

11 Days(Beijing-Chongqing-Wuhan-Huangshan-Shanghai) China Classic Tour

Route Summary

It may seem too great of an undertaking to experience so much history and culture in just eleven days, but it is possible! Launching out of Beijing and departing again from Shanghai, this tour will introduce you to the highlights of China, taking you through the bamboo habitats of the giant pandas, across the top of the legendary Great Wall, into the heart of ultra-modern Shanghai, and along the mazelike back alleys of historic Beijing.

Price: 1 Person:\$2650 2-5 Persons:\$2300 6-9 Persons:\$2100

Destination: Beijing-Xian-Chengdu-Shanghai

Duration: 11 Days

Tour Type: Private Tour

Day 1

Arrive in Beijing

The tour guide will meet you at Beijing International Airport, and then transfer you to hotel.

Meals:

Accommodation: Beijing Xinqiao Novotel

Day 2

Beijing

Beijing served as the capital for 5 dynasties over a period of 800 years with each emperor identified as a dragon sent from heaven. Begin your city tour with a visit to the **Summer Palace**, built in classical Chinese style in 1750 as a royal recreational resort. Among its famous features are the 700-meter-long corridor with its wonderful Painted Gallery, the Marble Boat, and several magnificently painted pavilions and pagodas. Next stop is the Palace Museum, more commonly known as the **Forbidden City**, until recently opened only to the emperor's family. This complex, the largest imperial palace ever built in the world, features more than 800 buildings with over 9,000 rooms, resplendent golden-glazed roofs, red lacquered pillars and vermilion walls. See the high-walled "Inner City" with its government buildings.

Sightseeing continues at the Temple of Heaven where the Ming and Qing emperors prayed to heaven for a good harvest.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Beijing Xinqiao Novotel

Day 3

Beijing

Here is your chance to climb **the Badaling Great Wall** of China! Built 2600 years ago, it is one of the two man-made structures seen by the naked eye of US astronaut Neil Armstrong from outer space. Later visit **the Ming Tombs**, the burial place of thirteen emperors and their families of the Ming Dynasty. Year-long excavations have uncovered many rare treasures such as the gold royal crowns and the silk robes.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation:Beijing Xinqiao Novotel

Day 4

Beijing/Xian

In the morning fly to Xian. Visit the **Wild Goose Pagoda** and **the ancient city walls**

As the symbol of the old-line Xian, **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** (Dayan Pagoda) is a well-preserved ancient building and a holy place for Buddhists. It is located in the southern suburb of Xian City, about 4 kilometers (2.49 miles) from the downtown of the city. Standing in the Da Cien Temple complex, it attracts numerous visitors for its fame in the Buddhist religion, its simple but appealing style of construction, and its new square in front of the temple. It is rated as a National Key Cultural Relic Preserve as well as an AAAA Tourist Attraction.

The first landmark visitors will encounter in Xian is the **Ancient City Wall**, which stretches round the old city. The northern side runs parallel to the railway. Xian was originally a walled city, and even today the wall is considered a landmark dividing the city into the inner part and the outer part. The city wall is massive - tall, long and thick. The South Gate and North Gate are the two main entrances to the inner city. The city itself is neatly arranged along the city wall.

Meals:Breakfast,Lunch

Accommodation:Xian Titan Central Park Hotel

Day 5

Xian

Xian, the cradle of Chinese civilization, was the state capital of 73 emperors spanning 11 dynasties during 1100 years dating from 4,000 B.C. After a visit to the **Huaqing Hot Springs**, also known as the site for the famous Xian Incident, you will visit another wonder of the ancient world - the **Terra-Cotta Warriors**. Concealed under earth, those thousands of life-sized clay warriors, horses and chariots, as one part of the tomb of Emperor Qinshihuang, were accidentally discovered by a farmer while he was digging out a well. You would also see some archaeologists still working on site to uncover the rest part of the vast tomb complex of Emperor Qinshihuang, the first emperor in Chinese history, and also the initiator of the Great Wall.

Meals:Breakfast,Lunch

Accommodation:Xian Titan Central Park Hotel

Day 6

Xian/Guilin

Take an early morning flight to Guilin, a southwest city famous for its splendid natural scenery. The **Reed Flute Cave**, with another beautiful name as the Art Palace of Nature, features fantastic natural stalactite and stalagmite formations, artfully illuminated by multicolored lights. Another magnificent view you will not miss is **Elephant Trunk Hill**.

Meals:Breakfast,Lunch

Accommodation:Guilin Bravo Hotel

Day 7

Guilin/Shanghai

Cruising down the **Li River**, you will be entering a real life gallery. You will see fishermen use trained cormorants to catch fish. You will pass along the picturesque riverbank and see limestone hill vistas. Disembark at Yangshuo to experience a colorful **local market**. In the afternoon fly to Shanghai, the largest metropolis of China with a population of 14 million.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: The Bund Hotel

Day 8

Shanghai

Shanghai, once a tranquil yet busy fishing village, and long known as a paradise for adventurers in the years before 1949, is now the largest commercial and financial center of China. Sightseeing includes the **Old town**, a finely designed maze of elegant pavilions and ponds in the old part of this city. Then stroll along **the Bund**, China's most famous waterfront stretching about one mile along **the Huangpu River**. Visit the **Shanghai Museum**, one of the largest museums in China. Afterwards, ascend the **Tower of the East Pearl** (Asia's tallest TV tower) in the newly developed Pudong District.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: The Bund Hotel

Day 9

Hangzhou

Today you will be on your way to Hangzhou. You will now know why Hangzhou is praised along with Suzhou as "paradise on earth". The day's activities begin with a cruise on the beautiful **West Lake** with stops at atypical teahouse and jewel-like pagodas. After lunch, visit the centuries-old **Lingyin**

Temple.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Merchant Marco Garden Hotel

Day 10

Suzhou

Travel by coach to Suzhou, a city of gardens and waterways. Your first stop today is the well-arranged and elegant **Lingering Garden**, Suzhou landmarks.

Occupying an area of 23,300 square meters (about 5.8 acres); Lingering Garden is located outside Changmen Gate in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province. Originally a classical private garden, it is one of the four most famous gardens in China. Possessing typical Qing style, it is well-known for the exquisite beauty of its magnificent halls, and the various sizes, shapes, and colors of the buildings. In 1997, the garden was recorded on the list of the world heritage by UNESCO.

Afterwards attend a demonstration of local silk embroidery needlework at the **National Embroidery Institute**. After lunch, visit the **Hanshan (Cool Hill)**

Temple and Tiger Hill.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Wyndham Garden Suzhou

Day 11

Shanghai

Return to Shanghai by coach, and then board your homeward flight.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: