

CHINA DISCOVERY

BEIJING - WUXI - SUZHOU - HANGZHOU - SHANGHAI



11 DAYS FROM NZD

\$1,999

per person twin-share



This tour gives you a sample of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, and modern architecture. Walk the Great Wall, explore Beijing's Forbidden City, discover exquisite Wuxi city, Suzhou, and Hangzhou - historically considered 'on par with heaven' for their natural beauty. Finally, immerse yourself in cosmopolitan Shanghai.

Image: West Lake, Hangzhou





Day 1: Arrive in Beijing

Fly to Beijing, the capital city of China, via a connecting city. Upon arrival, you will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel. Note: Some flights may depart the night before.

Day 2: Beijing (B, L, D)

Beijing served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second largest public square in the world, and the **Forbidden City**, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Your welcome banquet includes the local delicacy, **Peking Roast Duck**.

Day 3: Beijing (B, L)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall** at Juyong Pass, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. You will also visit one of the largest jade exhibitions in Asia en-route. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a cloisonné factory. Tonight, you can choose to attend an optional large scale dramatic musical, **The Golden Mask Dynasty** (at your own expense).

Day 4: Beijing (B, L)

Today tour the exquisite **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient garden in China and a former summer resort for emperors, followed by the **Panda House at Beijing Zoo** to see China's adorable national treasure – the **Giant Panda**. Then visit a Chinese herbal institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine which has existed for thousands of years, as you enjoy a rejuvenating foot massage. Later, you can join an optional **Hutong Life Tour** (at your own expense), a special journey which explores Beijing's ancient alleyways or 'hutongs' by pedicab, or take a stroll in **Wangfujing**, one of the Chinese capital's most famous shopping streets. Cap off the day by attending a thrilling **Chinese Kung Fu Show** (at your own expense).

HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk on the incredible **Great Wall**
- Uncover the mystery of the **Forbidden City**
- Sit by the tranquil **West Lake in Hangzhou**
- Stroll in one of the finest **Chinese gardens in Suzhou**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis **Shanghai**

Day 5: Beijing Wuxi (B, D)

Take a high speed train to Wuxi, an ancient city richly endowed with natural attractions due to its pleasantly warm and moist climate. Wuxi boasts a reputation of being the 'Land of Fish and Rice'. Enjoy the scenery as we pass by **Lake Tai**, the third-largest freshwater lake in China. This evening, we have the option of visiting **Nanchang Street**, and **take a cruise along the Grand Canal** (at your own expense) to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday, then stroll along the trendy pedestrian streets composed of both ancient and modern architecture.

Day 6: Wuxi Suzhou (B, L)

This morning visit one of the largest fresh water pearl exhibitions in the country. After lunch, travel by coach to Suzhou, an extraordinarily elegant city with its canals, stone bridges, and meticulously designed gardens. Suzhou has been referred to as 'Paradise on Earth' by Chinese poets and writers since ancient times. As a large area of the city is covered by water, including a vast number of ponds and streams, Suzhou is also known as 'Venice of the East'. It is also known as the 'Garden City' due to its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Visit the **Lingering Garden**, which is among the finest in China.

Day 7: Suzhou Hangzhou (B, L, D)

This morning visit a silk spinning mill, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. After lunch, travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Upon arrival, take a boat ride on the serene **West Lake**, the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, and noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. This evening, you can enjoy an optional open-air performance, **Impression West Lake** (at your own expense), a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony.



Images: 1. Forbidden City, 2. ERA: The Intersection of Time, 3. The Bund, 4. Lingering Garden, 5. Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck, 6. Terracotta Army, 7. West Lake, 8. The Golden Mask Dynasty, 9. Giant Panda, 10. Impression West Lake, 11. City God Temple, 12. Ancient City Wall

Day 8: Hangzhou Shanghai (B, L)

Experience tea-tasting at the Dragon Well Tea Plantation. Then travel to Shanghai, a vibrant metropolis and the commercial centre of China. Upon arrival, walk along the famous **Bund**, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined with colonial architecture of European design, it is the best place to capture the Western influences of the old days. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure strolling along the bustling shopping district, **Nanjing Road**. Tonight you can watch a superb and thrilling Chinese acrobatic show **ERA: The Intersection of Time or SPIRAL** (at your own expense).

Day 9: Shanghai (B, D)

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of the Huangpu River and the Bund. After lunch, head to the **Old Street** in the City God Temple area, symbolic of the large temple complex and surrounding traditional district of commerce in the city. After tonight's farewell celebration dinner, you can cap off the celebrations by joining an optional **Huangpu River Cruise** (at your own expense) for a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai.

Day 10: Depart Shanghai (B)

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight home via a connecting city. The trip may be over, but the experiences and memories will certainly last a lifetime.

Day 11: Arrive Home



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2019 DEPARTURES

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
| 24 Feb ^{^*} | 21 Apr [*] | 16 Jun | 11 Aug | 13 Oct |
| 03 Mar [^] | 28 Apr [*] | 23 Jun | 18 Aug | 20 Oct |
| 10 Mar [^] | 05 May | 30 Jun [*] | 25 Aug | 27 Oct |
| 17 Mar [^] | 12 May | 07 Jul [*] | 01 Sep | 03 Nov |
| 24 Mar [^] | 19 May | 14 Jul [*] | 08 Sep | 10 Nov |
| 31 Mar [^] | 26 May | 21 Jul [*] | 15 Sep [*] | 17 Nov |
| 07 Apr [*] | 02 Jun | 28 Jul | 22 Sep [*] | |
| 14 Apr [*] | 09 Jun | 04 Aug | 06 Oct [*] | |

*Peak season surcharge: NZD\$330

[^]Yangtze River cruise extension is not available
Single supplement: \$605

DEPARTURE OPTIONS

- AKL: Airfare included
- Wellington/Christchurch: request for a quotation

INCLUSIONS

- + Full service Chinese carrier airfares & taxes
- + 9 nights 4-5 star (local rating) hotel accomm.
- + 9 breakfasts (B), 6 lunches (L) & 4 dinners (D)
- + High speed train
- + Coach transportation & transfers
- + Entrance fees to scenic attractions (unless otherwise indicated)
- + English speaking tour guide(s)

EXCLUSIONS

- Prepaid tipping: NZD\$110
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

AIR UPGRADES (long haul int'l sectors)

- Economy class: Cathay Pacific/Singapore Airlines fr NZD\$550
- Premium economy: Cathay Pacific fr NZD\$2420
- Business class: China Eastern/Southern fr \$NZD2750, Cathay Pacific/Singapore Air fr NZD\$4510

EXTEND YOUR STAY

- Break fee: fr NZD\$275
- Hotel w/breakfast: fr NZD\$165/twin-room/night

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION (or similar)

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Beijing | Wyndham Beijing North |
| Suzhou | Pan Pacific Hotel |
| Wuxi | Days Hotel Baile Wuxi |
| Hangzhou | Merchant Marco Garden Hotel |
| Shanghai | Radisson Exhibition Centre Shanghai |

OPTIONAL PROGRAMS (NZD)

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|----------|--|------|
| Beijing | The Golden Mask Dynasty | \$85 |
| Beijing | Hutong Life Tour | \$80 |
| Beijing | Chinese Kung Fu Show | \$85 |
| Wuxi | Grand Canal Cruise | \$40 |
| Hangzhou | Impression West Lake | \$90 |
| Shanghai | ERA: The Intersection of Time or SPIRAL | \$85 |
| Shanghai | Huangpu River Cruise | \$45 |

XI'AN TERRACOTTA WARRIORS 2 NIGHTS

fr NZD\$650; single supplement NZD\$135; includes
+ Economy class flights
+ 2 nights hotel accommodation (twin-share)
+ 2 breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L) & 1 dinner (D)
+ Coach transportation & transfers
+ Entrance fees to scenic attractions
+ English speaking tour guide
Excludes prepaid tipping: NZD\$35

Day 1: Arrive in Xi'an

Fly to Xi'an via a connecting city. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest.

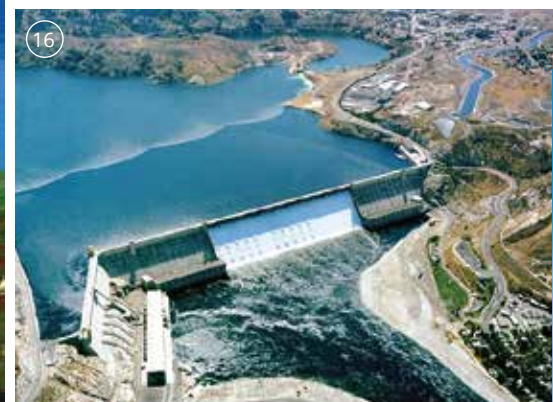
Day 2: Xi'an (B, L, D)

The highlight today is a visit to the **Terracotta Army** to see the life-sized defending army of the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. This site is among the top archaeological excavations of the 20th century. This will be followed by a visit to a ceramic art factory. In the evening, enjoy a special **Imperial Dumpling Banquet** and **traditional Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show**.

