

Southern Treasures of China

Most travelers visit the sites of Northern and Central China, few behold the rich diversity of culture and landscape in Southern China. Enjoy constant warm weather and exotic sights on this unique tour – Piano Island ‘Gulangyu’ • Circular Dwellings of Hakkas • Mawangdui Han Tombs • Mao’s Hometown • Three Thousand Natural Pillars at Zhangjiajie • Ethnic Miao Villages and Markets • One-of-a-Kind Residence ‘Diaolou’ • China’s Hawaii: Hainan Island

16 Days (Tour Code–AST)

Arrive	Mar10	Apr07	May12	Sep08	Oct12	Nov10
Return	Mar25	Apr22	May27	Sep23	Oct27	Nov25
Land Price in USD	4,750	4,870	4,870	4,870	4,870	4,750
Single Supplement	1,660	1,760	1,760	1,760	1,760	1,660

- Land prices are per person, double occupancy in deluxe or best available hotels. Prices include coach class intra-China airfare, ground transportation, all transfers, all sightseeing admissions, cultural events, most meals and visa processing.
- Land price does not include cost for international flights. For assistance on international airfare to China, please contact us by dialing 1-800-788-1399.
- This tour is fully escorted (for a group of 6 or more travelers) within mainland China by an English-speaking professional tour manager and is guided by an English-speaking local tour guide in each city. Guaranteed to run with 2 pax.



Day 1 Shanghai

Arrive at Shanghai Pudong Airport and are met by your tour guide. Transfer to hotel for check-in and a rest before joining other travellers for a Group Reception.

<Reception>

Shanghai Ruijin Hotel

Day 2 Shanghai → Xiamen

After breakfast, transfer to Shanghai Hongqiao Airport for a morning flight to Xiamen (pronounced as “Amoy” in local dialect), Fujian Province. Met by guide and transfer to your hotel to check in.

Xiamen is an ancient and bustling port city on the mainland side of the Taiwan Strait. It was one of the first

Special Economic Zones established in China in the early 1980s. Tea was the major export from this port initially developed and utilized by the Portuguese in 1541.

Begin your exploration after lunch by taking a ferry to **Gulang Yu (Piano Island)**, a lovely maze of colonial homes and seaside gardens overlooking the ocean. Xiamen Museum is also located on the island. Later visit the 1000 year old **Nanputuo Buddhist Temple**, the oldest monastery in the city famous for its fine architecture and inscribed stone tablets.

Enjoy a delicious Local Cuisine Dinner.

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Sofitel Plaza Xiamen

Day 3 Xiamen

Take an excursion today and visit the unique “**Tulou**” - the ‘**Round Houses**’ of the Hakka people. These are multistoried circular dwellings inhabited by many of the Hakka families.

Return to Xiamen and enjoy a **Seafood Dinner** at a fine local restaurant.

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Sofitel Plaza Xiamen

Day 4 Xiamen → Changsha

After breakfast transfer to the airport for a flight to Changsha, capital of Hunan Province. Met by guide and check into hotel.

After lunch take a vehicle to the village of **Shaoshan**, the birthplace of Chairman Mao Zedong. Over three million



people a year visit the museums and displays dedicated to one of the 20th century's most influential figures in China.

Return to Changsha for a spicy Hunan Cuisine Dinner.

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Sheraton Changsha Hotel

Day 5 Changsha → Zhangjiajie

This morning enjoy a city tour of Changsha - visit the 2100 year old **Mawangdui Han Tombs** and the **Provincial Museum**. After lunch, transfer to the airport for a short flight northwest across mountainous terrain to Zhangjiajie. Met and transfer to your hotel.

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Wulingyuan International Resort

Day 6 Zhangjiajie

Enjoy a whole day sightseeing in UNESCO World Heritage Site **Wulingyuan Scenic Area**. In this subtropical forest inhabited by the Tujia, Miao and Bai minorities, 243 peaks and 3000 limestone karst upthrusts create a magnificent landscape.

The National Park of Zhangjiajie offers fantastic views of the magical landscape filled with caves, waterfalls, rare plants, and wildlife. The markets are full of colorful minority handcrafts and artwork. Enjoy a traditional **Folklore Song & Dance Show** after dinner.

Wulingyuan International Resort <B-L-D>



Day 7 Zhangjiajie → Guiyang

Morning flight to Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province. Subtropical Guizhou, shrouded in mist and forested mountains, has a unique culture and is home to 23 of China's 55 minority groups.

Tour the streets and parks of this pleasant climate city (the 1000 meter, 3,300 foot altitude keeps the temperatures from rising too high). Finish with the **Provincial Museum** full of exhibits of the various minority groups.

Enjoy a Local Cuisine Dinner in a fine restaurant. Be sure to try a sip or two of world famous Maotai, the signature liquor of Guizhou Province.

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Sheraton Guiyang Hotel

Day 8 Guiyang → Kaili

After breakfast enjoy a 190 kilometer ride through lush forested mountains and river valleys to Kaili, the center of Miao culture and gateway to surrounding minority hill villages.

Upon arrival, visit **Dage** (Grand Pavilion) **Park** and **Drum Tower**. Check in at hotel and have Miao Cuisine Dinner.

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Kaili Crown Plaza Hotel

Day 9 Kaili

Today behold the splendor of the traditional Guizhou marketplaces as you travel from one scenic Miao village to another. Visit **Langde** and **Xijiang** to see intricate embroidery and brocade, finely wrought silver jewelry, spices, batiks, wood carvings, and jade are but a few of the treasures for sale. Enjoy the picturesque rice paddies, intricate wooden and bamboo house architecture and lush hills of this most beautiful and unique part of the world. Dinner is on your own tonight.

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Kaili Crown Plaza Hotel

Day 10 Kaili → Guangzhou → Kaiping

Get another close look of idyllic scenery on the way



back to Guiyang to catch a flight to Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province.

Met at the Guangzhou Airport and taken by motor coach to Kaiping, check into your hotel and take a rest after this long day of traveling.

<B-L-D> **Ever Joint Peninsula Hotel**

Day 11 Kaiping

Kaiping is the location to see the peculiar “Diaolou” - multistorey, fortified stone towers built by prosperous families since the early Qing dynasty. Over 1800 of these towers are still scattered around the area, earning World Heritage Site status in 2007.

Kaiping has always been the source of huge waves of emigration to the United States, Canada, and South-east Asian countries. Many of the Diaolou were built by returning residents who made their fortune abroad. Enjoy a traditional Cantonese Style Dinner tonight.

<B-L-D> **Ever Joint Peninsula Hotel**

Day 12 Kaiping → Sanya

Morning drive through the Pearl River Delta back to the airport in Guangzhou to catch a flight to Sanya, Hainan Island. Hainan is the tropical southernmost province of China and Sanya is the southernmost city, receiving warm tropical weather year-round.

Met at the airport by guide and transferred to your luxury seaside resort. Enjoy a seafood dinner.

<B-D> **Marriott Sanya Resort & Spa**

Day 13 Sanya

Sanya, referred to as the Hawaii of China, is a fitting place to spend a relaxing last few days of your journey through the diverse topography and culture of Southern China. Enjoy a leisurely city tour of the relatively new area in the morning, and in the afternoon take a half-day excursion to visit to a century-old **Li Minority Village** in



the hills north of Sanya.

The warm turquoise waters of the South China Sea are never far from sight. Dinner on your own tonight.

<B-L> **Marriott Sanya Resort & Spa**

Day 14 Sanya

You have earned a day of leisure. Stroll along the white sandy beach, enjoy the pool, go snorkeling or just lie in the tropical sun, the choice is yours.

 Marriott Sanya Resort & Spa

Day 15 Sanya → Hong Kong

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for a short flight to Hong Kong. Walk to your hotel adjacent to the airport and balance of the day is for your own relaxation.

 Regal Airport Hotel, Hong Kong

Day 16 Return Home

Transfer to the airport and fly home, arrive in north America the same day.

