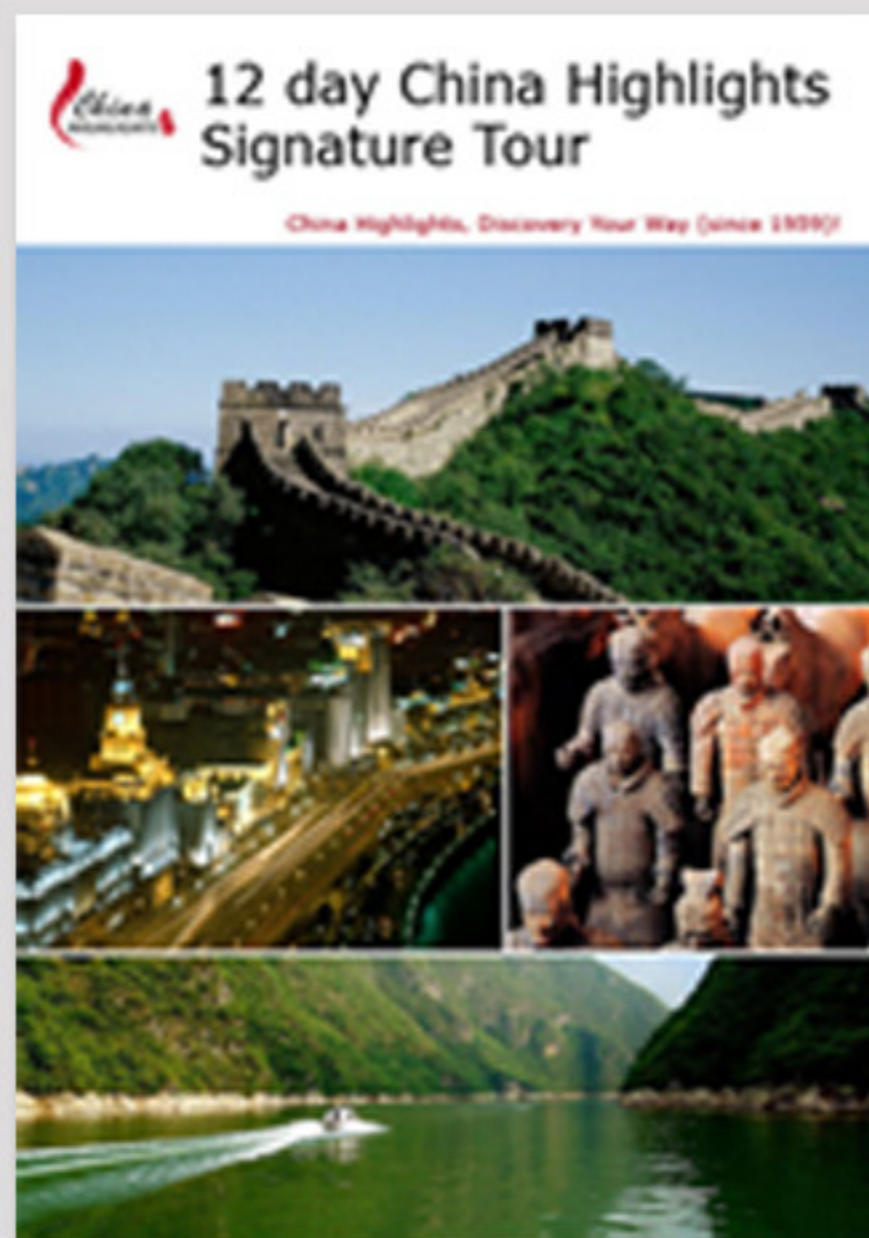




12 day China Highlights Signature Tour

China Highlights, Discovery Your Way (since 1959)!





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12 day China Highlights Signature Tour

from \$5060 USD

Beijing → Xi'an → Chongqing → Yangtze → Yichang → Shanghai



Travel with style and enjoy the best China has to give. Enjoy the best destinations, finest hotels, "must-see" sights and the services of our expert local guides in a private tour with special privileges all the way. This all inclusive vacation brings you a new style of travel. We will show you what it was like to be Emperor for one day and a common person the next. You will visit a more remote and unspoiled part of the Great Wall, get close to the Terra Cotta Warriors. We provide the best seat and best viewing for everything that you do.



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Highlights of this Tour



Beijing, the capital of China, has over 3000 years' history, and had been China's capital for over 850 years from 1153. Beijing has the finest remnants of China's imperial past and is a must-see city when in China. Among the stunning sights you will find the Forbidden City, one of the largest and best-preserved ancient imperial palace museums; the beautiful Summer Palace; the Great Wall, China's legendary line of defense; Tiananmen Square, the largest open square in the world; the Temple of Heaven, Hutongs, and much more . . . Aside with the past grandeurs, Beijing is also a vast and modern metropolis of contemporary sky-scrapers and eight-lane highways, as well as the host city for world-praised 2008 summer Olympics.



1. Visit the less-crowded Mutianyu Great Wall
China Highlights selects the Mutianyu section of the Great Wall for it is less crowded and owns some unique characteristics among all the sections.



2. Hutong Tours in Rickshaw and local house visits.



3. Spectacular Kung Fu Show at Red Theatre .



4. Visit more areas of The Forbidden City that are off limits to most tour groups.



5. Reverence national flag's hoisting ceremony at Tian'anmen Square.

Beijing



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Xi'an

No visit to China will be complete without a few days' stay in Xi'an. As one of China's seven ancient national capitals, it served as the capital for 12 dynasties over 1,000 years, thus Xi'an is blessed with a great number of precious relics and historical sites. Hotspots here include the Army of Terra Cotta Warriors, two historical Buddhist Pagodas (Big Wild Goose Pagoda and Small Wild Goose Pagoda), the Great Mosque, the Ancient City Wall, Banpo site, Stele Forest... Xi'an was the starting point of the Silk Road, an ancient trade route that extended from Asia to Europe and played an important role in economic and cultural exchange between the East and the West in ancient times.



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Xi'an



1. Close-up View to the Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses
In this tour, China Highlights will get you the privilege for a close view in the pits which are not available to the ordinary tourists. More impressive than imagined!



2. Biking around the Ancient City Wall



3. Tang dynasty show at Tang Yuegong



4. Enjoy local delicacies and buy souvenirs at Muslim Quarters



Yangtze Cruise

Relax with friends from all over the world on the most luxury ship.



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Yangtze River Cruise



The mighty Yangtze, the largest river in China, is the cradle of Chinese civilization and home to stunning beautiful natural scenery and numerous historical relics, like Three Gorges Dam, Gem Stronghold and Shennong Stream. Relaxing on the most luxury ship – Victoria Cruises, participating the great variety of activities onboard, exploring the off-shore attractions once in a while, will make your tour to Yangtze once-in-a-life experience.



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Shanghai

Shanghai, the largest city in China, is an amazing mix of the ancient culture and hi-tech western civilization. The prosperity and atmosphere of vitality dynamic can rival New York in United States and Paris in France in terms of modernity. On the other hand, Shanghai retains China's last vestige of its unusual colonial past. The foreign architecture standing along the Bund area is a living museum of the colonial history of the 1800s. The World Expo 2010 will be held in Shanghai.

Shanghai



1. Magic culture mixture at the Bund (French concession region)

It is said that much of the charm of Shanghai lies in the old street and neighborhoods that make up the former French Concession. China Highlights tour guides will accompany you for a stroll along the leafy lanes, enjoy the stories that the Western-style mansions and gardens tell.



2. Enjoy peace and harmony at Yuyuan garden.



3. Visit Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Hall - demonstration of Shanghai's development.



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Day by Day Itinerary



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Day 1 Arrive at Beijing

Today's Activities: Airport to Hotel Transfer (Beijing)

Beijing is a city of amazing contrasts - an ancient capital with some incredible historical sites, and a bustling modern metropolis getting ready to host the 2008 Olympics. Upon your arrival in Beijing, our guide will meet you and transfer you to highly regarded Raffles Beijing Hotel. The rest of the day is free to rest and recover from any jetlag. We have arranged a **body massage** to help you relax. Your guide take you to a popular local restaurant to sample some of the delight of Beijing's great food culture.



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Day 2 Beijing

Today's Activities: Mutianyu Cable Car(One way), Mutianyu slideway(One way), Great Wall at Mutianyu, 2 hours Chinese Learning at Tea House.

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch at Xing Shuang Quan Restaurant, Chinese Dinner at Roasted Duck at Hepingmen Quanjude

Detailed Itinerary: After breakfast, our guide will accompany you to visit the **Great Wall -Mutianyu Section** which has unique characteristics compared to the other sections of the wall. It is situated among wonderful landscape. This section is formed by three connected watch towers and has comfortable safe cable car ride to the top. You can choose to come down by toboggan if you like. Lunch is at Xing Shuang Quan restaurant near the Wall. In the afternoon, you will **learn simple Chinese language and culture** in a 2 hour class at a Tea House where local people enjoy meeting their friends. The experienced bilingual teacher will teach you the simple but practical words and phrases. You will have impressive stories to tell your friends after this short class. Dinner is at Quanjude Restaurant, which reputedly serves the **best Peking Duck** in china.



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Day 3 Beijing

Today's Activities: The Forbidden City, Treasure Houses, Hall of Clocks and Watches, The Tian'anmen Square, The Tian'anmen Gate Tower, Beihai Park.

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner.

Detailed Itinerary: Today we will experience ancient Emperor's daily life. First we will visit the **Forbidden City**, from which the Emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties governed for over 500 years. The magnificent and solemn palace will feed your imagination with the life of Chinese emperors past. We have arranged a private viewing of the Treasure Houses of the Qing Dynasty royalty and Hall of Clocks and Watches. These areas are off limits to most tour groups. Lunch is at a famous local restaurant-Wahaha Restaurant. In the afternoon, we will continue to **Tian'anmen Square** and the Tian'anmen Gate Tower. We will enjoy the fabulous **Imperial Dinner at Beihai Park**. All dishes are selected from the favorite foods of the Ming & Qing Royal family and served in a famous old restaurant in the park.



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Day 4 Beijing

Today's Activities: Temple of Heaven, Hutong Tours in Rickshaw, 2 hour Chinese Knotting learning, Kungfu Show.

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch at Shan Shui Jian Yang Jie Zi Restaurant(Longtan Park Branch), Chinese Dinner

Detailed Itinerary: After tasting the royal life-style, we will experience the lives of Chinese people today. We begin by joining the thousands of old people at the Temple of Heaven as they practice Taichi. And then we will continue our tour to take a **rickshaw ride at Hutongs** where we could visit the local flea market. You may find some interesting things and practice your bargaining skills. After a local lunch, rest in a local house and having a cheerful talk with the family members to see how their lives like in these traditional houses. Under the watchful eye of a 70 year old Grandma you can learn the ancient art of **Chinese knot tying**. Finish the day with a spectacular **Kongfu show**.

Day 5 Beijing to Xian

Transportation: Beijing to Xian, Air China CA2115
Dep 2:10PM - Arr 4:00PM

Today's Activities:Hotel to airport Transfer (Beijing), Airport to Hotel Transfer (Xian), Tang Imperial Banquet & Show (enjoying the show while eating)

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Dinner.

Detailed Itinerary: You could explore more of Beijing this morning before transfer to Xi'an. One of the highlights today will be the evening show, which presents the palace dances and songs of the Tang Dynasty when Xi'an was the capital of ancient China. During dinner at the show, we will invite you to taste some of China's famous rice wine.



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Day 6 Xian

Today's Activities: Terracotta Warriors, Great Mosque

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner.

Detailed Itinerary: After breakfast in the hotel, you will set off for the incredible 2000 year-old **Terra cotta warriors** which are part of the underground tomb of the Emperor Qin. Well over 7000 figures were in full battle array are housed in several large pits. Many of the figures, including soldiers, archers, horses and chariots, have been restored. Repairs and excavations continue at the site where you can see both repaired and broken warriors in a truly impressive display. During your visit, you will be given the VIP privileges to get a **close view in the lowest pit** which is not available to the ordinary tourists. After the visit, we will drive back to the city to taste China's unique food, **dumplings**. If you are interested, the chef can also show you how they are made. In the afternoon, we will drive to the Grand Mosque which is one of the four grand Islamic mosques in China with history of more than 1,200 years.



