit the magnificent Yolyn Am Gorge. (B,L,D)

### Day 5: Khongoryn Els Dunes

Embark on a 4WD adventure to Khongoryn Els and explore Mongolia's largest sand dunes, also known as the 'Singing Sand Dunes'. Enjoy the beauty of these stark landscapes and, for those who are feeling adventurous, climb to the top for fantastic views. (B,L,D)

### Day 6: Flaming Cliffs

Continue exploring the magnificent landscapes of the Gobi Desert before travelling to Bayanzag. Made up of peaks and canyons in a striking fiery red and orange sandstone, the Flaming Cliffs are a spectacular sight. The area is especially important thanks to the vast number of dinosaur fossils that have been found – even the amateur eye can spot them as you wander through the canyon. (B,L,D)

### Day 7: Ongiiin Khiid Monastery

Journey to the banks of the Ongii River and view the atmospheric ruins of two monasteries – Barlim Khiid and Khutagt Khiid, comprising Ongiiin Khiid, formerly one of the largest monasteries in Mongolia. (B,L,D)

### Day 8: Mt Khogno Khan

Spend the day exploring around the foot of the imposing Mt Khogno Khan. Set in the beautiful surroundings of a Natural Reserve, discover the remains of 17th century Uvgun Khiid Monastery whilst enjoying the resplendent nature and mountain vistas. (B,L,D)

### Day 9: Kharkhorin City

Mongolia's former capital Kharkhorin is located in a spot picked by Genghis Khan in 1220. However, the city remained Mongolia's political, cultural and economic hub for only 40 years before power was transferred to Khanbaliq – now modern day Beijing. After the collapse of the Mongolian Empire, the city was abandoned to the elements and destroyed by roving soldiers until its remains were used to build Erdene Zuu Khiid, Mongolia's first Buddhist monastery – which we will visit today. (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Tsenkher Jiguur Hot Springs

Lounge in the volcanic hot springs of Tsenkher Jiguur surrounded by verdant scenery. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: Great White Lake

Enjoy the scenery of Great White Lake set amongst the extinct volcanoes of the Khangai mountain range. The extinct Khorgo Volcano sits watching over the lake – hike up to the crater for wonderful views, or walk along the lake

shore where there are excellent opportunities for bird and wildlife spotting. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Jargal Jiguur

Spend a little more time lingering in the spectacular panoramas of Great White Lake before driving to Jargal Jiguur ger camp. (B,L,D)

### Days 13-14: Lake Khovsgol

The extraordinary Lake Khovsgol is known as the Blue Pearl of Mongolia, a vast body of water enveloped in dense pine forests and backed by soaring mountains. Spend two days surrounded by nature in this national park, enjoying the flora, fauna and incredible scenery. (B,L,D)

### Days 15-16: Lake Khovsgol to Ulaanbaatar

Travel through more delightful scenery to the city of Moron, where you will have the afternoon at leisure. Fly to Ulaanbaatar. (B,L,D)

### Days 17-18: Naadam Festival

Spend two days enjoying the revelry of the traditional Naadam Festival. Dating from the times of Genghis Khan the 'three manly games' have locals taking part in Mongolian wrestling, horse racing and archery. There's also a wealth of pageantry and ceremony in a festival of raucous fun that you'll see nowhere else in the world. (B,L,D)

### Day 19: Terelj National Park

Soak up the beautiful alpine scenery of the Terelj National Park. Visit Turtle Rock and take an easy hike up to the Aryabal Monastery, perched on the mountainside. Visit a local family to get a glimpse of their nomadic lifestyle. Spend the night in a ger camp. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Ulaanbaatar

Drive back to Ulaanbaatar, visiting the Genghis Khan statue complex en route. (B,L,D)

### Day 21: Explore Ulaanbaatar

Ulaanbaatar is, perhaps surprisingly, an enormous city. Lively and bustling you will have to dig deep to find a tranquil spot, but they do exist. Explore Sukhbaatar Square, the Museum of Mongolian History and the Museum of Natural History. Also visit Gandan Monastery the largest and most important in Mongolia. (B,L,D)

### Day 22: Ulaanbaatar Folklore Performance

Enjoy a leisurely day visiting Zaisan Memorial Hill and the Cashmere Factory. This evening sit down to a traditional folklore performance. (B,L,D)

### Day 23: Ulaanbaatar to UK

Fly back home arriving the same or following day. (B)



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Sunday

2016 DATES		2017 DATES	
25 Jun - 17 Jul	£5,290	09 Jul - 31 Jul*	£5,290
24 Jun - 16 Jul	£5,690	08 Jul - 30 Jul*	£5,690

\*Second departure dates follow a different itinerary starting with the festival.



## ROAD TO SAMARKAND

Journey through the heart of Central Asia crossing beautiful deserts and mountain landscapes. Discover ancient cities full of intricate Islamic architecture, thriving bazaars and a mystical old-world atmosphere, all linked with the legends of the Silk Road.

**24 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £4,190**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

### Flight and supplement information

#### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,590 (Urumqi - Tashkent)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$145

### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: RUSTAM NAZAROV

*I was born in Bukhara. It has been my dream to be a tour guide and to explore every single undiscovered corner of my country and spread it all over the world.*



▲ REGISTAN SQUARE



▲ TIAN CHI HEAVENLY LAKE



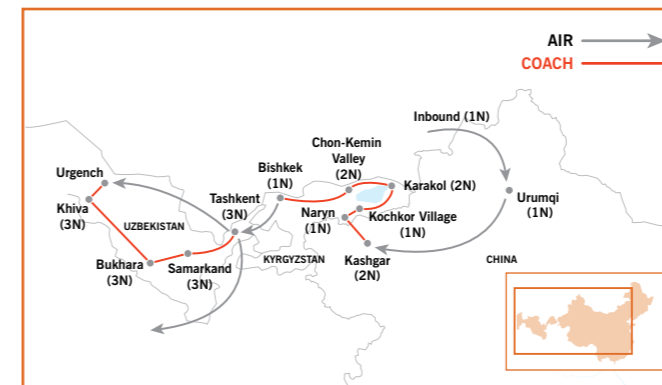
▲ SHAH-I-ZINDA, SAMARKAND



▲ KHIVA



▲ LAKE ISSYK KUL



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Colourful Kashgar
- Issyk Kul Eagle Hunting
- Khiva Medrassahs, Minarets and Mosques
- Mystical Samarkand

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Urumqi

Fly overnight to the city of Urumqi. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### Day 3: Tian Chi Heavenly Lake

Escape to the tranquillity of Tian Chi Heavenly Lake, a crystal clear body of water formed in a crater. In the evening fly to the remote city of Kashgar, the heart of the Silk Road. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Explore Kashgar

Its skyline punctured by minarets, Kashgar feels a million miles from anywhere. Although now a modern city, the sights and sounds of Kashgar's streets have remained unchanged for millennia, as it remains as much of an integral trading post as in its Silk Road heyday. Today's visits include Abakh Hoja Tomb, Id Kah Mosque and the atmospheric alleyways around Id Kah Square. (B,L,D)

### Day 5: Tian Shan Mountains

Cross the border into Kyrgyzstan through the magnificent Tian Shan Heavenly Mountains. Making our way over the Torugart Pass to Naryn, stop en route at the 15th-century caravanserai at Tash Rabat. (B,L,D)

### Days 6-7: Eagle Hunting and Karakol

Drive to Kochkor Village and enjoy a traditional lunch at a ger camp. The next day continue to Karakol via Bokonbayevo village

on the shores of Lake Issyk Kul, where the locals will demonstrate their skill at hunting with eagles. (B,L,D)

### Days 8-9: Explore Karakol

Spend the morning soaking up the atmosphere of the bustling animal market before examining the region's diverse religious influences with visits to the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral and the Chinese mosque. Take an afternoon stroll in Jety-Oguz and through the beautiful Valley of Flowers. The next day visit the Przhevalsky Museum and Semenov Gorge before driving to Cholpon-Ata. Explore animal petroglyphs etched into glacial stone before continuing to Ashu in the Chon-Kemin Valley. (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Ethnic Ashu Village

Meet the local Kyrgyz people and take in the daily way of life in Ashu Village. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: Bishkek Folk Performance

Drive to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's capital, a city of wide, leafy boulevards which contrast with the Soviet-era architecture. En route visit the 11th-century Burana Tower, an intricate minaret out in the countryside. This afternoon visit Ala Too Square and Oak Park. This evening enjoy a traditional folk performance. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Tashkent

This morning take a leisurely hike in Ala Archa National Park. This evening fly to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Ancient Khiva

Fly to Urgench and drive to the ancient city of Khiva. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B,L,D)

### Day 14: Kuhna Ark Fortress

The ancient city of Khiva has a long and turbulent history as part of the Silk Road and a slave trading

post. This fascinating destination is lovely to explore – wander around the many medrassahs, mosques and minarets within the ancient city walls, as well as the magnificent 17th-century Kuhna Ark Fortress. (B,L,D)

### Day 15: Elliq-Qala Ruins

Explore the ruins of Elliq-Qala, an impressive fort and temple complex dating back to the 4th-century BC, before having lunch at a yurt camp. Return to Khiva where the remainder of the day is yours to spend as you wish. (B,L,D)

### Days 16-18: Sacred Bukhara

After a day's drive across the Kyzyl Kum desert arrive at the holiest city in Central Asia, Bukhara. Bukhara has been built up over thousands of years, with an atmospheric old centre and some pre-Soviet era architecture. Spend two days seeing the sights, with visits to the Ark Fortress, Chor Minor, Kalon Minaret, Labi-Hauz Plaza and the summer residence of the last Bukharan Emirs. (B,L,D)

### Days 19-21: Samarkand

Perhaps the most notable name in Silk Road history, Samarkand is a UNESCO World Heritage city with an evocative skyline of domes and minarets and a mystical presence. Drive to the city via Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of the great historical leader, Tamerlane. Spend two days exploring some of the many historical sites of Samarkand including the Registan, Sher Dor Medressa, the Bibi-Khanym Mosque, Shah-I-Zinda and the Ulugh Beg Observatory. (B,L,D)

### Day 22: Samarkand to Colourful Tashkent

Begin the return journey to Tashkent, passing through the impressive Gates of Tamerlane.

This afternoon will be spent exploring this eccentric city, visiting the 16th-century Kukeldash Medressa, Kaffal Shashi Mausoleum, Khan Medressa and Khast Imom Complex. Also see the Chorsu Bazaar, a traditional market under a beautiful blue dome, the Crying Mother Monument, and the Museum of Applied Arts. (B,L,D)

### Day 23: Tashkent

Explore famous sights around Tashkent including the 1966 earthquake memorial, Independence and Bunyodkor squares, Alishedr Navoi Theatre and the Amir Timur Maydoni before exploring Broadway Street. (B,L,D)

### Day 24: Fly Tashkent to UK

Wake early this morning for your flight to the UK arriving the same day. (B)



▲ KALON MINARET

### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

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- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Sunday returning Tuesday

2016 DATES			2017 DATES		
08 May - 31 May	£4,190	11 Sep - 04 Oct	£4,290	09 Oct - 01 Nov	£4,290
				07 May - 30 May	£4,390
				15 Oct - 07 Nov	£4,490



# SILK ROAD EXPLORER

Follow in the footsteps of intrepid adventurers by journeying along one of the world's most famous trading routes, the Silk Road. Beginning in ancient Xian, venture across this vast land to reach the fascinating outpost of Kashgar and its famous Sunday market.

**26 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,590**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**ACTIVE PACE**

#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,040 (Xian - Beijing)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$120



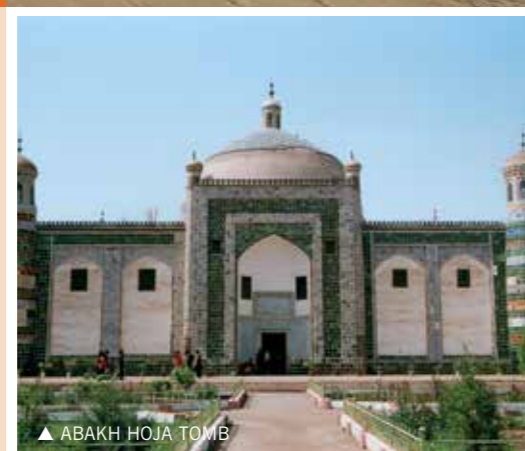
▲ JIAYU FORTRESS

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: HOFFMAN HUO

With this tour you will follow the footsteps of the Chinese adventurer Zhang Qian who started on the silk road 2,000 years ago.



▲ CRESCENT LAKE, DUNHUANG



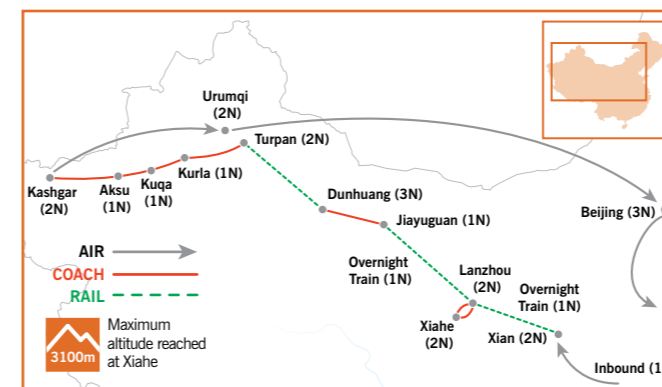
▲ ABAKH HOJA TOMB



▲ MOGAO GROTTOS



▲ LABRANG MONASTERY, XIAHE



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Kashgar's legendary bazaar
- Fascinating Jiayu Fortress
- Tibet Xiahe
- Desert oasis Turpan

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Xian

Fly overnight to Xian, the ancient former capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### Day 3: Terracotta Warriors

Housed in three immense hangars, the ranks of the Terracotta Army stand sentinel in their subterranean necropolis, constructed to protect China's first Emperor in the afterlife. Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, each one unique, whilst your guide introduces you to these life-like soldiers' fascinating story. Later in the day, take a walking tour of the narrow and twisting streets of the Muslim Quarter. Sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture. (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Cycling in Xian

Start the morning with an optional early visit to the local park to see Xian's residents taking part in tai chi and dancing. Later, enjoy a gentle cycle ride that will take you the nine miles around the wall and past many smiling locals. Visit the Xian Museum and the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. Board the overnight train to Lanzhou. (B,L,D)

### Days 5-6: Explore Lanzhou

Enjoy a moment of tranquillity at the hilltop Baita Temple and tuck into some delicious Lanzhou-style noodles made with

hand-stretched dough. The next day cross Liujiaxia Lake by speed boat and head into the green hills around Liujiaxia to explore the extraordinary Thousand Buddha Caves of Bingling Temple and their wealth of Buddhist murals, statues and sculptures. (B,L,D)

### Day 7: Tibetan Xiahe

Conquer the scenic Jishi Mountain Pass to arrive at Tibetan Xiahe. (B,L,D)

### Day 8: Labrang Monastery

Giving a taste of the mysteries of Tibet, Labrang Monastery is a fascinating maze of prayer wheels, chapels and chörtens. Return to Xiahe for a traditional Tibetan style dinner including 'momo', Tibetan dumplings. (B,L,D)

### Days 9-10: Great Wall at Jiayuguan

Return to Lanzhou and board an overnight train for Jiayuguan. Seen as China's western gateway, Jiayuguan is the perfect place to get to grips with your Silk Road history. Visit the Jiayu Fortress and take a walk on the western extremes of the magnificent Great Wall for panoramic views over the starkly beautiful Gobi Desert. (B,L,D)

### Day 11: City of Sands

Drive to Dunhuang. Located on a major trade and cultural crossroads, Dunhuang, known as the 'City of Sands', sits in a verdant oasis on the edge of the Taklamakan Desert. (B,L,D)

### Day 12: Mogao Grottoes

A system of temples and sanctuaries, the Mogao Grottoes exhibit wonderful examples of Buddhist paintings and statues that span thousands of years. (B,L,D)

### Day 13: Singing Sand Dunes

Visit Crescent Moon Spring, nestled amongst rolling sand dunes, and the famous Singing Sand Dunes, a phenomena produced by the wind blowing through the grains. (B,L,D)

### Day 14: Turpan

Catch the bullet train to Turpan, a lush green oasis set in a barren landscape. An easy-going town famed for its grapes, its pleasant streets are lined with lush vine trellises. (B,L,D)

### Day 15: Explore Turpan

Visit the ruins of ancient Jiaohe and the striking red sandstone Flaming Mountains. The next day, see elegant Emin Minaret before visiting a typical home in grape valley. Also learn about the fascinating Karez irrigation canals. (B,L,D)

### Days 16-19: The Silk Road

Over the next four days travel along the original Silk Route through the Xinjiang Region, viewing ruins and sights largely unvisited by tourists. Travel to Kurla and visit the ruins of the Iron Fortress. The next day, see the ruins of Subashi, arriving in Kuqa to visit the old city wall. Also visit the Kyzil Thousand Buddha Caves before travelling to Aksu. Arrive in fabled Kashgar the following day. (B,L,D)

### Day 20: Explore Kashgar

Its skyline punctured by minarets, Kashgar feels a million miles from China – in fact, it feels a million miles from anywhere! Although now a modern city, the sights and sounds of Kashgar's bazaar have remained unchanged for millennia, as it continues to be an integral trading post as in its Silk Road heyday. Today's visits include Abakh Hoja Tomb, Id Kah Mosque and the atmospheric alleyways around Id Kah Square. (B,L,D)

### Day 21: Kashgar Sunday Bazaar

Dive headlong into Central Asia's largest bazaar. Within this riot of textures, vivid colours and traditional dress, you can browse hundreds of stalls selling anything from spices and carpets to boots and blenders. Fly to Urumqi. (B,L,D)

### Days 22-23: Discover Urumqi

Escape to the tranquillity of Tian Chi (Heavenly Lake) formed in a crater, where yurts nestle on its grassy banks. Enjoy local Uyghur lamb skewers for dinner. The following day explore the collections of the Xinjiang Museum which includes costumes, historical relics and ancient mummies. Fly to Beijing. (B,L,D)

### Day 24: The Great Wall

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate its sheer magnificence. You will have an opportunity to visit a Jade Museum, where you will be able to buy a small handcrafted piece. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. In the afternoon savour the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens. (B,L,D)

### Day 25: Imperial Beijing

Heading to Beijing's symbolic heart, stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you'll find a complex full of imperial treasures. Soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. This evening, dine on Beijing's best known delicacy – Peking duck. (B,L,D)

### Day 26: Fly Beijing to UK

Fly to the UK arriving the same or following day. (B)

#### STOPOVER IN...



**HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Monday returning Friday

2016 DATES		2017 DATES	
18 Apr - 13 May	£3,590	02 May - 27 May	£3,590
05 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,690	04 Sep - 29 Sep	£3,890
10 Oct - 04 Nov	£3,690	09 Oct - 03 Nov	£3,890



# THE EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

Designed for the most discerning travellers,  
the Exclusive Collection brings China to life.

