



A China Adventure

Immerse Yourself | 17 Days | Active

Beijing – Gubei Water Town - Xian – Pingle - Chengdu – Ping'An - Guilin -
Yangshuo - Shanghai

On this active adventure, spend more time on the great wall with a hike from Gubeikou to Jinshanling, take in spectacular vistas whilst walking in the Longji rice terraces, and learn the art of Tai Chi in peaceful Yangshuo.

- Hike the Great Wall of China
- Cycle the Ancient city walls of Xian
- Get up close to the Giant Pandas
- Explore the stunning Longji Rice Terraces
- Relax with a cruise down the Li River
- Discover vibrant Shanghai



A China Adventure tour inclusions:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated on your itinerary
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escort (if your group is 10 or more passengers) and Local Guides
- Visa fees for UK and EU passport holders
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides
- Safe and secure with ABTA, ATOL and IATA

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, meals not stated in the itinerary, insurance of any kind, tipping and early check in or late check out. These are all payable locally.

Immerse Yourself:

Designed for those who wish to be further immersed in the authentic charm of Asia; tours in our Immerse Yourself range include more cultural and active experiences. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience. These tours include:

- Cycling and walking through classic sites
- Unique cultural experiences and encounters
- Off the beaten track destinations
- More evenings at leisure for independent exploration

Active Tours:

'A China Adventure' is an **Active** tour. This is the most demanding tour Wendy Wu Tours offers. As a whole, this itinerary requires a high level of fitness.

- On the Great Wall of China, you will trek over rough, uneven and steep ground for 6 hours from the Gubeikou section to the Jinshanling section of the wall.
- At the Longji rice terraces you will trek for approximately 5 hours, the ground here is uneven and the trek will include steep climbs.
- In Beijing, Xian, Pingli Ancient Town and Shanghai there will be long periods of walking whilst sightseeing.
- You will need to be able to cycle a bicycle for approximately 1 hour in Xian.

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information about the pace of the tours in our Immerse Yourself range, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

Itinerary – A China Adventure

Days 1-2: Beijing

On arrival in Beijing Capital International Airport, you will be met in the arrival hall by your local guide and/or National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours. Together with all other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will transfer approximately 1 hour to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. A tour introduction will be held in the hotel either this evening or the next. Food and drinks will not be served at this meeting, it is simply an opportunity for your group to meet and learn more about travelling in China.



Destination Information

Beijing – Beijing is the capital of the People’s Republic of China. With its unequalled wealth of history, Beijing served as the centre for the many different empires and cultures that ruled China, and has been the heart of politics and society throughout its long history. The ancient monuments, the stories of days gone by as well as the dynamic and modern city Beijing has become today, make it a destination not to be missed.

Day 3: Beijing

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Walk across Tiananmen Square into the magnificent Forbidden City. Continue to the Summer Palace, former holiday home of the Qing emperors, and explore the beautiful grounds. Whilst here, take a short hike up Longevity Hill for spectacular views over the palace’s Kunming Lake. Today’s sightseeing involves approximately 5-6 hours, predominately on foot. On your way back, stop for a photo at the iconic Bird’s Nest Stadium, home of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The time at the Olympic Village will not include entry to any of the Olympic venues.



Please note: The Forbidden City is closed on Mondays. If this day of touring falls on a Monday, your touring in Beijing will be switched around so that the Forbidden City is visited on an alternative day.

Destination Information

Tiananmen Square – Built under the guidance of Chairman Mao Zedong, Tiananmen Square is one of the largest public squares in the world, said to hold a capacity crowd of over one million. It houses not only the Monument to the People’s Heroes, it is also the final resting place of Chairman Mao himself in the Mausoleum of Mao Zedong.

Forbidden City – The sacred centre of the Chinese empire for 500 years and home to the Ming and Qing dynasties, the Forbidden City is a vast complex of over 900 buildings and covers an area of 180 acres. Since 1987, the Forbidden City has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site and its palatial architectural style has been an influence on many imperial buildings throughout Asia.

Summer Palace – The former holiday retreat of the Qing Emperors, the Summer Palace is a stunning example of Chinese garden style. The Summer Palace incorporates the Fengshui notion of ‘Mountain’ and ‘Water’, seen here with tranquil Kunming Lake and magnificent Longevity Hill. A favourite resort of the Empress Dowager Cixi, the Summer Palace is home to a stunning Marble Boat and the Long Corridor, one of the longest outdoor passageways in the world.

