

# Yangtze River Panorama

From \$5,265 - 28 Days - Fully Inclusive From New Zealand

The rewards on this journey are many for it showcases some of China's most wonderful images. You will discover the ancient sites of Beijing, Chengde and Xian. A visit to Chengdu's endangered Giant pandas in Sichuan Province will delight everyone. You will cruise on the mighty Yangtze River over four nights, and discover dramatic gorges, majestic peaks and ancient temples that illustrate a life unchanged for centuries. A shore excursion to the Three Gorges Dam will hold you in absolute amazement as you gaze at this grand feat of engineering. The highlight for many will be time spent in the amazing province of Yunnan. It has some of the most stunning natural scenery which resulted in its placement onto the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1999. It is also home to many ethnic minorities such as the Naxi people of Lijiang who are descendants of ethnic Tibetan tribes. A wonderfully rich human element awaits you on this tour. Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province is home to the Stone Forest. You will simply love the magical rock formations that you will find here. Lijiang will be as equally captivating with its quaint, cobbled streets and the glistening snow capped Jade Dragon Snow Mountain which soars to a height of 5500m.

You will marvel at the fascinating Baisha Frescoes. These spiritual murals come from the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Your journey continues to Zhongdian, also known as Shangri La. James Hilton's novel, *The Lost Horizon*, brought fame to Zhongdian. The novel details the stunning scenery in the area, the beautiful azure skies and the amazing hospitality of the people. This sacred scenic region is blessed with majestic mountains. The Tiger Leaping Gorge at Zhongdian will astound you. It is regarded as one of the most dramatic and deepest gorges in the world. After exploring the Songshanlin Monastery, built by the 5th Dalai Lama over 300 years ago, you will travel to Dali and explore its ancient quarter and visit Xizhou Village. A boat ride on the stunning Erhai Lake and a trip to view the Three Pagodas will conclude your sightseeing in Dali.

The Yangtze River Panorama is a visual treat, full of unexpected surprises and many treasures waiting to be discovered. The images of which will stay with you long after you have returned home.

## Days 1-2: New Zealand to Beijing

Fly overnight with Singapore Airlines to Beijing via Singapore for 2 nights. Our welcoming banquet tomorrow evening includes a sample of the local delicacy 'Peking Duck'.

## Day 3: Beijing

Enjoy an exciting walk along the Great Wall and visit the 15th Century Temple of Heaven. This evening we will be entertained by a fascinating Chinese Acrobatic show.

## Days 4-5: Beijing to Chengde to Beijing

Today we travel to Chengde by train. Our visit includes the Imperial Mountain Villas and the exceptional temples built for Tibetan and Mongolian warlords. The following afternoon return to Beijing by train.

## Day 6: Beijing to Xian

Visit the Forbidden City, stroll along Tiananmen Square past Chairman Mao's Mausoleum and explore the Summer Palace before boarding our overnight sleeper train to Xian.

## Days 7-8: Xian

Arrive in Xian this morning. Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and enjoy a traditional Shui Jiao Dumpling Banquet this evening. The following day we visit the life-size Terracotta Warriors and the ancient City Wall. Enjoy an evening performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

## Day 9: Xian to Wuhan

Visit the Shaanxi Provincial Museum, walk through the lively Muslim Quarter to the Great Mosque and explore the Islamic food markets. This evening we board our overnight sleeper train to Wuhan.

## Day 10: Wuhan to Yangtze Cruise

Arrive in Wuhan this morning. Visit the Yellow Crane Tower and East Lake before driving (approx 4-5hrs) to the boarding point of our Yangtze River cruise for the next 4 nights.

## Days 11-13: Yangtze River Cruise

Enjoy a tour to the Three Gorges Dam before commencing our cruise on the Yangtze River. We will cruise through some of the most

beautiful scenery in the world and take shore excursions to explore the history and tranquil landscapes (subject to change).