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Day 7 Xian to Chongqing

Transportation: Xian to Chongqing to Yangtze, China
Eastern Airline MU2628 Dep 3:40PM - Arr 4:40PM

Today's Activities: Hotel to airport Transfer (Xian), Airport Transfer (Chongqing), Cruise pier Transfer (Chongqing), City Wall, Taiji Learning on the Ancient City Wall, Board the ship from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and departs Chongqing at 9:00pm.(Dinner is not included)

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch at Minjianwagang restaurant(A La Carte), Chinese Dinner

Detailed Itinerary: Before setting out for the Yangtze cruise, you have the opportunity to take part in a **TaiChi class**. Your guide will supply you with Taichi costume. Your Taichi lesson will be held on the Ancient City Wall, a landmark of Xi'an city. The professional trainer will introduce this martial art to you as a method of relaxation and of enjoying life. For the energetic, we recommend a bike ride along the top of the wall. After lunch at a local restaurant-Minjiangwagang Restaurant, your guide will transfer you to the airport for your flight to Chongqing where you will board the luxury **Victoria Cruise ship**. Before boarding we introduce the famous Chinese dish "**hot pot**" which is one of the most popular foods in China.Victoria Cruise ship. Before boarding we introduce the famous Chinese dish "hot pot". Hot pot is one of the most popular foods in China.



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Day 8 On Cruise Ships

Today's Activities: shore excursion to Fengdu Ghost City.(1:00-3:00pm).

Meals: Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner.

--Fengdu is where the devil lives, according to Chinese legend. They say that spirits go to heaven, and evil goes to Fengdu. The town is overlooked by Ming Shan Hill, home of Tianzi, the King of the Dead. The whole place has an eerie feel to it with deserted streets, tower blocks, empty shops and banks. The only people here are those who make a living from visiting cruise boats.

Day 9 On Cruise Ships

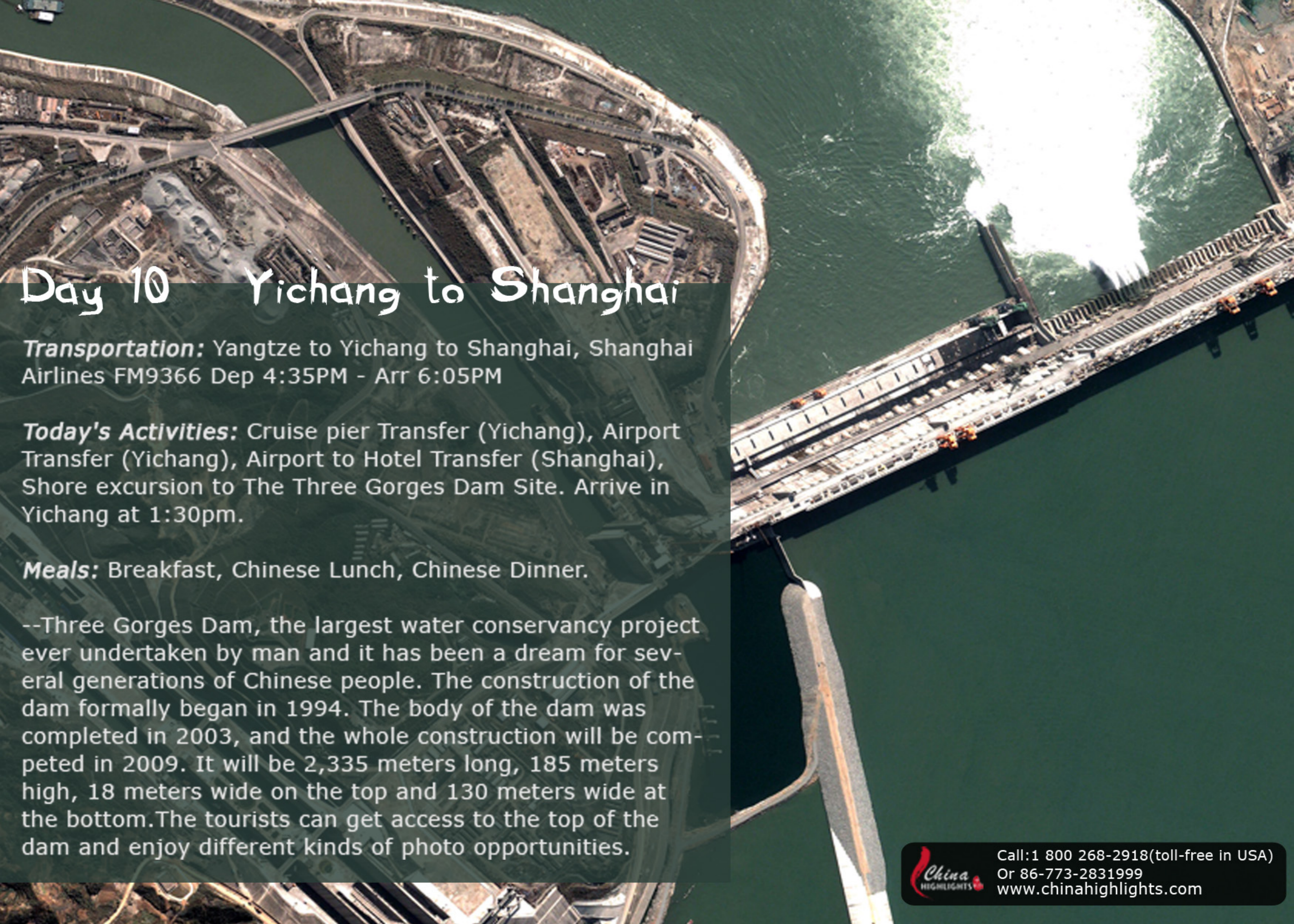
Today's Activities: Shore excursion to Lesser Three Gorges(8:00-1:00pm).

