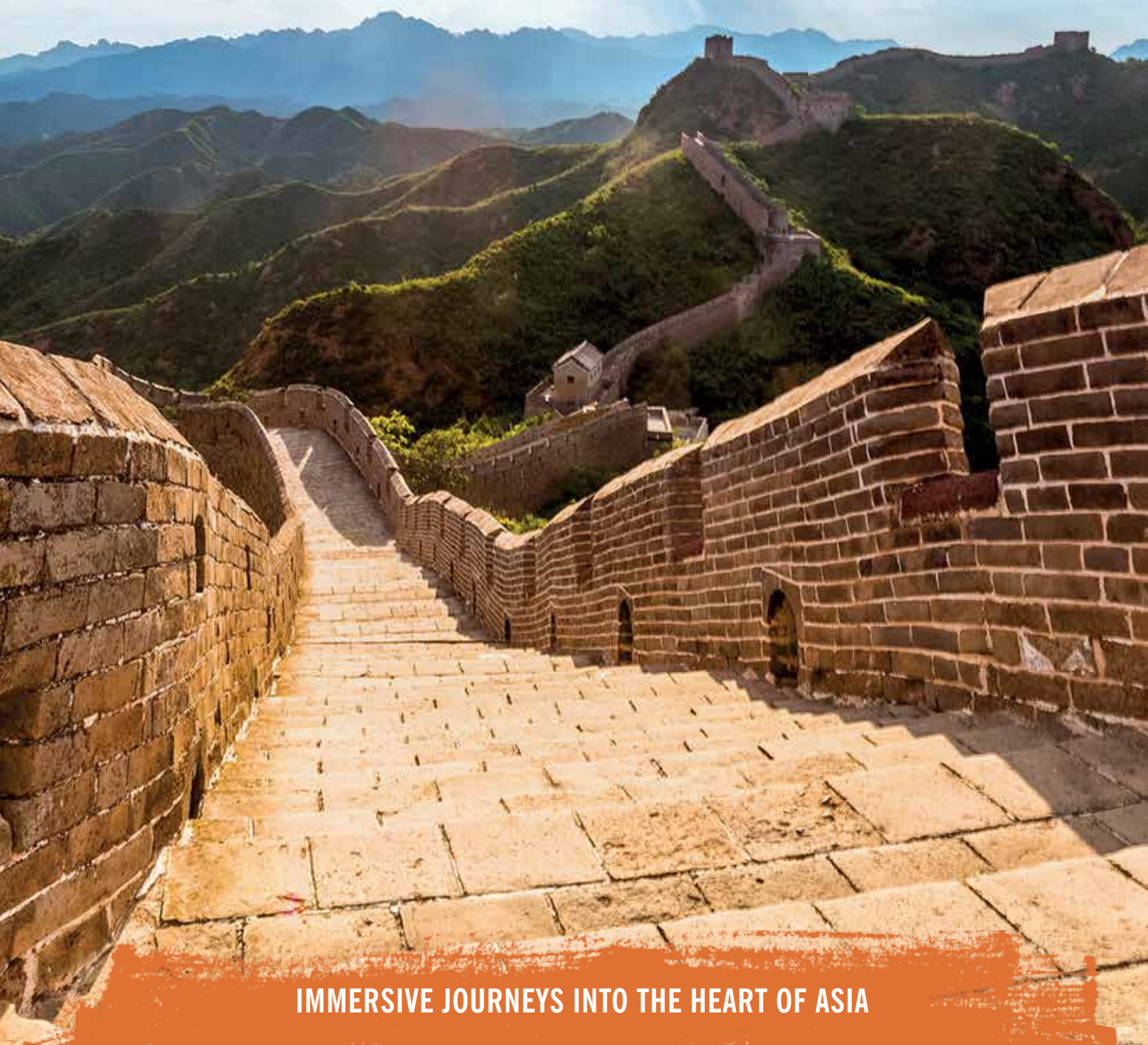


DISCOVERY TOURS

CHINA ■ TIBET ■ CENTRAL ASIA ■ INDOCHINA ■ INDIA



IMMERSIVE JOURNEYS INTO THE HEART OF ASIA

DISCOVERY BY WENDY WU

At Wendy Wu Tours, we have been blazing trails into Asia for 18 years. Since 1998, our extensive experience and deep understanding of operating tours has shown us that Asia is an ever-evolving, dynamic and colossal continent; with a boundless cornucopia of sights and experiences that demand to be explored in a variety of ways. We are truly passionate about Asia: a place of adventure, cultural diversity and frenetic evolution; and at the same time wild, rugged in nature and steeped in tradition.

We are proud to present a new series of Discovery Tours which are designed to fully immerse you in Asia's varied, quirky and beautiful personalities. Visit both iconic and

lesser visited locations and get closer to local culture – on foot, by bicycle, over land and water. This is your invitation to explore Asia differently with Wendy Wu Tours.



吴玲 Wendy

Wendy Wu – Owner, Wendy Wu Tours

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SEE ASIA DIFFERENTLY

From hiking along the Great Wall of China and the Rice Terraces of Longji to visiting Mount Everest's legendary Base Camp; our Discovery Tours give you the opportunity not only to visit, but to be fully enveloped by Asia.



▲ EVEREST BASE CAMP

THE WENDY WU DIFFERENCE

Ten reasons to book with Wendy Wu Tours.

1 THE ASIA EXPERTS

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. All our staff are by their very nature adventurous travellers, and are enthusiastic about finding the most exciting and original journeys through Asia. You will benefit from the specialist advice of our experienced travel consultants who can provide you with all the information you need.



3 HAND-PICKED HOTELS

We pick the right hotel for the specific destination, meaning your accommodation can range from a business hotel to a family run guesthouse. Wherever you are staying you will have a peaceful and comfortable night's sleep in preparation for the next day's adventures.

5 REGIONAL FLAVOURS

Meals included in our tours are planned to give you a genuine taste of the regions we visit. Some of our tours are fully inclusive, and some have evenings at leisure, giving you the opportunity to explore local cuisine for yourself.

6 VISAS INCLUDED

Your visa fees are included in your tour price. Our dedicated visa team are here to help you fill out the form, then we take care of the application process for you – leaving you to get excited about your upcoming holiday.

7 DEDICATED NATIONAL ESCORTS

All our tours are accompanied by a National Escort from beginning to end, and local guides in each location. We regularly receive letters of praise for our team in Asia – their knowledge, warmth, gentle nature and humour is something we are genuinely very proud of.

8 TOUR DOSSIERS & TRAVEL GUIDES

Before booking your tour, it is essential to read the Tour Dossier which outlines the daily activities and any physical challenges on your journey. We also send you a comprehensive final itinerary, and travel guide to help you familiarise yourself with Asia before you depart.



2 WE LOVE SOLO TRAVELLERS

We welcome plenty of solo travellers on our tours, and receive great feedback from them about the sociable atmosphere of our groups. If you are a solo traveller and willing to share a room, you won't have to pay a single supplement.

4 TRAVEL IN COMFORT

All transportation in Asia is included in your tour price. The transport selected on your tour is intended to combine comfort with an authentic travel experience. We use a mix of coaches, internal flights, bullet or overnight trains, cruise ships and smaller boats on our tours.

9 AIRLINE CHOICE

International flights are included in your tour price. We have access to airfares 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.



10 TIPPING MADE EASY

We handle the tipping so you don't have to. We have a simple tipping system whereby all passengers contribute to a kitty, paid to the National Escort, who then distributes it throughout the trip. Tipping amounts are indicated on each tour page, and on your final documentation.

THE WENDY WU DIFFERENCE

ARE THESE TOURS FOR ME?

Our Discovery Tours are designed with a wide range of intrepid travellers in mind.

ARE THESE TOURS FOR ME?



Pauline

I have just booked my fifth trip with Wendy Wu Tours! I have slowly but surely fallen in love with Asia, especially the mountain regions; and the beauty of Nepal, Tibet and China have left me hungry for more. A Wendy Wu tour brings together a mix of people all eager to widen their horizons. I have made some great friends and travelling companions this way. Follow in my footsteps and discover for yourself!



Hilary & Mike

We have been planning a holiday to China for years but until now didn't know how we wanted to do it. We enjoy an adventure and have been on many cycling and wildlife trips, but also have a great interest in cultural history, and architecture. Having found these Discovery Tours, they are the perfect way for us to experience China. With a trip like this, we can be immersed in the local culture, the environment and nature, and enjoy activities such as cycling, walking and the epic sights.

Mike

The group on my tour were great fun. There was a range of ages, my partner and I are still in our thirties, although one of our group had just celebrated his 70th birthday. None of this mattered, as we were all so like minded. I liked that we had some free time to get under the skin of the place. In Siem Reap, after a day of temple hopping, a group of us wandered to the market and ended up eating snacks and drinking beer with the locals, that is the sort of thing I love.



Peggy

Samarkand has to be seen to be believed. Many of these buildings have been built in such a way that you are overwhelmed by the beauty of the design and decoration. We enjoyed a wonderful and diverse travel experience accompanied by impeccable professional guides who made it their business to see that everything went smoothly and efficiently for the great enjoyment of all concerned.



ON LOCATION

We have chosen fifteen of Asia's most astonishing and intriguing locations below. Each place represents a wealth of illuminating cultural and active experiences; and historically exquisite sights.



1. BEIJING 2. SHANGHAI 3. XIAN



4. YANGSHUO 5. BIFENGXIA 6. NINE VILLAGES VALLEY



7. EVEREST BASE CAMP 8. GOBI 9. KARAKOL



10. LUANG PRABANG 11. SAPA 12. HOI AN



13. HALONG BAY 14. SIEM REAP 15. AGRA

TOUR KEY

To help you decide which tour is for you, just look for the icons below on the page.

