

China Highlights

Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, Longsheng, Yangshuo, Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Shanghai



14 Days from

\$2980

Including airfare & airport taxes



Guilin

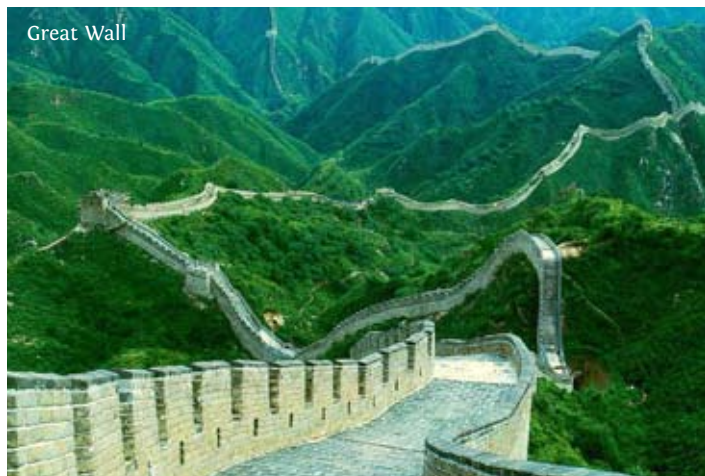


Terracotta Warriors, Xi'an



"Bird's Nest"

Departure Dates
 12/6, ^3/7, 7/8, 4/9, ^25/9, ^9/10, 23/10, 11/11, *25/12
 ^Shoulder Season *High Season



Great Wall

Prices:
 Low Season: A\$2980/adult; A\$2680/child (2-11 years old)
 Shoulder^: A\$3140/adult; A\$2840/child (2-11 years old)
 High*: A\$3730/adult; A\$3380/child (2-11 years old)

Land Only: A\$2250; Single Room Supplement: A\$650
 Air Ticket Extension: A\$150 (35 days) depend on seat availability

Price includes:
 International return airfares economy class.
 China domestic airfares economy class
 Airport taxes and fuel surcharge
 Full accommodations at 4-star hotel on twin sharing basis
 Meals as indicated
 All the transfers and sightseeing as per itinerary with entry fee
 English-speaking guide

Price excludes:
 Chinese visa fee A\$110; Travel insurance;
 Tipping and personal expenses

This tour is based on minimum 10 passengers for parture.



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Airport taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change without prior notice

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Itinerary

Day 01 Australia/Beijing

Fly from Sydney to Shanghai via QF129(0925/1815), and and take connection flight MU5186 to Beijing, the dynamic capital of the People's Republic of China. Upon arrival, meet your local guide and transfer to your hotel.

Hotel: Qianmen Jianguo Hotel or similar

Day 02 Beijing (B/L/D)

Tour the Tian'anmen Square, the biggest public square in the world. If permitted, we visit Mao's Mausoleum. After lunch, visit Forbidden City, the vast complex of palaces, which was the home to successive emperors for more than 500 years. Included is admission to the living quarters, museum and jewellery sections. Tonight you will experience the famous Beijing Duck Banquet for your welcome dinner.

Hotel: as above

Day 03 Beijing (B/L/D)

Morning tour to the Great Wall, stretching almost 6,400 kms from the Pacific Ocean to the sands of Central Asia and befittingly crowned one of the ten Wonders of the World. Along the way, you will stop at a jade carving factory where you can watch artisans at work. Continue to the Summer Palace, the largest and the best preserved of all imperial palace gardens, which boasts such delights as the famous Marble Boat and the ornately painted 'Long Corridor', and take a boat ride on its Lake Kunming if the weather permits. After dinner, you will witness the amazing Beijing Acrobatic Show.

Hotel: as above

Day 04 Beijing (B/L)

In the morning, enjoy a pedicab tour of the Hutong - the 'old city' with neighbourhoods of narrow alleyways and courtyard gardens. Here you will experience local life on a family visit and a kindergarten school. After our special lunch in a local family home, tour the Temple of Heaven, the 500-year old temple houses altars on which sacrifices and offerings were laid to the gods in a glorious setting of gardens, trees and sculptures. Visit a local market if time permits. Evening at leisure.

Hotel: as above

Day 05 Beijing/Xi'an (B/D)

Morning, transfer to the airport for a flight to Xi'an. Upon arrival, visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. Today you will sample the Xi'an dumpling dinner. Afterwards, you will see the traditional Tang Dynasty Show.