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner.

--The Lesser Three Gorges are the three separate valleys of the Daning River: Dragon Gate Gorge, Misty Gorge and Emerald Gorge. These lie on the lower reaches of the Daning, which flows into the Yangtze. The gorges are truly spectacular. Sheer cliffs soar up towards the sky from the brown-green water. Mountain tops hover above the ribbon of mist, disconnected from their roots. Its 'subtle mountains, clear waters, pretty rocks, dangerous rapids, sharp turns, fantastic caves, and stalactites in various shapes' create the timeless beauty that you see in Chinese landscape paintings. Monkeys, mandarin ducks and other water birds can be seen loitering on big boulders in this area. In addition to the wonderful natural scenery there are a number of historical places of interest along the way, such as a suspended coffin, boat coffin, and remains of ancient plank walkway.



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Day 10 Yichang to Shanghai

Transportation: Yangtze to Yichang to Shanghai, Shanghai Airlines FM9366 Dep 4:35PM - Arr 6:05PM

Today's Activities: Cruise pier Transfer (Yichang), Airport Transfer (Yichang), Airport to Hotel Transfer (Shanghai), Shore excursion to The Three Gorges Dam Site. Arrive in Yichang at 1:30pm.

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch, Chinese Dinner.

--Three Gorges Dam, the largest water conservancy project ever undertaken by man and it has been a dream for several generations of Chinese people. The construction of the dam formally began in 1994. The body of the dam was completed in 2003, and the whole construction will be completed in 2009. It will be 2,335 meters long, 185 meters high, 18 meters wide on the top and 130 meters wide at the bottom. The tourists can get access to the top of the dam and enjoy different kinds of photo opportunities.



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Day 11 Shanghai

Today's Activities: French concession region, Yuyuan Garden, Yuyuan Market, The Bund, Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Hall

Meals: Breakfast, Chinese Lunch at Lv Bo Lang Restaurant, Chinese Dinner at Home's Restaurant(Set Menu)

Detailed Itinerary: Today you will visit the lovely old **Yuyuan Garden** which is a traditional Chinese park complete with beautiful pavilions, miniature lakes, bridges and rock formations, and then follow by the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Hall, the Jade Buddha Temple. In the afternoon, you can have a relaxing walk through the **French Concession Region** to enjoy the beautiful old homes and gardens. We have arranged to have lunch served in the original old consulate building.

