# China Splendor

Exploring natural wonders, historic treasures and cultural heritage in Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu, Shanghai, Longsheng, Guilin, and Hong Kong

### 16 Days / 14 Nights

well tested itinerary and ready-to-go for any group size - pick your dates









## **Tour Program Summary**

China is a land of history and refinement unparalleled in the world. Attentive visitors are immersed in a sea of visual and cultural experiences unlike any other they may have had elsewhere. Each geographic area in China teems with its own identity as an energetic variation on the great theme of Chinese civilization. You will be amazed at how regions differ vastly yet express similar values and ideas.

Your grand China tour starts in **Beijing**. Enjoy an exploration of the beauty of the imperial city and meetings with urban Chinese residents. Discover the splendor of China's glorious past: the Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, and Great Wall; also witness the dynamic and ever-changing life pace in today's capital of China.

Travel by high-speed train to **Xi'an**, once the largest city in the world. Visit and explore the Terracotta Warriors Museum in homage to Qinshihuang. It is considered China's preeminent archaeological discovery. Tour other important historic sites in the ancient Tang Dynasty capital.

The next stop of your tour is **Chengdu**, a place of color, spirit and fiery food. A visit to the Giant Panda Breeding Center will prove to be a thrill. Watch the marvelous face-changing show and relax in a local restaurant for a taste of the genuine Sichuan cuisine.

Fly to **Shanghai**, China's most populous city and economic powerhouse. The European Bund still retains the glamour of the colonial era; modern western pubs and bars and boutiques scatter all around the center of Shanghai. Visit the traditional Yuyuan Garden and spend some time exploring Shanghai Museum, the best in China. Take a pleasant stroll in the tree-lined French Concession.

Your next destination is **Guilin**, and together with **Longsheng** and **Yangshuo**, this south China region of picturesque karsts mountains rising from rice paddies and rice terraces cultivated by local farmers. This is one of the most idyllic landscapes of China, and your cruise down the Li River will reveal its beauties at each bend of the river.

The last stop is **Hong Kong**, the southern gateway to modern China and the mainland's window on the world. Here, people are attracted by the dramatic scenery: the bustling harbor with its backdrop of skyscraper-covered hillsides, the outlaying rugged islands and the New Territories, where traditional walled villages and ancestral temples exist alongside the new towns.

Fly home or your next destination from Hong Kong.

### Tour Daily Itinerary

Day 01 → depart Fly from your home city to Beijing, China on a cross-Pacific flight

Day 02 **Beijing** Arrive at Beijing Capital Int'l Airport today; met by your private guide and transfer to <u>Waldorf Astoria Beijing (deluxe king room)</u>. Evening is free.









Day 03 Beijing

Breakfast in hotel. Meet your guide in hotel lobby and go to visit <u>Tiananmen Square</u> and <u>Forbidden City</u> this morning. After your own lunch, take a <u>"Hutong & Courtyard" Tour</u> in the afternoon with <u>Pedicab Ride</u> in a traditional neighborhood.

Return to hotel for refreshing late afternoon. In the evening, go out with guide and enjoy a Peking Duck Dinner at *Dadong Restaurant*. <B-D>

Day 04 Beijing

Breakfast in hotel. Leave hotel at 8:30am and take an excursion to the <u>Great Wall at Mutianyu</u>. Enjoy a stroll in <u>Mutianyu Village</u> and have your own lunch in a one of the village restaurants.

Drive to <u>Ming Tombs</u> for a visit of Changling Mausoleum and the 'Spirit Way'. Return to hotel later for own relaxation and dinner. <B>

Day 05 Beijing

Early breakfast this morning. At 7:30am go to visit <u>Temple of Heaven</u> to see Chinese residents involved in morning exercises such as Taiji and Qigong, and feel free to join in. Stop by <u>Panjiayuan Market</u> later before returning to hotel for refreshing and your own lunch.

Afternoon go to visit the <u>Summer Palace</u> with a boat ride on Kunming Lake. Late afternoon, transfer back to hotel. <B>









Day 06 **Beijing A Xi'an** 

After breakfast, private transfer to the train station and board high-speed train G655 (1005-1531; first class seats) to Xi'an; met by your local guide and transfer to hotel for check-in and rest.