Hotel: Grand New World Hotel or similar

Day 06 Xi'an (B/L/D)

Morning tour to the the greatest archaeological discovery of the century, the 2,000 year-old Terracotta Warriors interred with the Emperor Qin Shi Huang. Included are the Circle Vision Movie and Bronze Chariot. On the way to the Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses Museum, we visit Xi'an Art Ceramic and Lacquer Ware Factory, which focus on the reproductions of terra-cotta warriors and horses and lacquer ware products. In the afternoon, we will visit the Great Mosque, the best-preserved Islamic mosque in China and focus for the 30,000 Chinese Muslims of Xi'an.

Hotel: as above

Day 07 Xi'an/Guilin (B/D)

You are free until your transfer to the airport for your flight to Guilin. Upon arrival, visit to Reed Flute Cave, a site of wonderful limestone caves, showcasing a dazzling variety of stalactite and stalagmite stone formations. If time permits, we will visit Guangxi Normal University Art Gallery to see Guilin landscape paintings and also to have a short lecture on Chinese Art.

Hotel: Park Hotel or similar

Day 08 Guilin/Longsheng/Guilin (B/L)

Today, we take a full day excursion to Longsheng, located in the mountainous region on the northeastern part of Guilin. The natural beauty and the colourful ethnic Chinese cultures and customs attract people from all over the world. After a 2.5 hours drive (115 km beautiful mountain road) you will get to the Longji area, Heping Township of

Longsheng County. Visit Zhuang and Yao Minority tribes' villages and some local families. You will see the beautiful terraced rice fields from a distance after arriving at the summit of Longji (Dragon's backbone). The terraced rice fields were first built in the Yuan Dynasty (about 800 years ago) and completed in the Qing dynasty. The terraced fields are built along the slope winding from the riverside up to the mountaintop, which looks like a giant snail from afar.

Hotel: as above

Day 09 Guilin/Yangshuo (B/L)

The Highlight of the trip to Guilin is a spectacular cruise down the meandering and picturesque Li River. The scenery is breathtaking as jagged mist-covered mountains, quaint villages dot the riverbanks, drift past humped limestone peaks, fishermen aboard bamboo rafts and grazing water buffalo. You will also have a chance to roam Yangshuo's local market in the evening. The well-known West Street in Yangshuo also called "Foreigner Street", which has the history of 1400 years.

Hotel: Paradesa Yangshuo or similar

Day 10 Yangshuo/Guilin/Shanghai/Suzhou (B/L/D)

Morning will be free at leisure. You may rent a bike to further explore the stunning karst landscapes of Yangshuo at your own pace. Fly to Shanghai in the early afternoon, and then drive to Suzhou, a small town famous for its classic gardens and often so-called 'Oriental Venice'.

Hotel: Holiday Inn Youlian or similar 4*

Day 11 Suzhou/Hangzhou (B/L)

In the morning, you will visit the Master of the Nets Garden, Silk Spinning Mill. Afterwards, you will take a boat cruise on the Canal constructed over 1300 year ago in Sui Dynasty. If time permits, we take a short visit to newly renovated Shan Tang Street. Late in the afternoon, we will travel by coach to Hangzhou, which is a well-known tourist, historical, and cultural city and one of the six ancient capitals in China.

Hotel: Best Western Mei Yuan Hotel or similar 4*

Day 12 Hangzhou/Shanghai (B/L/D)

Visit the Hua Gang Park and West Lake. You will appreciate the fabled scenery such as 'Broken Bridge', 'Autumn Moon over the Calm Lake' and 'Three Pools Mirroring the Moon'. You will take a short cruise tour on the West Lake, and then visit Lingyin Temple, which is among the ten most famous Buddhist temples in China and has a history of over 1300 years. Hangzhou is famous for Longjing Green Tea; you will visit a tea plantation to taste its famous tea as well as learning about the ancient tea making process. Late in the afternoon, we will travel by coach back to metropolitan Shanghai.

Hotel: Central Hotel or similar 4*

Day 13 Shanghai (B/L)

In the morning tour we will visit the Bund, a popular promenade along the Huangpu River, where the old meets the modern in Shanghai. You may see the local people performing Tai Chi during your stroll along the bund. Afterwards, we will visit the Old Town with its winding alleyways, lined with shops, teahouses and restaurants, and then to the elegant and tranquil Yu Garden. In the afternoon we will visit Shanghai Xintiandi, which is a new tourist attraction in downtown Shanghai, featuring the city's unique "Shikumen" houses and a maze of narrow alleys, which have been converted into cafes, restaurants, bars, art retail shops. Dinner will be on your own arrangement.

Hotel: as above

Day 14 Shanghai/Australia (B)

Today you are free for some last minute shopping before being transferred to the airport for your flight QF130(1945/0940+1) back to Sydney.

Day 15 Australia

Morning arrive in Sydney.