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Beijing
Xi'an
Guilin
Shanghai

Embark on this 13 day China tour package, ideal for first-time visitors. Explore the Great Wall of China and Terracota Warriors, enjoy a Li River Cruise from Guilin to Yangshuo, and experience modern Shanghai. A perfect gateway trip to China.

Type
Private
Duration
13 days
Theme
1st Time travel to China, Culture and Heritage, Family focused, Natural scenery
Trip code
CDT-03
Price
From £ 1,398 per person
£ 1,271
you save £ 127 (10%)

Itinerary

Enjoy this Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, and Shanghai tour that balances cultural heritage sites with natural landscapes. Take a cruise along the Li River to Guilin to behold beautiful waterways and majestic mountains, along with exploring the numerous heritage sites of Beijing and Xi'an. This classic China tour provides a fabulous experience

Day 01 :

Arrive at Beijing

Be greeted by a local guide and driver at the airport or train station in Beijing, then head to your hotel. Have the rest of today to take a break or exploring the city. Your local guide will be ready to offer suggestions on where to go or what to do your first night in Beijing.

Day 02 :

Beijing City Tour

After breakfast, head to **Tiananmen Square** at the center of Beijing city. The square, regarded as the largest in world, is an important place for Chinese people to hold celebration or other big occasions. During your visit here you will have a glimpse of several highlights including the Monument to People's Heroes located at the center of the square.

Afterwards, take a visit to the **Forbidden City**, an ancient palace complex where 24 emperors had lived and worked during both the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Your local guide will tell you the detailed history of the city and what life was once like for the emperor and servants who used to live here. As a result of the large collection of preserved ancient wooden structures and importance in Chinese history, the Forbidden City has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Continue your journey to **Jingshan Park**, situated directly across from the Forbidden City. A climb to the park's summit will

reward you with a breathtaking panoramic view of the Forbidden City and the vast Beijing cityscape.

Enjoy your lunch then in the afternoon, head to the **Summer Palace** in northwest Beijing. The Summer Palace is a royal garden that surrounding Kunming Lake and Longevity Hill more traditionally know as Wanshou Shan. Along being a UNESCO World Heritage site it is one of the four classic gardens of China. This palace was built by the emperors during Qing dynasty as a summer time retreat. You will easily see many spectacular gardens, palaces and temples throughout.

In the evening, you might consider to savor the world famous Beijing roast duck or another local specialty for dinner.

Day 03 :

Beijing Great Wall Tour

After breakfast, drive to **Temple of Heaven** in south Beijing. It is a holy imperial temple where emperors once prayed for a good harvest and offered sacrifices to the God of Heaven during every winter solstice. You will have a glimpse of this masterpiece of architecture and landscape design.

Afterwards, drive to **Mutianyu Great Wall**, one of the best section to explore the Great Wall of China. Located about 80 km. (50 mi.) north of downtown Beijing, it will take about 2.5 hours to get there by private car. Upon arrival enjoy 2 to 3 hours of walking along this ancient defense and have a glimpse of the magnificent scenery as the wall winds its way across the mountains. If you don't feel like walking up you no problem you can ascend and descend via a cable car or slide your way down in a toboggan.

On the way back to your hotel, you can have a quick stop at the **Olympic Green**. *(Optional: If you are interested in the local life, we can also drop you off at the Donghuamen night market or Sanlitun Bar Street, where you can get closer to local Beijing).*

Day 04 :

Beijing Half Day City Tour / High Speed Train to Xi'an

After breakfast, drive to visit the **Lama Temple**, which also known as the **Yonghegong Temple**. It is a temple and monastery of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism. It contains the largest wooden Buddha in the world. *(Optional: You can visit Beihai Park instead of you are more interested in the local people's life).*

Afterwards, you will have 1-2 hours to feel the traditional Hutong culture by visiting the Shichahai in west Beijing **Traveling by rickshaw through century old Hutongs** in Shichahai before their demolition. Walk along the old Yandai Xiejie which has a 800 year history surrounding Beijing's Drum Tower. Plenty of time for you to explore on your own to near by Nanluoguxiang for tasting some local snacks or buying some souvenirs from the many antique show for your family and friends.

In the afternoon, **take the high-speed train to Xi'an** (about 5 hours). Upon arrival in Xi'an, to be picked up and transferred to hotel.

Day 05 :

Xi'an City Tour

The first spot of your tour today is one of the must see attractions in China, the **Terracotta Warriors and Horses**, which is also called as the 8th wonder of world. After breakfast, take a short 30 minute drive into the Xi'an country side to arrive at the Terracotta Warriors site. Since it was discovered by some farmers in 1974, it has been determined this army of terracotta was created for the first China's first emperor. Each year it attracts millions of tourists from all over the world.

Then you will visit the **Xi'an City Wall** with your guide, see one of the oldest and best preserved city walls across China. When ready head over to **Shuyuan Men**, an ancient street where you can easily taste many of the local snacks and experience the local life during the Tang Dynasty.

Have a late afternoon visit to to **Muslim Quarter and Great Mosque** to feel the unique ethnic culture of Hui. Take in the unique local feeling and observe as evening prayers approach. *In the evening, you may enjoy a Tang Dynasty Dinner Show; dumpling banquet, live performance and more (Optional).*

Day 06 :

Xi'an Half Day City Tour / Flight to Guilin

Half day Xi'an City Tour to visit **Beilin Museum (Forest of Stone Steles Museum)**, it is a treasure trove of Chinese calligraphy, historical documents, and stone carvings, housing over 3,000 steles.

