CHINA DISCOVERY & HONG KONG

BEIJING - WUXI - SUZHOU - HANGZHOU - SHANGHAI - HONG KONG



\$2299 \$\infty\$ per person twin-share

As its name suggests, this tour is designed to give you a sample of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, thriving industries, and modern architecture. Walk along the Great Wall and unfold the mystery of the Forbidden City in China's capital Beijing, discover the exquisite cities of Wuxi, as well as Suzhou and Hangzhou – both cities 'on par with heaven' for their natural beauty, according to a Chinese saying. Before leaving the mainland, immerse yourself in the dynamic and cosmopolitan Shanghai. Due to the popularity of Hong Kong as a mecca for food and shopping, and other assorted charms, we have added a three night stopover there on the return leg of your China tour.











Images: 1. Forbidden City, 2. Bullet Train, 3. Great Wall, 4. Lingering Garden, 5. Suzhou, 6. Nanjing Road, 7. Hong Kong, 8. Disneyland, 9. Macau, 10. Terracotta Army, 11. Ancient City Wall

Day 1: Arrive in Beijing

Fly to Beijing. On arrival, you will be met by your guide and will transfer to the 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** (\$75).

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** (\$70), 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** (\$75).

HIGHLIGHTS

- · Uncover the mystery of **Beijing's Forbidden City**
- · Race across China on a high-speed bullet train from Beijing to Wuxi
- · Take a boat ride on tranquil West Lake in Hangzhou
- · Stroll in one of the finest Chinese gardens in **Suzhou**
- · Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis Shanghai
- \cdot Enjoy three days and nights at leisure in the island city of **Hong Kong**

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, go sightseeing around Nanchang Street and take a *cruise along the Grand Canal* (\$35) to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday. Then, take a 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 freshwater 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* (\$80), a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony.

Day 8: Hangzhou 🖵 Shanghai (B, L)

Experience tea-tasting at the Dragon Well Tea Plantation. Then travel by coach 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** (\$75).

Day 9: Shanghai (B, D)

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of
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* (\$40)
for a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night
view of Shanghai.

Day 10: Shanghai Kong (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Shanghai airport to board your flight to Hong Kong. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel to enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 11: Half-day Hong Kong Island Tour (B) Enjoy a half-day tour of Hong Kong Island visiting Victoria Peak for incredible views of the city, Stanley Market for shopping and local character, and Aberdeen Fishing Village, to see sampans and houseboats framed against the soaring skyscrapers of the city. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.











Day 12: Hong Kong Free Day at Leisure (B)

Today is free and easy at your leisure. Track down some famous Hong Kong red roast pork or dumpling noodle soup, photograph the densely built-up cityscape, or just lose yourself in the hustle and bustle of this unique island metropolis. You may choose to join one of our optional activities:

- 1. Ocean Park General Admission + Transfers (\$115)
- 2. Disneyland Admission + One Way Transfer (\$150)
- 3. Tsing Ma Lantau Monastery Tour + Vegetarian Lunch (\$165)
- 4. Macau Day Tour + Lunch (\$165)

Day 13: Depart Hong Kong (B)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Day 14: Arrive Home







PRE-TOUR EXTENSION Xi'an Terracotta Warriors 2 Nights

from \$590; single supplement \$120; includes

- + Economy class flights
- + 2 nights hotel accommodation (twin share)
- + 2 breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L) & 1 dinner (D)
- + Coach transportation & transfers
- + Admissions to scenic attractions
- + English speaking tour guide

Excludes compulsory prepaid tipping: \$30

Day 1: Arrive in Xi'an

Board your international flight to Xi'an. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest. Note: Some flights may depart the night before.

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

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 A Beijing (B, L)

After breakfast, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial** History Museum. The museum is one of China's largest, and houses over 370,000 items, including murals, paintings, pottery, coins, as well as bronze, gold, and silver objects. 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 out of Xi'an in the evening to continue your holiday.

DEPARTURES

| 2019 | 10 Mar ^A 24 Mar ^A 21 Apr* 28 Apr* 05 May 12 May 19 May | 02 Jun 09 Jun 07 Jul* 14 Jul* 21 Jul* 28 Jul 04 Aug | 11 Aug 18 Aug 25 Sep 01 Sep 08 Sep 15 Sep* 06 Oct* | 13 Oct 20 Oct 27 oct 03 Nov 10 Nov 17 Nov |
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| 2020 | 29 Feb** 07 Mar* 14 Mar* 21 Mar* 28 Mar* 04 Apr* 18 Apr 25 Apr 02 May | 09 May 16 May 23 May 30 May 06 Jun 13 Jun 20 Jun* 27 Jun** 04 Jul** | 25 Jul 01 Aug 08 Aug 15 Aug 22 Aug 29 Aug 05 Sep 12 Sep 19 Sep** | 10 Oct 17 Oct 24 Oct 31 Oct 07 Nov 14 Nov |

- *Peak season surcharge: \$300
- **School Holiday Surcharge \$400
- 'Yangtze River Cruise Extension is not available Single supplement: \$850