Late afternoon visit the <u>Great Mosque</u> and <u>Muslim Market</u>; transfer back to hotel in the evening and stay overnight in <u>Sofitel Legend Peoples</u> <u>Grand Hotel Xi'an on Renmin Square (premium king room)</u>. <B>

Day 07 Xi'an → Chengdu

Breakfast in hotel. This morning, follow your guide and go to visit the massive <u>Ancient City Wall</u> of Xi'an. Then, take a morning excursion to the <u>Terracotta Warriors Site & Museum</u> for an unforgettable exploration of this World Heritage Site.

Afternoon transfer to Xi'an airport for flight CA8925 (1640-1755) to Chengdu; met upon arrival by your private guide and transfer to hotel for check-in, rest and your own arrangements. Stay for two nights in <a href="The St. Regis Chengdu">The St. Regis Chengdu (deluxe king room)</a>. <a href="#"><B></a>









Day 08 Chengdu

Early breakfast and leave at 7:30am to visit <u>Panda Research & Breeding Center</u> where you can see these lovely bears up close and observe staff and scientists working to look after this endangered species.

Then, take an excursion to the Leshan to see the Giant Buddha, the largest in the world. Return to hotel for refreshing and your own dinner.

This evening, enjoy an exciting <u>Face Changing Show</u> at *Shufeng Yayun Theatre*. TRansfer back to hotel after the show. <B>

Day 09 Chengdu → Shanghai

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer by vehicle to Chengdu Airport and fly CA4513 (1045-1325) to Shanghai; met by your private guide upon arrival and take the <u>Maglev Transit Train</u> to the city for a private vehicle transfer to the hotel for check-in and relaxation.

Late afternoon guided tour of the colonial <u>Bund</u>; stay two nights in <u>The Peninsula Shanghai (deluxe king room)</u>. <B>









Day 10 Shanghai

Breakfast in hotel. Visit <u>Yuyuan Garden</u>, <u>Old Town</u> area, and the former <u>French Concession</u> in the morning.

Afternoon visit <u>Shanghai Museum</u> to see extraordinary Bronze exhibit and other treasures; then go to <u>Pudong District</u> for an exploration, and get a bird's-eye-view of the city on the glassy observation floor (1555 feet above ground) of the <u>World Finance Center</u> building.

This evening, go to a local theater and enjoy a stunning <u>Acrobatic</u> <u>Performance</u>. Transfer back to hotel after the show. <B>

Day 11 **Shanghai** → **Guilin** 등

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to airport and fly FM9377 (1140-1435) to Guilin. Met by your private guide and travel by vehicle to the mountainous

**Longsheng** Longsheng; hike up trail to the charming <u>Li'An Lodge (terrace view king room)</u> for check-in and rest (*Dinner is included at this lodge*).

Late afternoon and evening is for your own exploration around the lodge on top of the mountain with gorgeous views of the rice terrace. <B-D>











Day 12 **Longsheng Guilin** 

Breakfast at the lodge; guided exploration of the <u>rice terraces</u>, <u>minority villages</u> and <u>local markets</u> this morning.

In the afternoon, travel by vehicle to Guilin and check in <u>Shangri-la Hotel Guilin (deluxe river view king room)</u>; evening is free. <B>

Day 13 Guilin -Yangshuo + Hong Kong Breakfast in hotel; enjoy a <u>Li River Cruise</u> with your guide aboard a luxury cruise boat; disembark in Yangshuo and tour <u>West Street Market</u> and the surrounding countryside.

Afternoon transfer to Guilin Airport by vehicle and take flight HX122 (1825-1950) to Hong Kong; met your private guide upon arrival and transfer to Four Seasons Hotel HK (deluxe harbor-view king room) for a good rest for the night. Stay in this hotel for 3 nights. <B>

Day 14 Hong Kong

Breakfast in hotel. Take a half-day private tour of Hong Kong Island this morning— <u>Victoria Peak</u>, <u>Aberdeen Fishing Village</u>, <u>Repulse Bay</u>, and <u>Stanley Market</u>. Transfer back to hotel around noon.