## The Exclusive Collection includes:

- Exclusive touring & dining
- Award winning National Escorts
- Sightseeing with the experts
- International flights & taxes
- Unique experiences
- 5★ hotels & deluxe cruising
- Small group sizes
- Champagne moments
- UK chauffeur transfers
- Visa applications and fees

# EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES

All of our Exclusive Collection tours include a range of unique experiences, designed to immerse you in some of the world's most iconic locations and to give you a greater insight into Chinese culture and history.

## GET INVOLVED



### Chinese Calligraphy

Calligraphy has evolved throughout China's history to become a symbolic art form of the oriental world, the perfect example of the importance of balance and harmony in eastern cultures. A skill for the learned and elegant scholar, in this class you will use simple tools and techniques to enable you to create basic but beautiful characters.



### Dumpling Demonstration

The dumpling is a Chinese institution, a traditional delicacy that is associated with wealth, family and happiness. In Xian the preparation of these bite-size morsels has been perfected into an art form with their delicate wrappers crafted to represent their filling. In your class you can watch an expert at work and create your very own dumplings.



### Tai Chi with a Master

Every morning in the fresh dawn light you'll find gatherings of locals in parks and gardens across China performing the graceful, flowing movements of Tai Chi. You'll be joined by a Tai Chi master in the parkland of the Temple of Heaven where you'll learn about its traditional philosophies as you are guided through the correct principles of this ancient martial art.

## FACE TO FACE WITH HISTORY



### Forbidden City Treasure Hall

The Treasure Hall is the hidden gem of the Forbidden City and, as the name suggests, holds a magnificent collection of imperial artefacts. Wander through the intimate glittering galleries to admire the everyday trappings of royal life, from elaborate jewellery and robes to tea services and Jade ornaments.



### Mengdingshan

Wander the lush green tea fields of Mengding Mountain to gain insight into the tea cultivation process and admire the serene countryside of Sichuan Province. Learn about the origins of tea in China, its strong importance socially and culturally and how it has played an everlasting role in China's extensive history.



### Hanyangling Mausoleum

The burial place of Emperor Jing, the mausoleum offers a vastly different archaeological experience to the famous Terracotta Warriors. Descend below ground to see the intricately crafted half-sized figures of warriors, women and animals in situ, surrounded by the artefacts of everyday life from the Western Han Dynasty.

## ADDED EXPERTISE



### Panda Expertise

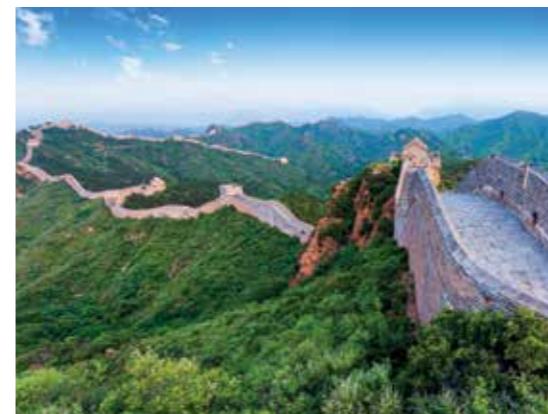
On your visit to the atmospheric Panda Base in Chengdu, one of the resident panda experts will accompany you and explain more about the life of these charismatic creatures. You'll gain a deep insight into their feeding patterns, unusual habits and the challenges faced by the breeding programme.



### Terracotta Army Expertise and meet the Discoverer

Gain a deep insight into the recent and ancient history of the Terracotta Warriors as you are guided by a member of the excavation team who'll be able to share unique insights and anecdotes. Also have the opportunity to learn about the moment of discovery by talking to one of the farmers who uncovered the warriors by chance in 1974. Imagine innocently digging and stumbling upon the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century!

## INDULGE



### Champagne on the Wall

Our Exclusive Tours feature a visit to the dramatic Mutianyu section of the Great Wall. Not only will you be able to see the fabled Great Wall with fewer people around, but your visit will be made even more unforgettable with a champagne toast – a decadent way to start your tour!



### Shanghai Cocktails

For our tours which end in Shanghai, we have laid on a farewell cocktail experience as sophisticated and sleek as the city itself. Cloud 9 offers unparalleled views of sparkling Pudong at night from the Jin Mao Tower. Enjoy a stylish farewell drink in the bar and toast your new memories, experiences and friendships.

## CULTURAL SHOWS



### Face Changing Show

Face Changing, or Bian Lian, is an ancient Chinese dramatic art that is an integral part of traditional Sichuan Opera. Sit back in VIP seats and watch colourfully costumed artists perform to dramatic music. They switch from one vivid face to another at lightning speed with a movement of the head or a swipe of a fan, using techniques that have long been regarded as a national secret.

### Impression Sanjie Liu

Enjoy an enchanting light spectacular from VIP seats which evocatively uses Yangshuo's limestone karst landscapes as the theatre and the Li River as the stage. Created by Zhang Yi Mou, the director of the impressive opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics, expect to be dazzled by a love story that uses both nature and hundreds of local performers to great effect.

# LUXURY HOTELS

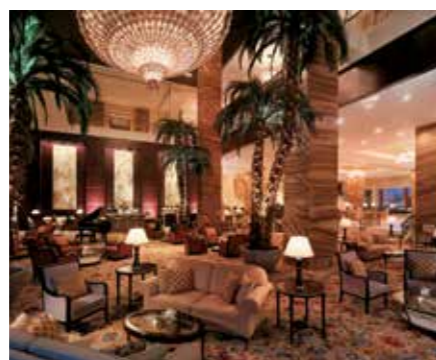
The hotels we use on our Exclusive Collection Tours have been hand-picked to compliment the high quality of experiences and touring, meaning you will be staying in 5-star luxury throughout.

## OUR HOTELS



### Regent Beijing Wangfujing

Within steps of the vibrant Pedestrian Zone of Wangfujing, the Regent Beijing offers a grand choice in sophisticated, centrally located accommodation. With awe-inspiring vistas over Beijing's imperial landmarks, this luxurious hotel provides meticulously designed rooms with King Size bed and 42" plasma screen TV. Don't forget to pay a visit to Serenity Spa, a respite from sensory indulgence.



### Shangri-La Xian

The Shangri-La is at the pinnacle of Xian's accommodation options. Find relaxation in the stylishly decorated rooms with luxury marble bathrooms where floor to ceiling windows give fantastic views over the city. Relish the acclaimed five-star service and start the day with a sumptuous breakfast feast fit for an emperor.



### Shanghai Grand Central

The Shanghai Grand Central is the embodiment of Chinese opulence. The spacious bedrooms are well-appointed and feature opulent, marble bathrooms. Located next to the Bund and Nanjing Road, this hotel's enviable location is perfect for exploring Shanghai.



### Shangri-La Chengdu

The Shangri-La enjoys an idyllic location on the banks of the Jinjiang River in the heart of Chengdu. With opulent rooms, spacious design and phenomenal city vistas, the Shangri-La is the epitome of luxury in this friendly city. Don't forget to visit the hotel's Olympic-sized swimming pool or Shang Palace restaurant for a taste of Sichuan.



### Sheraton Guilin

This stunning hotel is as beautiful as the landscape it calls home. All of the rooms have been recently renovated, and feature high speed internet and Sheraton's famously comfortable bed with a deluxe duvet, and a custom mattress. Facilities include an outdoor swimming pool, gym and sauna and massage facilities.



### Yangshuo Resort

Nestled between the iconic limestone karsts of Yangshuo, the Yangshuo Resort is a paradise sanctuary in the Chinese countryside. Take time to enjoy the refreshing swimming pool, take lunch by the river or explore the surroundings. Wake up to an expansive bedroom with lush views from your personal balcony.

# DELUXE CRUISE SHIPS

A journey along the Yangtze River is an experience like no other in China – the destination being not a single place but a rolling ribbon of dramatic gorges, reposeful countryside and man-made wonders.

### Victoria Sophia

As the only cruise ship operating the six-night route from Chongqing to Shanghai, a journey on the Victoria Sophia offers the most relaxing and unique trip on the Yangtze. Well-appointed rooms include private balconies with superb views.

Relax as the Victoria Sophia passes through the Yangtze's breathtaking gorges. Additionally on the longer cruise to Shanghai, this itinerary visits historical Nanjing as well as beautiful Jiuhuashan or Huangshan – the mist-wreathed mountains which have inspired Chinese artists for centuries.

Featured especially for our Exclusive Collection, the VIP package on the Victoria Sophia provides an exclusive à la carte dining experience, complimentary drinks during happy hour, complimentary wi-fi in the lounge area and many other benefits.

Victoria Sophia is featured on our six-night voyage from Chongqing to Shanghai on the **Spirit of the Yangtze** tour.

### President Number 8

Making her maiden voyage on the Yangtze River in 2013, the President Number 8 is one of the youngest ships in China. This ship features spacious deluxe cabins, each with a private balcony on the 6th floor. These sumptuous cabins offer excellent views of the passing scenery. Our Exclusive Collection tours feature the Executive Service package; take your meals in the VIP restaurant, enjoy free pre-dinner drinks, and VIP seats during evening entertainment.

Observe the scenery of the Yangtze from the sun deck, venture off the ship on one of the many shore excursions, take a dip in the heated indoor pool, try dawn Tai Chi or watch a demonstration of Chinese painting. The well-appointed President Number 8 has plenty of activities on offer; or if you prefer, just relax on your balcony.

President Number 8 is featured on our three-night voyages from Chongqing to Yichang on the **Legends of China** and **Exquisite China** tours.





# THE BEST OF CHINA

Palaces, pandas and tea plantations are just some of the impressive highlights of this deluxe adventure. Relax in five-star hotels and savour one-of-a-kind experiences as you travel from Beijing through Xian to visit Chengdu's resident bears.

**10 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,490**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**



▲ GIANT PANDA

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- UK airport chauffeur transfers
- Domestic transportation
- 5★ Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,920 (Beijing - Chengdu)
- Single room from £940
- Tipping paid locally US\$76



▲ ANCIENT CITY WALL, XIAN



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ MENGDISSHAN TEA PLANTATION

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: JASON GAO**

Beside the Great Wall and Terracotta Warriors, the highlight for me is a visit to the Mengdingshan Tea plantation where you learn all about the history of tea.



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Champagne on the Great Wall
- Exclusive tea plantation tour
- Iconic dining experiences
- Meet the discoverer of the Warriors

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**

Arrive at the airport by chauffeured transfer and fly overnight to Beijing. On arrival you will be accompanied by one of our experienced escorts to the hotel. (D)

**Day 3: Explore Imperial Beijing**

Begin the day like many locals with gentle exercise, as you partake in a private tai chi lesson with a master in the Temple of Heaven park. Cross vast Tiananmen Square to the Forbidden City – a monument to a dynastic past, the palace served as the home of emperors for 500 years. Your visit includes entrance to the intimate Treasure Hall, a glittering gallery showcasing the everyday trappings of royal life. Dine on Peking duck at the excellent Quanjude restaurant and later join us to see an optional Chinese acrobatic show. (B,L,D)

**Day 4: Champagne on the Great Wall**

From the Gobi Desert to the Bohai Sea the Great Wall stretches thousands of miles. Visit the beautiful Mutianyu section, stopping at the ideal spot to enjoy a glass of champagne whilst admiring the views of the Wall as it snakes over craggy peaks. Return to Beijing via the Jade Factory, then take a rickshaw ride through the hutongs where you'll stop for a lesson in calligraphy with a learned scholar. Enjoy a free evening at lively Houhai Lake. (B,L)

**Day 5: Ancient City Walls**

Fly to Xian. Walk on the 14th-century walls for an excellent overview of the city. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. This evening, watch a colourful and sometimes humorous Tang Dynasty dance performance. (B,L)

**Day 6: The Terracotta Warriors**

Fortuitously found by local farmers digging a well, the Terracotta Warriors are one of the world's most famous archaeological discoveries. View the enigmatic ranks in the company of an expert who works at the site and who will put their story into context. Next we have exclusively arranged for you to meet the discoverer of the Warriors – learn about the moment they were uncovered by talking to one of the farmers who stumbled upon them in 1974. On the way back to Xian, visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Later, study with local dumpling chefs to learn the art of creating these cultural delicacies. In Xian the preparation of these bite-size morsels has been perfected into an art form with their delicate wrappers crafted to represent their filling. Tonight there is an option to take a city night tour which includes the dazzling fountain display in front of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Hanyangling Mausoleum**

Explore Hanyangling Mausoleum, burial place of Emperor Jing and Empress Wang. The artefacts recovered here give a fascinating insight into daily life during the Western Han Dynasty and there are intricately-made half-sized warriors, women and animals to admire in this subterranean tomb. Fly to Chengdu where the rest



▲ TIANANMEN SQUARE

of the evening is free for you to spend at leisure. (B,L)

**Day 8: Mengdingshan Tea Plantation**

Travel out to the lush tea plantations of Mengdingshan. Tea has been drunk in China for millennia and has become ever more ingrained in the culture, influenced by the Taoist, Buddhist and Confucian views of its consumption. Quality tea is also considered to be a gift fit for a king – it was once the tribute of choice for an emperor. Take a private tour of the plantation with a local farmer to learn about the entire tea-making process and its fascinating history. Return to Chengdu, where this evening you will explore the dining options of the historic Wide and Narrow Alleys. (B,L)

**Day 9: Pandas with an Expert**

Visit Chengdu's Panda Centre where an expert will talk to you about the Centre's work and the pandas themselves as you observe these peaceful bears. Take a tour of the Shu Brocade and Embroidery Museum for a close up view of the skills necessary to create these traditional items – there will be opportunities to buy a handmade piece if you wish. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. Tonight delight in a quintessential Sichuan dining experience at Yiting Hot Pot before puzzling over a national secret at the Sichuan Opera – the face-changing art of Bian Lian. (B,L,D)

**Day 10: Fly Chengdu to UK**

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving the same or following day. On arrival you will be transported home by chauffeured transfer. (B)



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**KEEP EXPLORING**



**LHASA**  
4 NIGHTS EXTRA  
FROM £1,890PP

**Day 10: Fly to Lhasa**

Transfer to the exquisite Shangri-La Hotel. (B,D)

**Day 11: Bharkor and Jokhang**

Join the traditionally dressed locals and prostrating pilgrims on the Bharkor Circuit and in the sacred Jokhang Temple. (B,L,D)

**Day 12: Dalai Lama's Palaces**

Visit the Potala Palace and Norbulingka. Enjoy Tibetan and Yunnan tapas for dinner. (B,L,D)

**Day 13: Fly to Chengdu**

Return flight to Chengdu where the rest of the day will be at leisure. (B)

**Day 14: Depart Chengdu**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

Price based on flights from Chengdu.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Thursday returning Saturday**

2016 DATES				2017 DATES			
12 May - 21 May	£3,490	01 Sep - 10 Sep	£3,690	11 May - 20 May	£3,590	07 Sep - 16 Sep	£3,790
				12 Oct - 21 Oct	£3,790		



# EXQUISITE CHINA

Indulge yourself with a deluxe Yangtze cruise and opulent hotels as a relaxed itinerary takes you from imperial treasures and Terracotta Warriors to vibrant cities, adorable pandas and delicious gastronomy, complete with many special experiences.

**14 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,990**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- UK airport chauffeur transfers
- Domestic transportation
- 5★ Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,440 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £1,090
- Tipping paid locally US\$117

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: ANDY YANG**

Visiting big cities and countryside and with extra touches like champagne on the Great Wall, this trip will give you a true picture of China.



▲ GREAT WALL OF CHINA



▲ TERRACOTTA WARRIORS



▲ SHANGHAI



▲ CHAMPAGNE ON THE GREAT WALL



▲ YANGTZE RIVER



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Deluxe Yangtze cruising
- Iconic dining experiences
- Expert panda guide
- Meet the discoverer of the Warriors

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**

Arrive at the airport by chauffeured transfer and fly overnight to Beijing. On arrival you will be accompanied by one of our experienced escorts to the hotel. (D)

**Day 3: Explore Imperial Beijing**

Begin the day like many locals with gentle exercise, as you partake in a private Tai Chi lesson with a master in the Temple of Heaven park. Cross vast Tiananmen Square to the Forbidden City, the palace which served as the home of emperors for 500 years. Your visit includes the intimate Treasure Hall, a glittering gallery showcasing the everyday trappings of royal life. Dine on Peking duck at the excellent Quanjude restaurant and enjoy an optional Chinese acrobatic show. (B,L,D)

**Day 4: Champagne on the Great Wall**

From the Gobi Desert to the Bohai Sea the Great Wall stretches thousands of miles. Visit the beautiful Mutianyu section, stopping at the ideal spot to enjoy a glass of champagne whilst admiring the views of the Wall as it snakes over craggy peaks. Return to Beijing via the Jade Museum, then take a rickshaw ride through the hutongs where you'll stop for a lesson in calligraphy with a learned scholar. Enjoy a free evening at lively Houhai Lake. (B,L)

**Day 5: Ancient City Walls**

Fly to Xian. Walk on the 14th century walls for an excellent overview of the city. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. This evening, watch a colourful and sometimes humorous Tang Dynasty dance performance. (B,L)

**Day 6: The Terracotta Warriors**

The Terracotta Warriors are one of the world's most famous archaeological discoveries. View the enigmatic ranks in the company of an expert who works at the site and who will put their story into context. Next we have exclusively arranged for you to meet the discoverer of the Warriors – learn about the moment they were uncovered by talking to one of the farmers who fortuitously stumbled upon them in 1974. On the way back to Xian, visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate Terracotta Warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Study with local dumpling chefs to learn the art of creating these cultural delicacies. In Xian the preparation of these bite-size morsels has been perfected into an art form with their delicate wrappers crafted to represent their filling. Tonight there is an option (at your own expense) to take a city night tour which includes the dazzling fountain display in front of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Sichuan Hot Pot**

Explore Hanyangling Mausoleum. The artefacts recovered here, viewable from the glass walkways above, give a fascinating insight into daily life during the Western Han Dynasty. Fly to Chengdu and enjoy a quintessential Sichuan hot pot dining experience. Puzzle over a national secret at the Sichuan Opera – the face-changing art of Bian Lian. (B,L,D)

**Day 8: Pandas with an Expert**

Visit Chengdu's Panda Centre where an expert will talk to you about the Centre's work and the pandas themselves as you observe these peaceful bears. Visit the Shu Brocade and Embroidery Museum, then transfer to Chongqing and visit Ciqikou, a historic district full of traditional architecture – spend a free evening here exploring before boarding the President 8 cruise ship. (B,L)

**Day 9: Captain's Welcome**

The Yangtze has long played a pivotal role in the history, culture and economy of China – this voyage is the perfect way to get an insight into its importance. The first excursion will be to Shibaozhai, a hilltop pagoda beside the river. This evening the captain will host a welcome reception followed by a lavish dinner at the à la carte restaurant. (B,L,D)

**Day 10: Dramatic Yangtze Gorges**

Prepare for breathtaking vistas as we sweep through the Wu and Qutang gorges before cruising along the scenic Shennong Stream on a sampan to further explore. Back on the boat, expand your knowledge on the dam project with a presentation by the river guide. (B,L,D)

**Day 11: Three Gorges Dam Project**

This massive feat of engineering saw the century-old dreams of Chinese luminaries come to fruition. Created to harness the power of the Yangtze, it is difficult to not be awestruck as you stand on the viewing platform. Also visit the Three Gorges Dam exhibition centre. Our vessel must then negotiate the five-step Three Gorges Dam lock. Disembark and fly to Shanghai. (B,L)

**Day 12: Zhujiajiao water town**

China's attractive water towns exude a rustic charm. The 1,700 year old Zhujiajiao is a typical example, boasting old stone bridges, wood-panelled houses and numerous atmospheric waterways once used to transport goods. Return to Shanghai where the afternoon is free for you to enjoy the facilities of your hotel, or you may wish to take a ride on the super fast Maglev train. (B)

**Day 13: Stylish Shanghai**

Walk through the Old Town in the Yu Gardens, a classic example of

traditional Chinese horticulture. Visit the colonial Bund and the Silk Museum, before admiring the collections of the Shanghai Museum. Enjoy a farewell dinner at Meiyuancun and toast the end of the tour with a cocktail at Cloud 9 in Jin Mao Tower with views of the Pudong skyline. (B,L,D)

**Day 14: Fly Shanghai to UK**

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. On arrival you will be transported by chauffeured transfer. (B)



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**KEEP EXPLORING**



**LIJIANG 5 NIGHTS EXTRA FROM £1,390pp**

**Day 14: Fly to Lijiang**

Transfer to the gorgeous Banyan Tree Resort. (B)

**Days 15-16: At leisure**

Enjoy the facilities of the serene Banyan Tree Resort, or take advantage of optional excursions to the Old Town, Tiger Leaping Gorge or Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. (B)

**Day 17: Fly to Kunming**

Visit the mysterious Stone Forest with its fascinating formations. (B)

**Day 18: Depart Kunming**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

Includes internal flights from Shanghai.

**DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Thursday**

2016 DATES											
06 May - 19 May	£3,990	20 May - 02 Jun	£3,990	09 Sep - 22 Sep	£4,190	23 Sep - 06 Oct	£4,190	07 Oct - 20 Oct	£4,190		
2017 DATES											
07 Apr - 20 Apr	£4,190	05 May - 18 May	£4,190	19 May - 01 Jun	£4,190	01 Sep - 14 Sep	£4,390	15 Sep - 28 Sep	£4,390	06 Oct - 19 Oct	£4,390
										20 Oct - 02 Nov	£4,190



# LEGENDS OF CHINA

Discover the best of China's many wonders on this lavish cross-country adventure. Experience natural grandeur and imperial treasures, witness man-made marvels and ultra-modern miracles, as you wend your way from Beijing to Shanghai in style.

**16 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £4,490**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- UK airport chauffeur transfers
- Domestic transportation
- 5★ Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

- Based on London Heathrow departures**
- Flight upgrades available on request
  - Land only from £3,940 (Beijing - Shanghai)
  - Single room from £1,290
  - Tipping paid locally US\$134



**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: LEO ZHANG**

*In this tour you will take part in lots of activities, such as Tai Chi and learning how to make dumplings, this tour will truly make you feel like one of the locals.*



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Champagne on the Great Wall
- Iconic dining experiences
- Karst landscapes of the Li River
- Deluxe Yangtze cruising

**ITINERARY**

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**

Arrive at the airport by chauffeured transfer and fly overnight to Beijing. On arrival you will be accompanied by one of our experienced escorts to the hotel. (D)

**Day 3: Explore Imperial Beijing**

Begin the day like many locals with gentle exercise, as you partake in a private tai chi lesson with a master in the Temple of Heaven park. Cross vast Tiananmen Square to the Forbidden City – a monument to a dynastic past, the palace served as the home of emperors for 500 years. Your visit includes entrance to the intimate Treasure Hall, a glittering showcase of royal life. Dine on Peking Duck at the excellent Quanjude restaurant and enjoy an optional Chinese acrobatic show. (B,L,D)

**Day 4: Champagne on the Great Wall**

From the Gobi Desert to the Bohai Sea the Great Wall stretches thousands of miles. Visit the beautiful Mutianyu section, stopping at the ideal spot to enjoy a glass of champagne whilst admiring the views of the Wall as it snakes over craggy peaks. Return to Beijing via the Jade Museum, then take a rickshaw ride through the hutongs where you'll stop for a lesson in calligraphy with a learned scholar. Enjoy a free evening at lively Houhai Lake. (B,L)

**Day 5: Ancient City Walls**

Fly to Xian. Walk on the 14th-century walls for an excellent overview of the city. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. This evening, watch a Tang Dynasty dance performance. (B,L)

**Day 6: The Terracotta Warriors**

View the enigmatic ranks of the Terracotta Warriors in the company of an archaeologist who works at the site and who will put their story into context. Next we have exclusively arranged for you to meet the discoverer of the Warriors – learn about the moment they were uncovered by talking to one of the farmers who stumbled upon them in 1974. Visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Laquer Exhibition before returning to the city. Later study with local dumpling chefs to learn the art of creating these cultural delicacies. (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Beautiful Guilin**

Explore Hanyangling Mausoleum. The artefacts recovered here, viewable from the glass walkways above, give a fascinating insight into daily life during the Western Han Dynasty. Fly to Guilin, a city set in the dramatic limestone karst landscapes of the Li River valley. Visit the South China Pearl Museum to discover the fascinating 1,700 year history of pearling in the South China Sea. As well as displays and demonstrations there are also beautiful pieces to buy. (B,L)

**Day 8: Cruise the Li River**

Cruise the Li River to Yangshuo. The magnificence of the limestone karsts and serenity

of life on the riverbanks is a wonderful sight. On arrival, enjoy dinner at Pure Lotus vegetarian restaurant before 'Impression Sanjie Liu', a light spectacular that perfectly utilises the karst landscape as a theatre and the Li River as a stage. (B,L,D)

**Day 9: At leisure in Yangshuo**

Take a walking tour of Yangshuo's idyllic, karst-studded countryside before taking the afternoon at leisure. This evening watch Yangshuo's famous cormorant fishermen demonstrating their age-old technique. (B)

**Day 10: Ancient Ciqikou**

Return to Guilin. Fly to Chongqing and explore the Ming Dynasty district of Ciqikou. Meander along the narrow streets of lantern-clad houses before transferring to the wharf to board President Number 8, your cruise liner for the next three nights. (B,L)

**Day 11: Captain's welcome**

The Yangtze has long played a pivotal role in the history, culture and economy of China – this voyage is the perfect way to get an insight into its importance. The first excursion will be to Shibaozhai, a hilltop pagoda beside the river. This evening the captain will host a welcome reception followed by a lavish dinner at the à la carte restaurant. (B,L,D)

**Day 12: Dramatic Yangtze Gorges**

Prepare for breathtaking vistas as we sweep through the Wu and Qutang gorges before cruising along the scenic Shennong Stream on a sampan to further explore. Back on the boat, expand your knowledge on the dam project with a presentation by the ship's river guide. (B,L,D)

**Day 13: Three Gorges Dam Project**

This massive feat of engineering saw the century-old dreams of Chinese luminaries come to fruition. Created to harness the power of the Yangtze, it is difficult to not be awestruck as you stand on the viewing platform. Also visit the Three

Gorges Dam exhibition centre. Our vessel must then negotiate the five-step Three Gorges Dam lock before we disembark and fly to Shanghai. (B,L)

**Day 14: Zhujiajiao water town**

China's attractive water towns exude a rustic charm. The 1,700 year old Zhujiajiao is a typical example, boasting old stone bridges, wood-panelled houses and numerous atmospheric waterways once used to transport goods. Return to Shanghai where the afternoon is free for you to enjoy the facilities of your hotel, or you may wish to take a ride on the super fast Maglev train (at your own expense). (B)

**Day 15: Stylish Shanghai**

Walk in the Yu Gardens, a classic example of traditional Chinese horticulture. Visit the colonial Bund, the Silk Museum and the Old Town, before admiring the collections of the Shanghai Museum. Enjoy a farewell dinner at Meiyuancun and toast the end of the tour with a cocktail at Cloud 9 in Jin Mao Tower with views of the Pudong skyline. (B,L,D)

**Day 16: Fly Shanghai to UK**

Transfer to the airport for your flight back home, arriving the same or following day. On arrival you will be transported home by chauffeured transfer. (B)

**STOPOVER IN...**

**HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £320pp**

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious.

*Price based on Harbour Grand Kowloon. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.*

**DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Thursday**

2016 DATES									
11 May - 26 May	£4,490	25 May - 09 Jun	£4,490	31 Aug - 15 Sep	£4,690	14 Sep - 29 Sep	£4,690	12 Oct - 27 Oct	£4,690
2017 DATES									
12 Apr - 27 Apr	£4,690	10 May - 25 May	£4,690	24 May - 08 Jun	£4,690	06 Sep - 21 Sep	£4,890	20 Sep - 05 Oct	£4,890



# SPIRIT OF THE YANGTZE

Cruise the mighty Yangtze River on a six-night voyage of discovery after enjoying some of China's most renowned and awe-inspiring sights. This itinerary perfectly blends majestic nature, cultural heritage and modern wonders.

**18 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £4,490**

**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- UK airport chauffeur transfers
- Domestic transportation
- 5★ Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,940 (Beijing - Shanghai)
- Single room from £1,690
- Tipping paid locally US\$151



▲ YANGTZE RIVER



▲ GIANT PANDA



▲ HUBEI PROVINCIAL MUSEUM



▲ SHAANXI DUMPLING EXPERIENCE



▲ SHANGHAI

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: LINDA YANG**

Almost all big cities in the world are closely related to a river. With this tour you will not only see the river's importance, but also its beauty.



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Tai Chi class with a master
- Meet the discoverer of the Warriors
- Three Gorges cruise
- VIP cruise package

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Beijing**  
Arrive at the airport by chauffeured transfer and fly overnight to Beijing. On arrival you will be accompanied by one of our experienced escorts to the hotel. (D)

**Day 3: Explore Imperial Beijing**  
Begin the day like many locals with gentle exercise, as you partake in a private Tai Chi lesson in the Temple of Heaven park. Cross vast Tiananmen Square to the Forbidden City – a monument to a dynastic past, the palace served as the home of emperors for 500 years. Your visit includes entrance to the intimate Treasure Hall, a glittering showcase of dynastic royal life. Dine on Peking duck at Quanjude restaurant and enjoy an optional Chinese acrobatic show. (B,L,D)

**Day 4: Champagne on the Great Wall**  
From the Gobi Desert to the Bohai Sea the Great Wall stretches thousands of miles. Visit the beautiful Mutianyu section, stopping for a glass of champagne whilst admiring the views of the Wall as it snakes over craggy peaks. Take a rickshaw ride through Beijing's hutongs and stop for a lesson in calligraphy with a learned scholar. Enjoy a free evening at lively Houhai Lake. (B,L)

**Day 5: Ancient City Walls**  
Fly to Xian. Walk on the 14th-century walls for an excellent overview of the city. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. This evening, watch a colourful and sometimes humorous Tang Dynasty dance performance. (B,L)

**Day 6: The Terracotta Warriors**  
Fortuitously found by local farmers digging a well, the Terracotta Warriors are one of the world's most famous archaeological discoveries. View the enigmatic ranks in the company of an expert who works at the site and who will put their story into context. Next meet the discoverer of the Warriors – learn about the moment they were uncovered by talking to one of the farmers who stumbled upon them in 1974. On the way back to Xian, visit the workshop of the craftsmen who create miniature Terracotta Warriors. Study with local dumpling chefs to learn the art of creating these cultural delicacies. In Xian the preparation of these bite-size morsels has been perfected into an art form with their delicate wrappers crafted to represent their filling. Tonight there is an option to take a city night tour which includes the dazzling fountain display in front of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Sichuan Hot Pot**  
Explore Hanyangling Mausoleum. The artefacts recovered here, give a fascinating insight into daily life during the Western Han Dynasty. Fly to Chengdu and enjoy a quintessential Sichuan hot pot dining experience. Puzzle over a national secret at the Sichuan Opera – the face-changing art of Bian Lian. (B,L,D)

**Day 8: Pandas with an expert**  
Visit Chengdu's Panda Centre where an expert will talk to you about the Centre's work and the pandas themselves as you observe these peaceful bears. Visit the Shu Brocade and Embroidery Museum, then transfer to Chongqing and visit Ciqikou, a historic district full of traditional architecture – spend a free evening here exploring. (B,L)

**Day 9: Welcome aboard**  
Board your cruise vessel and begin to enjoy your private balcony and amenities package. The Yangtze has long played a pivotal role in the history, culture and economy of China, and this voyage is the perfect way to illustrate its importance. The first stop will be Fengdu, a complex of structures and statues that represent Diyu, the concept of the underworld in Chinese mythology. (B,L,D)

**Day 10: Dramatic Yangtze Gorges**  
Prepare for breathtaking vistas as we sweep through the Qutang and Wu gorges. Take a side voyage into the attractive gorges of the Goddess Stream. Our vessel then negotiates the five-step Three Gorges Dam lock as you learn about the dam project with a presentation by the ship's river guide. (B,L,D)

**Day 11: Three Gorges Dam**  
This massive feat of engineering saw the century-old dreams of Chinese luminaries come to fruition. Created to harness the power of the Yangtze, it is difficult to not be awestruck as you stand on the viewing platform. Also visit the Three Gorges Dam exhibition centre. (B,L,D)

**Day 12: Hubei Provincial Museum**  
Take a shore excursion to the city of Wuhan and the Hubei Provincial Museum. (B,L,D)

**Day 13: Mountain scenery**  
Delight in beautiful panoramas on an excursion to the sacred mountain of Jiuhuashan. (B,L,D)

**Day 14: Imperial Nanjing**  
Visit historical Nanjing and the mausoleum of Dr Sun Yat Sen, the 'Father of the Nation'. Enjoy a farewell banquet on the boat. (B,L,D)

**Day 15: Shanghai**  
Disembark and transfer to Shanghai. Visit the Shanghai Museum then enjoy the afternoon

at leisure. This evening, there's free time to savour the mid-19th century shikumen architecture of the lively Xintiandi district. (B,L)

**Day 16: Zhujiajiao water town**  
The 1,700 year old Zhujiajiao is a typical example of rustic Chinese charm, boasting old stone bridges, wood-panelled houses and numerous atmospheric waterways. Return to Shanghai where the afternoon is free, or take an optional ride on the super fast Maglev train. (B)

**Day 17: Stylish Shanghai**  
Walk through the Old Town to the Yu Gardens, a classic example of traditional Chinese horticulture. Visit the colonial Bund and the Silk Museum. Enjoy a farewell dinner at Meiyuancun and toast the end of the tour with a cocktail at Cloud 9 in Jin Mao Tower with views of the Pudong skyline. (B,L,D)

**Day 18: Fly Shanghai to UK**  
Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. On arrival you will be transported by chauffeured transfer. (B)

**KEEP EXPLORING**



**HANGZHOU 3 NIGHTS EXTRA FROM £1,190PP**

- Day 18: Transfer to Hangzhou**  
Check in to the Banyan Tree Resort. (B)
- Day 19: Discover Hangzhou**  
Spend a restful morning exploring Lingyin Temple and see the Six Harmonies Pagoda before heading to the lush tea farms for an oriental tea tasting. Hangzhou is best known for the lake at its centre and this afternoon will be spent cruising on it, admiring the gardens, pagodas and old bridges on its shores. (B,L,D)
- Day 20: Free day**  
There are optional activities available at the hotel, such as spa treatments, cycling, yoga and tours to the Xixi Wetlands (paid locally). (B)
- Day 21: Depart Hangzhou**  
Transfer to Shanghai Airport for your flight to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Monday

2016 DATES													
15 Apr - 02 May	£4,490	29 Apr - 16 May	£4,490	13 May - 30 May	£4,490	26 Aug - 12 Sep	£4,690	09 Sep - 26 Sep	£4,690	23 Sep - 10 Oct	£4,690	07 Oct - 24 Oct	£4,690
2017 DATES													
31 Mar - 17 Apr	£4,690	28 Apr - 15 May	£4,690	25 Aug - 11 Sep	£4,890	22 Sep - 09 Oct	£4,890						
14 Apr - 01 May	£4,690	12 May - 29 May	£4,690	08 Sep - 25 Sep	£4,890	06 Oct - 23 Oct	£4,890						

# JAPAN

Journey through a cultural and natural utopia, discover treasures from the ancient to the ultra-modern – and meet the people who make this country so unique. Nowhere encapsulates contrasting experiences and sights quite like Japan.

## Our Japan Tours include:

- Comprehensive touring
- Award-winning National Escorts
- Knowledgeable local guides
- International flights & taxes
- All accommodation
- All meals
- All transportation in Japan
- Specialist advice from our travel consultants

Private touring inclusions vary; see page for details





# JEWELS OF JAPAN

Immerse yourself in the unique and fascinating culture of Japan. Encompassing the essentials with futuristic cities, imperial heritage and magnificent nature, this tour incorporates a number of experiences that give your holiday a truly authentic edge.

**11 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £3,890**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,280 (Tokyo - Osaka)
- Single room from £490



▲ KYOTO



▲ MOUNT FUJI



▲ SENSOJI TEMPLE



▲ TOKYO

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MS. TAKAYAMA**

*Tokyo is such a dynamic and changing city. I am always happy to introduce the heart of Japan. Its sense of beauty and tradition is special.*



▲ ITSUKUSHIMA



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Vibrant Tokyo
- Iconic Mount Fuji
- Charming Kyoto
- Hiroshima and Miyajima

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Tokyo**

Fly overnight to the dazzling metropolis of Tokyo, Japan's capital city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Discover Tokyo**

Tokyo is the ultimate 24 hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech frontage and you'll find plenty of tranquil backstreets and old temples to explore. Today's city tour starts on the observation deck of the 634-metre Skytree, the world's tallest tower, before seeking out the tranquillity of the ancient Buddhist Sensoji Temple, Tokyo's oldest. Glimpse Tokyo's historical heritage at the Edo-Tokyo Museum and explore Tokyo's Imperial Palace. This evening take a relaxed dinner cruise on the Tokyo Bay for some excellent city vistas.

**Day 4: Meiji Shrine**

The city tour continues with a relaxed morning wandering around the classical landscapes of the Hamarikyu Garden. Explore the huge evergreen forest that encompasses the Shinto Meiji Shrine. The afternoon is free for you to explore as you wish.

**Day 5: Fuji Five Lakes**

Journey through the foothills of the iconic Mt Fuji to its base where we find the Fuji Five Lakes. The region is spectacular

with the calm waters of the five lakes, formed by past eruptions, reflecting Fuji's picture-perfect cone. Later, try your hand at making traditional Japanese soba noodles before tucking in to your creations. Continue to Oshino Hakkai, a scenic area of ponds full of crystal clear spring water created by Fuji's melting snow, where there is also a small museum.

**Day 6: Mount Fuji**

Ascend 2,000 metres up Mt Fuji to the 5th Station where, with its perfectly conical peak looming overhead, you can take in the breathtaking views over the Fuji Five Lakes below. Returning to the beautiful Five Lakes region, explore Iyashi no Sato, a former farming village on the shores of Lake Saiko. Destroyed by a landslide in 1966, the remaining thatched-roofed houses of this old Japanese village have been transformed into an open-air museum and craft village, exhibiting plenty of local and traditional handicrafts.

**Day 7: Bullet train to Kyoto**

Transfer to the station at Mishima. Sit back and relax in the cool comfort of a bullet train as you speed across the country to Kyoto. An enchanting city, Kyoto was capital for a thousand years; today it is the legacy of ancient Japan, full of tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens. The geisha is both an intriguing and integral part of Japanese history – enjoy tea with either a maiko (apprentice geisha) or geisha at a typical teahouse.

**Day 8: Explore Kyoto**

Spend the day soaking up some of Kyoto's delightful sights, starting



▲ RYOANJI

at Kinkakuji Temple, known as the Golden Pavilion, where there is an archetypal Muromachi period garden. Continue to Ryoanji, a Zen temple with an excellent example of a 'dry landscape' garden, and Kiyomizu Temple, a 17th-century Buddhist temple. This afternoon visit a restored wooden townhouse to learn the traditional Japanese arts of origami and calligraphy, witness Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging) and enjoy a tea ceremony.

**Day 9: Himeji**

Jump on the bullet train again today for a day visit to Himeji. The feudal era fort, one of the most impressive in Japan, towers over the city recognisable as the backdrop to several major films. Appreciate its turbulent past before strolling around Kokoan, the Edo-style gardens just across the castle moat. This afternoon return to Kyoto.

**Day 10: Hiroshima and Miyajima**

Take a day trip by bullet train to Hiroshima and Miyajima. Hiroshima needs no introduction. The city today is vibrant and modern with a forward-thinking, sunny outlook. Find a moment to reflect at the Peace Memorial Park and Museum. Hopping on a ferry, make the short trip to the holy island of Miyajima. Visit the Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Japan's most recognisable, which rises majestically out of the waters of the inland sea.

**Day 11: Fly Osaka to UK**

Transfer to Osaka and fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**DUBAI**  
3 NIGHTS FROM £220pp

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination full of futuristic architecture and cosmopolitan nightlife fronted by beautiful beaches. Dig a little deeper and you'll find a rich culture centred on the labyrinthine old city.

See pages 118. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Monday returning Thursday

2016 DATES									
21 Mar - 31 Mar	£3,990	04 Apr - 14 Apr	£4,190	18 Apr - 28 Apr	£3,990	12 Sep - 22 Sep	£3,890	03 Oct - 13 Oct	£3,890
28 Mar - 07 Apr	£4,090	11 Apr - 21 Apr	£3,990	16 May - 26 May	£3,890	26 Sep - 06 Oct	£3,890	24 Oct - 03 Nov	£3,890
2017 DATES									
20 Mar - 30 Mar	£4,390	03 Apr - 13 Apr	£4,390	17 Apr - 27 Apr	£4,290	11 Sep - 21 Sep	£4,190	02 Oct - 12 Oct	£4,190
27 Mar - 06 Apr	£4,390	10 Apr - 20 Apr	£4,290	15 May - 25 May	£4,190	25 Sep - 05 Oct	£4,190	23 Oct - 02 Nov	£4,190



# DISCOVER JAPAN

Japan is a country of contrasts, where ancient gods rub shoulders with modern technology, skyscrapers give way to paddy fields and crowds disperse into the tranquillity of a classical garden. This tour is the perfect introduction to this fascinating archipelago.

**13 DAYS FROM**

**PER PERSON £4,290**

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**MODERATE PACE**



▲ MOUNT FUJI

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

**Flight and supplement information**

**Based on London Heathrow departures**

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,680 (Tokyo - Osaka)
- Single room from £590



▲ SHIRAKAWAGO

**NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MS. MURASHIMA**

*I enjoy introducing not only Japanese culture and history, but also Japanese food! I especially like to take travellers to experience local life.*



▲ OSAKA CASTLE



▲ FUSHIMI INARI SHRINE



▲ NARA



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Futuristic Tokyo**
- Breathtaking Mount Fuji**
- Koya-San Holy Mountain**
- Vibrant Osaka**

## ITINERARY

**Days 1-2: Fly to Tokyo**

Fly overnight to the dazzling metropolis of Tokyo, Japan's capital city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**Day 3: Tokyo city tour**

Tokyo is the ultimate 24 hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech frontage and you'll find plenty of traditional backstreets and old temples to explore. Today's city tour starts at the 634-metre Skytree, the world's tallest tower, before seeking out the tranquillity of the Sensoji Temple and the delightful landscapes of Hamarikyu Gardens. This evening, cruise the Tokyo Bay for some excellent city vistas.

**Day 4: Mount Fuji**

Travel to Hakone, the gateway to Japan's most iconic landmark – Mount Fuji. Heading up to the 5th Station, take in the breathtaking views over the Fuji Five Lakes below. A boat trip on Ashi Lake gives spectacular retrospective panoramas back over Fuji before venturing up Mount Owakudani by cable car to see the many sulphuric springs, which are hot enough to hard-boil an egg!

**Day 5: Matsumoto Castle**

Explore the formidable 16th-century Matsumoto Castle before travelling to Takayama, nestled high in the mountainous Hida region.

**Day 6: Explore Takayama**

Takayama has an air of old-world Japan, particularly around its wonderfully preserved old town. Browse the local handicrafts and fresh produce at the Miyagawa morning market, wander past some of the lovely traditional houses and visit several of the excellent local museums – Takayama Festival Floats Museum, Kusakabe Folk Museum and Takayama Jinya.

**Day 7: Shirakawago & Kanazawa**

Get a glimpse of rural Japan at UNESCO-listed Shirakawago which is famous for its farmhouses built in the unique architectural style, gassho-zukuri. Continue to Kanazawa and visit the Nomura Samurai House, followed by a stroll through the old district.

**Day 8: Kenroku-en Garden**

Meander through the beautiful Kenroku-en Garden, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, before viewing the excellent art collection of the Kanazawa 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, which only exhibits works produced since 1980. Transfer to Kyoto, the former capital city.

**Day 9: Explore Kyoto**

Kyoto was a capital for a thousand years; today it is the legacy of ancient Japan, full of tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens. This morning we will visit the famous Kinkakuji, a Zen temple known as the Golden Pavilion as the top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Next we will visit the Ryoanji Temple complex which means 'temple of the peaceful dragon'. We will then head to a restored Japanese wooden



▲ TODAIJI TEMPLE, NARA

townhouse where we will learn about origami, calligraphy and enjoy a tea ceremony. We will also witness the Japanese art of Ikebana (flower arrangement).

**Day 10: Discover Nara**

Japan's capital before Kyoto, Nara is a relaxed and charming town virtually untouched by the ravages of modernity. Home to many archetypal pieces of early art and architecture, visits here will include Todaiji Temple, Isuein Gardens and a stroll through Nara Park. Return to Kyoto, stopping en route at Fushimi Inari Shrine remarkable for its 10,000 torii (shrine gates).

**Day 11: Koya-San**

The holy mountain of Koya-San is home to a cluster of over a hundred monasteries nestled in a valley enclosed by peaks said to resemble a lotus flower. Full of atmosphere, savour the peaceful surroundings and spectacular views as you discover Kongobunji Temple and the Garan Temple complex before wandering around Okunoin – a vast cemetery of 200,000 stupas. Follow the paths to the mausoleum of Kobo Daishi via the mystical Hall of Lanterns where 10,000 oil lamps are kept permanently alight. Spend the night at the Buddhist Shukubo Temple Lodge and enjoy a traditional Shojin Ryori vegetarian dinner.

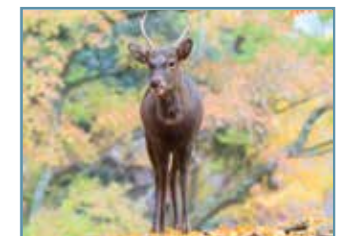
**Day 12: Osaka Castle**

Rising early, witness the haunting chanted prayers of the monks followed by a traditional breakfast. Travel to Osaka, Japan's third largest city, where there'll be time to explore Osaka Castle and take a cruise

along the Yodogawa River. This evening stroll down Dotonbori, a restaurant mecca, before tucking into a farewell dinner.

**Day 13: Fly Osaka to UK**

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



**ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR**  
Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG**  
2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Monday

2016 DATES											
16 Mar - 28 Mar	£4,490	30 Mar - 11 Apr	£4,590	13 Apr - 25 Apr	£4,690	18 May - 30 May	£4,290	21 Sep - 03 Oct	£4,290	12 Oct - 24 Oct	£4,290
23 Mar - 04 Apr	£4,490	06 Apr - 18 Apr	£4,690	20 Apr - 02 May	£4,690	14 Sep - 26 Sep	£4,290	28 Sep - 10 Oct	£4,290	23 Oct - 04 Nov*	£4,290
2017 DATES											
15 Mar - 27 Mar	£4,790	29 Mar - 10 Apr	£4,790	12 Apr - 24 Apr	£4,690	17 May - 29 May	£4,590	20 Sep - 02 Oct	£4,590	11 Oct - 23 Oct	£4,590
22 Mar - 03 Apr	£4,790	05 Apr - 17 Apr	£4,790	19 Apr - 01 May	£4,690	13 Sep - 25 Sep	£4,590	27 Sep - 09 Oct	£4,590	22 Oct - 03 Nov*	£4,590

\* Days of the week different to those stated.



# WONDERS OF JAPAN

From the luminous, cutting edge metropolis of Tokyo and the age-old traditions of Kyoto to the majesty of Mount Fuji, this private tour allows you to experience the highlights of Japan's wonderful sights and the magical Onsen – favoured by Japan's famous Snow Monkeys.

**11 DAYS FROM**  
**PER PERSON £2,990**  
**INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**  
**MODERATE PACE**



▲ SNOW MONKEY

**Price includes:**

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Selected touring with guides and entrance fees

**Flight and supplement information**

Tour departs any day subject to availability. 3★ hotels used.  
 Upgrade to 4★ hotels from £3,390  
 Upgrade to 5★ hotels from £4,290  
 Flight upgrades available on request  
 Land only from £2,320 (Tokyo - Tokyo)  
 Single room from £570  
 Sole passenger supplement from £890



▲ SENSOJI TEMPLE



▲ NARA



▲ TOKYO



▲ MOUNT FUJI



▲ GOLDEN PAVILION, KYOTO



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Futuristic Tokyo
- Iconic Mount Fuji
- Japanese Snow Monkeys
- Atmospheric Kyoto

## ITINERARY

**■ Days 1-2: Fly to Tokyo**

Fly overnight to the dazzling metropolis of Tokyo, Japan's capital city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

**■ Day 3: Tokyo city tour**

Tokyo is the ultimate 24 hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech frontage and you'll find plenty of traditional backstreets and old temples to explore. Today's city tour starts on the observation deck of the 634-metre Skytree, the world's tallest tower. Seek out the tranquillity of the ancient Buddhist Sensoji Temple, Tokyo's oldest, and the delightful landscapes of Hamarikyu Gardens. This evening take a relaxed cruise on the Sumida River for some excellent city vistas. (B,L)

**■ Day 4: Mount Fuji**

Travel to Hakone, the gateway to Japan's most iconic landmark – Mount Fuji. Heading into the Hakone National Park, take a boat trip on Ashi Lake. From the water the panoramas of the country's highest mountain and its surroundings are spectacular. Stroll around Hakone-en Gardens before taking a cable car up Mount Komagatake for even more breathtaking views of the surrounding area. Return to Tokyo. (B,L)

**■ Day 5: Yudanaka**

Take the super-fast, super-efficient bullet train through snow-cloaked landscapes to the city of Nagano, which hosted the Winter Olympics in 1998. In Nagano take the opportunity to visit the famous Buddhist Zenkoji Temple, founded in the 7th century and home to what is thought to be the first Buddhist statue ever brought to Japan. Afterwards, journey deeper into the northern peaks of the Japanese Alps to stay in the onsen resort town of Yudanaka. (B,D)

**■ Day 6: Yudanaka Onsen**

Enjoy the sights of the hot spring resort of Yudanaka with a day at leisure. The highlight is observing the delightful Japanese Snow Monkeys soaking in the natural hot pools of the Jigokudani Monkey Park. The monkeys completely disregard their human watchers so you can spend hours watching them play, and even swim, in the pools. (B,D)

**■ Day 7: Bullet train to Kyoto**

Travel by train back to Nagano, then enjoy a thrilling but comfortable ride on the famous bullet train as you speed through the countryside to Kyoto. The enchanting city of Kyoto, nicknamed the 'City of Ten Thousand Shrines', was capital for more than a thousand years; today it is a well-preserved legacy of ancient Japan, full of peaceful temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens. (B)

**■ Day 8: Kyoto's hidden treasures**

Your local guide will lead you on an in-depth tour of this delightful city, that plays host to 17 UNESCO World Heritage sites, over 1,600 Buddhist temples and 400 Shinto shrines. As imperial capital for such a long period of time, Kyoto perfectly illustrates the development of Japanese architectural styles. You'll track down Kyoto's hidden treasures – sacred shrines tucked behind shopping arcades, traditional teahouses between modern boutiques and elegant geishas scurrying amongst the narrow backstreets. (B)

**■ Day 9: Explore Kyoto and more**

There is plenty more to see in Kyoto and you can use today to independently discover more of the city. For those who might want to take their explorations farther afield, a rail pass will be provided enabling you to take the day to visit one of the nearby cities. Choose Nara, also a former capital full of wonderful heritage; the attractive hillside city of Kobe; Osaka, known for its excellent gastronomy; or the friendly and laid-back Hiroshima. (B)

**■ Day 10: Shinjuku**

From Kyoto jump back on the bullet train and return to Shinjuku in Tokyo. Enjoy one last evening in this high-tech metropolis. (B)

**■ Day 11: Fly Tokyo to UK**

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)



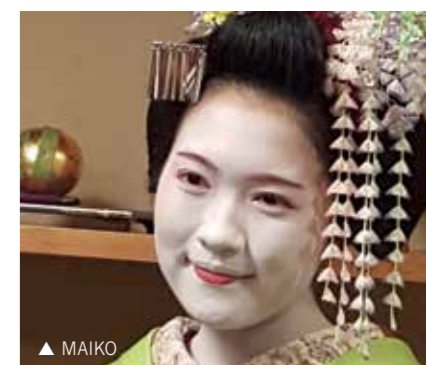
▲ MT KOMAGATAKE

**STOPOVER IN...**



**HONG KONG 2 NIGHTS FROM £240PP**

A sophisticated and lively destination, enjoy the sights and sounds of Hong Kong, where Chinese character underlays colonial charms and the gastronomy is varied and delicious. See pages 114-115. Additional flight costs may apply.



▲ MAIKO



▲ WOOF WOOF

## DEPARTURES

2016 DEPARTURES BETWEEN											
01 Jan - 29 Feb	£3,190	01 Apr - 31 May	£2,990	16 Jul - 23 Jul	£2,990	11 Aug - 31 Aug	£3,090	01 Oct - 31 Oct	£2,990	10 Dec - 24 Dec	£3,190
01 Mar - 31 Mar	£3,190	01 Jun - 15 Jul	£2,990	24 Jul - 10 Aug	£3,090	01 Sep - 30 Sep	£2,990	01 Nov - 09 Dec	£3,190		
2017 DEPARTURES BETWEEN											
01 Jan - 28 Feb	£3,390	01 Apr - 31 May	£3,190	16 Jul - 23 Jul	£3,190	11 Aug - 31 Aug	£3,290	01 Oct - 31 Oct	£3,190	10 Dec - 24 Dec	£3,390
01 Mar - 31 Mar	£3,390	01 Jun - 15 Jul	£3,190	24 Jul - 10 Aug	£3,290	01 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,190	01 Nov - 09 Dec	£3,390		

# INDIA

Remarkably diverse with a heady mix of jungle, desert and mountains, and studded with vibrant cities; a journey through the Indian Subcontinent will be unforgettable.

