

China Highlights with Yangtze - Group Tour 2016 - 14 Days

his newly released 14day tour features the pleasant Yangtze River cruise and many top attractions in China. UNESCO sites such as the Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Terracotta Warriors and Horses and Chinese classic gardens will not fail to impress you.

Date	Destinations	Attractions, Meals & Transport
1	Day 1 (Wed) Arrive Beijing	 airport-hotel transfer in Beijing
2	Day 2 (Thu) Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City , Summer Palace , optional program The Tian'anmen Square is the world's largest and renowned public square where many historical events once took place. The Forbidden City (UNESCO) is the imperial place where the emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties ruled for nearly 500 years (1420-1911). Experience the architectural splendor of the palaces, ceremonial courtyards, and private quarters. The Summer Palace (UNESCO) is the largest imperial garden in the world. Emperors of successive dynasties created a summer retreat of Chinese gardens and pavilions, around the tranquil waters of Kunming Lake. Optional program: Kung Fu Show with Peking Duck dinner (USD 60 per person)
3	Day 3 (Fri) Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  Great Wall, Bird's Nest & Water Cube, a jade stone workshop en route The Great Wall is one of the most spectacular structures ever built by humans and is the only one visible from space. Take an outside tour to the Olympic Stadium, nicknamed Bird's Nest, and the National Swimming Centre, also known as the Water Cube.
4	Day 4 (Sat) Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  Temple of Heaven, Hutong Tour, a pearl workshop en route The Temple of Heaven (UNESCO), where ancient Chinese emperors made sacrifices to Heaven and prayed for bountiful harvests, demonstrates the supreme achievement of traditional Chinese architecture. Take a Hutong Tour to explore the oldest part of the city and gain insight into the traditional lifestyle and customs.

5	Day 5 (Sun) Beijing - Xi'an (by air)	 hotel-airport transfer in Beijing, airport transfer in Xi'an  breakfast, lunch  Shaanxi History Museum, Big Wild Goose Pagoda The Shaanxi History Museum, a national comprehensive museum in Xi'an, highlights the development of Chinese civilization more than 5,000 years. The Big Wild Goose Pagoda, a Tang Dynasty landmark, is a seven-story pagoda initially constructed in 652 AD. One of the pagoda's many functions is to hold sutras and figurines of the Buddha that were brought to China from India by the Buddhist translator and traveler - Xuanzang.
6	Day 6 (Mon) Xi'an	 breakfast, lunch & special dinner  Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses, Dumpling Banquet & Tang Dynasty Show, a ceramic & pottery workshop en route The Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses (UNESCO) is one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in the world. More than 6000 life-sized terra cotta warriors, archers, infantrymen, horses, and bronze chariots have silently guarded the tomb of China's First Emperor for over 2,200 years. Enjoy a tasteful Dumpling Banquet followed by an exquisite traditional Tang Dynasty Show.
7	Day 7 (Tue) Xi'an - Chongqing (by air) - Yangtze River Cruise	 hotel-airport transfer in Xi'an, airport transfer & port transfer in Chongqing  breakfast, lunch & dinner  Chongqing Zoo, Embark on your Yangtze River Cruise Ship The Chongqing Zoo is a popular park in the city. Giant pandas are the highlights for everyone and you could also see many rare animals such as golden monkeys and south China tigers in the park. Upon arrival in Yichang, transfer and embark on your Yangtze River Cruise Ship. The Yangtze River originates on the Tibetan Plateau and traverses a distance of 3900 miles before flowing into the East China Sea, near Shanghai. It has been the lifeline in China for millennia.
8	Day 8 (Wed) Yangtze River Cruise	 breakfast, lunch & dinner  Yangtze River Cruise (Shibaozhai) Today, start sailing for a distance of 430 miles in all the great gorges. In the morning, you could enjoy the spectacular view from the deck or you could take an optional tour to Fengdu - China's "City of Ghosts" (CNY 280 per person). In legend, Fengdu was a ghost city and the entrance of heaven or hell, and the imaged ghost statues here reveal ancient Chinese religion and belief. After lunch, take a shore excursion to the Shibaozhai. The Shibaozhai is a 12-storey wooden pavilion built in the Ming Dynasty, which looks like a giant bonsai on the Yangtze River. A cofferdam was built around the Shibaozhai to protect it from the rising water level caused by the construction of the Three Gorges Dam. After returning to the cruise, you will be invited to the Captain's Welcome Party.