Olympic Village – See the home of the most watched Olympic event in history at the Beijing Olympic Village. Most spectacular of sights here is the iconic Bird’s Nest Stadium, host to the spectacular opening and closing ceremonies in 2008.

Day 4: Beijing – Gubei Water Town

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Arrive early for a visit to the Temple of Heaven where you can watch the locals as they start their day with dancing, Tai Chi and Mahjong. Next, visit Yandaixiejie, where you will have some free time to explore the Hutongs. Sit down for lunch with a family who call the hutongs home. This morning’s sightseeing is approximately 4 hours. In the afternoon, drive 3 hours to the Simatai section of the Great Wall where you will stay overnight at Gubei Watertown. On arrival, ascend Simatai Great Wall by cable car for spectacular sunset views.



Please note: You will need to pack a smaller overnight bag for your trip to Gubei Watertown. Main luggage will be left in safe storage at the hotel in Beijing and picked up on your return.

Destination Information

Temple of Heaven – Set in a 267-hectare park surrounded by a long wall and with a gate at each compass point, the Temple of Heaven is absolutely unique. It is one of the most perfect examples of Ming architecture, created as a place of worship for the Emperors, who would ask for prosperity, longevity and good harvest for the people. Walking through the park we will see the many groups of local people that gather here every day to sing folk songs, practice Tai-Chi and sword dancing, play chess or just come to sit and chat.

Great Wall of China – Originally built under the first Emperor of China, the Great Wall of China is the country’s most iconic sight. Winding through the northern countryside from the Gobi Desert in the west into the Bohai Sea in the east, the Great Wall of China is the longest wall in the world and was used as a fortification against northern nomadic tribes. The current structure dates back to the Ming Dynasty - over 700 years old.

Day 5: The Great Wall

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Rise early and transfer 30 minutes to the Gubeikou Section of the Great Wall. Much less frequented by tourists than other parts of the wall, the walk from Gubeikou to Jinshanling winds through wooded countryside and over dramatic hills. Trek through the terrain for approximately 6 hours. The walk will briefly take you off-wall for a short section to navigate around a Chinese Military Base. The walk features some extremely steep steps of different heights so it can be tricky to maintain a steady pace or routine. There are also many walkways where the wall has fallen away, giving way to sheer drops which require extra care whilst walking. Underfoot, the pathway is rocky and largely unmaintained; it is strongly



advised that you wear sturdy footwear with ankle support if needed. Later, head back to Beijing, where you will have the evening at leisure.

Please note, today's lunch may be a packed lunch.

Destination Information

Gubeikou Great Wall – Meaning “Northern Pass”, this section of the Great Wall formed the northern defensive line of Beijing during the Tang Dynasty. As it has not been renovated or maintained, this section of the Great Wall represents a fabulous opportunity to experience an authentic piece of Chinese history; as well as a challenging walk.

Jinshanling Great Wall – Located north east of Beijing, the Jinshanling Section of the Great Wall winds through stunning mountain scenery and offers panoramic views over the countryside. This Ming Dynasty section of the Great Wall offers one of the most breathtaking walks from the Gubeikou section.

Day 6: Beijing - Xian

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Drive to the railway station to take your 6-hour bullet train to Xian. In Xian, wander around the Muslim Quarter, Xian's Islamic centre, where there are a myriad of small food stalls selling ample mouth-watering dishes.



Destination Information

Xian – Xian has long played a pivotal role in China's extensive history and has been a thriving hub for cultural exchange, economic trade, as well as national politics for centuries. Home to some of China's most ancient sights, diverse architecture and delicious fares, Xian is a must-see destination.

Day 7: Xian

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today, view the formidable ranks of terracotta soldiers and horses, lined up in ranks to protect the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. The Museum of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses is located around a 1 hour drive outside of Xian. From the bus park to the museum entrance there is a 15-minute walk. There are electric carts offered by private vendors which can be organised at your own cost. There are no electric carts available for the return from the museum exit to the bus park. Within the museum area the warriors can be seen in three different 'pits', which are active archaeological digs. The site is large, and towards the summer months it can be hot outside. Sightseeing here involves approximately 2 and a half hours on foot. Next, visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition centre to see smaller models of the warriors being made before returning to the city for a cycle ride around the Xian city walls which enclose the old city. You will need to be able to cycle for approximately 1 hour. This evening, enjoy a traditional dumpling dinner.



Destination Information

Terracotta Warriors – One of the most significant archaeological discoveries of the 20th century, this unearthed terracotta army is comprised of over 7,000 soldiers, horses and chariots. The army was built in life-sized form by thousands of workers and designed by Emperor Qin Shi Huang to defend himself in the afterlife.

Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition Centre – See smaller versions of the enigmatic Terracotta Warriors being created at the captivating Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition Centre; even purchase your own portable soldier.

Ancient city walls – Dating back to the Ming Dynasty in the 14th century, the Xian ancient city wall is one of the best preserved urban fortifications in China. The wall's ideal spot and layout gives visitors a bird's eye view over this fantastic city.

Day 8: Xian - Pingle

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning, take a 4-hour bullet train to Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province. On arrival, drive 2 hours to the ancient town of Pingle, dating back to the Han Dynasty, where you will enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

In Pingle you will stay at a basic guesthouse with no facilities for making meals, however, your guide will be happy to give you recommendations of the best places to eat.

Destination Information

Pingle Ancient Town – Regarded as one of the best ancient towns in Sichuan Province, Pingle Ancient Town dates back to the Han Dynasty and was a stopping point on the legendary Silk Road.

Day 9: Pingle – Chengdu

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Relax with a morning at leisure. Breakfast is not included this morning; however, your guide will be able to suggest all the best places to eat. Later, take a walk across the magnificent Jinji Suspended Rope Bridge for vistas of the bamboo forest below, before driving 2 hours back to Chengdu for your overnight stay.



Destination Information

Chengdu – China's symbolic western capital and the residence of the country's most lovable black and white bear, Chengdu has an abundance to offer. With a fast-paced economy that is dragging China's west into the 21st century; it is no wonder that Chengdu's appeal is growing year on year. As the gateway into Sichuan Province's large collection of sights, as well as Chengdu being its own trove of historical and cultural treasures, Chengdu is a must-visit on any trip to China.

Day 10: Chengdu

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Visit one of the finest panda conservation centres, located in the forested Sichuanese countryside north of Chengdu. Dujiangyan offers refuge to Giant Pandas with the aim to reintroduce them into the wild. The centre offers one of the most authentic, spacious and natural settings in the country. Later, explore the slopes of Mt Qingcheng, one of China's most sacred Taoist Mountains. Ascend by cable car to the higher slopes and take a walk around Yuecheng Lake. Drive back to Chengdu for an overnight stay.



Destination Information

Dujiangyan – Located 72km northwest of Chengdu and less than a 1-hour drive to Mt. Qingcheng, Dujiangyan is well renowned for its irrigation system that provides most of the water supply to Chengdu and neighbouring towns.

Mt. Qingcheng – Located 65km west of Chengdu, Mt Qingcheng is an important sacred Taoist mountain. It is home to a trove of temples, beautiful trails lined with sweet-scented fruit, and spectacular views over the Sichuan countryside.

Day 11: Chengdu – Ping'An

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Rise early this morning and take a 2-hour flight to Guilin. On arrival, drive 2 hours to the scenic village of Ping'An in Longsheng County. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

You will need to pack a smaller overnight bag for your trip to Ping'An. The main luggage will be left in safe storage at the hotel in Guilin and picked up on your return.



Destination Information

Ping'An – Ping'An is set among the stunning Longji Rice Terraces. The area dates back over 600 years and has traditionally been the home of the Zhuang People.

Day 12: Longji Rice Terraces

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Take a full day tour around the Longji Rice Terraces. Trekking will be approximately 5 hours today, depending on the capability of the group. Later, drive 2 hours to back to Guilin for your overnight stay.



Destination Information

Longji Rice Terrace – Longji is home to some of the most famous and beautiful rice terraces in China. The name 'Longji' literally translates as 'Dragon's Backbone' and is called so because the rice terraces resemble the scales on a dragon's back.

Guilin – Guilin is one of China's most stunning and panoramic cities and was founded during the reign of the Qin Dynasty. It is renowned for the unique karst mountain beauty that encloses the city. Guilin developed as a trading town due to the building of the Ling Canal which links the important Pearl and Yangtze River systems.

Day 13: Guilin - Yangshuo

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Take a relaxed 4-hour cruise along the Li River to the charming village of Yangshuo where you will spend 2 nights. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalos and local fishermen. These are small cruise boats usually holding approximately 100 passengers; with an enclosed dining area on the lower deck and an open viewing area on the upper deck. As it is so popular, there are generally many boats at the docks – please be reassured that the cruise itself will be scenic and relaxing as the boats cruise past unspoilt countryside. Usually, the boats depart at 9am from the dock located a 1 hour drive from your hotel. However, when the river level is low they depart from further downstream which would mean a longer drive and an earlier check-out from your hotel. Disembarking from the cruise, your Local Guide will walk with you to your hotel, approximately a 30-minute walk from the river. There are electric carts offered by private vendors which can be organised at your own cost.