DEPARTURE OPTIONS

- · SYD/MEL/BNE: Airfare included
- · ADL/PER: +\$300 (2019/2020), BNE: +\$100 (2020)

(+) INCLUSIONS

- · Intl. Airfares & taxes with Cathay Pacific
- · 12 nights 4-5 star (local rating) hotel accomm.
- · 12 breakfasts (B), 6 lunches (L), 4 Dinners (D)
- · Internal flights (operated by a local carrier)
- · High-speed train from Beijing to Wuxi
- · Coach transportation & transfers
- · Selected sightseeing & entrance fees
- · English speaking tour guide(s)

(X) EXCLUSIONS

- · Compulsory prepaid tipping: \$100
- · Optional programs
- · China visa
- · Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

EXTEND YOUR STAY

- · Early Arrival/Stay Behind Fare Difference: fr \$250
- · Hotel w/breakfast: \$75 twin-share, \$150 single
- · Private transfer: \$120 per way (max. 3 ppl)

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION (or similar)

Riverside Hotel Beijing Beijing Suzhou Pan Pacific Hotel Wuxi Days Hotel Baile Wuxi

Merchant Marco Garden Hotel Hangzhou Shanghai Zhoupu Wassim Hotel

Hong Kong Harbour Plaza 8 Degrees

OPTIONAL PROGRAMS (AUD)

| Beijing | The Golden Mask Dynasty | \$75 |
|----------|-------------------------------|------|
| Beijing | Hutong Life Tour | \$70 |
| Beijing | Chinese Kung Fu Show | \$75 |
| Wuxi | Grand Canal Cruise | \$35 |
| Hangzhou | Impression West Lake | \$80 |
| Shanghai | ERA: The Intersection of Time | \$75 |
| | or SPIRAL | |
| Shanghai | Huangpu River Cruise | \$40 |

All prices are per person twin-share in AUD 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 travel documentation and flight info may not be available until within 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. ver03APR2019





Images: 12. Yangtze River 13. Shore excursion **Majestic Yangtze River Cruise 4 Nights** 14. Yangtze Gold 7

A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a lifetime. You will enjoy the stunning picturesque scenery and amazing natural beauty of the famed Three Gorges: Qutang , Wu, and Xiling, while exploring historical relics and ancient cultural sites along the mighty river.

Enjoy shore excursions to explore the fascinating history and tranquil landscapes of the region, including the spectacle of Fengdu Ghost City, a peculiar site that contains statues of demons and ghosts that roam the after-world; the fun of drifting through Shennong Stream, which offers clear running waters, picturesque rock formations, and monkeys and goats along its banks; and the wonder of the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest.



EXECUTIVE SERVICE PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

President 7: +\$150

- · Free upgrade to higher floor (4th-6th floor)
- · Free coffee, tea, and snacks at happy hours in afternoon
- · Enjoy all meals at VIP restaurant and a la carte available (paid seperately)
- · Free drinks before dinner
- · Unlimited soft drinks, wine, and beer at lunch and dinner
- · Express check-in/out
- · Room turn-down service
- · Welcome fruit basket in cabin
- · VIP area reserved for evening entertainment
- · Two hours free internet per sailing

Victoria Cruises: +\$150

- · 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.

Note: Executive Service package inclusions may very by ship.

YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

from \$950; single supplement \$750; includes

· Economy class flights

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

- · 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)
- · English speaking guide (on board)

Excludes compulsory prepaid tipping: \$50 & optional shore excursions

Note: Aboard Yangtze Gold 1, 2, 6 or 7, President 7, or similar. 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.

Day 10: Shanghai X 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 |
|----------|---------|
| AII/DCPC | EVCIICS |

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

24:00 **Departs Yichang**

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

Today, your cruise enters the **Xiling Gorge**. Named for Mount Xiling, this is the longest of the Three Gorges. In fact, Xiling Gorge comprises four smaller gorges with rather poetic names; Precious Sword, Horse Lung & Ox Liver, Soundless Bell, and Shadow Play.

| 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 Ba and Tujia ethnic minorities of the Three |
| | Gorges. Experience a charming reenactment of traditional life ways |
| | in a peaceful hillside village setting (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 |
| | 08:00 08:00-09:00 09:00-11:00 11:00-13:00 13:30-15:30 16:00 18:00 |

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

Populated since at least the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD), this once-wild tributary to the Yangtze has calmed since the construction of the **Tree Gorges Dam**. This charming gorge and the surrounding forest park are named for Shen Nong, the mythical 'Divine Farmer', who is said to have taught the ancient Chinese the secrets of agriculture, herbal medicine, the solar calendar, and brewing tea.

| 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) |

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

Arr/Dept **Events** 07:00 **Breakfast**

08:30-10:30 Shore excursion: Shibaozhai Pagoda **Shore excursion:** Fengdu Ghost City (optional) 10:30-12:30

14:00-16:00 Lectures 18:00 Farewell Dinner

Day 14: Chongqing Kong (B)

After breakfast, disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing at 9am. Transfer to the airport to board your flight to Hong Kong. Enjoy 3 nights in Hong Kong.

Day 15-16: Hong Kong (B)

Day 17: Depart Hong Kong (B)

Day 18: Arrive Home