



Tour Itinerary:

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner included that day)

Day 1 DEPART CANADA

Today your journey begins! Board your overnight flight to Shanghai.

Day 2 ARRIVE IN SHANGHAI

Upon arrival in Shanghai, you will be warmly greeted at the airport by the tour guide and transferred to your hotel.

Day 3 SHANGHAI

Shanghai is the vibrant metropolis and commercial center of China. Today we will visit the Shanghai Museum and indulge in ancient Chinese art, furniture, and jade. Then we will visit Shanghai Old City God Temple area, a busy shopping centre where you may find souvenirs and delicious local food. Enjoy some free time here. In the afternoon you will walk along the famous Bund, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined by the colonial architectures of European design, this area is the best place to capture the western influences of the old days.

➡ **Added Excursion #1**- At night, the group will enjoy the “Huangpu River Night Cruise” and get a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai (B, L)

Day 4 SHANGHAI - SUZHOU

After breakfast, travel by coach to Suzhou. Suzhou is also known as the “Garden City” for its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Upon arrival, visit the Lingering Garden which is among the finest gardens in China. As a large area of the city is covered by water, including a vast number of ponds and streams, Suzhou is known as “Venice of the East”. You may take a cruise along the Grand Canal to view life along China’s golden waterway in its heyday (optional \$). Then, visit a Silk Spinning Mill, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. (B, L, D)

Day 5 SUZHOU - WUXI

This morning, travel by motor coach to Wuxi, one of the oldest cities in China with more than 3,000 years of history. Upon arrival, visit one of the largest Fresh Water Pearl Farms in the country, followed by the Lingshan Grand Buddha. Later, stroll along Nanchang Street, a charming and fashionable pedestrian street composed of both ancient and modern architectural styles. (B, L, D)

Day 6 WUXI - HANGZHOU

This morning, travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as “the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world”. Experience an oriental tea-tasting at the Dragon Well Tea Plantation. Then, take a boat ride on the serene West Lake, the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. This evening, you can enjoy an (optional \$) performance, “Impression West Lake”, which brings the culture and the soul of West Lake lively in front of you (B, L, D)

Day 7 HANGZHOU - SHANGHAI -YICHANG

After breakfast, travel by motor coach to Shanghai and then fly to Yichang, the starting point of your Yangtze River Cruise. After dinner, we board the luxury Yangtze Cruise and receive an introduction on cruise events and on-board activities, (B, L, D)

Day 8 YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

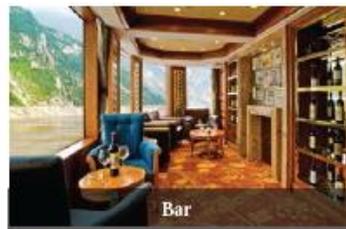
Your highly anticipated grand Yangtze River adventure starts this morning. The cruise ship's first stop is at Taipingxi (or Sandouping). Disembark to visit the massive Three Gorges Dam Project, the world's largest dam, measuring 606 feet high and 6,500 feet long. Re-embark the ship and sail through Xiling Gorge, the longest of the Three Gorges at 41 miles long and its highest (4000 feet). (B, L, D)

VIP Yangtze River Cruise Package Includes:

- Upgrade to higher floor (4th – 6th floor)
- Unlimited wine, beer and soda with lunch & dinner
- Coffee, tea and snacks at happy hour in the afternoon
- Express check-in and check-out
- Enjoy all meals at the VIP restaurant. A la carte also available (\$)
- Room turn-down service
- Cocktails before dinner
- Welcome fruit basket in cabin
- VIP area reserved for evening entertainment
- Two hours of internet during the sailing



Standard Cabin



Bar



Multifunctional Hall



Dining Hall



VIP Dinning



Gym Room



Sun Deck

Day 9 YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Disembark at Wushan where you'll board a small riverboat for a leisurely ride through Shennong Stream or Wushan small three gorges, picturesque rock formations, and even see the playful monkeys and goats along the river banks. Re-embark the cruise ship as it sails through Wu Gorge, which is famous for its quiet beauty and the Qutang Gorge, the shortest and most dramatic of the Three Gorges. (B, L, D)

Day 10 YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Today's shore excursion will occur at Shibaozhai. The Shibaozhai Pagoda is 12-story, 18th century temple built in Zhongxian county on the northern bank of Yangtze River. It represents one of the gems of Chinese Architecture, an architectural delight. (B, L, D)

Day 11 CHONGQING - BEIJING

Disembark from the cruise in the port of Chongqing this morning and visit Ciqikou Old Town. The history of Ciqikou can be traced back more than 1700 years.

➡ **Added Excursion #2** - After exploring Ciqikou Old Town, the group will visit the Panda House at Chongqing Zoo before flying to Beijing, the historical city of China. (B, L)

Day 12 BEIJING

Beijing has served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit Tiananmen Square, the second largest public square in the world, and the Forbidden City, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Tour the exquisite Summer Palace, the largest preserved ancient imperial garden in China, and a former summer resort for Emperors. Then, visit a Chinese Herbal Institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine, which has existed for thousands of years. Tonight, you can choose to attend an (optional \$) tour with dinner and a large-scale musical- "The Golden Mask Dynasty" (B, L)

Day 13 BEIJING

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic Great Wall, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. Visit one of the largest Jade Exhibitions in Asia on the way. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a Cloisonné Factory. Then we will pass by modern exteriors of the Olympic Bird's Nest and Water Cube. Your Farewell banquet includes the local delicacy, Peking Roast Duck. (B, L, D)

Day 14 BEIJING

➡ **Added Excursion #3** -This morning we will visit the Temple of Heaven and Hutong Tour (including lunch). Temple of Heaven, inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was visited by the Emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties for annual ceremonies of prayer to Heaven for good harvest. Then take a famous rickshaw Hutong Tour & Local Family Visit, this package also includes a traditional Beijing Zhajiangmian ("Fried Sauce noodles") as lunch.

Hutongs are traditional alley ways that form an integral part of Beijing's old city neighbourhood communities. Take a traditional rickshaw ride for an immersive tour to get a wonderful glimpse into yesterday's world, the old way of life, and traditional Beijing culture. See the dramatic changes the city has undergone and continue to visit a local family and local market in the Hutongs afterwards. Enjoy free time this afternoon. (B, L)

Day 15 BEIJING – XI'AN

This morning you will board your flight to Xi'an as part of the included extended tour. (B)

Day 16 XI'AN

During the Tang dynasty, Xi'an was the first Chinese city to open its doors to the wider world, ushering in huge cultural changes, and was the capital for eleven dynasties over a period of more than 2,000 years. Now the city is famed for the 'Terracotta Army' of Qin Shi Huang – the first ruler to unify the lands that became modern China. (B, L, D)

DAY 17 RETURN TO CANADA

Your tour ends this morning in Xi'an. We will fly back to Beijing for a quick layover, then return to Canada. (B)

OPTIONAL HONG KONG TOUR (\$)

Extend your Discover China tour with a stop in Hong Kong. Once a sleepy fishing village, Hong Kong has developed into one of the premier financial powerhouses of the Far East. It is a city which boldly blends modernity with Chinese heritage and British colonial influence. A safe, well organized, fast paced shopping paradise, it also offers up some unmatched cuisine experiences. Dine on some of the best yum cha and wonton noodle soup in the world, or a taste of more unusual culinary delights such as grass jelly or shredded jellyfish. **Tour Includes: Flight from Beijing to Hong Kong, 3 Nights/4 Days, 3-4 Star hotel, Half day Hong Kong Tour.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT NEWWEST TRAVEL & CRUISES
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