Day 3: Xi'an ✈ Beijing (B, L)

After breakfast, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial History Museum**. Enjoy a special noodle lunch including an interesting noodle making demonstration. Then visit the **Great Wild Goose Pagoda**, the symbol of the city. Later, walk along the **Ancient City Wall**, which is not only the most complete city wall to survive in China, but also one of the largest ancient military defence systems in the world. Fly to Beijing to commence your core China tour.

All prices are per person twin-share in NZD unless otherwise stated and subject to revision without notice. Itineraries, airlines, hotels & ships are subject to availability and change. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar quality and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure smooth operations. Passengers must remain with the group at all times. Fees may apply for deviations from the set itinerary. Total length of trip includes time spent in flight and is subject to flight schedule. Final itineraries and flight info may not be available until 2 weeks before departure. Several shopping stops are included as cultural learning experiences with no obligation to purchase local specialty products. Booking conditions apply, refer to website for latest information. ver02JUL2018



YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE EXTENSION

fr NZD\$1050; single supplement NZD\$825; includes

- + Economy class flights
- + 4 nights standard Cabin with private balcony (twin-share)
- + 4 breakfasts (B), 3 lunches (L) & 4 dinners (D)
- + All transfers
- + 3 shore excursions (subject to change & favourable weather conditions)

Excludes prepaid tipping: NZD\$55 & optional shore excursions

Note: Cruise ship is subject to change. Triple share is not available. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to substitute the ship with one of similar standard. Cruise itinerary including all arrival, departure times & shore excursions are subject to change.

Images: 13. Yangtze River
14. Victoria Sophia
15. Shennong Stream
16. Three Gorges Dam

Day 10: Shanghai ✈️ Yichang 🚢 Yangtze River Cruise (D)

This morning fly to the port city of Yichang, the starting point of our Yangtze River Cruise for the next four nights. After dinner, we board the cruise and receive an introduction on cruise events and onboard activities.

Arr/Dept Events

19:00-20:00 Board the ship at Yichang Dock
24:00 Departs Yichang

Day 11: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept Events

08:00 Briefing on the cruise
08:00-09:00 Passing the Xiling Gorge (East Part)
09:00-11:00 Shore excursion: Three Gorges Dam Site
11:00-13:00 Shore excursion: Visit tribe of Three Gorges (optional)
13:30-15:30 Passing the Three Gorges Dam
16:00 Sail through 5-stage shiplock
18:00 Captain's Welcome Dinner
20:00 Evening entertainment

Day 12: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept Events

06:30 Breakfast
08:00-12:00 Shore excursion: Shennong Stream
13:30-17:00 Sail through Wu Gorge and Qutang Gorge
17:30 Shore excursion: White Emperor City (optional, river conditions permitting)

Day 13: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept Events

07:00 Breakfast
08:30-10:30 Shore excursion: Shibaozhai Pagoda
10:30-12:30 Shore excursion: Fengdu Ghost City (optional)
18:00 Captain's Farewell Dinner

Day 14: Depart Chongqing (B)

After breakfast, disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing. Transfer to the airport for a connecting flight home.

Day 15: Arrive Home

VICTORIA SOPHIA (or similar)

After the tour, relax as you cruise along the majestic Yangtze River. Discover the dramatic gorges, mountain villages and breathtaking scenery. A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a lifetime. The images will stay with you long after you have returned home.

EXECUTIVE SERVICE PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

VICTORIA CRUISES – NZD\$165

- Complimentary Wi-Fi service in the Executive Lounge and Lobby areas
- Complimentary Regular Laundry Service before 10AM every day (Maximum of four pieces/person/day, not available on embarkation & disembarkation days)
- Complimentary Shoe Shine Service
- Diet soda included for lunch and dinner service
- Complimentary house wine and beer offerings at dinner
- Beverage service available daily in Executive Lounge incl. cookies, soft drinks, tea & coffee
- Afternoon Happy Hour an hour before dinner (House Wine, beer, and soda). Note: No Happy Hour on the second day
- You may choose which dining room you prefer for your meals—downstairs buffet for all meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner), or upstairs on Deck 6 for buffet breakfast and lunch, a la carte for dinner.

 YOUR TRAVEL AGENT