

Beijing - Xian - Guilin - Shanghai - Suzhou

Day 1: Depart



Day 2 Beijing

Arrive in Beijing, the capital and cultural center of China, where virtually every boulevard and building exudes an air of importance. Upon arrival, meet your tour director and transfer to downtown hotel in Beijing for 3 nights with daily buffet breakfast. Balance of the day free.

Day 3 Beijing

Enjoy a full-day tour of the sights that make Beijing a spectacular destination: the sprawling **Forbidden City**, home to 24 Ming and Qing emperors and now a repository of precious art and antiques; the **Temple of Heaven**, famous for its elegance and symmetry; and the **Summer Palace**, an oasis of tea gardens, pavilions, painted corridors, and shimmering **Kunming Lake** with Empress Dowager's eccentric marble ship.



Heaven, famous for its elegance and symmetry; and the **Summer**

Palace, an oasis of tea gardens, pavilions, painted corridors, and shimmering **Kunming Lake** with Empress Dowager's eccentric marble ship.

Day 4 Beijing

One of the world's most awe-inspiring sights, the **Great Wall** snakes along nearly 4000 miles of impossibly steep hills and harsh, rugged plains. Today's excursion will give you ample time to explore it in leisure and marvel at the manpower that went into building the world's longest structure entirely by hand.

Continue to the **Ming Tombs**, the

graveyard of 13 emperors, before returning to Beijing for an imperial-style Peking Duck dinner.

Day 5 Beijing - Xian

Morning visit to local Chinese university to meet with students & faculty, followed by a tour of **Hutong** with rickshaw ride and local home visit. In the afternoon take a flight from Beijing to Xian. Upon arrival, meet your tour escort and transfer to downtown hotel in Xian for 2 nights with daily breakfast. Afternoon tour in Xian: Bell Tower / City Wall and Muslim quarters and Great Mosque.



Day 6 XIAN

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Full-day tour: **Terra-Cotta Army Museum, Wild Goose Pagoda** and **Shaanxi Provincial Museum**.
A special Tang Dynasty dinner show tonight.

Day 7 Xian - Guilin

Transfer to the airport and depart Xian for **Guilin** by air. Upon arrival, transfer to downtown hotel in **Guilin** for 2 nights with daily breakfast. Afternoon tour: **Reed Flute Cave, Elephant Trunk Hill** and other sights.

Day 8 Guilin - Li River - Guilin

Few could fail to be enraptured by the beauty of the **Li River**, with its delicate karst formations, beautiful rural scenery, and lush green hillsides with bizarre rock formations and caves. Centuries of poets and artists have immortalized the very scenes you'll savor on a full-day air-conditioned cruise along this unique and tranquil waterway. At end of the cruise, take a short tour in **Yangshuo** before your guide drives you

back to Guilin and back to your hotel.



Day 9 Guilin - Shanghai

Transfer to the airport and depart Guilin by flight for **Shanghai**, the cosmopolitan port city near where the Yangtze spills into the East China Sea. Upon arrival, transfer by local guide to your hotel in Shanghai for 3 nights with daily buffet breakfast.

Day 10 Shanghai

The sights and contrasts of China's most vibrant city fill your day. Stroll the riverfront Bund with its European-style buildings; retreat to the green oasis of the 500-year-old **Yuyuan Garden**; meet local school kids at the Children's Palace after-

school program; and gain new appreciation for Chinese art at the magnificent new **Shanghai Museum**. Enjoy the well-known Shanghai acrobatic show following dinner at local restaurant.



Day 11 Shanghai - Suzhou - Shanghai

Depart Shanghai for **Suzhou** by express train (one hour). Upon arrival, transfer by local tour guide for full-day sightseeing: **Garden of Master Nets, Grand Canal** (with a ride), **Silk Factory** and **Tiger Hill**. Return to Shanghai by express train in late afternoon. Upon arrival, transfer back to your hotel.

Day 12 Shanghai

Check out and transfer to Shanghai Pudong Airport. Depart for home on your select airline, bid China a fond farewell.

Extension to Hong Kong

Day 12: Fly to Hong Kong

Day 13: Hong Kong

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Guided Sightseeing tour

Stanley Market, Tai Po Man Mo Temple, Kowloon, Victoria Peak, Repulse Bay

Day 14: Depart

Price includes:

Round Trip airfare

Full time English Speaking Tour Escort

Lodging

3 nights hotel in Beijing including breakfast and dinners

2 nights hotel in Xian including breakfast and dinners

2 nights hotel in Guilin including breakfast and dinners

3 nights hotel in Shanghai including breakfast and dinners

Extension: 2 nights hotel in Hong Kong including breakfast and dinners

All transfers

All transportations

All Entrances, Guided visits & special attractions mentioned in the program

Travel Insurance including health, trip delays, luggage loss/delays

Liability Insurance