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16 days Panoramic China tour with Yangtze cruise

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Beijing
Xi'an
Chengdu
Yangtze Cruise
Shanghai
Suzhou
Shanghai
Guilin
Yangshuo
Hong Kong

This China classic tour combines city sightseeing and Yangtze Cruise. Stop in 7 cities to explore the highlights along with a visual feast on the splendid Yangtze River. With the best service, this 16 days trip provides a panoramic China to you.

Type
Private
Duration
16 days
Theme
1st Time travel to China, Culture and Heritage, Natural scenery
Trip code
YCT-07
Price
From \$ 2,310 per person

Itinerary

This China classic tour provides a relaxed time to cruise on two of the most beautiful rivers, Yangtze River and Li River. See the natural beauty along with the comfortable cruise. Added with stops in Beijing and Xi'an to explore the famous heritages and learn about the Chinese history and culture. Different attractions await you at your every stop in this trip.

Day 01 :
Arrive Beijing



Beijing, the first city to visit during this classic China tour, is the capital as well as an ancient city in China. Upon arrival at the airport or railway station, be met and assist by the local guide and driver to your hotel. The rest of the day is for you to explore this magical city on your own. If you have no ideas where to go or what to see, please ask your guide for some good suggestions.

Day 02 :

Beijing City Tour

Visit three of the most popular attractions within Beijing city, morning head to the **Tiananmen Square** and **Forbidden City**, next up by exploring **the old Hutong area** in the afternoon. Located in the center of Beijing, Tiananmen Square is said to be the largest public square in the world. During the visit on the square, you can see some well-known architectural ornaments which are called Huabiao in China. They are some pillars entwined by a divine dragon engraved in relief.

Head to the north end of the square to enter directly into the magnificent **Forbidden City** after you visit the Tiananmen Square. Regarded as one of the world's top travel wonders, this palace complex has numerous lavishly decorated ceremonial halls and imperial palaces that were built to impress your eyes.

After lunch, have a **cultural Hutong tour**. With a one to two hours visit to Beiluoguoxiang in the old east part of the city, the local guide will tell you the history and traditional cultures of old Beijing. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional Kong Fu Show before you return to the hotel in the evening.

Day 03 :

Beijing Great Wall Tour - Train to Xi'an

After breakfast, drive to visit the **Temple of Heaven**, which was the site of imperial offerings and rites to the heavenly gods during Ming and Qing dynasties. Now it offers as a garden and a museum for visitors to view the imperial architectures and learn about the royal ceremonies and cultures in ancient China.

Later, continue driving about 1.5 hours to the northeast of Beijing city to see the **Great Wall in Mutianyu Section**. As one of the best-preserved parts, the Mutianyu Great Wall once served as the northern barrier protecting the capital. Spend 2 to 3 hours to walk along the wall, see the excellent scenic beauty and experience the history of these incredible structures.

In the evening, say farewell to Beijing and your local guide as you take a soft and comfortable overnight train to Xi'an.

Day 04 :

Xi'an arrival - Xi'an Sightseeings

Upon arrival in Xi'an in the early morning, you will be met by your local guide and driver to start your today's tour with a visit to the eighth wonder of the world, the **Terracotta Warriors and Horses**. The site is situated in the northeast countryside of Xi'an city, where you can see thousands of strong underground soldiers buried in front of the Emperor Qinshihuang's tomb to defend him in the afterlife.

After driving back from the Terracotta Warriors, continue your journey in Xi'an by heading to the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**, which is one of the most famous landmarks of Xi'an. Standing atop the pagoda, you can have a bird's eye view of the modern city of Xi'an.

The last part of the tour today is to explore the Muslim culture in Xi'an. Learn about Islam with a visit to the **Great Mosque**, one of the largest mosque in China and experience the local life of Hui (Chinese Muslim) people by walking around the **Muslim**

Quarters.

In the evening, end the trip today by enjoying a Tang Dynasty Dinner Show along with the Dumpling Dinner.

Day 05 :

Xi'an City Tour - Bullet train to Chengdu

Continue your journey in Xi'an today by heading to the **Shaanxi History Museum**, which is one of the largest modern national museums to house the best heritage of Shaanxi Province. Learn about the systematic development process of Chinese civilization from your guide while seeing these exhibitions in the museum. As you leave the museum for the next sight, notice that the entire building complex of the museum assumes the architectural features of the Tang Dynasty.

Afterwards, take a walk along the **Xi'an City Wall**, one of the oldest and best-preserved city wall in China. Afternoon, you will be driven to the railway station for the bullet train to Chengdu.

Day 06 :

Chengdu Panda Tour - Bullet Train to Chongqing

You need an early breakfast to catch the feeding time of the adorable pandas in **Chengdu Panda Base**, which is one of the most important places to see this rare animal in China. Spend some time to get close with them and learn about their daily life in the museum. After lunch, drive to the railway station for the bullet train to Chongqing. The train takes about 2 hours, upon arrival, your guide will help you board the Yangtze River cruise. As the ship sails in the evening, your memorable Yangtze cruise begins.

Day 07 :

Yangtze River Cruise with Shore Excursions to Mountain Shuanggui or Shibaozhai Wooden Pagoda (B, L, D)

Taking a Yangtze River Cruise might be the best way to explore the breathtaking natural landscapes and cultural heritage along the Yangtze River.

Morning take a shore excursion to **Mountain Shuanggui** near Fengdu. Depending on river conditions, an alternate excursion may be substituted to **Shibaozhai**, with its impressive wooden pagoda. Continue the cruise on Yangtze River. Dinner and Supper are offered on board.

Optional shore excursions today (fee on your own):

Depending on the river conditions, there is an optional shore excursion to **Fengdu ghost city**, Fengdu is an ancient town where you can experience the world of the afterlife in Chinese ghost folktales. Wreathed with numerous statues and interspersed by temples, the whole scenic area is a treasure house of art that combines the culture of Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism.

Day 08 :

Yangtze River Cruise - Enter the Three Gorges with Small Gorges of Goddess Stream (B,L,D)

In the early morning, you have the option to join an optional shore excursion to the historical and cultural site of **White Emperor City** (additional fee applies). This renowned location offers stunning views of the Kuimen scenery and is often referred to as the "City of Poems." Immerse yourself in the rich history and soak in the breathtaking landscapes that surround you. Alternatively, you can choose to enjoy leisure time onboard the ship, relaxing and taking in the tranquil ambiance.

Afterwards, return to the cruise and sail through the spectacular **Three Gorges**. Begin the passage with **Qutang Gorge**, the shortest and the grandest among three gorges. Have a glimpse of the exquisite peaks and grotesquely shaped rocks along the two banks of Yangtze River. Then pass the **Wu Gorge**, considered to be the most beautiful one where you will have a graceful view of the lofty and misty peaks.

Later, you'll transfer to smaller boat for a delightful **excursion** through the enchanting gorges of either **Goddess Stream (Shennv Stream)** or, depending on river conditions, **Shennong Stream**. Experience the natural beauty and serenity of these captivating gorges. Finally, return to the cruise to continue your journey through Xiling Gorge, which holds the title of being the longest (41 miles) and deepest of the Three Gorges.

Day 09 :

Yangtze River Cruise - Visit Three Gorges Dam - Flight to Shanghai (B)

Disembark this morning and take a tour of the **Three Gorges Dam**, the grandest hydroelectric project in the world, which spans the Yangtze River at Sandouping in Xiling Gorge. The dam is designed to provide a huge source of hydropower for China and control the flood. After morning sightseeing, You will be provided a motor coach transfer to nearby Yichang by Cruise company. Upon arrival at Yichang, our Yichang local guide or driver will greet and assist you to Yichang airport for the flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival at Shanghai, airport picking up and transfer to your hotel.

Optional shore excursions today (fee on your own):

An additional optional shore excursion is also available (preceding the Three Gorges Dam tour) through the recently-completed **unique ship lock with a ship lift**, the world's largest.

Day 10 :

Shanghai City Tour

Today's trip starts by heading to the **People's Square**, a flourishing place for people to look around in Shanghai city. The south end of the square lies the **Shanghai Museum**, a large museum to exhibit the ancient Chinese art. Compared with the

Shaanxi History Museum, the main building of the Shanghai Museum presents a modern architectural style. The round dome and the square base symbolizes the ancient idea of a round heaven and a square land.

Next drive to the **Xintiandi** in the French Concession. This place is an urban tourist attraction imbued with the city's historical and cultural legacies. Walk around here before you cross the Huangpu River and head to the **Shanghai Tower** at the tip of Lujiazui in the Pudong District. People all around the world see this as the official landmark of Shanghai. Next up with a walk to see the beautiful scenery of the Bund in Shanghai.

In the evening, have a pleasant cruise along the Huangpu River to see the beautiful night scene of Shanghai.

Day 11 :

Drive to Suzhou - Suzhou Tour - Return to Shanghai

Morning take a private car to Suzhou, a famous garden city located west to Shanghai. Spend the whole day to visit several famous attractions in this city today. The first spot is the **Humble Administrator's Garden**. The architectural design here shows a pure feature of South China, which is totally different with the gardens you visit in Beijing. This garden is also one of the largest and most impressive gardens in Southeast China. Afterwards, take a **cruise on the Grand Canal**, which is the longest artificial river in the world, used daily to connect the north and south China.