Destination Information

Li River Cruise – Pass tranquil farming and fishing scenes and picturesque villages as you cruise down the Li River. The main attraction is the stunning limestone karsts that tower above the river creating a magical landscape of mountains and water. The unique and natural beauty of this region has for centuries been an inspiration to Chinese artists and poets alike.

Yangshuo – Yangshuo is home to some of the best scenery in the world. This quaint town is renowned for its breathtaking vistas and peaceful country life. Surrounded by stark karst peaks and attractively located on the Li River, Yangshuo, alongside Guilin, prides itself in being the most sought after beauty spots in China.

Day 14: Yangshuo

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning, take part in a traditional Tai Chi class learning the skills behind this ancient and spiritual exercise. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. There are many activities to take part in, including cycling, rafting and walking (arranged locally and at extra cost).



Day 15: Yangshuo - Shanghai

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Return to Guilin by road, visiting the Reed Flute Caves en route to admire the stunning colours of the stalagmites and stalactites. You will take a short walk through the caves, sometimes along damp paths and stairs. It usually takes about 1 hour to complete the route and it is very cool inside. Visit the South China Pearl Museum before taking your flight to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. This evening, cruise down the Huangpu River to see the neon lights of Pudong.



Destination Information

Reed Flute Cave – Named so because of the clumps of slender reed once commonly found at the entrance to the caves which was also used to make flutes, the Reed Flute Caves houses a grotto of multi-coloured stalactites and stalagmites.

South China Pearl Museum – Gain a fascinating insight into the pearling industry of southern China at the South China Pearl Museum, where you have the opportunity to purchase some of these elegant silver jewels.

Shanghai – Once known as the ‘Paris of the East’, Shanghai is now one of Asia’s most influential cities. Prior to communist arrival in 1949, Shanghai was a city with European-style mansions and was the most important trading port in Asia. Today it presents a blend of cultures; the modern and the traditional, along with the European and oriental. Modern skyscrapers intermingle with 1920s ‘shikumen’ buildings. This combination is what attracts millions of visitors each year.

Huangpu River – The Huangpu River flows through the centre of Shanghai and separates the city into Pudong, meaning ‘east of the Huangpu’ and Puxi, ‘west of the Huangpu’. Cruising down the river, you will see the contrast of the historical Bund architecture on one side of the river with the modern Pudong skyline on the other side. At night, the banks of the Huangpu light up, turning Shanghai into a neon wonder.

Day 16: Shanghai

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning, take an exciting breakfast tour around some of Shanghai's most exciting districts, tasting local delicacies, including pancakes and fried bread sticks. Afterwards, wander the pleasant Yu Gardens and the bustling Old Town before visiting the informative Silk Museum. Take a stroll on the colonial Bund and enjoy a farewell Shanghainese meal this evening.



Destination Information

Yu Gardens – The Yu Gardens is seen as one of the most perfect examples of Chinese garden style. Built by the Ming-era governor, Pan Yunduan, as a retirement gift for his father, the Yu Gardens is home to exquisite jade rock, goldfish-filled ponds and stunning, tranquil pavilions.

The Bund – Recognised as Shanghai's former 'Wall Street', the Bund is home to an impressive collection of buildings from the early trade houses of the 1850s to the glamorous Art Deco modernism of the 1920s. Originally the home of the foreign population of Shanghai, the Bund's architecture has inherited much western influence and is a stark contrast to the Pudong skyline, sitting across the Huangpu River.

Silk Museum – The Silk Museum is an educational journey through the production of silk, one of China's most famous and luxurious materials. Learn about the use of silkworms and silk moths in its production; the manufacturing process; as well as silk's journey along the Silk Road which brought this product across Asia and Europe.

Day 17: Depart Shanghai

Meals included: Breakfast

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport, according to the departure time of your international flight.



A China Adventure Travel Information

Visas

A visa is required for entry into China. A standard visa processing service is included in your tour cost for UK and EU passport holders. We will require your passport, completed visa application form, and 1 passport photo, taken within the last 6 months, to process your visa. We will require all this information 8 weeks prior to departure. As per our standard visa processing service, we will have your passport for at least 4 weeks. Any visa applications that require an express 2-week service, or that are received in our office less than 6 weeks prior to departure will incur a £60 per passport express fee. In rare cases, you may be required to provide further information or documentation to the Chinese embassy and/or be required to attend an interview at the embassy in London. If this is the case, we will notify you as soon as possible.

