



## China Splendors 14 Day Package

### Day 1: US/BEIJING

Take an international flight from the US to Beijing, China. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane. Movies will also be available during the flight.

### Day 2: BEIJING

Upon arrival in Beijing, you will be met and transferred to your hotel by our tour guide. For those arriving in Beijing earlier today, you may spend the rest of the day for leisure or join in an optional tour (at an extra expense) in Beijing.

### Day 3: BEIJING (AB, L, SD)

Today you will visit Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, the largest and most intact conglomeration of ancient structures of the imperial palace. This was the palace for 24 Ming and Qing Dynasty emperors who ruled China for over 500 years. Take a photo stop at the National Center for the Performing Arts, also known as the National Grand Theatre, designed by the French architect Paul Andreu. You will also tour the Summer Palace, the famous resort of Empress Dowager Ci Xi. Feast your eyes on the Long Corridor, Longevity Hill, and Kunming Lake. If time permits, you may also have the opportunity to see pandas at Beijing Zoo located nearby the Summer Palace. Attend a welcome Peking Duck Dinner tonight.

### Day 4: BEIJING (AB, L)

The highlight today is a trip to the astonishing Great Wall of China at Juyongguan Pass, one of the most remarkable feats of mankind. After lunch, you will stroll along the Sacred Way guarding the Ming Tombs, lined with different statues of animals such as lions, elephants, camels and etc. Later in the day, you will make a photo stopover at the Olympic Park where you will view the exterior of the Bird Nest-China National Stadium and Water Cube-China National Aquatic Center. Upon return to the city proper of Beijing, enjoy the foot massage for your relaxation and spend the rest of the evening for leisure.

### Day 5: BEIJING (AB, L)

This morning you will visit the UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site - the Temple of Heaven where emperors used to pray for good harvest. You will also attend a morning lesson of Taiji (also referred to as Tai chi by the Westerners) exercise on the site of the Temple of Heaven given by a professional. Tai chi is a type of internal Chinese martial art practiced for both its defense training and its health benefits. Tai chi theory and practice evolved in agreement with many Chinese philo-

sophical principles, including those of Taoism and Confucianism. After lunch, you enjoy your free afternoon for leisure or shopping. You may also take an optional tour of Hutong (Chinese alleyways) by riding aboard a rickshaw pedicab through the narrow lanes of the old residential quarters in the afternoon (\$45 per person).

*Hutongs are a type of narrow streets or alleys in Beijing, formed by lines of siheyuan, traditional courtyard residences. Many neighbourhoods were formed by joining one siheyuan to another to form a hutong, and then joining one hutong to another. Hutongs represent an important cultural element of the city of Beijing. Thanks to Beijing's long history and status as capital for six dynasties, almost every hutong has its anecdotes, and some are even associated with historic events. In contrast to the court life and elite culture represented by the Forbidden City, Summer Palace, and the Temple of Heaven, the hutongs reflect the culture of grassroots Beijingers. The hutongs are residential neighborhoods which still form the heart of Old Beijing. Taking a Hutong tour is a great way to enjoy the local cultures, giving you a unique opportunity to glimpse into the local resident's daily life.*

### Day 6: BEIJING/XIAN (AB, SD)

After breakfast, you will take a flight to Xian, the ancient capital city for 11 dynasties in Chinese history. Upon arrival at the airport in Xian, you will be met and taken to tour the well preserved Ancient City Wall of Xian. After hotel check-in, enjoy some free time for leisure, before attending a dumpling dinner banquet, followed by an on-stage show of Tang Dynasty dance and music.

### Day 7: XIAN (AB, L)

The excursion today takes you to visit the Tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huang and see the awesome Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses, widely regarded as the eighth wonder of the world. After lunch, you may enjoy the rest of the day for leisure or join the optional night walking tour of Muslim Street, known for the local yummy snacks and a variety of local artifacts.



