

Ancient Cities & Yangtze River Discovery [17 Days]

This cultural tour takes you to discover many ancient cities throughout China and experience of ancient temples, streets, exquisite classical gardens and magnificent imperial gardens and Palaces, museums, Giant Panda as well as working canals and beautiful fresh water lakes. Your luxury Yangtze River cruise trip is a Perfect option to understand the civilizations of Yangtze while enjoying the scenic view of Three Gorges.



Day 01: Australia-Beijing

Enjoy your morning flight to Beijing. Welcome to Beijing! On arrival, you will be welcomed by the local tour guide who will check you in for 3 nights at Novotel Peace or similar.

Day 02: Beijing

(B,L,SD)

Breakfast in the hotel. Highlights today includes the tour to the Tiananmen Square, the largest city centre square of its kind in China; the Forbidden City, where thousands of palaces and spellbinding treasures of art works will give you imagination of the royal life of Chinese emperors and concubines. Afternoon, tour to the incomparable Summer Palace. In the evening a feast of Peking duck. Acrobatic show is provided for the evening entertainment.

Day 03: Beijing

(B,L)

Breakfast in the hotel. Day excursion to the Great Wall, one of the world wonders. As you will climb to the top of the Great Wall, we advise you to wear comfortable walking shoes.

Afternoon, tour to the famous Ming Tombs. Then, return to Beijing for free time shopping and walking in the famous Wangfujing Street, which is regarded as the First Street in China.

Day 04: Beijing-Xi'an

(B,L,D)

Tour to the Temple of Heaven, the focus of this complex is the famed Hall of Prayer for a Good Harvest, a round edifice constructed of wood only without a single nail. Free time to visit local markets in the afternoon. After early dinner, Transfer to railway station for overnight sleeper train to Xi'an, one of the seven ancient capital cities in China.

Day 05: Arrive Xian

(L,D)

On arrival, transfer to Ramada Plaza Xian South for early check in and rest if available. Visit Provincial History museum where you can feast your eyes by thousands of treasures and precious historical relics.

Day 06: Xi'an

(B,L,SD)

Breakfast in the hotel. Xian full day tour includes world famous 6,000 life-size Terracotta Warriors and Horses buried with first the Chinese Emperor, Qin Shi Huang. After lunch, you will take a tour to the Wild Goose Pagoda, Dumpling Banquet in the evening followed by a show of Tang Dynasty Singing and Dancing.

Day 07: Xi'an-Chengdu (B,D)

Morning take a tour to the Square of Bell and Drum Tower. You will also visit the Muslim quarter and food market. Transfer to the airport for your flight to Chengdu-The capital of Sichuan Province. On arrival, meet and transfer to Crowe Plaza hotel or similar for 2 nights stay, Enjoy delicious Sichuan Hot pot dinner.

Day 08: Chengdu (B,L)

This morning visit Giant Panda Reserve to see these famous animals in an environment similar to their natural habitat, back to Chengdu for lunch and city tour in the afternoon with free shopping time.

Day 09: Chengdu-Chongqing- Embark Cruise (B,D)

After breakfast, board your high speed train to Chongqing-the most populated city in China with 30 million people, a municipality that is situated at the confluence of the Yangtze and Jia Ling rivers and is the largest industrial centre of South West China. The Mountain City is famous for its super spicy Sichuan Hotpot and its bicycle-free hilly streets. On arrival, start your tour with Erling park, the General Stilwell Museum. Later visit three Gorges Museum, dedicated to protecting the history and culture of the Three Gorges area. After dinner at a local restaurant we board our luxurious Century Paragon cruise for a three-night course down the Yangtze River. You will visit the ancient temples and witness the stunning scenery and gorges that line the Yangtze's banks. Overnight on board

Day 10: Yangtze River Cruising/Shibao Pagoda (B,L,D)

River briefing and the Captain's Welcome Party, welcome dinner and crew cabaret. Morning Optional Excursion to Fengdu Ghost City. Late afternoon shore excursion to Shibao Pagoda.

Day 11: Shennong Stream Pea Pod Boat Excursion

(B,L,D)

A morning optional tour is available to the White Emperor City at Fengjie County. Pass through the Qutang Gorge and the Wu Gorge before taking an excursion of rowboat through the Shennong Stream. In the evening, sail through the Three Gorges Dam ship locks. (River conditions and Authority permitting)

Day 12: Yichang-Nanjing (B,L)

Morning excursion to the Three Gorges Dam. Arrival in Yichang at 12:30pm approximately and disembark. You will be transferred to train station and board the bullet train to ancient capital city Nanjing. On arrival, transfer to hotel for 2 nights stay at Grand Hotel or similar. Enjoy the rest of day at leisure.

Day 13: Nanjing (B,L,D)

Visit the Dr. Sun Yat San Mausoleum and surroundings. Nanjing Museum, Yangtze River Bridge, ancient Ming Dynasty City Wall and Confucius Temple Market and Qinhuai River. Overnight in Nanjing

Day 14: Nanjing-Shanghai (B,D)

After breakfast, transfer to railway station to board bullet train to Shanghai with average speed of 240KM/hour. On arrival, transfer to visit Shanghai Museum and visit Jade Buddha Temple. After dinner travel up to the viewing platform of the Oriental Pearl Tower (third highest tower in the world) for spectacular views of the city by night. Overnight at The Crowne Plaza Hotel Shanghai or similar

Day 15: Shanghai (B,L)

Morning visit the historic Bund (one of the world's best preserved examples of Art-Deco architecture, located adjacent to the Huangpu River), the famous Nanjing Road Shopping District. Later visit the bustling Chenghuang Market in the old town area, then visit Xin Tian Di upmarket area. Dinner of your choice at own cost. Optional Evening cruise on Huangpu River can be arranged after dinner.

Day 16: Shanghai-Australia (B)

Morning free at your leisure, enjoy last minute shopping or further explore the fascinating city until transfer to airport for your flight home. If you have never tried the Megalev train ride, it is your chance to take the train to airport!

Day 17: Arrive Australia

Arrive home city in the morning with happy memories of lifetime.

Tour grade: Moderate Paced Tour

Inclusions

- International & Domestic airfares
- Australia and China departure taxes
- Tipping for guide and driver
- Current Airline Fuel levy - Subject to Change
- Most of meals as indicated
- 5* accommodation with buffet breakfast

- 5* Luxury Century Paragon Cruise with balcony cabin
- All transportation, daily tours and admission fees
- Professional English speaking guides.
- A MW Tours travel wallet

Exclusions:

- Travel insurance
- Personal expenditures such as laundry, drinks.
- Compulsory service charge RMB150/person (\$30) payable upon boarding your cruise
- Chinese Visa