Day 12 Shanghai

Today's Activities: Hotel to airport Transfer (Shanghai)

Meals: Breakfast.

Detailed Itinerary: Your time is your own, until you are ready to be transferred to the airport for your departure.



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Hotels



All the hotels in this tour are the best ones that we use in that city. All are Five-Star standard. They are usually palatial with huge lobbies, their standards not quite matching the best of Paris or New York, but very close. The equipment and facilities are all international standard, just as good as hotels in Washington or Ottawa except for the standard of English. Some of them have magnificent ball rooms and lobbies and cater to foreign business people on expense accounts. They have the best western food and probably the best Chinese food in town, and the most luxurious breakfast buffets. Some leave chocolates on your pillow, or a rubber ducky on your bathtub, nice little touches that bring a smile.



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Raffles Beijing Hotel



Raffles Beijing Hotel is located at the crossroads of famous Chang An Avenue and the district of Wangfujing, with a few minutes from the mystical Forbidden City, historical Tiananmen Square, Silk Market and subway stations. It was built in the 1900s, and has long stood as a landmark of Beijing's historical heritage. Raffles Beijing Hotel was the Residence of members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) during the 2008 Summer Olympic Games.





Sofitel on Renmin Square



Located in Renmin Square, 1.5 kilometers from the city center where Bell Tower and Drum Tower locates, the Sofitel Xian on Renmin Square is the ultimate accommodation facility in the ancient city of Xian. Amenities are deluxe – as one would expect from Sofitel– and services live up to expectations. It is a perfect choice for the most astute of business and leisure travelers.





Grand Hyatt Shanghai



Grand Hyatt Shanghai is located in the center of Pudong area - Shanghai's financial and business district. It is the highest hotel in China (53rd to 87th floors of the Jin Mao Tower). Situated on the banks of the Huang Pu River, it offers panoramic views over the city and easy access to the Shanghai Stock Exchange, Shanghai World Financial Centre and the International Conference Center. Grand Hyatt Shanghai has set new standards for Shanghai, with its high-tech infrastructure, world-class design and imaginative guest rooms. The elevator to the lobby alone can make ears pop.



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Food

We try to take our customers to "real" local restaurants as part of our tours wherever possible. The food is authentic and atmosphere is created by the locals enjoying a very traditional part of Chinese culture; "eating". Noise is something that goes hand in hand with any Chinese restaurants so be prepared to compete with the local to be heard. Although Chinese food comes in many forms some meat & seafood dishes are served with the bones. Many people find this off-putting but it is traditional. There may be times when no English menu is available but in these cases our guide will always be available to assist.



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Beijing Roast Duck at Quanjude

Quanjude roast duck is featured by its unique culinary procedure, enchanting look, and superior taste. Each duck sold has a certificate accordingly. Quanjude's hundreds of years of prosperities owe a lot to its great service, good taste, and reasonable price. Today having the Quanjude roast duck is recognized as a must for visitors to Beijing.



Xin Shuang Quan Restaurant

Xin Shuang Quan is close to Mutianyu Great Wall, which can seat up 1500 diners at a time. This garden-looking restaurant serves farmhouse dishes, especially provides rainbow trout, sturgeon, salmon etc.. With natural material and good taste it leaves a good memory to customers while travelling.



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Dechangfa Jiaozi

The most famous restaurant to eat Jiaozi in Xi'an. There are many special dishes, but the dearest is jiaozi made of Shark fin. Another kind of jiaozi is as big as a small fingertip filled with chicken meat. It is called a pearl jiaozi and is boiled in a hotpot of chrysanthemum soup. When having jiaozi, you can listen to the story and receive a beautiful blessing. English speaking staffs available.



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Qianzhou Restaurant

Qianzhou Restaurant is well-known for its local flavors and ingredients originate from Qian County, its refreshment which is so-called Qianzhou Four Treasures were considered to be famous food nationwide. The specialties are of ancient origin with Tang Dynasty and local culture, leaving good memory to customers.



