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## SIC-E Tour - China Best Selection with Pingyao Culture Tour - 12 Days

Experience China's rich history and landscapes on this 12-day small group tour covering Beijing, Pingyao, Xi'an, Guilin, and Shanghai. Journey smoothly from iconic ancient sites and cultural wonders to breathtaking scenery and modern skylines. Limited to a maximum of 16 guests for a personalized experience, departures run every two weeks and are fully guaranteed with just 2 passengers.


**Guaranteed Departure:** Only 2 people are required to run the tour. If only 1 person is confirmed for a specific departure date, we will inform you ahead of time and suggest a new date.








**Genuine Small Group:** Maximum of 16 guests per group for a comfortable, personalized experience—no large crowds of 30+.


**Guaranteed Hotels:** Stay in premium 4-star downtown hotels. We provide specific, verified hotel options with full transparency—no vague descriptions or unexpected downgrades.

**Frequent Departures:** Departs on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month (except national holidays).

Departure Dates & Prices in USD per person		
Departure Date	Twin/Double Share	Single Room
July 6	1,800	2,215
July 20	1,800	2,215
Aug 3	1,800	2,215
Aug 17	1,800	2,215
Sept 7	1,800	2,215
Sept 21	1,800	2,215

Date	Destinations	Attractions, Meals & Transport
1	Day 1: Arrival in Beijing	 airport - hotel transfer

2	Day 2: Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  <b>The Summer Palace (UNESCO), a pearl workshop en route, Mutianyu Great Wall</b> Wander through the world’s largest and best-preserved imperial garden. Originally designed as a royal summer retreat, it features an exquisite collection of classical pavilions and bridges centered around the tranquil Kunming Lake.  Visit China’s most famous monument and one of the best-preserved sections of the Great Wall. Known for its stunning watchtowers and beautiful forest scenery, your visit includes a round-way cable car ride for a comfortable and scenic trip up and down.
3	Day 3: Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  <b>Tian’anmen Square, Forbidden City , Temple of Heaven (UNESCO), a tea house en route</b> Stand in the heart of modern China at the world’s largest public square, a site of profound historical significance and grand architectural scale. Walk into or drive through (sedan/minivan) Tian'anmen Square to marvel at its iconic surroundings, including the Monument to the People's Heroes and the Great Hall of the People. Step into the majestic imperial palace where 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties ruled for five centuries. Explore the ceremonial courtyards and the exquisite private quarters of the royal family. Note: Closed on Mondays. In case of closure or ticket unavailability, the itinerary adjusts to Jingshan Park for a premier panoramic view overlooking the entire Forbidden City. Discover the Temple of Heaven, a timeless masterpiece of traditional Chinese imperial architecture. For centuries, ancient emperors held grand solemn rituals here to worship heaven and pray for favorable weather and abundant harvests. Admire its exquisite layout, profound cultural connotations and classic imperial architectural charm that embody ancient Chinese cosmology and ritual traditions
4	Day 4: Beijing - Pingyao (by bullet train)	 train station transfer in Beijing, train station - hotel transfer in Pingyao  breakfast, lunch  <b>Lama Temple</b> The Lama Temple has a reputation of the largest and best-preserved Tibetan Buddhist Lamasery in Beijing. The building and artwork of the lama Temple is a combination of Han and Tibetan styles.

5	Day 5: Pingyao	 breakfast, lunch  <b>Ancient City of Pingyao, Qiao Family Compound</b> The Ancient City of Pingyao (UNESCO), a well-preserved ancient Chinese city of the Ming and Qing Dynasties, is an must-see attraction for you. You will admire the Ancient City Wall built with bricks and stones. Approach to Rishengchang Bank - the first bank of China, and get impressed by the Old Government Buildings. The courtyard houses, narrow streets and small shops in the city provide a complete picture of China's cultural and social lifestyle during that period of time. The Qiao Family Compound was the former residence of a rich businessman - Qiao Zhiyong in the Qing Dynasty. Consisting of 6 large yards and 20 small yards in total, the magnificent compound features its traditional Chinese furnishings and lifelike wood carvings.
6	Day 6: Pingyao - Xi'an (by bullet train)	 hotel - train station transfer in Pingyao, hotel transfer in Xi'an  breakfast, lunch  <b>Ancient City Wall</b> The Ancient City Wall is one of the oldest city walls in China and still encompasses the center of Xi'an today.
7	Day 7: Xi'an	 breakfast, lunch  <b>Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses (UNESCO), Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Terracotta Warriors and Horses Replica Factory</b> 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. 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.
8	Day 8: Xi'an - Guilin (by air)	 hotel - airport transfer in Xi'an, hotel transfer in Guilin  breakfast, lunch  <b>City Walk Tour along the Lakes:</b> Stroll around Guilin's beautiful central lakes (Shanhu and Ronghu Lakes) to experience the city's relaxing atmosphere. It is a perfect way to see iconic landmarks like the Sun and Moon Twin Pagodas and enjoy the scenic waterfront parks up close.