## Our India Tours include:

- Comprehensive touring
- Award winning national escorts
- Knowledgeable local guides
- International flights & taxes
- All accommodation & meals
- All transportation in India
- Visa application & fees
- Specialist advice from our travel consultants



## GOLDEN TRIANGLE

The fabled Golden Triangle is the classic introduction to this vast and beautiful country. Bustling streets, havens of tranquillity and architectural wonders await as you dive headlong into the vibrant sights, sounds and experiences of Northern India.

**9** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £1,890

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

### Flight and supplement information

#### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,430 (Delhi - Delhi)
- Single room from £260
- Tipping paid locally US\$50



▲ CHAND BAORI STEPWELL

### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MR PARIHAR

*As a tour escort I love to show my clients the India off the beaten track, to make them experience India as it is. Loud, but full of gusto and energy.*



▲ TAJ MAHAL



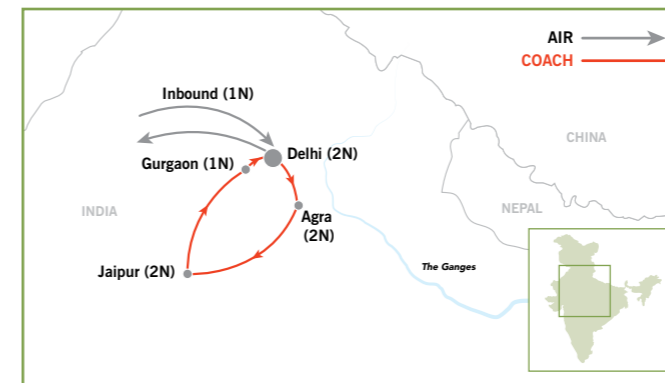
▲ PALACE OF THE WINDS



▲ MARKET IN DELHI



▲ AMBER FORT, JAIPUR



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Buzzing metropolis Delhi
- Agra and the Taj Mahal
- The Amber Fort
- Bollywood show

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Delhi

Fly overnight to India's rambunctious capital Delhi. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### Day 3: Discover Delhi

With all the charms of being a little bit rough-around-the-edges, Delhi is a city that grabs you and doesn't let go. Spend a full day exploring the sights of Old Delhi. Stroll around the outside of the colossal Red Fort, and browse your way through the bustling bazaar of Chandni Chowk. Visit Jama Masjid, India's largest and most impressive mosque, before viewing the 1930's Lakshmi Narayan Hindu Temple. You will also have a brief stop at India Gate and visits to Humayun's Tomb and Connaught Markets.

### Day 4: Delhi to Agra

Drive to Agra with an en route stop at Sikandra to see the tomb of the third Mughal Emperor Akbar the Great.

### Day 5: Taj Mahal

Rise early to see the sunrise over one of the world's most perfect buildings and India's most iconic sight. At dawn, when the crowds are at their thinnest, the Taj Mahal is swathed in mist and tinged pink by the rising sun – a magical experience. This afternoon visit Agra Fort, a hulking mass of red

sandstone sat on the banks of the Yamuna River, just upstream from the Taj Mahal. The fort was established in the 16th century but has been much added to over the centuries making it an eclectic mix of architectural styles.

### Day 6: Fatehpur Sikri

Journey to the ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri. A spectacular array of Mughal palaces and temples, the complex was abandoned shortly after completion and is still shrouded in mystery. Continue to the Chand Baori Stepwell, a fabulously geometric, ancient construction, before arriving in Jaipur.

### Day 7: Hawa Mahal and Amber Fort

Begin the day with a brief stop at the Hawa Mahal, the 'Palace of the Winds', before travelling out of the city to admire the majestic Amber Fort. The ancient citadel of the Kachwahas, built in 1592, this red sandstone and marble fort effortlessly blends Hindu and Muslim architecture. This afternoon, back in Jaipur, explore the Maharaja's City Palace, as well as the Jantar Mantar Observatory and the local bazaar at Choti Choper.

### Day 8: Kingdom of Dreams

Travel to Gurgaon near Delhi, where tonight you will visit the Kingdom of Dreams to watch a magical Bollywood performance.

### Day 9: Fly Delhi to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home later the same or following day.

**Make the most of your Indian experience with one of the following extension packages.**

## ▼ EXTEND YOUR TOUR

### RANTHAMBORE

**3** NIGHTS FROM  
**PER PERSON** £320



#### Day 9: Ranthambore

Take the train from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur and then drive to Ranthambore National Park, India's most famous wildlife reserve. (B,L,D)

#### Day 10: Ranthambore National Park

Take a morning canter safari in search of the elusive Bengal

Tigers which reside in the park. In the afternoon, take a further safari through the park. (B,L,D)

#### Day 11: Canter safari

Take a morning canter safari through the reserve before taking the train back to Delhi. (B)

#### Day 12: Fly Delhi to UK

Fly to the UK. (B)

### VARANASI

**3** NIGHTS FROM  
**PER PERSON** £490



#### Day 9: Train to Varanasi

Transfer to the station for your overnight train to Varanasi. (B)

#### Day 10: Sarnath & Ganges Ghats

On arrival in Varanasi, transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon visit Sarnath, an important Buddhist pilgrimage centre. In the evening, visit the Ghats on the banks of the Ganges River

and witness a Puja Ceremony. (B,L)

#### Day 11: Boat Ride on the Ganges

Take an early morning boat ride on the Ganges followed by a city tour. Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Delhi. (B)

#### Day 12: Depart Delhi

Fly to the UK. (B)

### GOA

**4** NIGHTS FROM  
**PER PERSON** £660



#### Day 9: Fly to Goa

Fly to Goa, on the beautiful Arabian Sea coastline. (B)

#### Day 10: Discover Goa

Tour Goa, visiting Altinho Hill, Dona Paula and the colonial sights in Old Goa. End the day with some free time to shop in Panjim City. (B,L)

#### Days 11-12: Goa at Leisure

Spend the next two days relaxing on Goa's beaches, or discovering more of Goa's Portuguese colonial heritage. (B)

#### Day 13: Depart Goa

Fly to Mumbai for your onward flight to the UK. (B)

## DEPARTURES – Departing Saturday returning Sunday

2016 DATES													
16 Jan - 24 Jan	£1,990	27 Feb - 06 Mar	£2,090	19 Mar - 27 Mar	£2,090	09 Apr - 17 Apr	£1,890	08 Oct - 16 Oct	£1,990	05 Nov - 13 Nov	£2,090	10 Dec - 18 Dec	£2,090
06 Feb - 14 Feb	£1,990	12 Mar - 20 Mar	£2,090	02 Apr - 10 Apr	£1,890	17 Sep - 25 Sep	£1,890	22 Oct - 30 Oct	£1,990	19 Nov - 27 Nov	£2,090		
2017 DATES													
07 Jan - 15 Jan	£2,090	25 Feb - 05 Mar	£2,190	18 Mar - 26 Mar	£2,190	08 Apr - 16 Apr	£1,990	07 Oct - 15 Oct	£2,090	04 Nov - 12 Nov	£2,190	09 Dec - 17 Dec	£2,190
04 Feb - 12 Feb	£2,090	11 Mar - 19 Mar	£2,190	01 Apr - 09 Apr	£1,990	16 Sep - 24 Sep	£1,990	21 Oct - 29 Oct	£2,090	18 Nov - 26 Nov	£2,190		



## KERALA & THE SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

Southern India is an intensely tropical and laid back region. Kerala boasts a rich heritage and mystical backwaters, flanked by rice paddies and coconut groves, and plied by rustic kettuvallam.

**17** DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£2,890**

FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

MODERATE PACE

### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

### Flight and supplement information

#### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,440 (Chennai - Kochi)
- Single room from £630
- Tipping paid locally US\$95

### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MR RATHORE

South India is a land of beauty and splendour, home to ancient temples and the natural scenery of Kerala. Periyar is spectacular too.



▲ KETTUVALLAM CONVERTED RICE BARGE



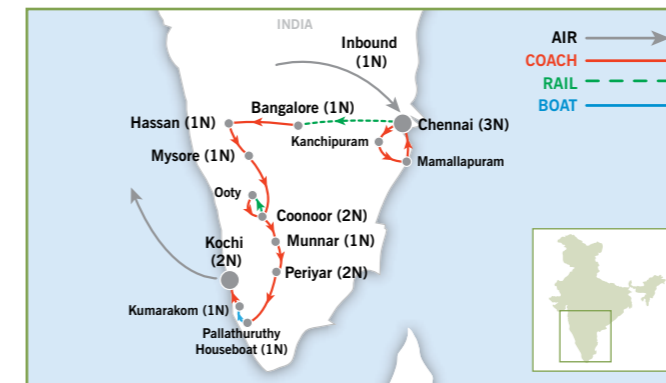
▲ KANCHIPURAM



▲ BANGALORE



▲ MYSORE PALACE



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Sacred Kanchipuram
- Mysore's spectacular palace
- Ooty narrow gauge railway
- Kerala's magical backwaters

## ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly to Chennai

Fly overnight to the city of Chennai, the gateway to southern India. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### Day 3: Explore Chennai

Chennai, once Madras, was developed as a British trading post and so is home to a number of colonial sights. Though our city tour begins at the 13km long Marina Beach, you'll also visit Fort St George, established by the East India Company, and the British built St Mary's Church. Finally see the colourful Shiva Kapaleeswarar Temple.

### Day 4: Kanchipuram and Mamallapuram

Journey to Kanchipuram, one of the seven sacred cities of India, to visit Srinivasa Silk House. Continue on to the coastal town of Mamallapuram to view the fascinating 7th and 8th century rock carvings. Return to Chennai.

### Day 5: Train to Bangalore

Rise early to catch the Shatabdi Express to the garden city of Bangalore. Take an afternoon city tour to see the Bull Temple, Tipu Sultan's Palace and Vidhana Soudha.

### Day 6: Explore Hassan

Travel to Hassan and visit Shravanabelagola, one of the most revered Jain pilgrimage sites in India and home to the world's

tallest free-standing statue. You'll also visit the 12th-century temples of Belur and Halebid, a part of Karnataka's rich cultural heritage.

### Day 7: Mysore

Head to Mysore, stopping at Srirangapatnam Fort en route. Visit the magnificent Maharaja's Palace and drive up to Chamundi Hill to admire the 12th-century Sri Chamundeshwari Temple and Nandi Bull. Tonight, enjoy a traditional cooking demonstration hosted by a local family.

### Day 8: Coonoor Hill Station

Journey up into the cool climes of the Western Ghats to the beautiful hill station of Coonoor. Relax and appreciate the peace and natural splendour of this quaint town.

### Day 9: Ooty narrow gauge railway

Hop aboard the miniature, narrow gauge 'Toy Train' to Ooty, nicknamed the Queen of Hill Stations. Upon arrival you'll visit the botanical gardens and walk up to a small village where you'll be able to gain insight into the lives of the local people, as well as gaining incredible views back over Ooty.

### Day 10: Munnar

Begin the descent through the highlands with a full day driving through the Western Ghats, enjoying a plethora of spectacular panoramas as you go. Reach Munnar, a hill station enveloped by lush tea plantations.

### Day 11: Tea plantation

Visit a local tea plantation and the Tata Tea Museum. Later, travel to Thekkady which is renowned for its spice shops and home of the Periyar Wildlife Reserve.

### Day 12: Periyar Wildlife Reserve

Designated a Tiger Reserve in 1978, the Periyar Wildlife Reserve, however, is best known for elephants. Take a walk through the reserve, keeping an eye out for its resident elephant population, as well as wild dogs, barking deer, mouse deer and the elusive Bengal Tiger. Visit a local spice village and market. Enjoy a traditional Kalaripayattu (martial art) show this evening.

### Day 13: Backwaters cruise

Travel to Pallathuruthy where you'll board your houseboat, a converted rice barge, known as a kettuvallam. Sit back and watch life on the water and the passing untouched wilderness as you cruise unhurriedly along the canals. Lunch and dinner will be served on board and you'll spend a comfortable night on the water.

### Day 14: Kumarakom

After breakfast on the boat, disembark and drive to Kumarakom. Stop en route at the local market in Alleppey and a coir factory. On arrival the rest of the day is free for you to spend as you wish.

### Day 15: Coastal Kochi

Journey to colourful and cosmopolitan Kochi, a city built on a beautiful lagoon of the Arabian Sea. Take an afternoon visit to Kumbalangi fishing village.

### Day 16: Explore Kochi

Take a full day tour around Kochi starting at St Francis Church, the first European church to be built in India. Next visit Santa Cruz Basilica, which also provides excellent views of the unique Chinese fishing nets used in the area. Finish by admiring the Jewish synagogue in the heart of

the Jewish Quarter and a stroll through the nearby markets. This evening enjoy an exuberant Kathakali dance performance.

### Day 17: Fly Kochi to UK

Spend the day at leisure before transferring to the airport. Fly to the UK, arriving home later the same or following day.



## ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

- Want to travel on a different date?
- Looking for something a little more personal?
- Want the same levels of comfort, expertise and professional guiding but with more flexibility and your choice of hotel?

Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

## STOPOVER IN...



## DUBAI

3 NIGHTS FROM £220PP

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination full of futuristic architecture and cosmopolitan nightlife fronted by beautiful beaches. Dig a little deeper and you'll find a rich culture centred on the labyrinthine old city.

See pages 118. Additional flight costs may apply.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Wednesday returning Friday

2016 DATES							
03 Feb - 19 Feb	£2,890	02 Mar - 18 Mar	£2,890	05 Oct - 21 Oct	£2,990	02 Nov - 18 Nov	£2,990
2017 DATES							
01 Feb - 17 Feb	£3,090	01 Mar - 17 Mar	£3,090	04 Oct - 20 Oct	£3,190	01 Nov - 17 Nov	£3,190



# HIGHLIGHTS OF INDIA & NEPAL

From the desert forts of Rajasthan through national parks that shelter the majestic Bengal Tiger, past the Taj Mahal and on to holy Varanasi – this tour covers many of India's most magnificent sights.

**18** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £3,390

**FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK**

**COMFORTABLE PACE**

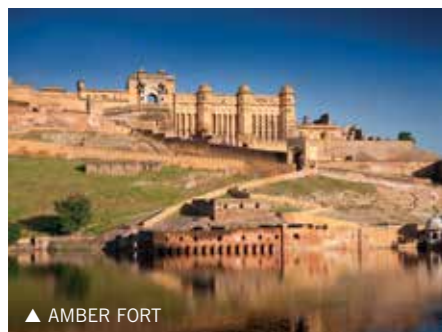
#### Price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

#### Flight and supplement information

##### Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,930 (Delhi - Delhi)
- Single room from £590
- Tipping paid locally US\$105



▲ AMBER FORT

#### NATIONAL ESCORT HIGHLIGHTS: MR SAURANA

Being a tour guide I like Jaipur the most because of its historical colour, its architecture and people who still believe in keeping the same era alive.



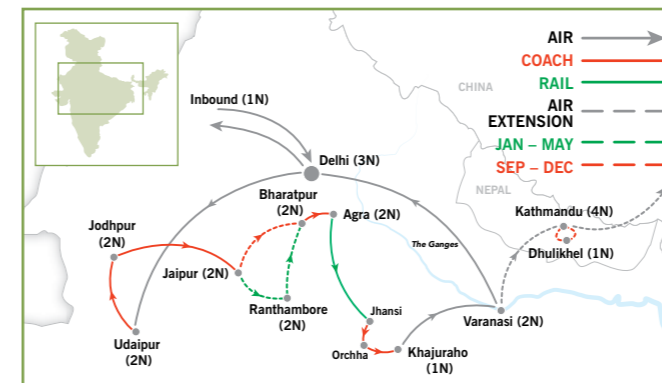
▲ UDAIPUR



▲ JAMA MASJID, DELHI



▲ RANTHAMBORE



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Serene Lakes of Udaipur
- Incredible National Parks
- Spiritual Varanasi
- The legendary Taj Mahal

## ITINERARY

### ■ Days 1-2: Fly to Delhi

Fly overnight to Delhi for a two night stay. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### ■ Day 3: Explore Delhi

Explore Old Delhi; drive past the Red Fort, walk through Chandni Chowk Bazaar to Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, and visit the Lakshmi Narayan Hindu Temple. After lunch, view India Gate before visiting Gandhi Smriti and Qutab Minar.

### ■ Day 4: Journey to Udaipur

Fly to Udaipur, a city of lakes, palaces and temples. The City Palace of Udaipur is still home to Maharana Udai Singh's descendants who remain rulers of this independent state.

### ■ Day 5: Udaipur City Palace

Visit Sahelion Ki Bari Gardens, the Folk Museum and Mewar Art Gallery. You will also visit the City Palace and wander through the local streets and shops. This afternoon visit the imposing City Palace, then relax on a cruise on Lake Pichola.

### ■ Day 6: Ranakpur Jain Temple

Drive to Ranakpur, the largest temple complex of the Jain religion in India, before continuing to Jodhpur.

### ■ Day 7: Mehrangarh Fort

This morning visit Mehrangarh Fort. Next, visit Jaswant Thada royal cenotaphs and Umair Bhawan Palace Museum. Take an auto rickshaw to a local restaurant for lunch followed by a walking tour through Subzi Mandi, the local vegetable and spice market.

### ■ Day 8: Choti Choper

Leave Jodhpur and drive to Jaipur. This afternoon, shop at the local bazaar in Choti Choper, located inside the walled city.

### ■ Day 9: Hawa Mahal

Start with a photo stop this morning at Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) before visiting Amber Fort. Later this afternoon visit the City Palace, a handicraft centre and Jantar Mantar. Watch a traditional dance performance while enjoying dinner this evening.

### ■ Days 10-12: Jaipur to Agra

**January to May – via Ranthambore**  
Travel to Ranthambore National Park, one of the prime examples of Project Tiger's conservation resorts in Rajasthan. This afternoon enjoy a canter safari. Tomorrow you will have a morning and afternoon canter safari. The following day, board your train to Bharatpur. Upon arrival drive to Agra stopping at Fatehpur Sikri en route.

### ■ September to December – via Bharatpur

Drive to Bharatpur for a two night stay. Tomorrow visit Keoladeo National Park for a morning rickshaw safari, and visit a nearby village. The following day, drive to Agra via the fortified ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri.

### ■ Day 13: Taj Mahal

View the Taj Mahal as the sun is rising. Later, visit a marble inlay workshop, the impressive Agra Fort and Sadar Bazaar.

### ■ Day 14: Shatabdi Express to Khajuraho

After breakfast this morning, board the Shatabdi Express train to Jhansi. From here, continue by road to Khajuraho, stopping in Orchha en route. This evening enjoy a cultural dance performance.