TOUR GRADING

Active
 These tours are more active in pace, requiring a good level of fitness as they are physically more demanding. Challenging yet rewarding hikes feature on most itineraries. Cycling, visits to remote locations and areas of high altitude also feature.

Moderate
 These journeys feature gentler sightseeing and easier walking, but are still packed with unique elements.

Altitude
 This symbol indicates that areas above 3,000m are visited on tour.

Tour Dossiers

It is essential that you read the full details in the Tour Dossier before booking to ensure you're comfortable with all elements of the tour. Information regarding locations of altitude, acute mountain sickness, and detailed descriptions of activities can be found here.

If you have an existing medical condition, we recommend checking with your doctor before travelling.

Tour Dossiers can be found on our website. If you have any questions, please contact our reservations team.

ALL MEALS INCLUDED

All meals are included, starting from dinner on the day of group arrival to breakfast on the day of group departure (depending on flight times).

TOURS WITH MORE FREE TIME

To allow more flexibility, we have carefully balanced evenings with meals and evenings at leisure so you can further explore.

DISCOVER CHINA

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

OUR TOP TEN ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES

1 WALK ON THE GREAT WALL

Take a challenging but rewarding hike over a quieter and more rugged section of this iconic edifice as it snakes over forested hills, taking time to absorb the centuries-old history it represents.



2 WEIBAOSHAN MEDITATION

Wander past ancient Taoist temples nestled in the trees, to Qinzia Temple where a Taoist priest will introduce you to some traditional meditative practices.

6 BIFENGXIA PANDA RESERVE

Bifengxia is nestled in the forested mountains of Sichuan and is lesser-visited than neighbouring reserves. The pandas are kept in an environment that closely resembles their natural habitat – an encounter is a moment you will never forget.



7 SHANGHAI MORNINGS

Spend a morning like the native Shanghainese by taking a walking tour through the city's colourful concessions. Watch the bustle of the city rush past as you devour typical breakfast treats.

3 CALLIGRAPHY ON MT QINGCHENG

Walk to the summit of Mt Qingcheng where you will be met by a Taoist priest who will exchange Taoist ideas and demonstrate the ancient art of calligraphy and painting.



8 TIBETAN VILLAGE IN ZHONGDIAN

Pay a visit to a local family in rural Zhongdian, where 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.



4 CYCLE IN YANGSHUO AND DALI

In Dali, cycle to an ancient village and explore the narrow cobbled streets. In Yangshuo, cycle through a serene sea of pastures and paddy fields, watched over by towering limestone cliffs.



5 WALK THE LONGJI RICE TERRACES

Resembling a winding, staircase, the rice terraces will take your breath away. A challenging but rewarding hike takes you past minority villages and spectacular views.



9 XIAN'S MUSLIM QUARTER

Nowhere is China's melting pot of cultural influences more evident than the effervescent Muslim Quarter. Sample street snacks and witness noodles being hand-stretched before your eyes!



10 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 and get a glimpse of daily life here.



I'VE BEEN THERE



Ben in Zhangjiajie

I certainly wasn't prepared for the sheer scale of Zhangjiajie National Park. The dramatic sandstone peaks took my breath away on first sight, leaving me wondering how on earth these tooth like rock formations came to be. What an incredible place to visit!

Ben, Marketing Manager

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.



CHINA

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)

15 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,990

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Great Wall Hike

Hike along the back of rugged Jinshanling as the Great Wall drapes lazily over the mountains, stopping to appreciate astounding views and fascinating history.



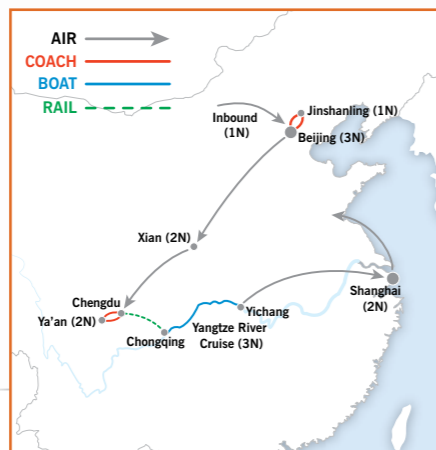
Pingle Bamboo Sea

Explore picturesque Pingle; the epitome of idyllic Sichuanese countryside. Discover the nearby ethereal bamboo sea, taking in the views from a suspended rope bridge.



Bifengxia Pandas

Smaller than Chengdu but benefitting from a leafier, more remote location, Bifengxia is the perfect place to meet China's cuddliest icon.



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 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 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: 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 Chengdu, 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.

DEPARTURES

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

- 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

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.



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: Shanghainese 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 Shanghainese 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)

16 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,990

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Great Wall Hike

Unique to this tour, a hike from Gubeikou to Jinshanling allows you maximum time to appreciate China's most famous edifice.



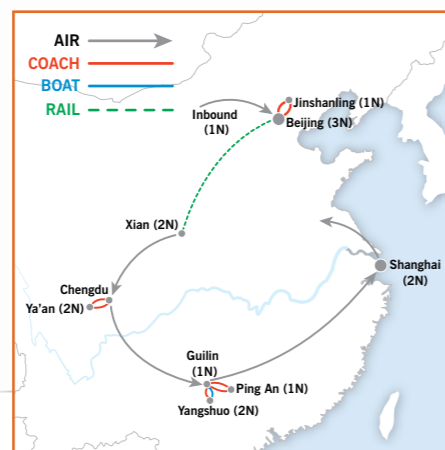
Cycling in Xian

The Silk Road City of Xian is surrounded by an imposing battlement wall; cycling on the top provides amazing views of the city from above.



Longji Hike

Hike over the curving steps of Longji, stopping to appreciate this beautifully incomprehensible feat of man-made landscaping.



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,

DEPARTURES

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09 Sep - 24 Sep	£3,190		
2017 DATES			
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05 May - 20 May	£3,190	06 Oct - 21 Oct	£3,290
19 May - 03 Jun	£3,190	13 Oct - 28 Oct	£3,190
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- 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

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.



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

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

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: Shanghainese 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 Shanghainese 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)

20 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £3,390

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Muslim Quarter

Walk through Xian's buzzing and industrious Muslim Quarter, sampling delicious and exciting street food and meeting colourful locals as you go.



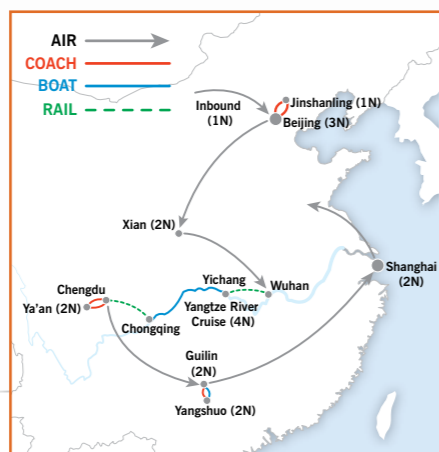
walking in Yangshuo

Featuring toothlike limestone karsts and sleepy pastoral scenes, a walk through Yangshuo's unique countryside feels otherworldly.



Shanghai Breakfast

Get a feel for life in the big city as you dine on breakfast snacks in local Shanghai markets, shoulder to shoulder with local residents.



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)

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

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

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



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ACTIVE PACE



TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



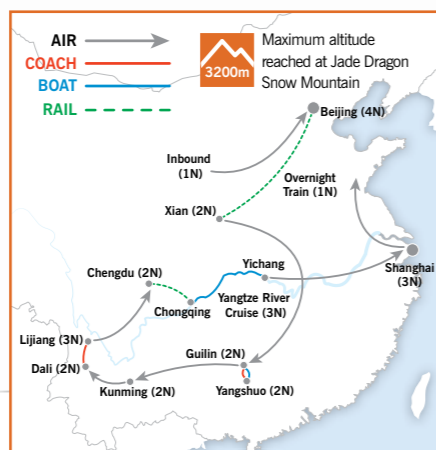
Looming gracefully over the peaceful lakeside, Huanghuacheng is a lesser visited section of the Wall. Feel centuries of history as the wall drapes lazily over the surrounding hillside.



Take some time to learn this relaxing yet invigorating martial art with a master; the Yangshuo countryside forming the backdrop.



The cobbled, winding streets of Dali's Old Quarter are a delight to relax in and wander through – spend an evening here people watching.



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 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

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 20: Chengdu like a local

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 21: 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 22: 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 23: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Today's optional mini-trek to Tiger Leaping Gorge takes you through dramatic cliffs and

Day 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: Shanghainese 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

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

2016 DATES

08 May - 04 Jun	£3,490	09 Oct - 05 Nov	£3,690
04 Sep - 01 Oct	£3,690		

2017 DATES

02 Apr - 29 Apr	£3,790	03 Sep - 30 Sep	£3,890
07 May - 03 Jun	£3,790	08 Oct - 04 Nov	£3,890

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

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

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.



KEEP EXPLORING



HARBIN SNOW & ICE FESTIVAL 3 NIGHTS FROM £790PP

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 and see the sights of this fascinating city.

Price includes internal flights from Beijing and breakfast daily.

DEPARTURES

2017 DATE

26 Jan - 04 Feb **£2,590**

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 £440
- Tipping paid locally US\$66 & HKD280

10 DAYS FROM **PER PERSON** **£2,590**



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MODERATE PACE



TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



New Year

See a dazzling parade of costumes and colour, and watch thrilling fireworks over Victoria Harbour from a cruise boat on the water.



Xian Lantern Festival

Visit the City Walls encircling Xian to see the colourful and intricately designed winter lantern display; an unforgettable photo opportunity!



Ice Festival

Venture to the dramatic, snow covered Longqing Gorge to see intricately carved ice sculptures and revel in New Year festivities.



■ Days 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

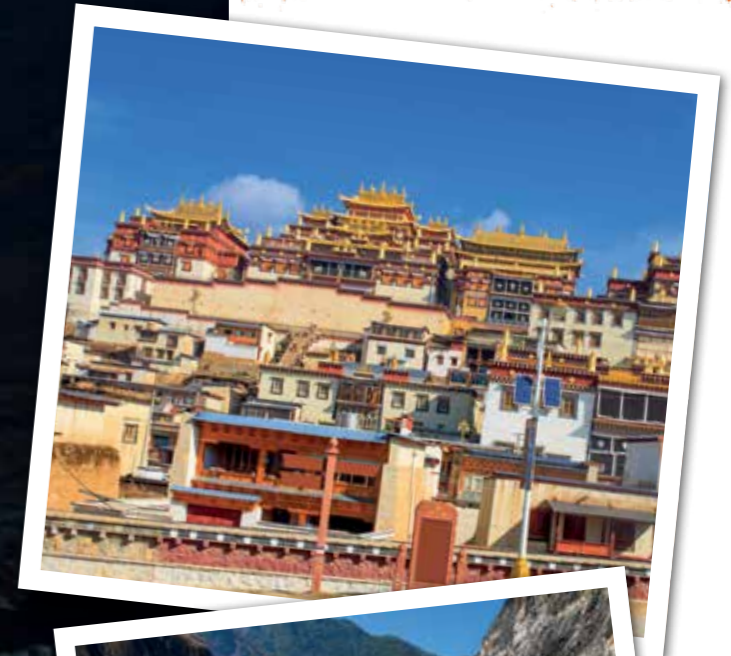
Stroll across Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Walking through this ornately designed complex offers an unsurpassed insight into China's colourful past. In the evening meet up with a local family to learn more of what makes the Spring Festival so special as 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)

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



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ACTIVE PACE



TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Taoist Meditation

Join a Taoist priest on the misty slopes of sacred Weibaoshan, and learn relaxing meditative techniques in these extraordinary surroundings.



Ethnic Villages

Yunnan is dotted with colourful, long-established ethnic minorities – visit some of the remotest areas for a glimpse of rural Chinese culture.



Yuanyang Hike

Venture over the winding steps of Yuanyang, a curvaceous feat of natural and human engineering sculpted into the hillside.



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)

DEPARTURES

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

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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

SICHUAN EXPLORER

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.



15 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,490



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

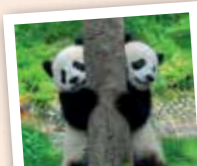


ACTIVE PACE



FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Bifengxia Pandas

Smaller than Chengdu but benefitting from a leafier, more remote location, Bifengxia is the perfect place to meet China's cuddliest icon.



Nine Villages Valley

Clear, cyan pools rest beneath tree-draped hills in China's most spectacular park. Walking through it reveals ever-changing, phenomenal landscapes.



Qiang Ethnic Village

Meet one of the most isolated minorities in the wilds of Sichuan and get a glimpse of a rarely-seen, deeply traditional culture.



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 sub-tropical 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

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES

17 Apr - 01 May	£2,490	04 Sep - 18 Sep	£2,690
08 May - 22 May	£2,490	09 Oct - 23 Oct	£2,690

2017 DATES

16 Apr - 30 Apr	£2,690	03 Sep - 17 Sep	£2,890
07 May - 21 May	£2,690	08 Oct - 22 Oct	£2,890

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

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.



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)

22 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £3,290



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ACTIVE PACE



TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Hike over the curving steps of Longji, stopping to appreciate this beautifully incomprehensible feat of man-made landscaping.



Scale the lofty heights of the 'Avatar Mountains' to view otherworldly, ethereal peaks seemingly floating through the mist.



Walk up to the turquoise pools of Huanglong, and witness crystalline water tumbling over naturally formed calcium walls.



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: Bullet Train
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

DEPARTURES

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

- 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

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

GO BEYOND

Travel deeper into China and beyond to the furthest reaches of Tibet and Nepal; along China's Silk Road to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, and even through the stark plains of Mongolia. You'll encounter remote villages, colourful markets and world-class scenery from lofty peaks to rolling desert.

OUR TOP TEN ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES

1 EVEREST BASE CAMP

Colourful prayer flags and little orange tents surround you as you gaze upon the north face of Mount Everest, and get a glimpse of the demanding climb up the mountain on the roof of the world.



2 EXPLORE THE GOBI

Stay in a yurt camp on the plains of the Gobi, take a four-wheel drive through the curving, ever moving 'Singing Sand Dunes', and stand before the deep orange Flaming Cliffs of Bayanzag.

6 NAADAM FESTIVAL

Dating back to the Ghengis Khaan period, the Naadam is the biggest celebration of the Mongolian calendar. You'll experience the proud nomadic culture and witness the three 'manly games' of horse racing, wrestling and archery.



7 HUNTING WITH EAGLES

In a unique demonstration of ancient Kyrgyz hunting, watch as a traditionally dressed eagle hunter and his beautiful bird seek out prey. The relationship between hunter and eagle leave you astounded.



3 VALLEY OF FLOWERS

Take a stroll through the alpine Valley of Flowers near Jety-Oguz in Kyrgyzstan. Dotted with evergreens saw-toothed mountains, you would be forgiven for thinking you were in the Dolomites.



8 TRACE THE SILK ROAD

Trace the original Silk Road overland, through China's Xinjiang Region. Pass by the ancient Ruins of the Iron Fortress and Subashi, and through uninhabited, dazzlingly desolate desert.



4 GREAT WALL AT JIAYUGUAN

Snaking through the sands of the Gobi, Jiayu Pass is regarded as China's western gateway. Wander through Jiayu Fortress and on the Wall itself for views of the beautifully bleak desert.



5 DEBATING MONKS

Home to more than 3,000 monks, Sera Monastery is noted for animated and sometimes heated debating sessions, which are integral to the Buddhist learning process.



9 TRAVERSE THE TORUGART PASS

Cut through the Tian Shan Mountains and over the Torugart Pass, a remote outpost marking the border of Kyrgyzstan; you'll feel like an adventurer of old as you pass through.



10 KASHGAR SUNDAY BAZAAR

A visit to the colourful Sunday Bazaar overwhelms the senses with colour, smells and tastes (if you dare!). Roll up your sleeves and immerse yourself in China's biggest and burgeoning bazaar.



I'VE BEEN THERE



Nicci in Lhasa

As I joined the pilgrims making their 'kora' on the Barkhor, the sense of peace was punctuated by the occasional swing of a prayer wheel. In the darkness of the sacred Jokhang, I joined the shuffling line of worshippers surrounded by the smell of yak butter and murmured prayer.

Nicci, Product Executive

HIMALAYAN ADVENTURE

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



GO BEYOND

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)

20 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £3,490



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ACTIVE PACE



FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Everest Base Camp

Hike to the legendary Base Camp used by Everest hikers and sherpas, and take in a truly once-in-a-lifetime, epic view.



Chitwan Safari

Relive scenes from the Jungle Book as you meet the elephants and the myriad of other wildlife from Nepal's beautiful plains region.



Kathmandu

A wander through intoxicating Kathmandu reveals a heady mix of medieval temples, atmospheric alleyways and markets selling wares from all over Nepal.



■ **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. (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. The next day, 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

DEPARTURES

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11 May - 30 May	£3,490	05 Oct - 24 Oct £3,590
2017 DATES		
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10 May - 29 May	£3,690	04 Oct - 23 Oct £3,790

Price includes:

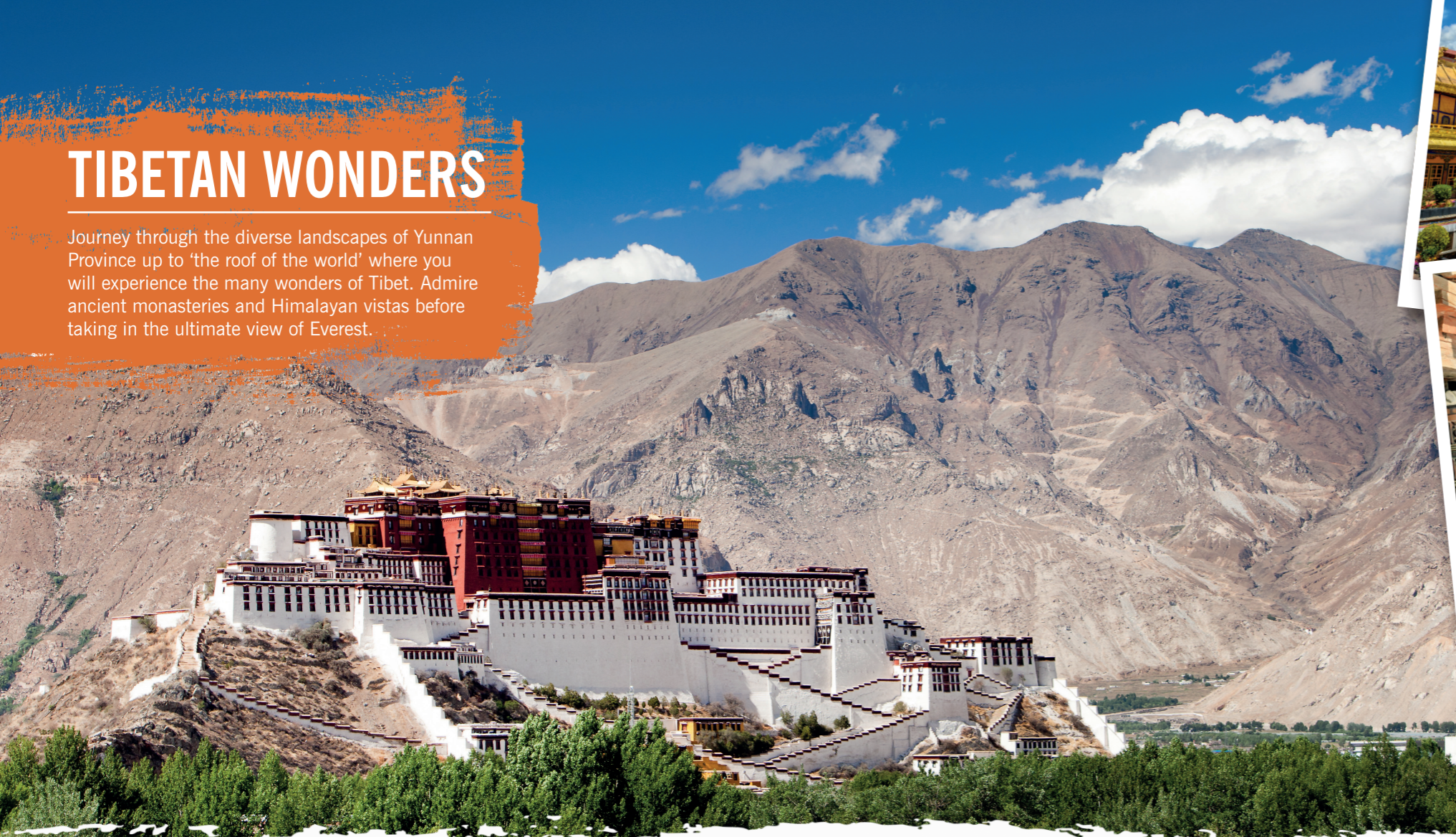
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK & EU passport holders

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)

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.



GO BEYOND

free time to explore. 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 en route 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)



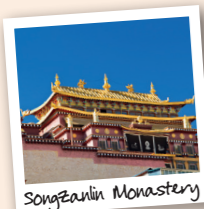
23 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £3,890

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TOUR WITH MORE FREE TIME

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Songzanlin Monastery

At the foot of Foping Mountain, Songzanlin glints in the sun light. Discover an atmospheric warren of ancient castles, prayer wheels and pilgrims.



Spiritual Lhasa

Pace quietly through the Jokhang or around the Barkhor Circuit; and you will begin to absorb the deep spirituality that runs through the veins of this inspiring city.



Everest Base Camp

Hike to the legendary Base Camp used by Everest hikers and sherpas, and take in a truly once-in-a-lifetime, epic view.



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. Enjoy

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		
30 Apr - 22 May	£3,890	03 Sep - 25 Sep £3,990
14 May - 05 Jun	£3,890	17 Sep - 09 Oct £3,990
2017 DATES		
06 May - 28 May	£3,990	02 Sep - 24 Sep £4,190
20 May - 11 Jun	£3,990	16 Sep - 08 Oct £4,190

- 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 £3,340 (Kunming - Chengdu)
 - Single room from £590
 - Tipping paid locally US\$110

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.



GO BEYOND

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 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)

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

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)

26 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £3,590

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ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



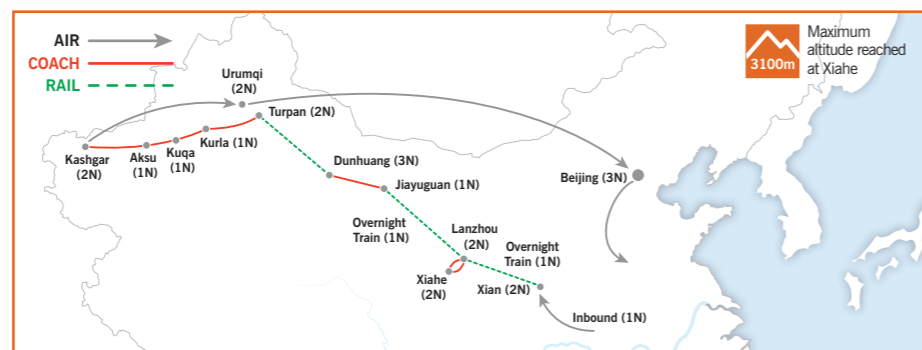
Clinging to the stark, lunar landscape of Gansu, Jiayuguan Pass marks the western terminus of the Great Wall and is crowned by Ming-era fortresses.



A fertile oasis in the desert, stopping at remote Dunhuang it's easy to put yourself into the shoes of an ancient Silk Road camel trader looking for refuge.



Drive between Dunhuang and Kashgar, following the ancient Silk Road; stopping at the desert townships of Kurla, Kuqa and Aksu.



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.

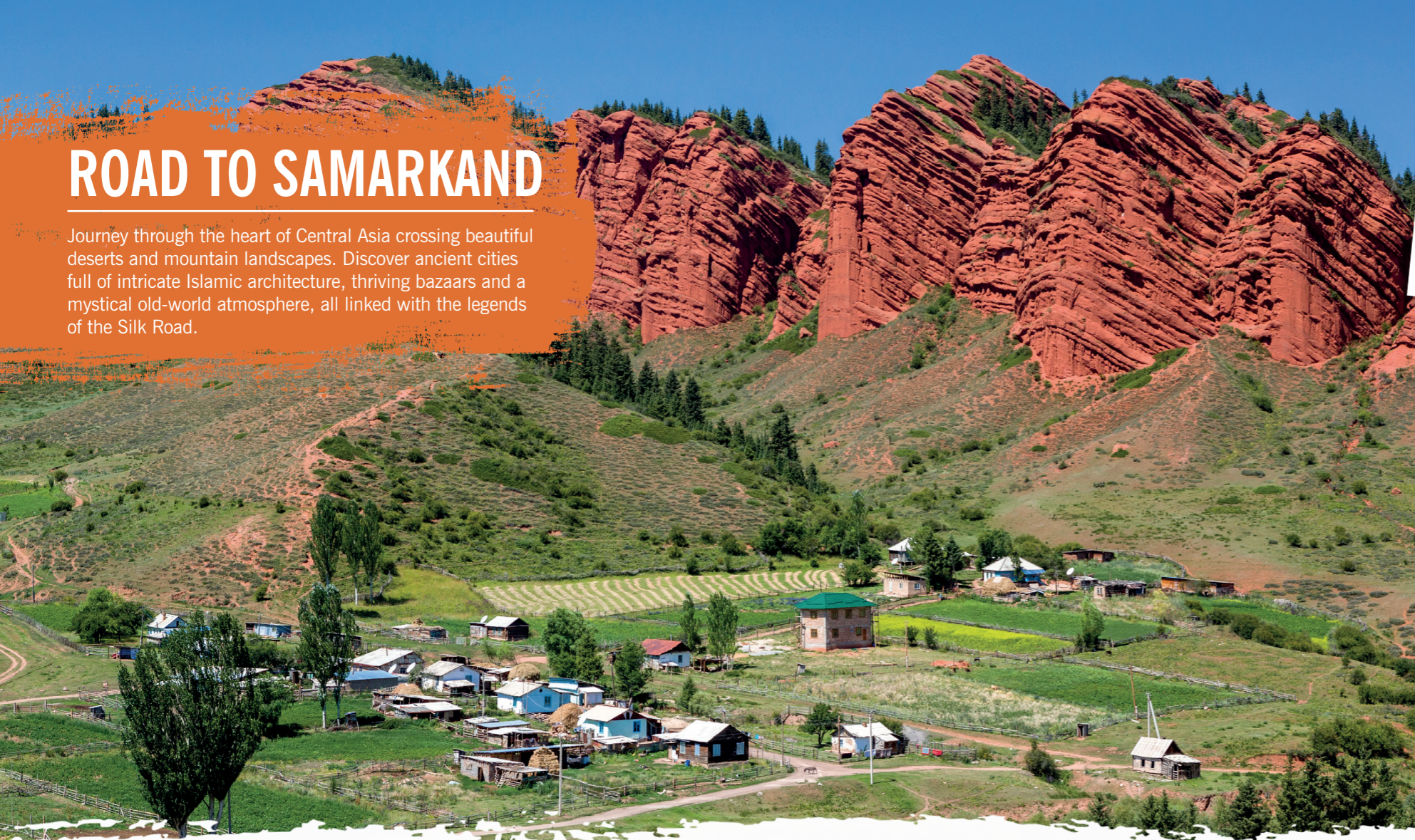
Sample the delicious, freshly cooked snacks and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture. (B,L,D)

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

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.



GO BEYOND

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)



24 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £4,190



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ACTIVE PACE



FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



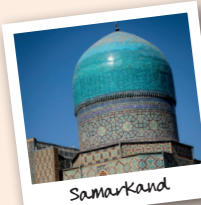
Torugart Pass

Journey over the Tian Shan Heavenly Mountains to Kyrgyzstan, through the stunningly remote, wind-whipped Torugart Pass.



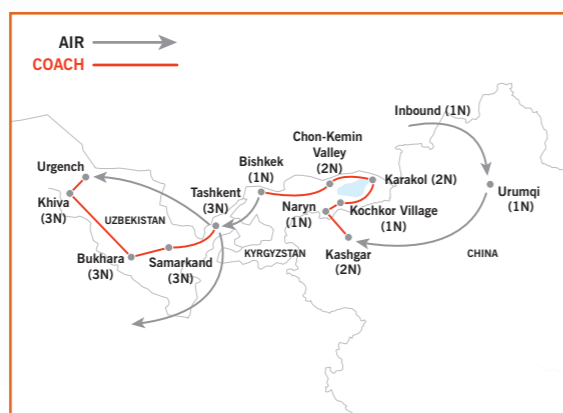
Eagle hunting

On the banks of Lake Issyk-Kul, a skilled Eagle Hunter will demonstrate the complex working relationship between man and beast.



Samarkand

Birthplace of Tamerlane, Samarkand is an enigmatic Silk Road city, sparking the imagination of travellers for centuries.



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. In the 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 medressahs, mosques and minarets within the ancient city walls, as well as the magnificent 17th-century Kuhna Ark Fortress. (B,L,D)

Day 15: Elik-Qala Ruins

Explore the ruins of Elik-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

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		
08 May - 31 May	£4,190	09 Oct - 01 Nov £4,290
11 Sep - 04 Oct	£4,290	
2017 DATES		
07 May - 30 May	£4,390	15 Oct - 07 Nov £4,490

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

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.



GO BEYOND

■ **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)



23 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £5,290

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



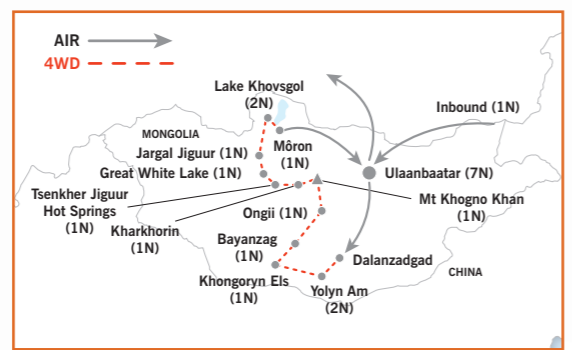
Naadam Festival
The defining festival of a country, the 'Three Manly Games' attract villagers and nomads from across Mongolia. Witness a cultural spectacular.



Nomadic Ger Camps
When travelling through the wilderness, nights spent in a cosy Ger Camp will give you a taste of a truly nomadic Mongolian way of life.



Gobi Desert
Travel through the Gobi Desert to see many of Mongolia's renowned landscapes, including Eagle Valley and the sand dunes at Khongoryn Els.



■ **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 Gurbansaikhan 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 Yolym 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: Ongiin Khiid Monastery**
Journey to the banks of the Ongii River and view the atmospheric ruins of two monasteries – Barlim Khiid and Khutagt Khiid, comprising Ongiin 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)

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		
25 Jun - 17 Jul	£5,290	09 Jul - 31 Jul*
2017 DATES		
24 Jun - 16 Jul	£5,690	08 Jul - 30 Jul*

*Second departure dates follow a different itinerary starting with the festival.

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 £4,740 (Ulaanbaatar - Ulaanbaatar)
 - Single room from £590
 - Tipping paid locally US\$100

DISCOVER INDOCHINA & INDIA

Travel to Indochina, and unleash your inner Indiana Jones as you explore the tree-entwined temples of Angkor, visit remote villages in the Mekong and trek through the Sapa hills. In India, take a jeep through the colourful countryside, stopping at tiny hamlets to experience life in this historical region.



I'VE BEEN THERE



Tom in Halong Bay

Sitting on the deck of a junk boat in Halong Bay watching the sun set between the limestone karsts was one of the most memorable experiences of my life. The view over the bay and the peaceful lap of the water makes an unbeatable setting for a cocktail.

Tom, Product Executive

OUR TOP TEN ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES

1 TREKKING IN SAPA

Take a gentle hike through Suoi Ho Village. Explore winding, stepped rice fields and villages, enjoy spectacular views and visit some native families to explore their culture and traditions.



2 CYCLE THROUGH HOI AN

Jump on your bicycles in Hoi An and take a beautiful scenic route past charming, traditional buildings, through the tranquil rice paddies on the outskirts of town and out to the beach.

6 MEKONG DELTA BY BICYCLE

Wheel quietly through the verdant Delta on a bicycle rickshaw, passing peaceful villages to get an insight into local life in the 'Rice Basket of Vietnam'.



7 HIKE REMOTE HOANG SU PHI

Walk through rural Hoang Su Phi mountainous area, and see rice paddies and tea hills before stopping in the ethnic Red Yao Village to learn more about the daily lives of this minority.

3 WILDLIFE RESCUE, VIETNAM

Visit Wildlife at Risk (WAR) rescue station, an animal hospital aiming to help stop the endangered wildlife trade. The station rescues animals confiscated through illegal trade, rehabilitates them and releases them back into the wild.



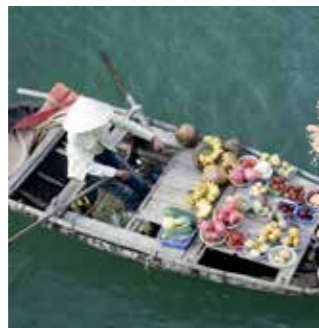
8 VESPA THROUGH SAIGON

Ride pillion with a driver on a vintage Vespa in classic Saigon style on a night time food adventure. Enjoy a cocktail before venturing to a favourite local eating spot, then finish in a lively bar.



4 CAI RANG FLOATING MARKETS

A morning visit to the Cai Rang floating market will give you the chance to experience an authentic Mekong morning with Can Tho residents. This is a great place for people watching.



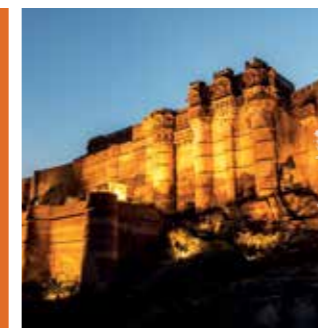
5 ANGKOR WAT BY TUK TUK

See the famous Angkor Wat from the seat of a rickshaw, easily the most famous and best preserved of all temples in the Angkor complex. Pass by lotus-like towers, dense jungle and visiting monks.



9 CURATOR OF MEHRANGARH FORT

Discover Mehrangarh by night with a curator of the Fort. You'll be greeted with a glass of champagne, before a fascinating tour and dinner in an exclusive area not open to the public.



10 RICKSHAW TOUR OF AGRA

Ride a rickshaw through the streets of Agra, passing by old bazaars, traditional eating joints and places of worship. You'll get a real feel for this melting pot of a city, with its multi cultural influences.



HIGHLIGHTS OF LAOS

Laos has remained the most pristine and culturally-intact country in Indochina. Experience the old-fashioned charm of the city, explore untouched landscapes and meet the incredibly friendly people, who have faced adversity and come out smiling.



15 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,490

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

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ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Takbat Ceremony

In Luang Prabang, take part in a solemn alms-giving ceremony; placing rice in bowls held by passing monks, deep in meditation.



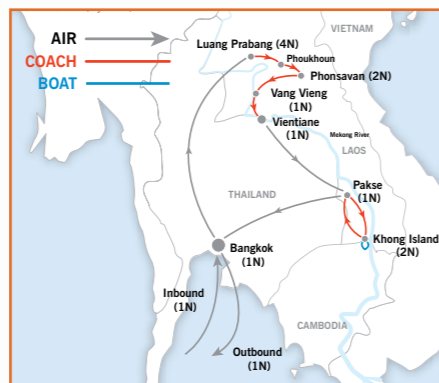
Plain of Jars

Laos' mysterious stone jars have baffled archaeologists for years – wander through them and come up with your own theory!



Kuang Si Waterfalls

With water cascading over layers of turquoise pools, you'll think you're walking through an aquatic fairyland at the Kuang Si falls.



Days 1-2: Fly to Bangkok

Fly overnight to Bangkok where you will spend the night. (D)

Day 3: Fly to Luang Prabang

Fly to Luang Prabang. On arrival you will have free time to start soaking up the local culture. An enchanting city Luang Prabang is the quintessential image of Laos. At its core, lush greenery, golden temples and vivid-robed monks come together to create a colourful, rich heritage and an enduring French-colonial legacy. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Discover Luang Prabang

Transfer to an elephant village to meet these lumbering, captivating creatures and enjoy a ride along a jungle trail. This afternoon explore Luang Prabang, starting at Wat Mai and continuing to Wat Visoun and Wat Aham. Climb Phousi Hill to watch the sun set over the city before descending to browse the wares at the lively hill tribe market. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Mekong River Cruise

Explore Wat Xieng Thong, considered Luang Prabang's most beautiful temple. Board a boat to cruise the mighty Mekong up to the sacred caves of Pak Ou, known for the hundreds of miniature Buddha sculptures that reside within. Visit the local villages of Thin Hong and Ban Xang Khong to witness the daily life of the local people and their cottage industries. This evening enjoy a traditional music and dance performance. (B,L,D)

Day 6: Takbat

Rise early this morning to witness the Buddhist ceremony of Takbat, when the monks of Luang Prabang's monastic communities collect alms from locals. These lines of silent saffron-robed monks will be an enduring image of your trip. See Wat Sene and the National Museum. Visit the traditional H'mong village of Ban

Na Ounae, before walking to the cascading turquoise waters of delightful Kuang Si Waterfalls for a picnic lunch and a swim. Stop at Ock Pop Tok Weaving Centre on the return to Luang Prabang. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Caves and lakes

Drive to Phonsavan via Phoukhoun, stopping at Tham Phra Cave and Nong Tang Lake on the way. (B,L,D)

Day 8: Plain of Jars

One of the most important prehistoric sites in Southeast Asia, these mysterious clusters of giant jars are thought to be about 2,000 years old. We will visit Site 1 where there are over 200 jars, and Site 2 which also allows you to admire the beautiful scenery of the region. There will also be visits to Muang Khoune village, home of the H'mong minority group, and the office of the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), an organisation that helps clear unexploded ordnance that are a remnant of American raids during the Vietnam War. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Vang Vieng karst landscapes

Drive to Vang Vieng stopping en route at Pathang Village to admire the spectacular views over karst mountain landscapes. Spend the afternoon exploring the magnificent Tham Chang Cave. (B,L,D)

Day 10: Discover Vientiane

Continue south to Vientiane, Laos' capital. Nestled in a languid bend in the Mekong, Vientiane is a delightfully quaint city, more friendly backwater than chaotic capital. Spend the rest of the day exploring with visits to Wat Si Saket, Wat Phra Keo, That Luang Stupa, and the Patuxai Victory Monument, resembling Paris' Arc de Triomphe. (B,L,D)

Day 11: Beautiful Wat Phou

Rise early for a morning flight to Pakse. On arrival drive to Champassak to visit the World Heritage listed Wat Phou, a ruined Khmer temple complex located in the incredibly beautiful landscapes of Mount Phu Kao. Continue to Khong Island, the largest island of the Si Phan Don archipelago in the Mekong River. The afternoon is free. (B,L,D)

