

Epic Landscapes & Ancient Treasures Of China



round-trip airfare
included



13 Nights, 14 Days FROM
\$2999/ PP(TWN SHARE)

Beijing-Xian -Zhangjiajie-Suzhou-Hangzhou-Shanghai

This bucket-list itinerary includes return international flights with a full-service airline, Domestic flight from Xian to Zhangjiajie. Hand-selected hotels, and transportation with an expert English-speaking tour leader from Beijing to Shanghai.



Tour Map

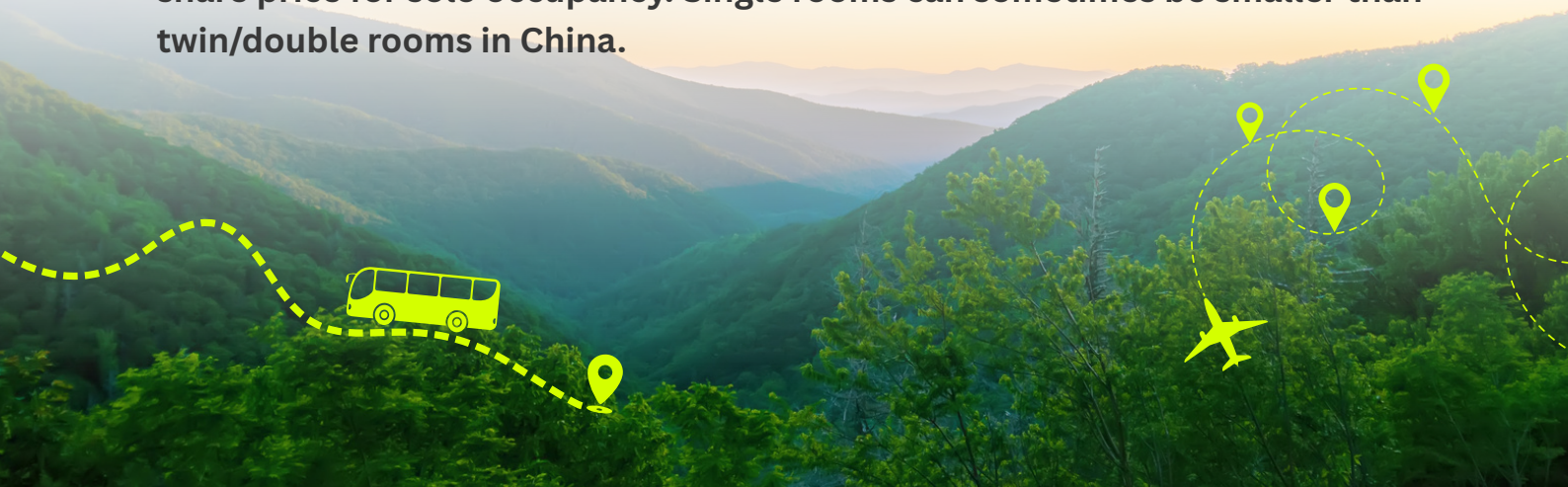


Tour Inclusions

- International flights to Beijing, returning from Shanghai
- 13 Nights accommodation in hand-selected 4 star hotels
- Breakfast daily, 5 lunches and 3 dinners
- 2 high speed bullet trains in second class seating
- Domestic flight from Xian to Zhangjiajie
- English speaking Tour Leader from Day 1 to Day 14
- Local English-speaking tour guide (s) in each region
- Touring & transport by deluxe air-conditioned coach
- Guided sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary
- Airport transfers in Beijing (Day 1) and Shanghai (Day 14)

Solo Traveller

A single supplement from \$1,000 per person is payable in addition to the twin share price for solo occupancy. Single rooms can sometimes be smaller than twin/double rooms in China.





Day 1 Arrive Beijing

Upon arrival at Beijing Airport, you will be greeted by a tour representative and transferred to your hotel where check-in commences from 3:00pm. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Note: Due to flight times and schedules, some customers may be required to depart the day prior on an overnight flight from Australia.

Accommodation: Wyndham Beijing North or similar

Meals included: None

Day 2 Beijing

This morning you will visit Tiananmen Square, one of the largest public squares in the world and the venue of the infamous 1989 Tiananmen Square demonstrations. Acclaimed as the 'Gate of Heavenly Peace', it is the foreground to the Forbidden City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Otherwise known as the Imperial Palace Museum, the Forbidden City is the citadel of China's last 24 Emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties and was the political and ritual centre of China.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant where you will experience Peking Duck, a popular dish that has a long history dating back to imperial China and is renowned for its cultural significance and meticulous preparation, plus its distinctive flavours and textures.

***Optional sightseeing:** This evening you will have the option to attend "The Golden Mask Dynasty", a legendary large-scale musical that showcases spectacular storytelling with entertaining stage effects. Pricing starts from 380RMB per person paid locally.

Accommodation: Wyndham Beijing North or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Day 3 The Great Wall of China

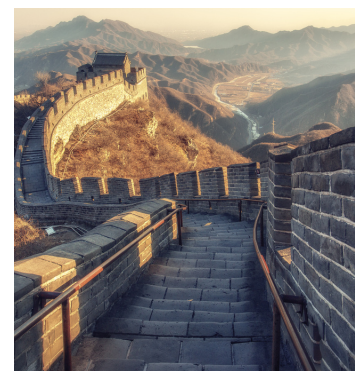
Continue your educational journey of China's fascinating history with a stop at a Jade Museum where skilled artisans sculpt intricate designs from the revered gemstone. With more than four thousand years of history, jade in Chinese culture symbolises preciousness and beauty, and embodies the Confucian virtues of courage, wisdom and compassion.

Journey through the picturesque countryside to one of the world's top archaeological marvels, the iconic Great Wall of China. At the Mutianyu section, marvel at the intricate stone carvings and ancient watchtowers that gracefully trace the contours of the majestic mountain ranges, amplifying the breathtaking grandeur of this historic landmark. Enjoy lunch before ascending to its summit via cable car for unparalleled views, ensuring you can fully immerse yourself in this architectural masterpiece.

***Optional sightseeing:** Hutongs with home cooked dinner from 360RMB pp
In the late afternoon, discover Beijing's 700-year-old Hutongs (narrow lanes) by traditional pedicab. On this cultural encounter, you will visit a local family living in a courtyard style-home where you will immerse yourself in the local customs firsthand and enjoy an authentic and delicious home cooked dinner.

Accommodation: Wyndham Beijing North or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch





Day 4 Beijing to Xian (Bullet train)

Visit the impressive Temple of Heaven, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that exudes serenity and grandeur. The intricate architecture and expansive gardens symbolise harmony between heaven and earth in ancient Chinese cosmology. Transfer to Beijing Railway Station where you will embark on your bullet train journey to Xian. Traverse the diverse landscape onboard China's bullet train or locally known as high-speed rail (HSR) from Beijing to Xian in approximately 5hrs. Please ensure you pack a day bag as your luggage will not be easily accessible from your second-class seat. Food and beverages can be purchased in the dedicated dining cart or purchased on a food trolley.



Upon arrival in Xian, you will visit Xian Food Stall for dinner. This is a well-known chain of speciality restaurants where you will dine like a local and sample a variety of dishes.

***Optional sightseeing:** Great Tang All Day Mall from 380RMB pp. A 2km pedestrian mall located at the foot of the Giant Wild Goose Pagoda that comes alive with a captivating light show and street performances. This evening experience offers guests the chance to dress in Tang Dynasty costume and makeup and hear stories of the ancient past as you marvel at the iconic Buddhist structure.

Accommodation: Grand Noble Hotel Xian or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 5 Terracotta Warriors and Horses

Step into history on a captivating tour of Xian's ancient Terracotta Warriors and Horses, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Behold the meticulously crafted clay soldiers, horses, and chariots, guarding the ancient tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huang. Explore this 2,000-year-old archaeological wonder, a testament to the rich heritage of ancient China.

At the Terracotta Warriors Factory, gain insights into the intricate process of creating replica statues and artifacts. Here you will have the opportunity to purchase unique souvenirs to take home.

Enjoy lunch before visiting Bell and Drum Tower Square. These iconic landmarks in Xian have stood in the city centre for over 600 years and are the largest Bell and Drum Towers in China.

***Optional sightseeing:** Tang Dynasty Show & Dance Dumpling Banquet from 380RMB pp. This evening experience combines a sumptuous dumpling banquet with an enthralling 1hr Tang Dynasty Music and Dance Show that depicts the story of the Tang Dynasty through Chinese entertainment, including poetry, song, dance and exquisite costumes.



Accommodation: Grand Noble Hotel Xian or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Day 6 Xian to Zhangjiajie (Flight)

Enjoy a relaxed morning before visiting Xian's ancient City Wall. Spanning over 13kms, it stands as one of the most well-preserved city walls in China, offering a glimpse into the city's historical significance and architectural prowess.

This afternoon you will transfer to Xian Airport where you will board your domestic flight to Zhangjiajie. Please note the direct flight is approximately 1.5hrs and your Tour Leader will manage the group flight tickets and timings. The selected flight is subject to change due to airline operational capabilities or unfavourable weather conditions. In the event of flight cancellation, an alternative flight may be chosen (non-direct) or alternative transport including coach or train may be used.

***Optional sightseeing:** Huanglong Cave Zhangjiajie from 350RMB pp. visit Huanglong Cave, also known as Yellow Dragon Cave. Wander through a labyrinth of limestone stalactites and stalagmites, illuminated to showcase their intricate beauty.

Accommodation: Pullman Zhangjiajie Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 7 Zhangjiajie (Avatar Mountains)

Embark on an unforgettable full-day tour to Tianzi Mountain in Zhangjiajie National Forest Park, the stunning landscape that inspired the floating Hallelujah Mountains in the movie Avatar. Your adventure begins with a transfer to the summit by cable car. The journey takes approx. 6mins and a height of 692m. You will be greeted by towering sandstone peaks piercing through misty clouds, creating an otherworldly vista. Wander through the mystical National Forest and witness the sheer cliffs and lush valleys that make this area so enchanting.

Then, take a descent on the Bailong Elevator, the world's tallest outdoor lift built onto the side of a cliff within the National Park. This exciting glass elevator ride, standing at 326 meters tall, takes approximately 90 seconds. Return to the Pullman Hotel where dinner is included this evening.

***Optional sightseeing:** Xiangxi Song and Dance Show 380RMB pp. Immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of Hunan Province with the electrifying Zhangjiajie Charming Xiangxi Song and Dance Show.

Accommodation: Pullman Zhangjiajie Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 8 Zhangjiajie

Discover the enchanting beauty of Golden Whip Stream in Zhangjiajie National Park, where the natural splendour of this breathtaking landscape truly shines. Stroll through the lush greenery and marvel at the crystal-clear waters, picturesque waterfalls, and towering quartz sandstone peaks. As you explore this idyllic setting, you'll encounter diverse wildlife, including playful monkeys and colourful birds. Just be sure to hide any food and keep your bags close, as the mischievous monkeys can be quite sneaky.

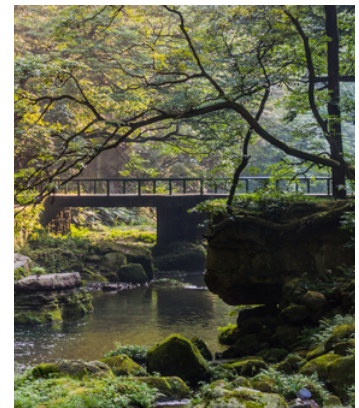
Visit the incredible Junshen Gallery in Zhangjiajie, home to the pioneering artistry of Li Junsheng. Immerse yourself in the captivating world of sandstone painting, a unique art form that transforms local sand, stone, and plants into breathtaking masterpieces.

***Optional sightseeing:** Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon Glass Walk Bridge 500RMB pp. The Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon Glass Bridge stands as the world's tallest and longest pedestrian glass bridge. Suspended 400m above the canyon floor, it offers unparalleled panoramic views of the stunning Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon. Stretching 430m in length, this unforgettable experience is perfect for guests seeking thrills and breathtaking heights.

***Optional sightseeing:** Baofeng Lake Zhangjiajie 350RMB pp. Baofeng Lake, nestled in the heart of Zhangjiajie's majestic landscape, offers a tranquil retreat where every moment is a masterpiece of natural beauty and serenity. Cruise along its emerald waters and marvel at the cascading waterfalls that spill into the man-made lake amidst towering peaks.

Accommodation: Pullman Zhangjiajie Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast





Day 9 Zhangjiajie to Changsha

Explore the wonders of Tianmen Mountain National Park, an essential stop on any Zhangjiajie itinerary. Begin your adventure with a journey aboard the world's longest cable car, a breathtaking 28-minute ride covering 7km from the city to the summit, soaring to a height of 1,279 meters. As you ascend, marvel at the panoramic views of the National Park, including the iconic 99 Bends, a road with boasting 99 sharp curves.

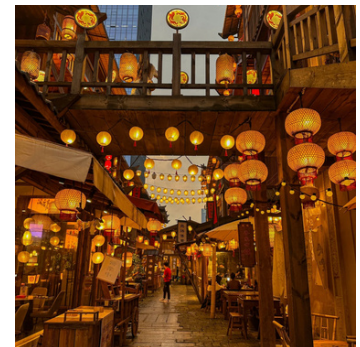
At the summit, experience the stunning Ghost Valley Plank Road, a 60-meter-long glass skywalk that provides spectacular views of the surrounding mountains and valleys.

Continue towards Tianmen Cave, a majestic 30-meter water-eroded hole nestled between towering peaks. Ascend the 999 steep and narrow steps known as the 'Stairway to Heaven's Door', leading to this natural wonder and offering stunning vistas of the surrounding landscape.

Descend from Tianmen Mountain and travel by coach to Changsha. Cap off your day with an evening exploration of Changsha's vibrant pedestrian street, where you'll dine for dinner like a local amidst the colourful lights.

Accommodation: Hampton by Hilton Changsha Malanshan or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner



Day 10 Changsha to Hangzhou (Bullet Train)

After breakfast, travel to Changsha Railway Station to board your final bullet train journey to Hangzhou, this high-speed journey will take 4 hours. Please ensure you pack a day bag as your luggage will not be easily accessible from your second-class seat. Food and beverages can be purchased in the dedicated dining cart or purchased on a food trolley.

Discover Hangzhou's timeless allure with an enchanting cruise on West Lake. Glide past ancient pagodas, charming islands, and vibrant gardens as you revel in the enchanting beauty and rich history that surrounds you.

*Optional sightseeing: Impression of West Lake Show from 495RMB pp. Top off your evening with a spectacular Romance of the Song Dynasty Show (Impression of West Lake), which is staged entirely upon the open-air of the West Lake.

Accommodation: Wyndham Hangzhou East or similar

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 11 Hangzhou to Suzhou

Start your day by savouring the local specialty, Longjing Tea, at a traditional Hangzhou Tea House. Immerse yourself in the beautiful scenery of the surrounding village as you experience the authentic flavours of this beloved Chinese green tea.

Leave Hangzhou and travel by coach to Suzhou, renowned for its historic canals, gardens and involvement in the silk industry. Enjoy lunch before immersing yourself in the ancient artistry of Chinese gardens at Suzhou's Lingering Garden, a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring pavilions, ponds, rockeries, and captivating architecture.

*Optional sightseeing: Ancient Canal Cruise from 240RMB pp. Embark on a serene cruise long the Grand Canal, offering a glimpse into the ancient lifestyle of water-based transportation.

Accommodation: Hilton Suzhou Wujiangminhua or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch



Day 12 Suzhou to Shanghai

China is the largest silk producer in the world and Suzhou is renowned for its exquisite quality silk. Witness the delicate silk-making process from silkworm cocoons at the Silk Spinning Factory and testify that the handmade quilts are as light as a feather.

Embark eastward by coach to the city of Shanghai, a dazzling metropolis with its towering skyscrapers, vibrant street life and fusion of Eastern tradition and Western influence.

Enjoy lunch before exploring Shanghai's Bund district, lined with majestic colonial-era buildings, The Bund is a historic waterfront promenade nestled along the Huangpu River, offering a captivating blend of old-world charm and modern allure. Nanjing Road is a shopper's paradise, from high end fashion to bargain markets.

***Optional sightseeing:** Shanghai Huangpu River Cruise from 300RMB pp
Embark on an evening cruise along the Huangpu River and be captivated by the shimmering lights of Shanghai's iconic skyline. As you glide through the city's vibrant heart, immerse yourself in the magical atmosphere created by the illuminated landmarks and bustling river activity.

Accommodation: Radisson Hotel Shanghai Yangtze River or similar

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch



Day 13 Shanghai

Discover the charm of Shanghai Museum, a captivating showcase of China's rich history and culture. Explore its halls adorned with ancient artifacts, from delicate ceramics to intricate sculptures.

Enjoy time at leisure to immerse yourself in the city of Shanghai or choose to join in an optional tour that explores some of Shanghai's iconic temples, gardens and modern towers..

***Optional sightseeing:** JinMao Tower & Shanghai Market 350RMB pp. Explore further with a visit to Jin Mao Tower, an iconic symbol of modern architecture. Rising 421m in height, this skyscraper boasts 88 floors and a striking octagonal design. Adjacent to the Tower is the Shanghai Asia Pacific Event Market, a bustling marketplace showcasing the rich diversity of products and cultures from across the Asia Pacific region.

***Optional sightseeing:** JinMao Tower & Shanghai Market 350RMB pp. Complete a memorable evening with the option to attend a spectacular Chinese acrobatic show, "ERA: The Intersection of Time" widely praised as the best acrobatic show in Shanghai.

Accommodation: Radisson Hotel Shanghai Yangtze River or similar

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 14 Depart Shanghai

After breakfast and checkout, transfer to Shanghai Airport to meet your flight.

Please note, check-out time is 10am. Should your flight be departing in the afternoon/evening, you will be required to check-out of your hotel room and may choose to head to the airport early or use the hotel facilities until an appropriate transfer time.

Meals included: Breakfast