### Day 8: XIAN/SHANGHAI (AB)

This morning you will take a departure transfer to the airport for flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival at the airport in Shanghai, you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel for check-in. Enjoy the rest of the day for leisure, or join in one of the optional tours.

### Day 9: SHANGHAI/SUZHOU (AB, L)

Shanghai, China's largest city (home to 16 million people), is also China's principal port on a deep estuary of the Yangtze River. Often regarded as "the Paris of the East," Shanghai has retained the flavor of its past European influences.

During the city tour of Shanghai today, you will wind through the largest commercial and financial centers, visiting the bustling Nanjing walking district, one of the busiest shopping strips in the world, and discovering the history and culture of Shanghai at the well known Shanghai Museum of Art and History. You will then continue to the Bund, a waterfront area by the beautiful Huangpu River that showcases many landmark buildings of western style built in the early 20th century. After lunch, you will be transferred to an ancient water town to explore the well preserved cultures and ancient architectural style buildings including the unique old stone bridges. You may choose to join in the optional cruise on the spectacular Grand Canal of more than 2000 years history and see the old houses decorated with iconic red lanterns along the canal.

### Day 10: SUZHOU/HANGZHOU (AB)

Suzhou is known as the "Venice of the East" for its many beautiful waterways and classic landscaped gardens. After a visit to the Master of the Fishing Nets Garden, you will be amazed by its unique architecture and elaborate designs. The most striking feature of this garden is the use of space: the labyrinth of courtyards, with windows framing other parts of the garden, is ingeniously designed to give the illusion of a much larger area. Afterwards, you will continue on to the famous silk factory to learn about the manufacturing processes of silk products and its significance in Chinese history. Later in the afternoon, you will drive to Hangzhou- the "most beautiful and magnificent city in the world" as proclaimed by Marco Polo.

### Day 11: HANGZHOU/HUANGSHAN (AB, L)

Today you will enjoy a visit to a tea orchard, where you will learn about tea picking and processing as well as a little tea culture. Situated among lush green hills, the Tea Village is part of the West Lake scenic area and has a history of over 600 years. With its superior quality, the Dragon Well (or "Longjing" as pronounced in Chinese) Tea produced here earned its status as imperial tea for the royal family during Qing Dynasty. Later in the afternoon, you will depart for Huangshan City (known for Mt. Huangshan), where you will stay overnight at the foot of Mt. Huangshan.

### Day 12: HUANGSHAN (HONGCUN VILLAGE, MT. HUANGSHAN) (AB)

Today you will visit Hongcun village, a typical countryside village by the water with a unique compact layout. In the afternoon, you will have the option to take a cable car tour up to the mountain, enjoying the magnificent sceneries of the surrounding areas. Once you arrive, you will have the opportunity to walk up to the very top of the mountain to appreciate the stunning view and the beautiful sunset. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon for leisure.

### Day 13: HUANGSHAN/SHANGHAI (AB, L, D)

Enjoy the free morning exploring the many delights Huangshan has to offer. After lunch, you will drive back to Shanghai.

### Day 14: SHANGHAI/US (AB)

After breakfast you will take a departure transfer to the airport for the flight back home.

### INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE

Complimentary initial airport arrival transfer in Beijing and final airport departure transfer in Hong Kong are provided if your transpacific

flights is booked through Pilgrim Tours. If airfare is booked on your own, then airport transfers are an additional expense.

### TOUR FEATURES:

- All domestic air and ground transportation.
- 12 night's hotel accommodations at five-star deluxe hotels.
- Escorted tours and sightseeing with admission and English speaking tour guides in each city.
- 27 meals: 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 6 dinners including Peking duck dinner, dumpling dinner banquet in Xian, and Shanghai cuisine farewell dinner party.
- Cultural entertainments: Tang Dynasty dance and music show with dinner in Xian.

## PRICE PER PERSON: BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

From \$1,995

Many departures throughout the year.

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[www.pilgrimtours.com/china-tours/china-splendors-14.html](http://www.pilgrimtours.com/china-tours/china-splendors-14.html) to view dates and pricing.

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