Day 12: Khong Island

Around Si Phan Don, meaning '4,000 islands', the pace of life is slow and easy and the river views are gorgeous. See the magnificent Khone Phapheng Waterfall, Southeast Asia's largest, and pop over to Khone Island to discover its charming colonial buildings and see Lphi Waterfall, nicknamed the Devil's Corridor. Depending on the season, you may see traditional fishing techniques in action. The rest of the day is free. (B,L,D)

Day 13: Bolaven Plateau

Depart Khong Island for Pakse, stopping to admire Tad Yuang and Tad Fane waterfalls. Continue to the Bolaven Plateau and visit a coffee plantation to learn about the processing of the beans. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner back in Pakse. (B,L,D)

Days 14-15: Fly Pakse to UK

Transfer to Pakse airport for your flight to the UK (via Bangkok). (B)

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		
22 Mar - 05 Apr	£2,490	18 Oct - 01 Nov
2017 DATES		
21 Mar - 04 Apr	£2,590	17 Oct - 31 Oct

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

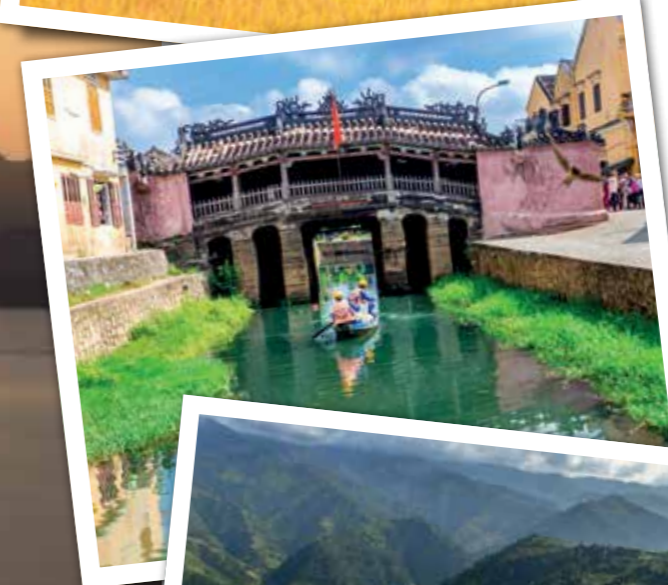
Flight and supplement information

Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £1,840 (Bangkok - Pakse)
- Single room from £360
- Tipping paid locally US\$90

REFLECTIONS OF VIETNAM

An ever-changing country that sprouted from tradition and a long line of invaders, Vietnam offers unsurpassed cultural experiences and natural sights. Cycle through lush countryside, taste beautifully spiced food and get to know the locals in the Mekong Delta.



time to take a swim in the sea, relax on the white sands and take a seafood lunch before returning to Hoi An. (B,L,D)

Day 13: Saigon Walking Tour
Fly to dynamic Saigon, where modern high-rises rub shoulders with ancient temples. Take a tour of Saigon's busy streets, from the colonial Notre Dame Cathedral and French colonial Post Office, down former Rue Catinat to the Hotel Continental made famous in the 'Quiet American' movie. Take a final stop at the Caravelle Hotel's beautiful rooftop bar for panoramic views of the city. (B,L,D)

Day 14: Mekong Delta by Rickshaw
Head south to Ben Tre. Ride a rickshaw (xeoi) past quiet rural villages and verdant fields before boarding a boat to drift through small backwater canals. Drop into local workshops where you can chat to the locals before visiting a boat-building household and residence of a former Viet Cong Soldier who survived two years fighting the Khmer Rouge. Arrive at your homestay in the afternoon and take the time to wander around the village. (B,L,D)

Day 15: Cycling in the Mekong
After breakfast visit the colourful Cai Thia market, then cycle along small paths through orchards and thatched houses stopping to chat with local farmers on the way. Enjoy a garden lunch with fresh fruit, rice wine and traditional music, before transferring to Can Tho. (B,L,D)

Day 16: Cai Rang Floating Market
Pay a morning visit to the famous Cai Rang floating market, taking in the scenery and locals going about their daily business along the canals. Take a relaxed cycle through quiet and isolated countryside before returning to Saigon. (B,L,D)

Day 17: Fly Saigon to UK
Fly to the UK, arriving home the same day. (B)

17 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,590

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



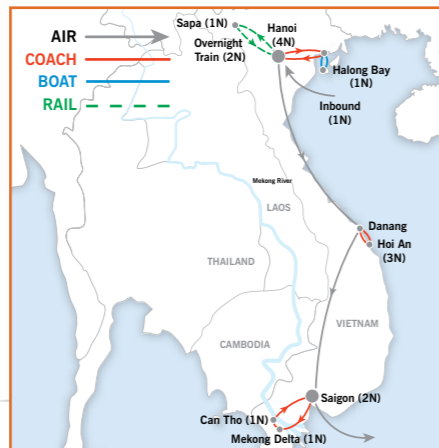
Covered in curvaceous, verdant rice terraces, Sapa is a gem to explore. Stop at ethnic villages to learn more about life in the area.



Crumbling, flower-covered houses give way to green fields and seaside as you cycle through the charming streets of Hoi An.



Wind over sleepy backwaters and through lush jungle on the back of a rickshaw, and discover a more relaxed pace of life in the Delta.



Days 1-2: Fly to Hanoi
Fly overnight to Hanoi, Vietnam's colonially influenced atmospheric capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

Day 3: Discover local Hanoi
Start your day with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh complex and the Ethnology Museum to learn about the country's ethnic groups. Next visit the home of a water puppet artist where you will have the chance to participate in the

creation of the puppets and experience a private performance. Tonight, discover Hanoi's street-side night life and taste the varied flavours of Vietnamese street food such as Pho Cuon and Banh Xeo – a truly local way of eating dinner! (B,L,D)

Day 4: Temple of Literature and Lao Cai
This morning you may choose to get up early and pay a visit to the fabulous flower market in Quang Ba, and see Tai Chi at Truc Bach Lake – an oasis of peace and daily life in the centre of Hanoi. Visit the Confucian Temple of Literature and the Old Quarter before boarding your overnight train to Lao Cai. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Sapa Minority Villages
After an early morning arrival and breakfast, transfer to beautiful Sapa. Today you will trek through lush, stepped rice paddies and hills for approximately five hours. En route, visit small villages to rest and meet the residents, ending your walk at Ta Phin Village of the Red Dao minority. (B,L,D)

Day 6: Sapa Trekking
Your Sapa adventure continues today with approximately six hours of walking through the rice terraces, visiting the H'Mong Village of Y Linh Ho and Cat Cat Village. On the way, take in the marvellous landscapes of the Muong

Hoa and Sa Seng Valleys. Tonight, board the train for the overnight journey back to Hanoi. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Overnight on Halong Bay
Board a traditionally designed junk boat for a serene and unforgettable cruise on the glassy, limestone studded waters of Halong Bay. Pass by quaint fishing towns, taste freshly caught seafood, and take a swim in the cool waters of the bay. Watch the sun set behind the limestone karsts from the deck of the boat, cocktail in hand. (B,L,D)

Day 8: Tai Chi and Cave Exploration
Start your day with a calming yet invigorating Tai Chi session on the deck of your junk boat, and take in the stillness of the morning as you gently set sail. Explore the inquisitive formations of Surprise Cave and enjoy a buffet lunch on board before cruising back to the dock and driving to Hanoi. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Discover Hanoi by Bicycle
Today you will see Hanoi from the saddle of a bike as you cycle along the back roads and alleys along the Red River. Stop by small hamlets, cycle through bonsai and flower gardens and visit Chem Communal House – existing for over ten centuries, its intricate designs are a reminder of the long history of Vietnam. Cycle back to Hanoi, pedal along the shores of West Lake and past the Imperial Citadel. (B,L,D)

Day 10: Hoi An Walking Tour
Fly to Danang and drive to Hoi An, where you will spend an afternoon wandering the beautiful, charming, flower covered streets of this ancient town. Walk past Chinese traders' homes, visit local artists and tailors and walk through the 16th-century Japanese Bridge. Arguably Vietnam's friendliest town, Hoi An is always a favourite for relaxed exploration. (B,L,D)

Day 11: Rural Hoi An by Bicycle
Jump back on your bike today and wheel through the scenic rice paddies outside Hoi An. Pay a visit to local farmers where you can try your hand at traditional farming techniques – look out for water buffalo! Enjoy a calming boat ride to a peaceful fishing village, where you can try fishing net making and paddling unique bamboo basket boats. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. (B,L,D)

Day 12: Cham Island Paradise
Cruise a sapphire sea to the idyllic Cham Island. Arriving at Lang Village, you'll take a relaxed stroll and learn about the island's history. Enjoy amazing sea views on the way to Chong Village – if you're lucky the monkeys might make an appearance. There's

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES	
09 Sep - 24 Sep	£2,590
11 Nov - 26 Nov	£2,690
2017 DATES	
03 Feb - 18 Feb	£2,790

- 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 £1,960 (Hanoi - Saigon)
 - Single room from £340
 - Tipping paid locally US\$80

VIETNAM & CAMBODIA DISCOVERY

Discover two fascinating countries. Hike through the verdant rice terraces of Hoang Su Phi and taste the street food in Hanoi. Your journey ends with an unforgettable exploration of the Angkor Wat complex by tuk tuk.