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your National Escort should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Evenings at Leisure:

To give you more flexibility and choice when travelling on selected tours in our Immerse Yourself range; we have carefully balanced special highlight meals with evenings at leisure so that you can explore the many culinary delights that China has to offer. Alternatively, you can use this time to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. Your National Escort will be happy to provide you with advice about good places to eat, and assist in the booking of transportation to get you there (at your own expense).

Eating in China

Chinese cuisine is one of the most influential, diverse and flavoursome culinary styles in the world with a legacy stretching back thousands of years. Often you'll find that the local Chinese style is very different from what you're used to at home. We welcome people on our tours with a wide variety of tastes and as such try to present an array of food to suit everyone in the group. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout China.

Dishes served in restaurants on our group tours are varied. Some will be vegetable-based with meat mixed in, and a few will be meat-based. Traditionally, Chinese people cook with a lot of vegetables because meat used to be hard to come by. Dishes often come pre-seasoned with soy sauce or other sauces. Our restaurants are well aware of the western palate – there are plenty of non-spiced options. Most meals are served with plain rice on the side which is intended as an accompaniment to your meal. Unlike the western world, Chinese people do not normally pre-heat their plates and food can be presented at a variety of temperatures, which is a typical Chinese way of doing things. When eating meals on group tours, you will be seated around a circular table with other tour members. Dishes will be served in the traditional 'family style' on a lazy susan; meaning that various dishes will be laid out on a spinning turntable in the centre of the table top. These dishes are intended to be shared

amongst the group – there is always more than enough to feed everybody. ‘Family style’ means that there is a pair of serving chopsticks for each dish which are used specifically to serve the food (please ask your server if you require a fork or spoon) and everybody will help themselves to all the dishes on the lazy susan. You will have an individual bowl, chopsticks and cup for your own use. Please be courteous and consider your fellow diners; if your favourite dish is on the other side of the table, it will make its way round to you soon! We find our customers really enjoy this sociable style of eating.

Your National Escort will do their utmost to cater for any special requests such as gluten free or vegetarian meals, however, people on restricted diets should expect complications. Although most Asian countries are now quite developed, only quite recently have they started to widely accept Western guests. Western food requirements are quite far removed from Asian food requirements, and even medical reasons can be quite difficult to explain. While our ground partners will do everything they can to cater for a wide range of dietary requirements on tour, we ask kindly for your patience and understanding that they cannot always be delivered to the standard you will be used to at home. It is recommended that passengers with food intolerances bring snacks or additional food items with them, especially when travelling further from major cities as not all dietary requests will be met due to the limited foods available.

Please read your travel guide which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in China. We recommend that when it comes to Chinese food, you stay open minded, try to be adventurous and always have a go with the chopsticks!

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and China. All



group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Transport

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Roads in China have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road – not just 1-2 kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only. There may be sections of road where the surface is comparatively bumpy but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

Planes: Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines.

Development in China

Though parts of China match the west in modernity and technological advances, it is important to remember that China is still a developing country and as such, many aspects of tourism in China do not have the solid infrastructure and safety standards as seen here in the west.

Chinese public holidays

If you are travelling within the below Chinese Public Holidays please note that celebrations last for several days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open, but may be crowded. Chinese New Year is on 16th February 2018 and 5th February 2019. Golden Week public holidays fall annually between 1st – 3rd May and 1st – 7th October.

Optional activities

A list of optional activities and approximate costs will be provided with your final documents. These can be arranged by your guide and are paid for locally.

Souvenirs

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs; so in each city, we will visit a museum or exhibition which demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone so we aim to take you to places which hold local interest; for example, in Shanghai you will be able to see how silk is created all the way from the silk worm to beautiful garments; and in Xian we will take you to a workshop which creates replicas of the Terracotta Warriors, from tiny little warriors to seven foot behemoths! We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

Group Size

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by both a National Escort and local guides. There will usually be no more than 18 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 8 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups with fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with local guides only.

Tipping Policy

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and China is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. In order to avoid any inconvenience, Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your National Escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the National Escort.

If you are travelling in a smaller group with local guides only, then tipping is paid in each destination. To be fair to the guides we ask for slightly higher amounts per traveller with small groups. Yangtze cruise companies operate a service charge policy and this is paid separately when boarding the vessel. We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

Climate

Please refer to our website or brochure for detailed temperature charts.

After your booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

Itinerary changes

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

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