### ■ Day 15: Khajuraho & the Ganges

Tour the Western groups of temples including Kandariya Mahadeva Temple. This afternoon fly to Varanasi. Take a rickshaw to the ghats of the River Ganges to witness the Puja ceremony of Ganga Aarti.

### ■ Day 16: Discover Varanasi

Take an early morning boat ride along the River Ganges, followed by a city tour of Varanasi. Later this afternoon visit the Buddhist sites at Sarnath.

### ■ Day 17: Fly to Delhi

Fly from Varanasi to Delhi and stay overnight.

### ■ Day 18: Fly Delhi to UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home later the same or following day.



#### ENJOY AS A PRIVATE TOUR

Choose to design your own bespoke itinerary

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Call us to arrange this itinerary as a private tour.

## KEEP EXPLORING



### NEPAL 4 DAYS EXTRA FROM £490PP

#### ■ Day 17: Varanasi to Kathmandu

You will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Kathmandu, Nepal. The remainder of the day is at leisure to acclimatise to the higher altitude.

#### ■ Day 18: Patan

This morning visit the Dakshina Kali Temple. Later tour Patan, including the UNESCO World Heritage listed former Royal Palace and the lively Durbar Square.

#### ■ Day 19: Explore Kathmandu

Visit Kathmandu's Durbar Square and the Kumari Temple. Later you will explore the Swayambhunath Stupa, Bodhnath Stupa and Pashupatinath Temple. Wander through Thamel Market this evening.

#### ■ Day 20: Kathmandu to Dhulikhel

This morning drive to Dhulikhel, stopping at the UNESCO World Heritage listed temple of Changu Narayan en route. In Dhulikhel you will visit traditional Newari houses and browse the local market.

#### ■ Day 21: Dhulikhel to Kathmandu

Leave Dhulikhel and return to Kathmandu. Visit the 9th-century town of Bhaktapur en route, including the Golden Gate at the Palace of 55 Windows. Enjoy a traditional Nepalese dance performance this evening.

#### ■ Day 22: Depart Kathmandu

Fly to the UK.

## DEPARTURES – Departing Friday returning Monday

2016 DATES											
22 Jan - 08 Feb	£3,590	12 Feb - 29 Feb	£3,590	04 Mar - 21 Mar	£3,590	16 Sep - 03 Oct	£3,390	14 Oct - 31 Oct	£3,490		
05 Feb - 22 Feb	£3,590	26 Feb - 14 Mar	£3,590	11 Mar - 28 Mar	£3,590	30 Sep - 17 Oct	£3,390	04 Nov - 21 Nov	£3,490		
2017 DATES											
20 Jan - 10 Feb	£3,790	10 Feb - 03 Mar	£3,790	03 Mar - 24 Mar	£3,790	15 Sep - 06 Oct	£3,590	13 Oct - 03 Nov	£3,690		
03 Feb - 24 Feb	£3,790	24 Feb - 17 Mar	£3,790	10 Mar - 31 Mar	£3,790	29 Sep - 20 Oct	£3,590	03 Nov - 24 Nov	£3,690		

# TAILORMADE ASIA

**Our group tours give you the chance to tick off all of the big sights and to travel in the company of likeminded people but not everyone wants to stick to the trail. If you like what you see but are looking for more flexibility and freedom, a tailor-made tour may be for you.**

## WHY TAILORMADE?

With a tailor-made itinerary you can travel where, when and at the pace you want, for as long as you want. You can pick your accommodation and add all the extras you like, from meals to guides to excursions. You can indulge your interests, whether it's Ming Dynasty pottery or large wading birds, and miss out anything that doesn't hold much appeal. You have complete control.

## WHAT WE DO:

Our team of dedicated tailor-made Asia experts will help to design your perfect, unique itinerary so you can have a holiday that fits all of your wants and needs for excellent value - whether it's some minor adjustments to one of the group itineraries you've seen in this brochure or building something completely from scratch.

## 1 PERSONAL SERVICE

The creation of your perfect itinerary is a combination of your ideas and desires, and our expertise. Your dedicated tailor-made consultant will listen to what you are looking for, make recommendations and work with you to create a holiday that fulfils all your wants and needs. They are ready on the end of the line from enquiry to departure, so any questions you have, tweaks you want to make, things you want to talk through, just call.



## 2 INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORT

You can travel around your destination any way you like, be it by bullet train, plane or car, but we will always provide you with your own vehicle and driver to make sure that you get the most out of your time exploring. This way you can stop where and when you like, linger by that favourite sight a little longer and have complete control over your holiday time.



## 4 ACCOMMODATION CHOICES

Accommodation across Asia ranges from ger camps to grand old palaces. The choice of hotel style and standard is completely up to you. You can just give us the number of stars that you are comfortable with for us to recommend ones that suit your needs and requirements, or you can peruse through the wide range of hotel options that we have online and pick the ones that appeal to you most.



## 6 PRIVATE GUIDING

There is no better way to really experience your destination than with your very own local expert. Not only will you learn more about the sights and culture but will get the inside knowledge on local life. And we only use the best guides, the ones who are both passionate and knowledgeable about their country and have a desire to share it.

## 3 LOCAL FLAVOURS

Asia is home to a wealth of different people and cultures, each offering their own characteristic and delicious cuisines. Tasting the local food is a way of getting to the heart of a culture, so we include regional specialities to our itineraries, Peking duck in Beijing for example, but also leave you plenty of space to get out and discover the most flavourful offerings for yourself.



## 5 DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Learning, seeing and experiencing are all part of travel – immersing yourself in a new culture and different way of life are one of its greatest perks. By tailormaking your trip you can take this a step farther and do something a bit different – a day as a panda keeper, a Vietnamese cooking class, ballooning over Bagan or living like a maharaja in Rajasthan are just a few of your many options.





# STOPOVERS

The trip of a lifetime can become even more memorable by choosing to stopover en route. Most airlines allow you to stopover in their hub city for no additional cost to the airfare, meaning the likes of Hong Kong, Macau or the Middle East can easily become part of your travel itinerary.

## Stopovers include:

- Accommodation in 3★, 4★ or 5★ hotels
- Touring and sightseeing
- Airport transfers
- Daily breakfast

# HONG KONG STOPOVER

Hong Kong boasts award-winning gastronomy, colourful nightlife and unbeatable city views from panoramic Victoria Peak or from the deck of a junk boat on the harbour. A sophisticated and lively metropolis, Hong Kong's mix of colonial influences, futuristic modernity and distinct Chinese traditions make it arguably the ultimate east-meets-west destination.



## KOWLOON HOTELS



**EATON, KOWLOON ★★★★★**  
In the heart of Kowloon, close to Temple Street and the Jade Market, the Eaton's rooms are coolly contemporary with dark woods and great views. Drinks by the rooftop pool or a free Tai Chi class are perfect to unwind; and there are seven bars and restaurants to choose from.



**HARBOUR GRAND KOWLOON ★★★★★**  
For those who like comfort and functionality with their luxury, the Harbour Grand's spacious rooms with floor to ceiling windows, some with harbour views are perfect. The glass-walled pool, range of international restaurants and half hourly shuttles to Tsim Sha Tsui add to the appeal.



**INTERCONTINENTAL, KOWLOON ★★★★★**  
Located on the waterfront, just steps from the Star Ferry Terminal with panoramas of Hong Kong's skyline the Intercontinental boasts a luxury spa, rooftop infinity pools and three Michelin-starred restaurants. Gorgeous bedrooms are elegantly decorated and full of top-of-the-range gadgets.



**KOWLOON SHANGRI LA ★★★★★**  
Overlooking Victoria Harbour, it is not only the Shangri-La's excellent location that makes it an excellent choice, but also its modern style and outstanding service. Rooms offer city or harbour views from their huge windows and there are eight restaurants, a health club and pool to enjoy.

## HONG KONG ISLAND HOTELS



**DORSETT, WAN CHAI (COSMOPOLITAN) ★★★★★**  
Perfectly located next to the Happy Valley Racecourse, the Dorsett offers bright and airy rooms decorated in a series of elegant themes. Just 10 minutes stroll from Causeway Bay MTR station, a free shuttle serves the most popular spots close by.



**MIRA MOON, HONG KONG ISLAND ★★★★★**  
A small, chic boutique hotel located in Causeway Bay, the Mira Moon effortlessly blends fantastical and traditional Chinese style with contemporary, technological touches. Make use of the fitness centre and relax in the Champagne Bar or the delightful Secret Garden.

## HONG KONG GLIMPSSES

2 NIGHTS FROM **PER PERSON £240**

This fleeting visit to Hong Kong features all of the highlights of this vibrant city, including panoramic views from Victoria Peak and the quaint Aberdeen fishing village. Also take some time to relax and explore the city's foodie scene.

**Day 1: Arrive Hong Kong**  
Arrive in Hong Kong and transfer from the airport to your hotel, the famous skyline growing bigger and more impressive as you approach the city proper. The rest of the day is at leisure to begin your explorations.

**Day 2: Hong Kong Tour**  
Fill up on a hearty breakfast before hopping on a coach to see the sights of the city. Spending a half day touring Hong Kong Island you will visit Stanley Market, head up Victoria Peak for fantastic views and see a quainter

side of Hong Kong life at Aberdeen Fishing Village. Here there is an option to take a sampan ride (at your own expense) to get a closer look at the numerous fishing vessels. The rest of the day is free to continue your own explorations. (B)

**Day 3: Depart Hong Kong**  
Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before checking out of the hotel. The rest of the day is free to spend as you wish before transferring back to Hong Kong airport. (B)



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
4★ Eaton, Hong Kong	£240	£140
4★ Dorsett Wan Chai	£260	£150
5★ Harbour Grand Kowloon	£320	£210

Flight supplements may apply

**Price includes:**

- 2 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Touring as specified
- Local English speaking guide
- Entrance fees
- Meals as stated

## HONG KONG IN FOCUS

3 NIGHTS FROM **PER PERSON £420**

Designed to show you two aspects of life in the city, tour the best bits of Hong Kong Island before discovering the natural beauty of Lantau, Hong Kong's largest island, with time to spend exploring as you wish.

**Day 1: Arrive Hong Kong**  
Arrive in Hong Kong and transfer from the airport to your hotel, the famous skyline growing bigger and more impressive as you approach the city proper. The rest of the day is at leisure to begin your explorations.

**Day 2: Hong Kong Tour**  
Spend a half day touring Hong Kong Island by coach visiting Stanley Market, heading up Victoria Peak for fantastic views and seeing a quainter side of Hong Kong life at Aberdeen Fishing Village. Here there is an option to take a sampan ride. The rest of the

day is free to continue your own explorations. (B)

**Day 3: Lantau Island**  
A full day coach tour will see you taking in the sights of Lantau Island. Visit Cheung Sha Beach, Tai O Fishing Village, Po Lin Monastery and its serene giant Buddha. Po Lin serves delicious vegetarian food which you will enjoy for lunch before soaring over the island on the Ngong Ping Cable Car. (B,L)

**Day 4: Depart Hong Kong**  
The day is free to spend as you wish before transferring back to Hong Kong airport. (B)



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
4★ Eaton, Hong Kong	£420	£210
4★ Dorsett Wan Chai	£460	£210
5★ Harbour Grand Kowloon	£520	£320

Flight supplements may apply

**Price includes:**

- 3 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Touring as specified
- Local English speaking guide
- Entrance fees
- Meals as stated

# MACAU STOPOVER

Across the Pearl River Delta from Hong Kong, Macau boasts a blend of culture and casinos. This former Portuguese enclave, that pre-dates Hong Kong by 300 years, mixes Mediterranean style with Chinese traditions, creating a unique and fascinating atmosphere. This is also the only place in China where gambling is legal and there are plenty of glistening casinos and resorts to choose from.



▲ RUINS OF ST PAUL'S



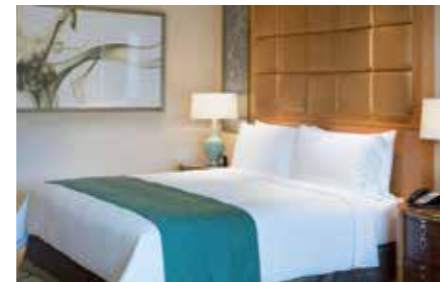
### REGENCY MACAU ★★★

Located on Taipa Island, the Regency hotel offers comfort and convenience. Located within 10 minutes of Macau's old centre, the room design is inspired by Macau's Mediterranean background. Each room is fully equipped with all amenities, including air conditioning and Wi-Fi access.



### HOLIDAY INN MACAU ★★★★★

Located in the heart of Cotai, the Holiday Inn Macau is a contemporary resort offering premier service. Located on the iconic Cotai Strip, the Holiday Inn Macau provides a wide selection of shopping and entertainment options and a sophisticated outdoor pool.



### CONRAD MACAU ★★★★★

Situated on the glitzy Cotai Strip, the Conrad Macau is a world-class contemporary luxury resort offering light and spacious accommodation. Remember to take advantage of the wide-range of restaurants specialising in Chinese, Japanese and western cuisine.



### GRAND EMPEROR ★★★

Within walking distance of the Ruins of St Paul's, the Grand Emperor Hotel boasts central locations on the Macau Peninsula and offers a touch of luxury, with a dazzling gold lobby, contemporary guestrooms and a plethora of dining options.



### METROPARK HOTEL, MACAU ★★★★★

Positioned within minutes of Macau's Mediterranean inspired Senado Square, the Metropark Hotel is located in the enviable downtown district. Equipped with swimming pool, Jacuzzi and gymnasium, the Metropark Hotel is equipped with all the mod-cons.



### SOFITEL MACAU AT PONTE 16 ★★★★★

Boasting spectacular views across the Xi River, the Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 is the pinnacle of glamour. Each room is inspired by a fusion of French and Macanese styles, furnished with MyBed mattress, LCD TV and L'Occitane bathroom amenities.

## MACAU

2 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £290

From the historical to the modern, from the religious to the glitzy, Macau's rich portfolio of sights and attractions makes it an excitingly diverse destination. An intricate tapestry of Mediterranean and Chinese architecture, cuisine and cultures, a journey through Macau is like crossing two distinct countries.

### Day 1: Hong Kong to Macau

Transfer by coach to the ferry terminal in Hong Kong for your ferry to Macau. Upon arrival, take a tour around the Macau Peninsula. Start with a visit to the Ruins of St Paul's, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back to the 17th-century. Next visit the Taoist A-Ma Temple and sections of the Old City Walls. Next, continue to the Museum of Macau and the thrilling heights of Macau Tower before trying your luck at the casino. Return to the pier where you will take a shuttle bus to your hotel. (L)

### Day 2: Macau

Enjoy a day at leisure to further explore the exciting former Portuguese colony of Macau. Perhaps check out the 17th century Portuguese Guia Fortress, or learn about Macau Formula Three at the Grand Prix Museum, or maybe take this opportunity to enjoy a cocktail at one of Macau's many casinos. (B)

### Day 3: Depart Macau

After checkout, transfer to the Macau Pier by shuttle bus for your ferry directly to Hong Kong International Airport. (B)



#### Prices per person from

HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ The Regency Macau	£290	£120
3★ The Grand Emperor Hotel	£340	£190
4★ Metropark Macau	£360	£190
5★ Sofitel Macau	£390	£220

Flight supplements may apply

#### Price includes:

- 2 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Touring as specified
- Local English speaking guide
- Entrance fees
- Meals as stated

## HONG KONG & MACAU

4 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £490

Combine a visit to the cosmopolitan vibrancy of Hong Kong with an exploration of the colonial culture of Macau. These two cities, both boasting an intriguing collision of European and Chinese influences, offer a great diversity of sights.

### Day 1: Hong Kong

On arrival into Hong Kong Airport, be met by your driver and take a coach to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

### Day 2: Hong Kong

Enjoy a half day tour of this fascinating city. Start by travelling up Victoria Peak for panoramic views of Victoria Harbour and the Hong Kong skyline. Next, browse the stalls at Stanley Market before seeing traditional fishing junks at the Aberdeen Fishing Village. This afternoon is at leisure. (B)

### Day 3: Hong Kong – Macau

Transfer by coach to the ferry terminal in Hong Kong for your ferry to Macau. Upon

arrival in Macau, take a tour around the Macau Peninsula, visiting the Ruins of St Paul's, A-Ma Temple and sections of the Old City Walls. Next, continue to the Museum of Macau and Macau Tower before trying your luck at the casinos. Return to the pier where you will take a shuttle bus to your hotel. (B,L)

### Day 4: Macau

Enjoy a day at leisure to further explore the former Portuguese colony of Macau. (B)

### Day 5: Depart Macau

After checkout, transfer to the Macau Pier by shuttle bus for your ferry directly to Hong Kong International Airport. (B)



#### Prices per person from

HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ Eaton & The Regency	£490	£240
4★ Dorsett Wan Chai & Metropark Macau	£640	£330
5★ Harbour Grand Kowloon & Sofitel Macau	£740	£460

Flight supplements may apply

#### Price includes:

- 4 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Touring as specified
- Local English speaking guide
- Entrance fees
- Meals as stated

## ABU DHABI

3 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £190

Evolving from a small fishing village to a fabulously rich city state, Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE, is a destination not to be ignored. Cosmopolitan yet traditional and laidback, this modern desert metropolis has plenty to keep you entertained, the beautiful Grand Mosque Sheikh Zayed and the Al Bateen neighbourhood to name a few.

### Your hotel

The stylish and contemporary **Centro Yas Island** is located close to the Southern Marina, Yas Beach, the F1 racetrack and Ferrari World Abu Dhabi. With a gym and outdoor pool, the Centro's rooms offer modern relaxation in cool, calm colours. A deli and restaurant offer a range of food, whilst the funky bar serves up refreshing drinks.

### Upgrade your experience

Well-positioned on Yas Island, the **Yas Island Rotana** combines elegant design

with international flair. Sit back and be pampered with excellent service, take a dip in the outdoor pool or relax in the spa. Alternatively, for a slice of Abu Dhabi luxury head to the **Beach Rotana**. Located in the city centre, this hotel boasts excellent facilities, a private beach and links directly to the Mall. Rooms here offer the height of decadent comfort.

### Adding this on

This can be easily added to any of our tours by flying internationally with Etihad.



