

Magnificent China

From \$5,569 - 21 Days - Fully Inclusive From New Zealand

Experience a journey through some of China's foremost sights and attractions; each offering an opportunity to witness their unique qualities. We have carefully designed this programme at a slower pace, allowing a leisurely exploration of the fascinating sites on offer. China's capital city, Beijing; meaning 'Northern Capital', is renowned for its opulent palaces, temples and traditional architecture; its art treasures have long cemented its place as China's centre of culture. The city is a highlight and a must for anyone travelling to this region. Experience Tiananmen Square, take a walk on the Great Wall, and discover the amazing Forbidden City and the unique Temple of Heaven. Be amazed as you step back in time and reflect on how the ancient Chinese could build these incredible sites. The historical capital of Chang'an or modern day Xian is one of the country's oldest cities and was the capital through some of China's most important dynasties; the Zhou, Han and Tang. Its position as eastern terminus of the Silk Road cements its appeal to travellers and its treasures are reflective of its significance. You will visit the Shaanxi Provincial Museum and marvel at one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th Century - the life-size Terracotta Warriors. Relax on a Yangtze River cruise whilst it meanders along the incredible mighty river and experience one of the many shore excursions on offer.

At the famous Panda Research Centre near Chengdu you will see these delightful, adorable Giant pandas being reared in surrounds reminiscent of their natural habitat. The Grand Buddha of Leshan will astound you as it is over 71m tall and wide enough for more than 100 people to sit between its feet! Guilin, famous for its scenery has been the inspiration of painters for centuries, will surprise you by its beauty. Be fascinated by the stunning limestone mountain karsts that tower above the river as you cruise along the Li River towards the town of Yangshuo. The vibrant city of Shanghai is a true representation of modern day China; this cosmopolitan centre is a blend of eastern and western cultures and in just 10 short years has transformed itself from a provincial city to an international metropolis. Your time here is spent visiting the superb antiquities and fine arts at the Shanghai Museum, viewing the Yu Gardens and the Old Town. If you wish to savour the many wonderful sites and sounds of China, you will find this tour quite 'magnificent'!

Day 1: New Zealand to Beijing

Fly to Beijing with Singapore Airlines for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Beijing

Today we stroll through famous Tiananmen Square, past Chairman Mao's Mausoleum, and visit the Forbidden City. Enjoy a rickshaw ride through the traditional Hutong areas. This evening we enjoy a sample of the local delicacy 'Peking Duck'.

Day 3: Beijing

Enjoy an exciting walk along the Great Wall admiring the panoramic views, a highlight of any trip to China. Later this afternoon we visit the unique Temple of Heaven, built in the 15th Century.

Day 4: Beijing

Enjoy some shopping time at the silk markets. Later we wander through the landscaped beauty of the Summer Palace. Our evening entertainment will be a fascinating Chinese Acrobatic show.

Day 5: Beijing to Xian

We fly to the historic city of Xian this morning for a 2 night stay. Upon arrival we visit the Shaanxi Provincial Museum before indulging in a traditional Shui Jiao Dumpling Banquet this evening.

Day 6: Xian

Today we visit one of the most significant archaeological discoveries of the 20th Century, the life-size Terracotta Warriors, followed by the ancient City Wall. Stroll through the lively Muslim Quarter to visit the Great Mosque and explore the interesting Islamic food markets. This evening we enjoy a performance of traditional Tang Dynasty dancing.

Day 7: Xian to Wuhan (Yangtze Cruise)

This morning we enjoy a visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda before flying to Wuhan. Upon arrival we will be transferred by coach (approx 4-5hrs) to board our Yangtze River cruise for the next 4 nights along one of the world's greatest waterways.

Days 8-10: Yangtze River Cruise

Enjoy a tour to the Three Gorges Dam before cruising on the mighty Yangtze River. Along the way we will cruise through some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, the Three Gorges and take some shore excursions to explore the fascinating history and tranquil landscape of the tributary streams (subject to change).