## Day 14: Chongqing to Chengdu

Arrive in Chongqing and drive to Chengdu. Later we visit Mt. Qincheng, found in the dramatic and lush mountain forests of Sichuan Province and the city's local markets before feasting on a sumptuous Sichuan Banquet.

## Day 15: Chengdu

Visit the famous Panda Research Centre to see these endearing animals being reared in surroundings reminiscent of their natural habitat.

## Day 16: Chengdu to Kunming

Today we board our overnight sleeper train to Kunming.

## Days 17-18: Kunming

Arrive in Kunming this morning and visit the Flower Market before sampling 'Across the Bridge Noodles' this evening, a specialty of the area. Tomorrow we enjoy a full day tour to the picturesque Stone Forest.



### Day 19: Kunming to Lijiang

This morning we fly to Lijiang. Spend the afternoon exploring the cobbled streets of the old quarter.

### Day 20: Lijiang

Today we catch a chairlift to explore one of the meadows of the impressive Jade Dragon Snow Mountain and enjoy the amazing scenery. We then travel to the Baisha Frescoes. In the evening attend the acclaimed Naxi Ancient music show.

### Day 21: Lijiang to Zhongdian

Today we travel to Zhongdian en route we visit Tiger Leaping Gorge.

### Day 22: Zhongdian

Visit the Baishui Terrace, where spring water cascades over layers of white limestone pools.

### Day 23: Zhongdian

Today we visit the Napa Hai Lake and the Songshanlin Monastery.

### Day 24: Zhongdian to Dali

Continue driving to Dali today (approx 4hrs). Explore the ancient quarter, visit the Xizhou Village, the local market, an ancient courtyard home and see Bai women demonstrate their traditional tie-dyeing technique in Zhoucheng Village.

### Day 25: Dali

Today we visit the Three Pagodas and enjoy a cruise on Erhai Lake. In the evening stroll down Foreigner's Street absorbing the local atmosphere of the market stalls.

### Day 26: Dali to Kunming

Fly back to Kunming today for our final night in China.

### Day 27: Depart Kunming

Enjoy the morning at leisure before boarding our overnight flight to New Zealand.

### Day 28: Arrive New Zealand

Arrive home this morning.

## Inclusions

International airfares, all transportation in China, accommodation, all meals, entrance fees, guides and daily tours, New Zealand and China departure taxes (where included in air tickets)

## Price Guide

28 Days, Fully Inclusive Twin Share

- ✈ From \$5,265 per person - Departing Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch with Singapore Airlines
- 🏠 Single Hotel Supplement - From \$833
- 🚢 Single Cruise Cabin Supplement - From \$521
- 🚗 Land Only - From \$3,370
- ★ ★ Medium Paced Tour (see page 2)
- 💰 Compulsory Tipping: Approx US\$90 per person - see page 54

## Departures

Tour Code	Depart New Zealand	Arrive New Zealand	Twin Share Price
<b>2010</b>			
T20150	16 Mar	12 Apr	\$5,265
T20151	06 Apr	03 May	\$5,265
T20153	04 May	31 May	\$5,265
T20154	11 May	07 Jun	\$5,265
T20155	18 May	14 Jun	\$5,265
T20156	01 Jun	28 Jun	\$5,265
T20157	13 Jul	09 Aug	\$5,265
T20158	03 Aug	30 Aug	\$5,265
T20159	24 Aug	20 Sep	\$5,265
T201510	31 Aug	27 Sep	\$5,265
T201511	07 Sep	04 Oct	\$5,265
T201512	21 Sep	18 Oct	\$5,265
T201513	12 Oct	08 Nov	\$5,265
<b>2011</b>			
T2160	15 Mar	11 Apr	\$5,265
T2161	05 Apr	02 May	\$5,265
T2162	12 Apr	09 May	\$5,265
T2163	03 May	30 May	\$5,265
T2164	10 May	06 Jun	\$5,265
T2165	17 May	13 Jun	\$5,265
T2166	31 May	27 Jun	\$5,265

Stone Forest - Kunming