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ Centro Yas Island	£190	£120
4★ Yas Island Rotana	£240	£170
5★ Beach Rotana	£270	£140

*Flight supplements may apply*

### Price includes:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Half day city tour
- Entrance fees
- Breakfast daily

## DUBAI

3 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £220

Dubai is the ultimate urban destination – a city full of cutting edge architecture, epic shopping malls, the finest of the world's luxury hotels and a cosmopolitan nightlife, all topped off with excellent beaches. As modern and extravagant as Dubai might be there is still plenty of rich and traditional culture to be found, particularly amongst the labyrinthine alleys of the old city.

### Your hotel

At the heart of the Deira district **The Marco Polo** is a sleek, friendly and modern hotel. Hop to the beach on the free shuttle, relax by the outdoor pool or soak in the hot tub. In the evening pick from a wide choice of restaurant options. Rooms offer class comfort and plenty of modern conveniences.

### Upgrade your experience

**The Ramada Jumeirah Beach** has the whole city on its doorstep, its floor to

ceiling windows offering sleek and urban city views, its beach the perfect place to relax. Upgrade to the luxury of the **Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Resort**. Set in landscaped gardens right on a private beach in Dubai Marina, this hotel has exquisite facilities and warmly decorated rooms with views over the Gulf.

### Adding this on

This can be easily added to any of our tours by flying internationally with Emirates.



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ The Marco Polo	£220	£150
4★ The Ramada Jumeirah Beach	£230	£170
5★ The Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Resort	£440	£290

*Flight supplements may apply*

### Price includes:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Half day city tour
- Entrance fees
- Breakfast daily

## DOHA

3 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £340

The up-and-coming destination on the Persian Gulf, Doha effortlessly blends Islamic charisma and mystique with the urban grandeur of towering skyscrapers. With golden beaches, exotic souqs and a quirky skyline, Doha showcases the traditional outlook and progressive thinking of the modern Middle Eastern city.

### Your hotel

Located within walking distance of the waterfront and the Museum of Islamic Art, **The Kingsgate Hotel** offers spacious rooms, fabulous views and a restaurant that prepares the delicious cuisine from all over the world.

### Upgrade your experience

Located amongst the fragrant souqs and lively business district, **The Swiss-Belhotel International** Convenient location and

comfortable accommodation aside, the hotel has a gym, pool and restaurant. **The Marriott Marquis** is at the forefront when it comes to Doha luxury. Rooms have floor to ceiling windows with sea or city views, whilst the outdoor pool is perfect to relax beside. The Saray Spa provides traditional Middle Eastern treatments.

### Adding this on

This tour can be easily added to any of our tours when flying internationally with Qatar Airways.



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ The Kingsgate Hotel	£340	£210
4★ The Swiss-Belhotel International	£390	£180
5★ Marriott Marquis	£640	£360

*Flight supplements may apply*

### Price includes:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Full day city tour
- Entrance fees
- Breakfast daily

## ISTANBUL

3 NIGHTS FROM PER PERSON £260

Astride two continents, the city of Istanbul boasts all the grace of Europe with the exoticism of Asia in a vibrant explosion of east and west. Capital of empires and a vital centre of trade, the ancient relics of Christendom sit side by side with the colourful monuments of the Ottoman Empire whilst old bazaars bustle as they have done for millennia – exploring Istanbul's vast wealth of sights is a must.

### Your hotel

Sitting in a prime location in Sultanahmet, within walking distance of the Blue Mosque, the highly rated **Ottoman Hotel Park** offers spacious rooms with orthopaedic beds and beautifully designed bathrooms.

### Upgrade your experience

Housed in historic Ottoman architecture close to many of Istanbul's legendary sights **The Wyndham Istanbul Old City** exudes traditional comfort. Unwind in the Turkish bath and sauna and

dine on Ottoman-inspired cuisine in the restaurant. **The Ritz Carlton** lives up to its prestigious name - overlooking the Bosphorus it features Istanbul's only outdoor spa and world class dining options. The hotel is full of beautiful Turkish carpets and antique furnishings, whilst rooms have cosy Turkish-inspired décor.

### Adding this on

This can be easily added to any of our tours by flying internationally with Turkish Airlines.



Prices per person from		
HOTEL	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
3★ Ottoman Hotel Park	£260	£220
4★ The Wyndham Istanbul Old City	£360	£320
5★ The Ritz Carlton	£490	£440

*Flight supplements may apply*

### Price includes:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Airport transfers
- Breakfast daily

# AIRLINES

**Your flights are an important part of your Wendy Wu Tours experience. We only work with scheduled airlines with the best reputations for service, reliability and punctuality. We use reputable domestic airlines for internal routes.**

## BRITISH AIRWAYS Preferred Partner

Having enjoyed an excellent working relationship with British Airways for many years, we are delighted to be a British Airways Preferred Partner. This gives us access to the most competitive fares and allows us to offer high levels of service to help enhance your overall travel experience. You can check-in as normal at the airport or avoid the queues and check-in online, printing your boarding pass at home and simply dropping off your bags before you fly. British Airways flies from London Heathrow to Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Chengdu and Tokyo. Connecting flights to London Heathrow are available.

- World Traveller**  
 31" seat pitch with lumbar support, footrest and adjustable headrest. Personal TV screens with audio video on demand offering access to 200 TV, film and music channels. A three course meal with complimentary bar service is also provided.
- World Traveller Plus**  
 This is a quieter cabin with a maximum of six rows, 38" seat pitch and wider seat with lumbar support, footrest and adjustable headrest. There is a personal TV and a three course meal, with choice of entrée from the Club World menu plus a complimentary bar service.

- Club World**  
 Benefit from dedicated check-in desks, departure and arrival lounges and a treatment in the Elemis Travel Spa (London Heathrow). Club World offers 6ft fully flat beds, personal TV, and an à la carte meal with a dedicated wine cellar as well as hot and cold snacks and beverages.
- First**  
 First customers benefit from dedicated check-in desks, departure and arrival lounges and a treatment in the Elemis Travel Spa (London Heathrow). The exclusive 'demicabin' creates a private environment. The seat converts into a 6'6" fully flat bed with duvet, pillows and a sleeper suit as well as a fold-down companion seat. Pre-flight dining is available at London Heathrow. On board, choose from a formal gourmet menu accompanied by fine wines and champagnes.



- Departures from London Heathrow, Manchester and Edinburgh
- Connections via Doha to Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Hong Kong and Tokyo
- Economy Class features a 32" seat pitch and a personal seatback TV
- Member of the One World alliance
- Winners of World's Best Airline for 2015. One of only seven airlines to receive a five-star Skytrax rating
- Upgrades available to Business class, featuring dedicated check-in desk, priority boarding, a larger fully flatbed seat. Personal 17" TV with a range of on demand features and on board a la carte menu



- Departures from London Heathrow Manchester and Edinburgh
- Connections via Abu Dhabi to Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Hong Kong and Tokyo
- Economy Class features a 32" seat pitch, with a 6" recline and a personal 11" seatback TV with a wide range of inflight entertainment
- Winners of the World Travel Awards "World's Leading Airline"
- Upgrades available to Business Class with a fully flatbed seat, and complimentary chauffeur service\*



- Daily flights direct to Beijing from London Heathrow
- Numerous onward connections to key cities within China, including Shanghai, Xian, Chengdu, Guilin, Hong Kong
- Economy Class features a 32" seat pitch and a personal seatback TV with a wide range of on demand entertainment
- Member of the Star Alliance
- Winner of the TTG Best China Airline
- Upgrades available to Business Class with a fully flatbed seat, and complimentary chauffeur service\*
- Lowest priced Business Class to China



- Direct departures 5 x daily from London Heathrow to Hong Kong and 4 x weekly from Manchester
- Connections from Hong Kong to 20 cities across China
- Economy Class features a 32" seat pitch, with a 6" recline, an in seat power outlet and a 9" widescreen personal TV with a wide range of inflight entertainment
- Member of the One World alliance



- One of only seven airlines to receive a five-star Skytrax rating
- Upgrade to Premium Economy for more legroom, a wider seat, dedicated cabin, 10.6" personal TV, amenity kit and increased baggage allowance
- Upgrades are available to Business Class featuring a dedicated check-in desk and priority boarding, a larger seat to provide more comfort including a fully flat bed just over 2 meters long, personal stowage compartment, 15.4" personal TV and a range of Asian and Western meal choices



- Departures from Birmingham, Glasgow, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, Manchester and Newcastle
- Connections via Dubai to Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Tokyo
- Double daily flights from London Heathrow and London Gatwick to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong

- Economy Class features a 32-34" seat pitch and a personal seatback TV with a wide range of inflight entertainment
- One of the youngest fleets in the world and Winner of Skytrax World's Best Airline 2013
- Fly on the Airbus A380, with nine daily flights from Heathrow, Manchester and Gatwick
- Upgrades available to Business Class, featuring dedicated check-in desk and priority boarding, a larger fully flatbed seat with a personal mini bar on selected aircraft and complimentary chauffeur service\*

**As well as British Airways and the featured airlines on this page we work with KLM, Air France, Finnair, Turkish Airlines, Virgin Atlantic, China Eastern and China Southern, meaning you are able to fly from just about any airport in the UK.**

*Our prices are based on flights from London Heathrow. Regional departures may be subject to an additional cost.*



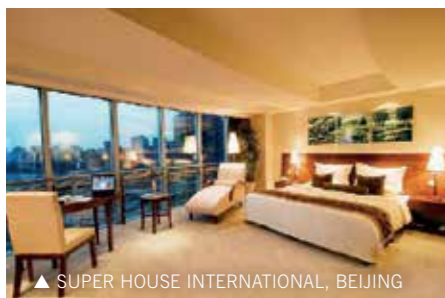
\*Please note chauffeur services are only applicable on business class flights within a certain radius of your departure airport.

# HOTELS

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town.



▲ A WARM WELCOME



▲ SUPER HOUSE INTERNATIONAL, BEIJING



▲ GOLDEN FLOWER, XIAN



▲ HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN, SHANGHAI



▲ YULONG INTERNATIONAL, XIAN



▲ JIN-TONE HOTEL, CHENGDU



▲ REGAL SHANGHAI EAST ASIA, SHANGHAI

## Beijing

**Super House International Hotel**  
No. 102 Dongsanhuan South Road  
Chao Yang District, Beijing.

**Jiangxi Grand Hotel**  
8 Heng Yi Tiao Road  
Fengtai District, Beijing.

**Park Plaza Beijing West Hotel**  
No. 17 Xicui Road,  
Haidian District, Beijing.

**Zhongle Six Star Hotel**  
Building 4, Block 3, Fangzhuang  
Fengtai District, Beijing.

## Xian

**Golden Flower**  
8 Chang Le Road West,  
Xincheng District, Xian.

**Ramada Plaza South**  
No 1958 5th South Yannan Road, Qujiang  
New District, Xian.

**Yulong International Hotel**  
No. 5 West Part of North 2nd Ring Road,  
Weiyang District, Xian.

## Shanghai

**Holiday Inn Downtown Shanghai**  
585 Heng Feng Road,  
Pudong District, Shanghai.

**Mingde Grand Hotel**  
No 558 North Xizang Road,  
Zhabei District, Shanghai.

**Shaanxi Business Hotel**  
658 Middle Yan An Road,  
Jing'an District, Shanghai.

**Regal Shanghai East Asia Hotel**  
800 Lingling Road,  
Xuhui District, Shanghai.

## Chengdu

**Jin-Tone Hotel**  
No. 95 Huapaifang Street,  
Jinniu District, Chengdu.

**Mercure Chengdu North Hotel**  
3rd Section North, 2nd Ring Road,  
Jinniu District, Chengdu.

**Chengdu Tianfu Sunshine Hotel**  
2 Tai Sheng Bei Road,  
Chengdu, Sichuan.

## Guilin

**Lijiang Waterfall Hotel**  
1 Shanhu North Road,  
Xiufeng District, Guilin.

**Jin-Tone Hotel**  
1 North Zhongshan Road,  
Diecai District, Guilin.

**Universal Hotel**  
1 Jiefangdong Road,  
Xiufeng District, Guilin.

**Park Hotel**  
1 Luosishan Road, Deicai District, Guilin.

## Yangshuo

**Elite Garden Hotel**  
51 Pantao Road, Yangshuo.

**New Century Hotel**  
Pantao Road (next to Yangshuo Park),  
Yangshuo.

**Jasper International Hotel**  
No. 103-11 Shima Road, Yangshuo.

## Lijiang

**Lijiang Wangfu Hotel**  
No.9 Yigu Alley, South Gate Street,  
Old Town District, Lijiang.

**Adange Hotel**  
Shangri-La Road, Lijiang.

## Dali

**Asian Star Hotel**  
214 National Rd, Dali, Yunnan.

## Kunming

**Kunming Hotel**  
No.52, Dong Feng Dong Road, Kunming,  
Yunnan.

**Jin Jiang Hotel**  
98 Beijing Road, Kunming.

## Suzhou

**New Century Hotel**  
No. 23 Guangji Road, Gusu District, Suzhou.

**Holiday Inn Youlian Suzhou**  
99 Jie Fang East Road,  
Suzhou, Jiangsu Province 215007.

## Hangzhou

**Best Western Premier Richful Green**  
No. 31 Laozhedaheng Road,  
Shangcheng District, Hangzhou.

**Culture Plaza Hotel Zhejiang**  
38 Wen Er Road  
Hangzhou.

## Nine Villages Valley

**Elegance Hotel**  
Zhangzha Town,  
Jiuzhaigou County.

## Zhongdian

**Zhaxidele Hotel**  
65 Kangzhu Avenue,  
Zhongdian, Yunnan.

## Lhasa

**Tibet Hotel**  
No.64 Beijing Middle Road,  
Chengguan District, Lhasa.

*Hotels on our group tours are generally rated as local three to four star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality may exist between the UK and China.*

Hotels are subject to change and will be confirmed with your final documents

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

A selection of our most frequently asked questions.

## BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

**Q. How soon after making our booking will we receive confirmation?**

**A.** Once we have received your deposit we will send your confirmation documents.

**Q. Do you send us information about the destinations we will visit?**

**A.** It is essential that you read the relevant tour dossier before booking, which you can find on [wendywutours.co.uk](http://wendywutours.co.uk), or we can arrange for one to be sent to you. If there are any particular challenges such as the length of time spent on your feet, journey times or accommodation standards, they will be explained in these concise trip notes.

Two weeks before you travel, you will receive a detailed day-by-day itinerary, a travel guide and phrasebook as well as a suggested packing list with your final documents.

**Q. Will I know which hotels I will be staying in before I go?**

**A.** Hotel details will be sent with your final documents. Note that these may be subject to change. Hotels generally range from 3-4 stars. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs. See pages 122-123 for examples of hotels we usually use.

**Q. How do I get my visa?**

**A.** The cost of your visa is included in the price of your tour (UK & EU passports only). Simply send us your passport, completed visa application form and passport size photos eight weeks before departure by Royal Mail Special Delivery and we aim to have them sent back to you within four weeks. If you require your passport back earlier, please let us know so that we can arrange for an express visa service at an additional charge. Passports or visa application forms

received six weeks or less before departure will automatically incur an express visa fee. Wendy Wu Tours does not accept responsibility for lost or undelivered items. Personal collection or courier services are available on request. Please note that visa and Tibet Permit regulations can change at any time.

**Q. Do I need travel insurance?**

**A.** Your protection and safety are our main priority. That's why having adequate travel insurance is a condition of booking with us for all the destinations you plan to travel to. Contact us for details of our recommended policies.

**Q. What vaccinations do I need?**

**A.** We recommend you see your doctor at least six weeks prior to travel for advice and to allow time for any necessary vaccinations. Please remember to take your itinerary with you. This information is given as a guide only and no responsibility can be taken for any errors or omissions.

	Recommended
China	Hepatitis A, Poliomyelitis. Malaria tablets in some regions
Hong Kong	Hepatitis A
Vietnam	Hepatitis A, Typhoid & Tetanus. Malaria tablets in some regions
Nepal	Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis. Malaria tablets in some regions
Mongolia	Hepatitis A
Kyrgyzstan	Hepatitis A
Uzbekistan	Hepatitis A, Poliomyelitis
Taiwan	Hepatitis A
Qatar	Hepatitis A
UAE	Hepatitis A
South Korea	Hepatitis A
Japan	No recommended vaccinations

*This information is given as a guide only and no responsibility can be taken for any errors or omissions. Source: [www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk). Always seek your doctor's advice.*



**Q. How fit do I need to be?**

**A.** Our group tours are graded on each page to reflect the level of fitness required.

The specific reasons for a particular grading for each tour are clearly described on the tour dossiers which you can find on our website. Please contact us if you require any advice.

Our range of private tours is more flexible and may better cater for individual needs. Ask us for more details.

**➤ Comfortable**  
Accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. They may involve sightseeing on foot, some climbing of stairs and getting on and off boats.

**➤ Moderate**  
Not strenuous, but do require higher levels of fitness. A typical tour may include activities stated above as well as longer periods of sightseeing on foot/driving. Easy walking, areas of high altitude and overnight train journeys may also feature.

**➤ Active**  
Require a good level of fitness, as they are physically more demanding. They may involve activities stated above as well as some hiking, cycling; travel to remote areas where facilities are less developed and long days of driving and high altitude travel.

**Please contact us if you require any advice.**

**Q. What size are your tour groups?**

**A.** The maximum group size varies depending on the tour, but is usually between 8 and 29 passengers. You may meet other tour groups travelling concurrently. Where available, on our group tours we operate a seat-and-a-half policy, allowing you to travel in comfort. On our Discovery Tours and Exclusive Collection the maximum group size is 18 passengers.

**Q. Do you run guaranteed departures?**

**A.** Our most popular tours are guaranteed to depart, subject to a minimum of two passengers travelling. All other group tours are guaranteed to run subject to a minimum of 8 passengers, and a National Escort will accompany each group of 10 or more.

**Q. As a single traveller, will I have to pay a single supplement?**

**A.** No. On group tours we offer the option to share with a tour member of the same gender so there are no additional charges for travelling alone. You will be introduced to your share partner on arrival. Note that on overnight rail journeys and cruises this may not be with a Wendy Wu Tours passenger. To arrange a guaranteed private room, our single room option is available for an extra cost (you will still be required to share on overnight rail journeys).



**Q. What does escorted touring mean?**

**A.** Every group tour which has 10 or more passengers travelling will be accompanied by a National Escort from when you land at the airport, to when you depart. On multi-country tours, different National Escorts are used in each country. Our optional extensions are not accompanied by a National Escort; however you will have the benefit of our knowledgeable local guides. Transfers and flights to and from optional extension destinations are not escorted. Private tours are not accompanied by a National Escort, but will be accompanied by knowledgeable local guides in each location.