INDOCHINA

visit the Cao Dai Temple, local markets and a flower and bonsai village. Spend the night in a local homestay. (B,L,D)

Day 15: Cycle through the Mekong
Take a relaxed morning cycle through the village, sampling freshly picked fruit. Drop by the local market and pay a visit to Cai Nhum Cathedral before returning to Saigon. (B,L,D)

Day 16: Cambodian Circus
Transfer to the airport for your flight to Siem Reap. There is a special treat that awaits in the form of a performance from the PHARE Cambodian Circus, an NGO which teaches street children to become internationally renowned circus artists. (B,L,D)

Day 17: Angkor Wat by Tuk Tuk
What better way to see the world famous Angkor Wat Complex than from the back of a traditional tuk tuk? You'll explore Angkor Wat, the centrepiece of Siem Reap's famous temples, before riding your tuk tuk to Angkor Thom and the Bayon Temple, a 12th-century masterpiece. Lastly, buried deep in the jungle, you will find Ta Prohm; a photogenic and atmospheric smorgasbord of trees wound through temple ruins. (B,L,D)

Day 18: Kompong Kleang Floating Village
High water season (Aug-Feb)
Visit Kompong Kleang, a settlement of over 20,000 people housed in wooden structures on stilts, suspended up to ten metres above the water. Greeted by waves of friendly locals, here you can glimpse Cambodia's countryside culture and easy going family lifestyle. After lunch, head out into the dense forest and find the hidden temple of Beng Mealea, whose wonders lay undiscovered for centuries. (B,L,D)

Low water season (Mar-Jul)
Journey into rural Cambodia and visit a local village where you will ride an ox cart through the fields before touring the village where you can participate in fishing or farming; learning more about the way of life here. Return to Siem Reap, visiting Banteay Sri and Banteay Samre on the way. (B,L,D)

Days 19-20: Fly Siem Reap to UK
Fly to the UK, arriving home the following day. (B)

20 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,990

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Hoang Su Phi

Sapa's premier trekking destination, Hoang Su Phi's Rice Terraces change year round – from glassy pools of water to cascading layers of green.



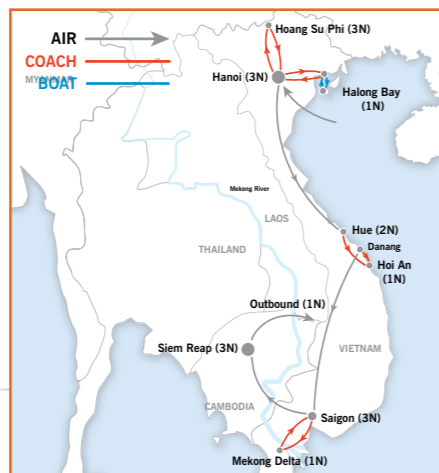
Saigon by Vespa

In true Vietnamese style, ride pillion through the streets of Saigon on a night time adventure, stopping for cocktails and local food.



Angkor Wat TUK TUK

Unleash your inner Indiana Jones on a tuk tuk adventure through the mysterious, forest-consumed temples of Angkor.



Days 1-2: Fly to Hanoi

Fly to Hanoi, Vietnam's colonially influenced atmospheric capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is at leisure. (D)

Day 3: Discover local Hanoi

Start your day with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh complex and the Ethnology Museum to learn about the country's ethnic groups. Next stop at the Confucian Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first university, before taking a walking tour of

the Old Quarter where you will witness Hanoi's rich cultural and artistic history. Take a relaxed stroll at Hoan Kiem Lake, a great spot for people watching. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Hoang Su Phi

After breakfast travel to Hoang Su Phi, one of northern Vietnam's emerald green rice terrace areas. The rest of the day is at leisure to begin exploring. (B,L,D)

Days 5-6: Hike through the Rice Terraces

Take an unforgettable journey on foot through the epic rice terraces of Hoang Su Phi. As you turn every corner, a new view of this outstanding landscape of lush, mist-wreathed terraces will unfold in front of you, providing a plethora of unreal photo opportunities. Stop en route at the Red Yao Village to learn about local life in the area, and meet the Long Tunic Yao people as you explore. You'll stay overnight in Hoang Su Phi on both nights. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Hanoi's Street Food

Travel back to Hanoi. This evening, take a walking tour of the city's unique street-side night life and food vendors. Taste the varied flavours of Vietnamese street food such as Pho Cuon and Banh Xeo – this is where the locals come to meet and dine. (B,L,D)

Day 8: Overnight on Halong Bay

Board a traditionally designed junk boat for a serene and unforgettable cruise on the limestone studded waters of Halong Bay. Pass by quaint fishing towns, taste freshly caught seafood, and take a swim in the cool waters of the bay. Watch the sun set behind the limestone karsts from the deck of the boat, cocktail in hand. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Tai Chi and Cave Exploration

Start your day with a calming yet invigorating Tai Chi session on the deck of your junk boat, and take in the stillness of the morning as you gently set sail. Explore the inquisitive formations of Surprise Cave and enjoy a buffet lunch on board before cruising back to the dock and driving to Hanoi for your flight to Hue. (B,L,D)

Day 10: Imperial Hue by Bicycle

Cycle through Hue for a tour of the imperial sights. Start at the Imperial City, then continue to Phu Mong Garden House, part of Hue's legacy from the Nguyen Dynasty. Stop by Thien Mu Pagoda overlooking the Perfume River before driving to Tu Duc Tomb. The rest of the day is at leisure; you may wish to explore Dong Ba Market, or take a cyclo to enjoy Hue by the fading evening light. (B,L,D)

Day 11: Charming Hoi An

Drive to Hoi An, stopping en route at the Museum of Cham Sculpture. Spend the afternoon wandering the flower covered streets

of this ancient town. Walk past Chinese traders' homes, visit local artists and tailors and walk through the 16th-century Japanese Bridge. (B,L,D)

Day 12: Rural Hoi An by Bicycle

Jump back on your bike today and wheel through the scenic rice paddies outside Hoi An. Pay a visit to local farmers – look out for water buffalo! Enjoy a calming boat ride to a peaceful fishing village, where you can try fishing net making and paddling unique bamboo basket boats. Transfer to Danang for your flight to Saigon. (B,L,D)

Day 13: Saigon old and new

This morning discover the amazing network of the Cu Chi Tunnels. On the way back to Saigon there is an opportunity to visit a Wildlife Rescue Station, aiming to stop the endangered wildlife trade in Vietnam. Continue to Reunification Palace, the Central Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral and the War Remnants Museum. This evening take an exhilarating ride on the back of a vintage Vespa, classic Saigon pillion style. Stop for a cocktail before continuing to a favourite local eating spot. Wind up your night with drinks, accompanied by a live band. (B,L,D)

Day 14: Ben Tre by Bicycle

Drive to Ben Tre and set out on a boat trip through winding, forest lined canals. After lunch, cycle through rice fields and coconut groves and

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		
30 Sep - 18 Oct	£2,990	25 Nov - 13 Dec
2017 DATES		
17 Feb - 07 Mar	£3,090	

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

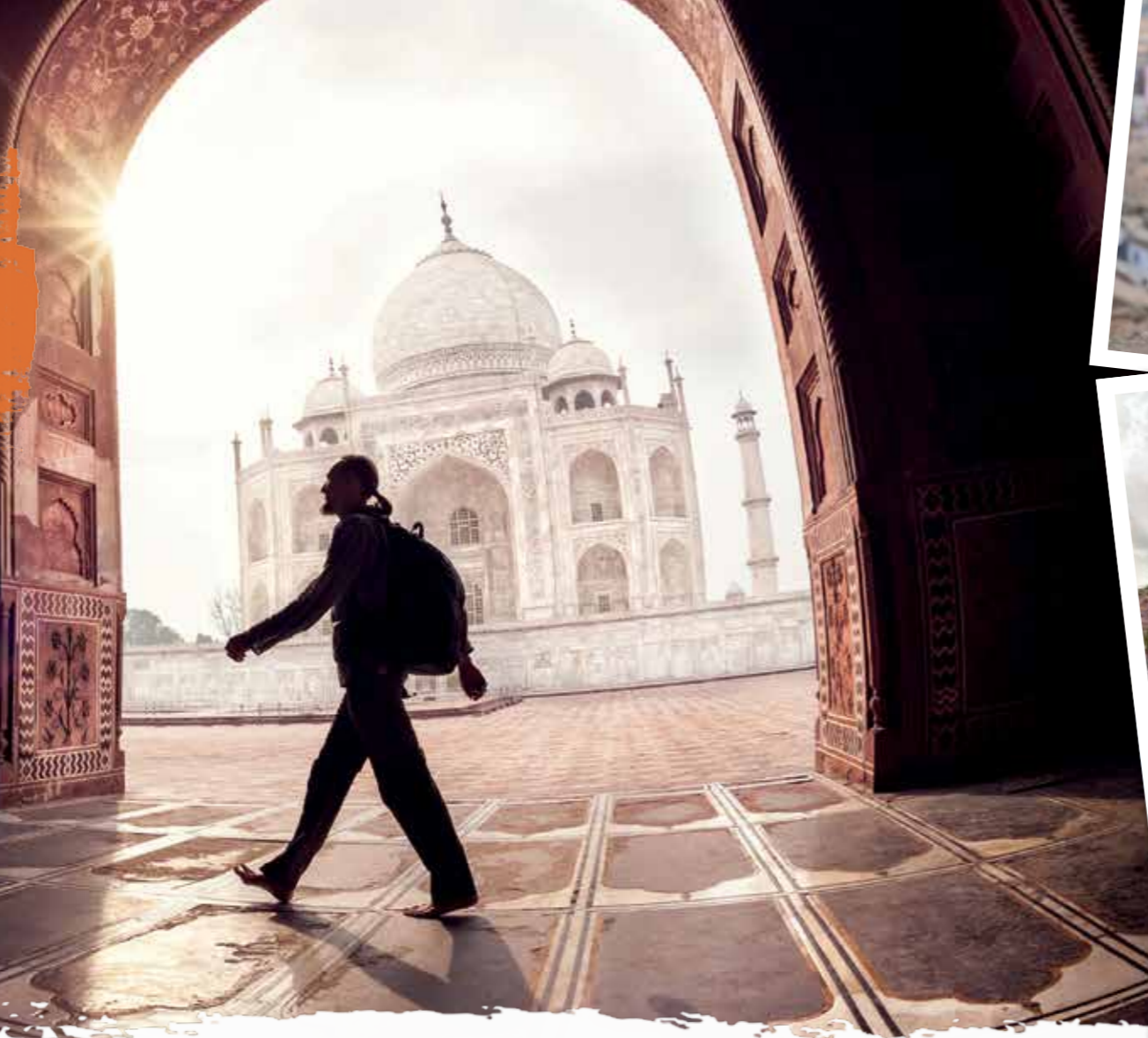
Flight and supplement information

Based on London Heathrow departures

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £2,360 (Hanoi - Siem Reap)
- Single room from £320
- Tipping paid locally US\$90

VIBRANT INDIA

From magnificent hill forts to remote villages, the colourful and vibrant state of Rajasthan is full of adventure. Let your imagination be captured by the sights and sounds of the desert, and interact with the people who make this one of India's most magical states.