Continue with a visit to the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**, a major landmark of Xi'an. First built in 652 during the Tang Dynasty, and many people believe that its main function was to protect and preserve the sutras and figurines of the Buddha that were brought back from India.

In the afternoon, **fly to Guilin**. Upon arrival, Guilin airport pick up and transfer to hotel.

Day 07 :

Li River Cruise from Guilin to Yangshuo /Yangshuo Countryside Tour

Spend today comfortably **cruising along the Li River from Guilin to Yangshuo**. The Li River is one of the most beautiful rivers in China, you will enjoy the scenery with beautiful water and majestic mountains along the way to Yangshuo. This cruise will take 3 to 4 hours.

After enjoy lunch on the ship and arriving in Yangshuo, have a **2-3 hours bicycle ride** into the countryside of Yangshuo, and

experience the real local life of Chinese peasants. If you prefer not to ride a bicycle, just let us know and we will prepare an alternative for you. And then have a local farmer family visit in Yangshuo countryside.

Day 08 :

Yangshuo Countryside Tour / Drive to Longji Rice Terraces



Another morning in Yangshuo you can choose **riding bicycle / hiking** at the lower reaches of Yulong river, then visit **Fuli Ancient town**. Then drive about 40 minutes to visit **Xianggong hill (Husband Mountain)**, it takes about 15 minutes to the top of the hill where you will be amazed by the breathtaking view of Li River and the surrounded Karst mountain peaks. Then head to **Longji Rice Terraces** for the splendid **rice terraces** and **local ethnic minority villages**, the drive takes roughly 3 hours, on the way enjoy the nice mountain range views. Overnight at Ping'an village.

Day 09 :

Hiking at Longji Rice Terraces / Flight to Shanghai

Spend most of the day to hike around at the **Ping'an village** to enjoy the rice terraces views and visit local minority villages. There are several hiking trails that you can choose depending on your physical condition, it could last from 1 hour up to 3 hours. In addition to the beautiful Chinese countryside scenery, you will also have a chance to understand the history, unique culture, life style and language of this Chinese minority group. So just tell your guide what you want, then he can recommend you the options.

In the late afternoon, head to Guilin airport with 2 hours drive, **fly to Shanghai**. Upon arrival, Shanghai airport pick up and transfer to hotel.

Day 10 :

Shanghai City Tour

Explore Shanghai's vibrant essence that starts at **Shanghai Tower**, the city's tallest building offering breathtaking panoramic views of Shanghai's skyline, you will also visit Duo Yun Bookstore, on the 52nd floor. After that, move to the tranquil **Yuyuan Garden**, dating back to the Ming Dynasty, and offers a glimpse into classical Chinese garden design. Follow this with a visit to the bustling **Yuyuan Bazaar**. Then move onto **Xintiandi in the French Concession**, where old meets new. Then experience the historical elegance of the **Bund along the Huangpu River**, and your tour will ends at **Nanjing Road**, where offers a lively shopping experience.

In the evening you might consider to enjoy a spectacular Chinese Acrobatics show (available only on weekends) or take an evening cruise along the Huangpu River to enjoy the night view of the Bund (additional fee). Overnight stay in Shanghai.

Day 11 :

One Day Excursion to Tongli Water Town near Shanghai

In the morning you will be driven to **Tongli water town in Suzhou**, an ancient town which has over 1,000 years' history. The town is famous for a system of canals and featured by water, bridges and ancient architectures. Taking a cruise on the canals for witnessing the breathtaking scenery of Tongli will be arranged. Walking on the small alleys to discover this ancient town. Drive back to Shanghai in the late afternoon.

Day 12 :

Shanghai One Day Exploration on Your Own

You will have one day on your own to explore in Shanghai, shopping or just walking around to get a better understanding of Shanghai. You can easily ask your WindhorseTour Travel Advisor or local guide for some suggestions on where to go and what to see.

Day 13 :

Shanghai Airport or Train Station Send Off

Sadly all thing must come to an end, your guide and drive will pick you up from the hotel and drive to the airport or train station for departure. If you wish to continue your travels we are experts in tailor made trips and ready to assist you in extending your stay in China.

Prices

Period

2 Persons

3 Persons

4-6 Persons

Regular price£ 2,127£ 1,738£ 1,544

Sale price £ 1,934£ 1,580£ 1,403

Inclusions

Tour notes:

Please note prices are based in CNY.

General inclusions:

2 bottles of mineral water provided daily.

All required government taxes and fees.

Your selection of 3, 4 or 5 Stars hotel (shared twin room, private bathroom and daily breakfast)

The hotel accommodation is based on two persons sharing one standard twin room with private facilities in all relevant locations. If a single client requests a twin room alone, the single room supplement will be charged.

All entrance tickets as noted in the tour's itinerary.

Guide fluent in English, Chinese or Japanese that is certified by the state tourism build and from the local community. (If your native language is not listed please let us know, we are certain we can assist your needs.)

Airport and/or train station pick-up and drop-off.

All domestic flight and train tickets. Economy-class for flights and soft sleeper / seat for train tickets.

Transportation will be provided via a comfortable and clean car, minivan or tourist bus depending upon the groups size.

Meals as remarked in the itinerary. (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)

General exclusions:

Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, internet access, fax, telephone calls etc.

Tips for your guide and driver.

Optional Attractions that are not specified in the itinerary.

Flight and/or railway ticket(s) to the first city of the tour and departure from the last city of the tour.

Meals not specified in the itinerary.

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