9	Day 9 (Thu) Yangtze River Cruise	 breakfast, lunch & dinner  Yangtze River Cruise (Shennong Stream) This morning sail into Qutang Gorge, the shortest, narrowest and probably the most fascinating one. Later sail through Wu Gorge. It is well-known for the legend of 12 fairy maidens became the 12 peaks of Wu Gorge. Then you could take an optional tour to White Emperor Town, which is famous for historical temples and legends (CNY 280 per person). After lunch change to the "peapod" boat for sailing deep into the Shennong Stream for a 3 hours exploration. The contrasting heights of these gorges and the narrowness of the river make this area one of the most dramatic scenes in the world. Notice the ruins of the ancient plank road along the cliff face as well as the coffins suspended from the cliffs above. Afterwards, sail through the Five-step Ship Lock.
10	Day 10 (Fri) Yangtze River Cruise - Yichang - Shanghai (by air)	 port-airport transfer in Yichang, airport-hotel transfer in Shanghai  breakfast, lunch  Yangtze River Cruise (Three Gorges Dam Site) & disembark In the morning take a shore excursion to the Three Gorges Dam Site, the largest dam and hydroelectric project in the world. Then sail down the Xiling Gorge. Later, disembark at Yichang and transfer to the airport or train station.
11	Day 11 (Sat) Shanghai	 breakfast, lunch & dinner  Yu Garden, Shanghai Museum, Bund, Xintiandi Street, Acrobatic Show Owing to its ingenious design in Ming and Qing dynasties, the Yu Garden becomes a real museum of Chinese ancient architecture. The Shanghai Museum has a collection of 120,000 pieces of Chinese ancient treasures. The Bund, featured outstanding European colonial architectures, is full of new skyscrapers and historical buildings in the center of Shanghai. Take a stroll along the Xintiandi Street, a boutique area highlights a harmonious merger of classic and modern Shanghai. After your dinner, enjoy a spectacular Acrobatic Show, known as one of the most fabulous performance arts in China.
12	Day 12 (Sun) Shanghai - Suzhou - Shanghai (by automobile)	 transfer of Shanghai/Suzhou/Shanghai  breakfast, lunch  Master of Nets Garden, Grand Canal, Pingjiang Road, a silk factory en route The Master of Nets Garden, the smallest and most proportional of all the beautiful gardens in Suzhou, is in the mood of tranquility and harmony. Take a small boat trip along the Grand Canal and get close to the world's oldest and longest canal. Pingjiang Road, a ancient street along the Grand Canal, is filled with snack shops, tea houses, ping-tan museums, and boutique shops.

13	Day 13 (Mon) Shanghai	 breakfast  hotel-airport transfer in Shanghai
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Tour Dates:

Fixed departures based on minimum of 2 travelers

Accommodation:

Beijing International Hotel

Xi'an Jianguo Hotel

MV President Cruise

Shanghai Ocean Hotel

Tour Includes :

- English-speaking guide
- Air-conditioned coach or van
- Land transfers between airport and hotel.
- Entrance tickets as listed
- Chinese lunch and dinner as listed
- Yangtze Cruise Ticket (include accommodation, meals on board, the shore excursion in groups and daily activities)
- Hotels with daily breakfast
- Domestic flight ticket with taxes
- Service charge & government taxes

Tour Excludes :

- International flight tickets
- Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, phone bills, optional activities
- Tips for guides and drivers (Suggested tipping amount per person per day: USD 5-7 for the guide and USD 3-5 for the driver)
- Chinese Visa
- Travel insurance

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