Your own exploration in the afternoon and evening. <B>









Day 15 Hong Kong

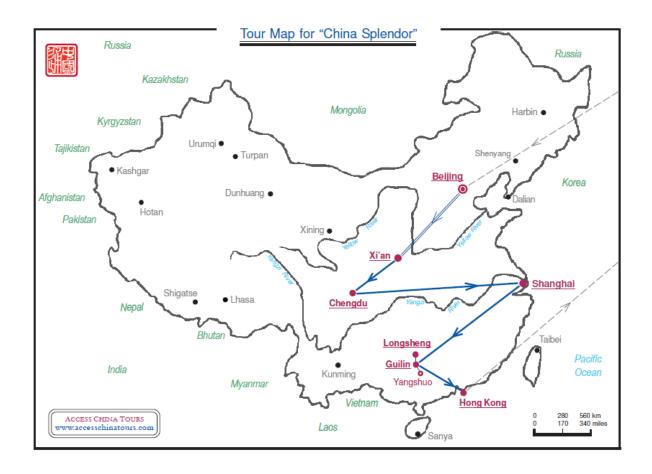
Breakfast in hotel. Your own leisure and exploration today. Hong Kong is a Asia's financial center and international transportation hub. English is widely spoken and most signage are in both Chinese and English so it is very easy for international visitors to get around and explore the city. <B>

Day 16 → return

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to airport and fly home. Service ends. <B>

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Changes to Itinerary: Access China Tours has made all possible attempts to ensure the accuracy of tour itineraries. Circumstances beyond our control may occur. We reserve the right to change itineraries, sightseeing activities, and common carriers, and to substitute hotels when necessary. Service of a similar category and standard will be maintained if such changes are made. The Service Voucher in your last pre-departure packet will provide the operational itinerary summary, final transport and hotel information.



# Luxury Hotels Selected for Your Private Tour









Waldorf Astoria Beijing









Sofitel Legend Peoples Grand Hotel Xi'an









The St. Regis Chengdu









The Peninsula Shanghai









Li'An Lodge Longsheng







Shangri-la Hotel Guilin









Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong

### Tour Land Price Inclusions & Exclusions

**Tour Land Price:** from \$7,480 USD per person, double occupancy (for a party of 2 travelers)

We will quote the exact price for your tour depending on the season and availability once you have chosen your tour dates

### What's Included in Tour Land Price:

- Luxury class and boutique hotel accommodations, double occupancy with breakfast
- Coach class Chinese domestic air, 1st class high speed train and ground transportation while on tour
- All tour related Chinese domestic taxes
- Arrival and departure transfers on tour dates
- Transfers and luggage (1 piece of 45 pounds per person) handling
- Pre-departure information packets
- All sightseeing, activities, and cultural events listed in the itinerary
- All breakfasts and two dinners as specified in the itinerary
- Service of a private professional English-speaking local tour guide in each city/area
- Private, clean, and newer vehicles with air-conditioning and professional driver

### What's Not Included in Tour Land Price:

- International air tickets (please call us for a quote if you need assistance)
- Chinese visa processing (www.mychinavisa.com or www.mychinavisa.ca)
- All lunches and most dinners
- Trip cancellation, baggage, accident, and medical insurance
- Gratuities to guides and drivers
- Items not listed and/or specified as included in the itinerary

Tour Payment Schedule: \$600 USD per person deposit is required at sign up. Tour Balance is due 90 days prior to tour date.

**Cancellation Policy:** All cancellation notices must be received in writing and will become effective as of the date of receipt by your travel agency or *Access China Tours*. We assess cancellation fees of all tours according to the following schedule:

90 days or more prior to departure *	\$300 per person
89 to 60 days prior to departure *	\$600 per person
59 to 30 days prior to departure *	\$900 per person
29 to 15 days prior to departure *	\$1200 per person

<sup>\*</sup> Plus any charges assessed by government agencies, land suppliers, cruise companies and airlines.

Within 14 days of departure ......100% forfeiture of the tour price per person

Your travel agency and Access China Tours will not grant partial refunds for any unused trip arrangements after the trip has commenced or any refunds to participants who do not complete any portion of the itinerary. Any airline tickets issued are subject to the carrier's refund and cancellation policy. We strongly recommend you purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance to protect your travel investment. Your travel agency and Access China Tours reserves the right to cancel any tour(s) that has only one traveler signed up. In this case, we will try to find an alternative tour for tour participant. If this is not acceptable, all money paid will be refunded in full and this will constitute full and final settlement for the client. However, your travel agency and Access China Tours will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by tour participants (e.g., non-refundable "advance purchase" air tickets, insurance & medical expenses, passport and visa expenses, etc.). If a tour is forced to be cancelled due to government's travel warnings, declared or undeclared wars, hostilities, civil disturbances, strike, riot, epidemic, and quarantines, your travel agency and Access China Tours will refund all participants' payment less any irretrievable expenses and loss (visa fees, airline penalties, communication cost, and non-refundable booking cost, etc.)