9	Day 9: Guilin	 breakfast, lunch  <b>Li River Cruise, West Street</b> In the morning, meet your guide at the hotel and transfer to embark on a memorable Li River Cruise. Through this 3-hour journey of China's best known natural scenery, you can appreciate unique karst landscapes as well as verdant hills and lovely waters. Then, arrive at Yangshuo at about 13:00 and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. West Street is the oldest street in Yangshuo, which started to develop 1,400 years ago. The street is called the biggest 'foreign language center' in China as it fused western and eastern culture. More than 100,000 foreigners come here each year. You can explore the uniqueness of the street by having a stroll.
10	Day 10: Guilin - Shanghai (by air)	 airport transfer in Guilin, airport - hotel transfer in Shanghai  breakfast, lunch  <b>Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces, Zhuang Ethnic Village</b> Today, take a 3-hour car ride to Longsheng. Longsheng is well known for its spectacular Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces. It is a beautiful place where the Zhuang and Yao ethnic people have lived for over the centuries. In the spring, when the terraces are full of water, they resemble irregular silver ladders; and in autumn, when the rice ripens, the mountains turn into golden waves. Located within the stunning Longji (Dragon's Backbone) Rice Terraces, this traditional village offers a wonderful look into the culture of the local Zhuang people. You can admire their unique wooden stilt houses (Diaojiailou), see their traditional clothing, and experience a peaceful way of life surrounded by beautiful mountain landscapes.
11	Day 11: Shanghai	 breakfast, lunch  <b>Yu Garden, Bund, Jade Buddha Temple, Nanjing Road, Shanghai Old Town</b> Owing to its ingenious design in Ming and Qing dynasties, the Yu Garden becomes a real museum of Chinese ancient architecture. The Bund, featured outstanding European colonial architectures, is full of new skyscrapers and historical buildings in the center of Shanghai. The Jade Buddha Temple is famous for its two precious jade Buddha statues brought from Burma, which are not only rare cultural relics but also exquisite artworks. The Nanjing Road, a must-see metropolitan destination attracting thousands of fashion-seeking shoppers from all over the world, is a top prosperous center of Shanghai. Step back in time and experience the historical heart of the city at Shanghai Old Town, where classic Jiangnan-style architecture and bustling street markets offer a fascinating contrast to the city's futuristic skyscrapers. Anchored by the 16th-century Yu Garden and the lively bazaar surrounding the City God Temple, this vibrant district allows you to wander through labyrinthine alleys lined with traditional gray-brick buildings, cross the iconic Nine-Turn Bridge, and sample world-famous local delicacies like Xiaolongbao (soup dumplings) at historic eateries.
12	Day 12: Shanghai - Departure	 hotel - airport transfer  breakfast

## Notes

**Deadline:** Book at least 20 days before arriving in China. Please send us all passenger names, passport numbers, room choices, and itineraries before this date.

**Shared Tour & Guiding:** Travelers with different tour packages on the same date may share the same bus and guide. All main sights are fully guaranteed, but the daily order of the itinerary may change to make the trip run smoothly for everyone.

**Flight Notice:** The departure dates are **Mondays**, which is **Day 1 (your arrival day)**. Please book your flight to land in Beijing on or before these dates.

Destinations	Hotels
Beijing	Xinqiao Hotel 新桥酒店 (or similar)
Pingyao	Pingyao Huiguan Hotel 平遥会馆酒店 (or similar)
Xi'an	Titan Times Hotel 钛时代酒店 (or similar)
Guilin	Guilin Bravo Hotel 桂林 Bravo 酒店 (or similar)
Shanghai	Ocean Hotel 海洋酒店 (or similar)

## Tour Includes :

- Accommodation in double/triple/single rooms in the indicated hotels
- Chinese lunches at local restaurants as indicated in the itinerary
- One glass of soft drink or local beer per person for each mentioned meal
- All transfers to/from the airport in each destination and all included sightseeing
- All first entrance fees to the mentioned tourist sites
- All domestic flights in economy class and airport taxes as indicated in the itinerary
- All domestic trains in second class as indicated in the itinerary
- An English-speaking local guide/assistant in the travel destinations

## Tour Excludes :

- All other meals and all other beverages not mentioned
- Transfers outside the allotment dates;
- Tips
- Tips for pre-tours or post-base-trip extensions
- Evening shows in China and other optional visits
- Medical + baggage insurance
- China Visa
- All personal expenses and anything not specifically listed under "Inclusions"

## About Shopping or No-shopping Tours

Since October, 2013, CITS offers truly alternative prices of tours with or without shopping. Exceptionally, some tours only have one type price, such as seat-in-coach, hiking, self-driving and luxury tours, etc. [Click here know more details.](#)