**Q. What sort of vehicles do you use?**

**Air:** Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines.

**Q. What is the maximum luggage allowance on your tours?**

**A.** Your main suitcase or backpack must not exceed 20kg and your hand luggage must not exceed 5kg as this is the maximum allowance on internal flights.

**Q. What currency should I take?**

**A.** We recommend you take sterling or US dollars as well as the local currency and a credit/debit card. We do not recommend travellers cheques. Please ensure you have sufficient funds to pay for personal expenses such as drinks, snacks, souvenirs, additional tipping and optional extras.

Tipping must be in US dollars and RMB (see page 126).

**Q. Can you arrange airport lounges, parking & hotels?**

**A.** Yes – we are always looking for ways to make your holiday that little bit more comfortable and convenient for you. See page 131 for details.

**Q. When is the best time to visit China?**

**A.** China is a year-round destination. While spring and autumn are the most popular months to visit, many people enjoy tours at other times of the year when there are fewer tourists. See page 127.

## WHILE ON TOUR

**Road:** Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. On our private tours, we use air-conditioned vehicles suitable for the size of the party.

**River:** Ships or boats are used on tours which have a cruising element, from large ships on the Yangtze River to smaller boats on the Li River, Grand Canal and West Lake. To undertake these excursions, you will need to be capable of boarding and disembarking from these boats, sometimes without assistance and/or handrails.

**Rail:** Trains are used on some tours. Where there is an overnight journey we use the best available soft sleeper trains. Each compartment is shared by four people (not necessarily Wendy Wu Tours passengers). There is a western-style toilet at one end of the carriage and an Asian style toilet at the other end. The beds and cabins are basic with clean linen provided and there are neither showers nor a dining car. The trains are generally clean; however you cannot expect western standards.



**Q. When are Chinese public holidays?**

**A.** Chinese New Year is on 8th February 2016 and 28th January 2017. Their Golden Week public holidays fall annually between 1-3 May and 1-7 October. Celebrations last for several days and during this time some businesses will be closed. Tour attractions will be open, but may be crowded.

**Q. Is there a dress code on your tours?**

**A.** Our dress code is very relaxed; however, please note that clothing covering the arms and legs is more appropriate when visiting religious buildings.

**Q. Are meals included?**

**A.** All meals (excluding beverages) are included in our group tours except where stated. On some of our Discovery Tours, meals in remote areas may be basic or repetitive. Meals included in Discovery Tours, Exclusive Collection and Private Tours, are stated in the brochure and include several free evenings, offering flexibility for those who wish to explore local restaurants. Meals on our Classic group tours start with dinner on the normal day of arrival and finish with breakfast on the normal day of departure. Any additional meals will be at your own expense and no refund will be made for any meals missed. You will sample a range of local cuisine with occasional western meals, and meals are usually taken at local restaurants.



## WHILE ON TOUR

**Q. Is tap water safe to drink?**

**A.** We strongly recommend that you drink bottled water only.

**Q. Are there any optional excursions?**

**A.** From time to time your National Escort or local guide may suggest optional sightseeing in addition to the standard

## Q. Is Tipping Compulsory?

**A.** Tipping is a necessary part of the tourism industry worldwide. For your convenience, total compulsory tipping amounts (including the Yangtze Cruise element) are stated on each Group Tour page (subject to change).

**If you are taking a tour without a Yangtze Cruise,** tipping in USD will be collected by your National Escort on arrival in each country and distributed on your behalf.

**If you are taking a tour which includes a Yangtze Cruise,** the total amount listed on the tour pages will be collected in two parts:

- 1) A USD amount, paid to your National Escort on arrival in each country, as above;
- 2) A service levy in local currency (RMB) to be paid upon boarding the Cruise vessel.

An additional, discretionary tipping amount payable in RMB may be paid to the River Guide or Cruise Director based on your satisfaction with services received.

Porterage is included on our Group Tours to China (from the coach to the lobby of each hotel).

For tours with fewer than 10 passengers, tipping will be slightly higher than stated on the group tour pages.

On Private Tours and Extensions, tipping is discretionary, we will advise recommended amounts.

**The specific break down for each currency will be outlined in your final documentation.**

sightseeing planned, depending on local conditions. Such options are at an additional cost, with prices usually ranging from £10 to £30 per person. This is paid in cash (in RMB) to the guide on the day of the optional excursion – just ask your guide if you need to visit a cash machine before touring for that day commences.

**Q. Are there shopping opportunities on your tours?**

**A.** China has an array of shopping opportunities for those who love to seek out a bargain; from hand-carved jade to local silk products or pearls from the South China Sea. We encourage all passengers to enjoy their local shopping expeditions but to take care and be wise when purchasing.

**Q. Can special requests be arranged?**

**A.** If you have any special requests such as dietary requirements, or if you wish to celebrate an event, please notify us at the time of booking and we will do everything possible to ensure your requests are met. Please note that special requests cannot be guaranteed.

**Q. What is the flying time to China?**

**A.** Approx. 11 hours (if flying direct).

**Q. Do you allow children on your tours?**

**A.** We allow children 12 years and over on our group tours and welcome children aged 8 years and over on our In Pursuit of Pandas tour on page 16. Alternatively, our Private Tours (see our website) offer greater flexibility whilst on tour and are suitable for any age group.

**Q. Will I be travelling with passengers from other countries?**

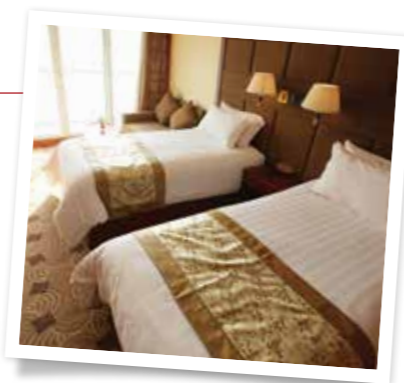
**A.** Our passengers generally enjoy the mixture of British and Australian clients on tour. Occasionally we are joined by English speaking passengers from other countries.

**Q. What is the average age on your group tours?**

**A.** The average age range is 40-65. Younger and older passengers travel with us too.

**Q. What hours of the day do your tours operate?**

**A.** They generally start about 8am and end shortly after your evening meal. Occasionally earlier starts are required to meet flight departures.



**Q. How close can I get to the giant pandas?**

**A.** If your tour includes a visit to see giant pandas, you will usually get close enough for a good photo opportunity.

**Q. Which cabins are used on your Yangtze River Cruise vessels?**

**A.** We use outward facing en suite cabins with balconies. Please see our website for an overview of our Yangtze River Cruise ships.

**Q. How do standards abroad compare with the UK?**

**A.** We will do our best to ensure that your holiday is safe and trouble free and we are continually working with our local partners to maintain and improve health and safety standards. Travelling abroad involves new places and new experiences and sometimes this means different safety and hygiene standards to those we are used to in the UK. We therefore ask that you take care; pay attention at all times and use your common sense. You are also requested to refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escort or local guide.

## WeCare – Health & Safety

The enjoyment of your holiday is our highest priority. Wendy Wu Tours is a fully insured and bonded tour operator with comprehensive public liability cover.

Working closely with an independent health and safety organisation, we are proactive in our approach by ensuring that hotels used on our group tours regularly undergo comprehensive fire safety, security and hygiene audits.

In the unlikely event of a problem or emergency on tour, Wendy Wu Tours has a Crisis Management process in place to support all of our customers. We also have a dedicated 24 hour emergency support number.

# CHINA FOR ALL SEASONS

**Our tours cover the length and breadth of China. Depending on the time of year and where you travel, you may experience two or more seasons as you journey through the country.**

BEIJING			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	-9	2	3
Feb	-6	5	5
Mar	0	12	8
Apr	8	20	21
May	14	26	34
Jun	19	30	78
Jul	22	31	185
Aug	21	30	160
Sep	15	26	46
Oct	8	19	22
Nov	0	10	7
Dec	-6	4	3

XIAN			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	-4	5	7
Feb	-1	8	10
Mar	4	14	29
Apr	10	21	43
May	14	26	60
Jun	19	31	54
Jul	22	32	99
Aug	21	31	71
Sep	16	25	92
Oct	10	20	60
Nov	3	12	24
Dec	-3	6	6

GUILIN			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	5	12	63
Feb	7	13	97
Mar	10	16	137
Apr	16	23	247
May	20	27	352
Jun	23	30	347
Jul	25	33	231
Aug	25	33	173
Sep	22	30	82
Oct	17	27	86
Nov	12	20	64
Dec	7	15	43

HONG KONG			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	14	19	23
Feb	14	19	48
Mar	17	21	67
Apr	20	25	162
May	24	29	317
Jun	27	30	376
Jul	27	32	324
Aug	26	31	301
Sep	26	30	300
Oct	23	28	145
Nov	19	24	35
Dec	15	21	27

SHANGHAI			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	1	8	76
Feb	2	8	44
Mar	5	13	118
Apr	11	19	63
May	16	24	85
Jun	20	27	212
Jul	25	32	142
Aug	25	32	230
Sep	21	27	76
Oct	15	22	64
Nov	9	17	43
Dec	2	11	34

CHENGDU			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	3	9	8
Feb	5	11	12
Mar	8	16	20
Apr	13	22	44
May	17	26	79
Jun	21	28	107
Jul	22	30	225
Aug	22	30	201
Sep	19	26	119
Oct	15	21	35
Nov	10	16	16
Dec	5	11	5

KUNMING			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	2	15	16
Feb	4	17	16
Mar	6	21	20
Apr	10	24	24
May	14	24	97
Jun	17	24	181
Jul	17	24	202
Aug	16	24	204
Sep	15	23	119
Oct	12	20	79
Nov	7	17	42
Dec	3	15	12

TOKYO			
	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm
Jan	-1	9	51
Feb	0	9	69
Mar	3	13	108
Apr	9	18	128
May	13	22	143
Jun	18	25	172
Jul	22	29	141
Aug	23	31	149
Sep	20	27	216
Oct	13	21	192
Nov	7	16	96
Dec	2	12	53

## Beijing

Beijing's climate, like the city itself, is ever changing. Winter is cold, but with crisp blue skies and fewer visitors, this makes it an ideal time to travel. Spring and autumn are warmer, with cloudier skies.

## Shanghai

Shanghai's weather can be split into four distinct seasons – a warm spring, a hot and rainy summer, cooler weather in autumn and a cold winter. Being next to the sea, Shanghai experiences more rain than the rest of China.

## Xian

Xian experiences a hot and rainy summer, a cold, clear and dry winter, and short rain showers throughout spring and autumn. Xian's weather is generally pleasant year round.

## Chengdu

Chengdu's weather is characteristically foggy and humid, with a long and warm spring; a short and hot summer, a cool autumn and a cold winter. July and August are the rainiest months.

## Guilin

Guilin's southern location blesses it with mild weather on average. Spring is hot, while summer is rainy, humid and foggy. Autumn is cool and pleasant, and winter can be breezy with occasional drizzle.

## Kunming

Kunming justly lives up to its name as the 'Spring City' of China – with weather like spring most of the year, it rarely experiences cold winters or the extreme heat of summer.

## Hong Kong

Hong Kong's subtropical location means it experiences pleasant temperatures year round. Spring is warm and humid, summer is hot and rainy, autumn is sunny and clear, and winter is cooler and dry.

## Tokyo

Tokyo's four seasons bring hot summers, chilly winters with snow showers, and pleasant spring and autumn seasons. June and July bring seasonal rains, and of course spring is known for cherry blossoms whilst autumn is famed for its fabulous foliage.





# TRAVEL INSURANCE

We want you to experience a holiday that relaxes, fascinates and fills you with a lifetime of glorious memories. However, not everything is within our or indeed your control. So for complete peace of mind, you should always prepare for the unexpected before or during your holiday.

## Flexible Levels of Travel Insurance



We work with Holiday Extras to provide cancellation cover, medical protection and a range of other benefits. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, Holiday Extras have been awarded the title 'best travel insurance provider' for the past six years at the Travel Weekly Globe Awards. Our standard policies provide cover up to 85 years of age.

As an added bonus, Holiday Extras insure that under 18's go free with a paying adult on selected policies, making our insurance the perfect choice for families.

Choose either single trip insurance or a yearly multi-trip policy.

## Single Trip Policies

Our single trip policies will cover you for any destination and tour in this brochure up to a total of 31 days (this can be extended to 60 days if under 64 years of age with no medical conditions).

Length of trip	Adult up to 64
Up to 17 days	£63.25
18-24 days	£67.50
25-31 days	£83.50
+ extra weeks	£21.00

## Annual Multi-Trip Policies

These are ideal if you plan to travel abroad more than once in the year. Annual multi-trip policies provide worldwide protection for any number of trips up to 23 days duration (31 days if you are under 64), up to a total of 183 days per year.

Length of separate trip	Price
23 days	£88.50
31 days	£102.25

Prices are based on cover for travellers aged up to 64 years. Supplements will apply if between 65 and 85. All prices are subject to change.

Summary of Cover	Maximum
Medical emergency expenses	£10,000,000
Personal liability	£2,000,000
Personal accident	£25,000
Cancellation	£5,000
Curtailment	£5,000
Missed departure	£1,000
Travel delay	£60
Personal baggage	£2,000
Delayed baggage	£150
Catastrophe	£1,000
Personal money / passport	£300
Medical inconvenience	£600
Dental emergency	£150
Personal assistance	£250
Legal expenses	£25,000

## Latitude – for those with pre-existing medical conditions

As well as those flexible policies, Holiday Extras is home to the Latitude policy. This means that almost everyone up to the age of 89 with pre-existing medical conditions can get comprehensive travel insurance at a great price. In fact, 97% of all conditions can be covered.

For pre-existing medical conditions insurance enquiries, please call Holiday Extras on 0800 781 4086 quoting W7994.



# BOOKING YOUR TRIP

Booking your holiday should be simple and straightforward, so Wendy Wu Tours is committed to supporting you through every element of the booking process right through until after your holiday has finished.

## BOOKING MADE EASY

### 1. Choose your experience

Get a taste of the tours in this brochure. Visit our website for more details, including interactive maps, destination information, photos, videos, reviews, updates and detailed tour dossiers.

Choose the style of trip that suits you:

- Fully Inclusive Group Tours
- Our exciting new Discovery Tours
- Deluxe Exclusive Collection
- Flexible Private Tours
- Bespoke Tailor-Made Holidays

Still not sure? Contact our experienced Travel Consultants to talk through your options.

### 2. Check availability

Speak to our expert Travel Consultants, or your preferred Travel Agent, and we will check the tour availability, find the best flights and confirm your full package price.

### 3. Booking & deposit

Group Tour places can usually be confirmed immediately upon payment of a deposit of £350 per person. Private Touring arrangements can usually be confirmed within 48 hours.

Once your tour is complete, we will send you confirmation by email. By making a booking you are confirming that you have read the tour dossier, are fit enough to fully participate in your tour, will travel with adequate travel insurance and agree to the booking conditions at the back of the brochure.

### 4. Final payment

The balance of payment is due 60 days before departure and you will be issued with your travel tickets and documentation approximately two weeks before travel.

### Regional flights and upgrades

Enjoy the freedom to choose who you fly with and where you fly from. We work with most major airlines and offer flights from regional airports across the UK – often with no additional supplement.

All of our tour prices are based on flying Economy Class, but if you fancy a little bit of luxury and lots more legroom, we have specially negotiated rates on Premium Economy and Business Class fares. Depending on your budget you can upgrade one way or for the entire return trip.

### Stopovers & Extensions

Why not break your trip to the Far East with a stopover – most airlines won't charge you any extra for stopping over en route. We are able to book your hotel, transfers and touring and add it to your trip. World class destinations such as Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Hong Kong are just a few of the options available between mainland China and the UK. See pages 112-119 for inspiration. If you want to stay longer in Shanghai, Beijing or wherever your trip starts or finishes, we are able to add extra nights onto your trip for a small supplement.



### Add finishing touches

We want to make your holiday enjoyable and stress-free and can help you book:

- ✓ Airport Lounges from £25
- ✓ Airport Parking from £4 per day
- ✓ Airport Hotels from £35 per night
- ✓ Travel Insurance See page 130 for details of our recommended policy

Please speak to our experienced Travel Consultants who will happily provide advice and arrange these for you.

### Thank you for your loyalty

Many of our customers enjoy the Wendy Wu Tours experience so much that they travel with us again and again. What's more, they also recommend us to their friends and family. We really appreciate this loyalty and want to reward you for it.

■ **Become a Wendy Wu Tours Champion**  
Recommend us to your friends and we'll send you a hamper as a thank you for the first booking we receive. Plus for every subsequent booking, we'll send you £50 worth of shopping vouchers.

■ **Loyalty Discount**  
When you book your second holiday, we'll give you a £100pp discount.

■ **Welcome Home Discount**  
When you book another tour with us within four-weeks of returning home, we'll give you a £200pp discount.

■ **Become a Wendy Wu Tours VIP**  
Book three trips or more and we'll give you £250pp off the total cost of your holiday.

Conditions apply. Rewards and discounts cannot be combined. Refer to our website for full details.



# TOP REASONS TO CHOOSE WENDY WU TOURS

- Over 18 years' experience
- Unrivalled knowledge and expertise
- Comprehensive range of group, private and tailor-made holidays
- Depart from many regional UK airports
- Fully inclusive prices with no hidden extras
- Quality hotels and comfortable transport
- Outstanding customer satisfaction
- Award winning guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced consultants
- Authentic dining and delicious local cuisine
- Hassle-free visa service included
- Safe and secure with ABTA, ATOL & IATA



We offer tours and tailor-made travel throughout Asia, including:

- China ■ Japan
- Vietnam ■ Cambodia
- Laos ■ Thailand
- Burma ■ India ■ Nepal
- Bhutan ■ Sri Lanka
- Central Asia ■ Mongolia
- Taiwan ■ South Korea



To book call **0800 988 2888** or see your preferred Travel Agent  
 To see our full range of holidays in Asia visit [wendywutours.co.uk](http://wendywutours.co.uk)



 **Wendy Wu Tours**

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Opening Hours:  
 Mon-Fri 9:00am – 5:30pm  
 Sat-Sun 10:00am – 4:00pm

 **ABTA**  
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