In the afternoon, visit another famous garden in Suzhou city, the **Lingering Garden**. Every landscape here is meticulously designed to make you surprise and impressed. Next, take a visit to the Silk Factory to learn about the long history of Suzhou's silk industry before you drive back to the hotel in Shanghai for retirement.

Day 12 :

Flight to Guilin - Guilin Tour

Drive to the airport for the flight to Guilin in the morning. Upon arrival, get settled into the hotel and have a break for the rest of this morning. After lunch, start your journey in Guilin by heading to the **Reed Flute Cave**, a natural limestone cave which is over 180 million years old. See the numerous stalactites, stalagmites and rock formations of different shapes in this cave, experience the exceptional workmanship of nature.

Afterwards, head to the **Elephant Trunk Hill**. This sight is considered to be the symbol of Guilin and received its name from its appearance of an elephant drinking water. End the tour today by visiting the Pearl Culture Shop and learning about the pearl's process. Here you can buy some for your friends in a very low price.

Day 13 :

Li River Cruise - Yangshuo Sightseeing

Spend today comfortably **cruise along the Li River from Guilin to Yangshuo** Have a different experience with the Yangtze River cruise as you enjoy the unique scenery with beautiful water and majestic mountains in Guangxi province. This cruise takes 3 to 4 hours.

Once you disembark in Yangshuo, have a two to three hours bicycle ride into the countryside to experience the real local life of Chinese peasants. If you prefer not to ride a bicycle, just let us know and we will prepare an alternative for you.

Day 14 :

High-speed train to Hong Kong



After a relaxing morning at Yangshuo, then drive about 40 minutes to visit **Xianggong hill (Husband Mountain)**, it takes about

15 minutes to the top of the hill where you will be amazed by the breathtaking view of Li River and the surrounded Karst mountain peaks. Afterwards drop you off at Guilin train station for the high-speed train to Hong Kong, a bustling modern city in South China. After you get settled into the hotel, spend some time to explore this city on your own. Our guide and Travel Advisor are glad to give some suggestions on where to go and what to see.

Day 15 :

Half-day Hong Kong City Tour

Morning head to the **Victoria Peak**, the highest mountain in the Hong Kong island. With a height of 552 m. (1,811 ft.), it is a great place for you to have a spectacular view of the city and its harbors. Then continue to Repulse Bay located in the south of Hong Kong island to look across this busy waterway at Kowloon Island and more.

Afterward, drive to the **Stanley Market**, a traditional old open-air market in Hong Kong, jammed with many souvenir shops. Then drive across to Deep Water Bay to visit the Aberdeen Area. This place is famous to tourists for its fish village, which is located within the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelters. We can help find a perfect restaurant to enjoy a fresh catch of the delicious local seafood here.

The afternoon is open and flexible for you to explore Hong Kong on your own. In the evening, you will have a cruise at Victoria Harbour and enjoy the Buffet dinner.

Day 16 :

Departure from Hong Kong



Hong Kong airport is a key hub for international flights and a great place to depart for your home country. As your Hong Kong guide says farewell you will be driven to the airport for your departure. Wish you have a pleasant journey home.

Inclusions

Tour notes:

Please note prices are based in CNY.

General inclusions:

2 bottles of mineral water provided daily.

All required government taxes and fees.

Your selection of 3, 4 or 5 Stars hotel (shared twin room, private bathroom and daily breakfast)

The hotel accommodation is based on two persons sharing one standard twin room with private facilities in all relevant locations. If a single client requests a twin room alone, the single room supplement will be charged.

Yangtze river cruise class is a Standard cabin located on the main deck.

All entrance tickets as noted in the tour's itinerary.

Yangtze river cruise services include all onboard meals and shore excursions to the Little Three Gorges, Shennong Stream and others.

Guide fluent in English, Chinese or Japanese that is certified by the state tourism build and from the local community. (If your native language is not listed please let us know, we are certain we can assist your needs.)

Airport and/or train station pick-up and drop-off.

All domestic flight and train tickets. Economy-class for flights and soft sleeper / seat for train tickets.

Transportation will be provided via a comfortable and clean car, minivan or tourist bus depending upon the groups size.

Meals as remarked in the itinerary. (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)

General exclusions:

Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, internet access, fax, telephone calls etc.

Tips for your guide and driver.

Optional Attractions that are not specified in the itinerary.

Flight and/or railway ticket(s) to the first city of the tour and departure from the last city of the tour.

Meals not specified in the itinerary.

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