INDIA

exquisite façade of Hawa Mahal, or Palace of the Winds. Built of yellow and pink sandstone and white marble, the opulent courtyards, halls and apartments are full of intricate carvings and stained glass. This afternoon explore the City Palace, part of which is still home to Jaipur's royal family. Visit a gem cutting and polishing workshop, something for which Jaipur is famous. (B,L,D)



■ **Day 13: Agra auto rickshaw tour**
Travel from Jaipur to Agra, stopping en route at Fatehpur Sikri. Built in the 16th century as the Mughal capital of Emperor Akbar, the city is a fusion of Muslim and Hindu styles, and one of India's best preserved examples of Mughal architecture. Arrive in Agra and take to the streets in an auto rickshaw that will introduce you to the sights and sounds of the city. (B,L,D)



■ **Day 14: The Taj Mahal**
Tour the city coming first to India's most iconic sight, the Taj Mahal. A monument to love built for Mumtaz Mahal the favourite wife of Shah Jahan, the Taj Mahal is built entirely of white marble. From a distance the effect is ethereal but get up close and you can admire the intricate pietra dura (stone inlay) work. Come next to the mammoth Agra Fort, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. Within there are palaces, audience halls and mosques to discover. Return to Delhi. (B,L,D)



■ **Day 15: Rickshaw ride through Old Delhi**
Take a full day to explore Delhi. Starting in Old Delhi, embark on a rickshaw ride through the atmospheric streets, visiting Jama Masjid, a Jain Temple and the Red Fort ending with lunch at Chor Bazaar. Cross into New Delhi to view the colonial grandeur of the Rajpath, including the Rashtrapati Bhavan and India Gate, finishing the day at Humayun's Tomb. (B,L,D)

■ **Day 16: Depart Delhi**
The day is at leisure before boarding the overnight to the UK.

16 DAYS FROM PER PERSON £2,790

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ACTIVE PACE

FULLY INCLUSIVE

ORIGINAL EXPERIENCES



Cycle in Udaipur

Cycle through the back streets of the Old City, passing by temples and bazaars, then finish at iconic Lake Pichola for a sunset cruise.



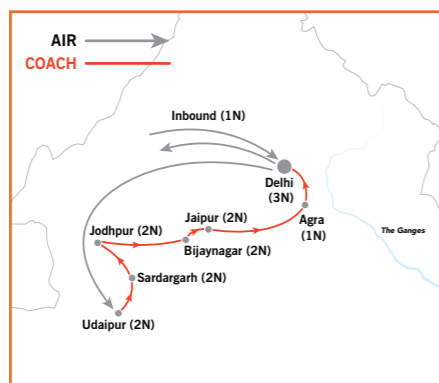
Rajasthan by Jeep

Take a jeep safari through the village and desert landscapes of Rajasthan, stopping en route at colourful local villages.



Rickshaw Ride

Take a rickshaw through colourful Delhi, finishing with lunch at the exciting Chor Bazaar; a managerie of busy trading.



Days 1-2: Fly to Delhi

Fly overnight to Delhi, India's rambunctious capital city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

Day 3: Cycling in Udaipur

Fly to Udaipur, considered India's most romantic city thanks to its grand palaces and lakeside setting. This afternoon climb on to your bicycle and take a leisurely ride through the backstreets of the old city. Pass through Jagdish Chowk, glide by Jagdish Temple and wend through Bada Bazaar. Finally peddle

along the banks of Lake Pichola to finish at the Tripolia gate of the City Palace, where you will board a boat for a sunset cruise which includes a stop at the 17th-century Lake Garden Palace. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Explore the City Palace

Delve deeper into the cultural wonders of Udaipur starting at the spectacular City Palace. Started in 1599, over the years many a maharani has added his touch, making this Rajasthan's largest palace. Within you'll find the Dilkush Mahal, the Sheesh Mahal, the Moti Mahal and the Palace of Lord Krishna, each boasting exquisite and ornate decoration. Later, journey to Shilpgram to visit a rural arts and crafts village – here you can learn about the tribal people of India's western regions and see their traditional architecture, crafts and rural lifestyle. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Temples of Ranakpur

Travel from Udaipur to Sardargarh, stopping at the magnificent Jain temples of Ranakpur en route. Built in the 15th century, these marble temples feature some of India's most beautiful carvings and are a major pilgrimage for members of the Jain religion. Sardargarh sits in the shadow of its majestic hill fort which will also be your home for the next two nights. (B,L,D)

Day 6: Jeep safari around Sardargarh

Take a short cycling tour of the city to orientate yourself before exploring farther into the fort with a guide. This afternoon climb aboard a jeep to travel out to the remote villages around Sardargarh. Meet with the local villagers and a hermit (sahdu), see life in a rural Rajasthani village and visit a local weaver and a marble cutter. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Travel to Jodhpur

Drive from Sardargarh to Jodhpur, on arrival the rest of the day will be yours to spend as you wish. (B,L,D)

Day 8: Mehrangarh Fort

Sat high above the city on a sandstone plinth, the Mehrangarh Fort is one of Rajasthan's most impressive sights – spend the morning strolling through its palaces, temples and gardens and examining the displays of its museum. Later drive out to 400 year old Khejarla Fort, a striking red sandstone building that is a magnificent example of Rajput architecture, where you will spend the night amongst its blend of art and architecture. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Desert jeep safari

Today's jeep safari will introduce you to the customs and culture of the rural villages of Rajasthan, as well as the villagers themselves,

particularly the wonderfully hospitable Marwari people. You will also be able to spot wildlife, see a step well and see craftsmen at work. Drive to Bijaynagar and check into the Bijay Niwas Palace, a heritage hotel packed with original features, art and antiques. (B,L,D)

Day 10: Rural Rajasthan by bullock cart

After breakfast climb aboard a bullock cart for a leisurely guided tour of the rural villages around Bijaynagar. Take the opportunity to interact with the friendly villagers and catch them going about their daily lives, as well as seeing their homes, a school and a temple. The rest of the day is at leisure but you can take advantage of the Bijay Niwas Palace's incredible gardens and orchards with an afternoon walk. (B,L,D)

Day 11: Travel to Jaipur

Journey from Bijaynagar to Jaipur before enjoying a free afternoon. (B,L,D)

Day 12: Amer Fort by jeep

Head just out of the city by jeep to the colossal Amer Fort, stopping en route to admire the

DEPARTURES

2016 DATES		2017 DATES	
16 Sep - 01 Oct	£2,790	11 Nov - 26 Nov	£2,890
17 Mar - 01 Apr	£2,990	10 Oct - 25 Oct	£3,190
22 Sep - 07 Oct	£3,090		

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 £2,330 (Delhi - Delhi)
- Single room from £520
- Tipping paid locally USD\$105

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.



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.

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, and we know the best areas to eat and the finest restaurants. We can ensure you get to try all the regional specialities on your trip with us.

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. Just give us the number of stars that you want and where you want to be, and we will use our extensive knowledge and superior rates to select one that meets your needs requirements and budget.

5 DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Learning, seeing and experiencing are all part of travel. 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 or ballooning over Bagan are just some of the many options.

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.



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
- 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 wendywutours.co.uk/before-you-go/booking-conditions.

4. FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of your payment is due 60 days before departure and you will be issued with your travel tickets and documentation approximately two weeks before travel.



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 from £3 per day

Please speak to our experienced Travel Consultants who will happily provide advice and arrange these for you.

CALL OUR TRAVEL EXPERTS!

All our staff have travelled throughout Asia and can provide you with detailed information about our itineraries. Just call us on any day of the week and we'll be happy to discuss your holiday and answer any questions you might have.



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 Asia and the UK. If you want to stay longer in Shanghai, Beijing, Hanoi or wherever your trip starts or finishes, we are able to add extra nights onto your trip for a small supplement.

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.

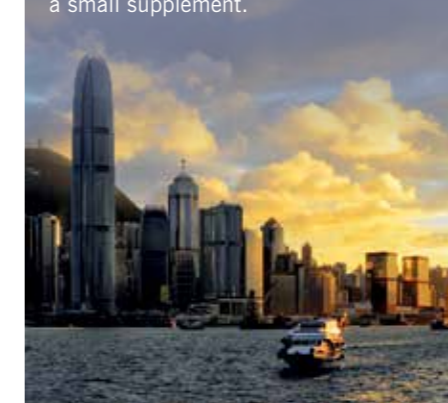
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■ **Loyalty Discount**
When you book your second holiday, we'll give you a £100pp discount.

■ **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.



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- Unrivalled knowledge and expertise
- Comprehensive range of group, private and tailor-made holidays
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To book call **0800 988 7888** or see your preferred Travel Agent
 To see our full range of holidays in Asia visit wendywutours.co.uk



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Opening Hours:
 Mon-Fri 9:00am – 5:30pm
 Sat-Sun 10:00am – 4:00pm