Day 11: Chongqing to Chengdu

Arrive in Chongqing this morning and transfer to Chengdu. This evening enjoy a sumptuous Sichuan Banquet.

Day 12: Chengdu - Leshan

This morning we visit the famous Panda Research Centre to see these endearing animals being reared in surroundings reminiscent of their natural habitat. From here we travel to Leshan to view the Grand Buddha. The enormous statue is carved into the side of the Lingyun Mountain and is over 71m tall and wide enough for more than 100 people to sit between its feet.



Day 13: Chengdu to Guilin

Today we will be transferred to the airport to board our flight to Guilin, one of China's most beautiful cities for an overnight stay. Upon arrival we visit Mt. Diecai for clear views of the surrounding karst landscape.

Day 14: Guilin to Yangshuo (Li River Cruise)

Relax on a Li River Cruise, as we travel to the town of Yangshuo for an overnight stay. Spend the evening walking the cobblestone streets and enjoy the atmosphere of this enchanting town.

Day 15: Yangshuo to Guilin

Visit the local markets before returning to Guilin, where we will visit the Reed Flute Caves.

Day 16: Guilin to Suzhou

Fly to Shanghai and transfer by coach to Suzhou for an overnight stay.

Day 17: Suzhou to Shanghai

This morning we visit a Silk Mill, still in operation today. Later we cruise on a section of the ancient Grand Canal and see classical oriental gardens. After lunch we return to Shanghai and enjoy an evening banquet of traditional Shanghai cuisine.

Day 18: Shanghai

Today we visit the Yu Gardens, the Old Town and take a stroll along the famous Bund.

Day 19: Shanghai

Visit the Pudong area and explore the Xintiandi area with its 1920s style 'shikumen' buildings unique to Shanghai. This evening enjoy a panoramic cruise on the Huangpu River.

Day 20: Depart Shanghai

Transfer to the airport to board our overnight flight home.

Day 21: 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

21 Days, Fully Inclusive Twin Share

- ✈ From \$5,569 per person - Departing Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch with Singapore Airlines
- 🏠 Single Hotel Supplement - From \$758
- 🚢 Single Cruise Cabin Supplement - From \$521
- 🚗 Land Only - From \$3,681
- ★ Comfortable Paced Tour (see page 2)
- 💰 Compulsory Tipping: Approx US\$74 per person - see page 54

Due to flight schedules Christchurch passengers need to depart one day earlier from New Zealand. This will extend the itinerary to 22 days

Departures

Tour Code	Depart New Zealand	Arrive New Zealand	Twin Share Price
2010			
T30040	15 Mar	04 Apr	\$5,569
T30041	29 Mar	18 Apr	\$5,569
T30042	12 Apr	02 May	\$5,569
T30044	26 Apr	16 May	\$5,569
T30046	10 May	30 May	\$5,569
T30047	17 May	06 Jun	\$5,569
T30048	24 May	13 Jun	\$5,569
T30049	01 Jun	21 Jun	\$5,569
T300410	07 Jun	27 Jun	\$5,569
T300411	05 Jul	25 Jul	\$5,569
T3004110	09 Aug	29 Aug	\$5,569
T300412	23 Aug	12 Sep	\$5,569
T300413	06 Sep	26 Sep	\$5,569
T300414	13 Sep	03 Oct	\$5,569
T300415	20 Sep	10 Oct	\$5,569
T300416	27 Sep	17 Oct	\$5,569
T300417	04 Oct	24 Oct	\$5,569
T300418	18 Oct	07 Nov	\$5,569
T300419	01 Nov	21 Nov	\$5,569
2011			
T30050	14 Mar	03 Apr	\$5,569
T30051	28 Mar	17 Apr	\$5,569
T30052	11 Apr	01 May	\$5,569
T30053	25 Apr	15 May	\$5,569
T30054	02 May	22 May	\$5,569
T30055	09 May	29 May	\$5,569
T30056	16 May	05 Jun	\$5,569
T30057	23 May	12 Jun	\$5,569
T30058	30 May	19 Jun	\$5,569
T30059	06 Jun	26 Jun	\$5,569