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Lu Bo Lang Restaurant

It is featured for its 4 distinguished food series of Shanghai-style food, Shanghai-style snacks, shark's fin dishes and crab feast. The restaurant has hosted heads of state from more than 40 foreign countries such as President Clinton.



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Home's Restaurant

Home's Restaurant is one the best local restaurants in Shanghai which offers Shanghai-style food. The simple and friendly design creates a home-like atmosphere. Sit among the local Shanghai people and relax, is a very good to refresh from daytime's touring. The most recommended dishes here are Braised Pork, Sliced Chicken, Steamed Hilsa Herring



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Tour Guides

All guides are college graduates who have majored in English or the language that is their specialty and have passed the tough national examination to be licensed as a guide. The team of guides will possess a wealth of local information about the area and culture and provide you with the flexibility to get the most out of your trip.



Vivian-Your Guide in Beijing



Echo-Your Guide in Xi'an



Rainy-Your Guide in Shanghai



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Cars

China Highlights use only modern air-conditioned luxury cars, vans and small buses on all tours. The comfort and safety of our customers is of utmost importance so we ensure that all of the vehicles that we use are well maintained and always very clean. Our drivers take pride in their vehicles.



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Prices

1 person: **\$7,564USD** 2-5 persons: **\$5,060USD** 6-9 persons: **\$4,450USD**

Prices Guaranteed: Once you reserve, your price is guaranteed not to change!

For Single Travellers: Single Supplement **\$1,563USD** is required.

Deposit: 10% of the total tour price is required. All prices are per person, double occupancy.

Notice

1. Space sells quickly, especially during high season like April, May, September, and October. Please book early to avoid disappointment.
2. This tour can be tailor-made for FREE to fit your own requirements. Tour price may vary accordingly.
3. We cannot 100% guarantee your actual tour guides will be the ones we are advertising. Please book early so that we can arrange for you at the largest extent.

Want to Inquiry this Tour?

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Office Hours: 7am-9pm (GMT+8) Monday to Friday

Send us an Email: **service@chinahighlights.com**

Why Travel with China Highlights?

China Highlights values its position as a leader and innovator in the China travel industry and it is a fact that we are not afraid to be different from our competitors in the way we do business. We are revolutionizing the way tours are operated in China

Unbeatable Value for Money

- Absolutely no forced shopping trips or tourist traps.
- We pay our guides and drivers a fare salary and performance bonuses
- Even more flexibility to change the itinerary or add optional evening events.
- Money back guarantee if our promises are not kept.

World VIP Traveled with Us

1. **Bill Gates & Warren Buffet** visited Guilin in 1996 and he was escorted by CITS Guilin.
2. **Mr & Mrs Clinton** were escorted by CITS GUILIN when they visit Guilin in 1998.
3. Irish ambassador in China **Declan Kelleher** and his wife Sigrun Kelleher traveled in Guilin with China Highlights in 2008.
4. The managing director of McKinsey & Company, USA, **Mr. Gupta Rajat**, has been with us in Guilin with his daughter in Sep. 2005.
5. Internationally renowned **Rocky Mountain Ballet Group** visited Guilin with CITS Guilin.



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What Other Customers Say about us?



Hi Karen,

Thank you!!! The trip was amazing and I had such a wonderful time, my friend also reflected that he appreciated all the accommodations!!! Each city had wonderful attractions. But for me the Mutianyu Great Wall and Xi'an City Wall were the most memorable. It was amazing to climb the Great Wall, and it was great the wall was not crowded at all. Bicycle ride on the Xi'an City Wall was relaxing and great way to enjoy the city scenery. All the tour guides were great, but I think Linda and Brenda did wonderful jobs as tour guides in Beijing and Xi'an. In Hangzhou I did manage to take the free afternoon and go back to my childhood neighborhood!!! I even found my old apartment building and visited my elementary school!!! It was very emotional (in a very good way) and it was wonderful to see how a lot of changes happened, but still a lot has remained the same as it did 14 years ago also! :) All hotels and meals were excellent!! Each hotel had great services as well.

- Client's information: Jing, United States
- Tour Starting Date: July 6, 2008





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Sept 2008



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