

## Tour E – Best of China plus Yangtze River Cruise (17 Days)

### Shanghai, Suzhou, Yichang, Yangtze River Cruise, Chongqing, Guilin, Xi'an and Beijing

#### TOUR PRICE INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip international airfare from LAX (or SFO).
- Air and ground transfers for all the included tour programs.
- Fully escorted by a bilingual professional tour director.
- Well-selected English-speaking guide in each city.
- President 1 (deluxe ship with outside cabins, private balcony & bathroom/shower).
- 5-star (deluxe) hotels.
- 36 meals (including 4 special dinners).
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours as specified.
- Luggage handling for one bag per person.

#### HOTEL CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Shanghai	Jin Jiang Hotel (5 star)
Suzhou	Pan Pacific Suzhou (5 star)
Yangtze River	President 1 (5 star)
Guilin	Sheraton Guilin Hotel (5 star)
Xi'an	Shangri-la Golden Flower Hotel, Xi'an (5 star)
Beijing	Beijing International Hotel (5 star)

**2010 Departure Dates:** 3/22, 4/12, 4/19, 5/10, 5/24, 6/7, 6/14, 7/5, 7/19, 8/9, 9/6, 9/13, 10/4, 10/11.

**Tour Prices (per person)** March April May – October  
From LAX (or SFO) \$3,698 \$3,798 \$3,998

Low airfare add-on from most U.S. cities is available. For land-only package (excluding int'l flight) deduct \$550. For single room occupancy add \$1,300.

#### Day 1 & 2: USA/Shanghai, China

Depart home and arrive Shanghai the next day. Stay in centrally located (adjacent to the famous Huaihai Zhong Road – the commercial center) classic **Jin Jiang Hotel** (5 star).

#### Day 3: Shanghai

Today's tour starts with the **Bund**, from where you can view both the traditional and modern Shanghai. Then the renowned **Shanghai Museum** with priceless collections of ancient Chinese bronzes, ceramics, and calligraphy. After the Mongolian BBQ lunch, we'll walk around in the **Old Town of Shanghai**. Fantastic **Acrobatic Show** after dinner and then drive by the Bund to enjoy the beautiful **night view of Shanghai**. This afternoon, if you wish, you may have some time to visit the **Shanghai Expo** on your own. B, L, D



#### Day 4: Shanghai/Suzhou

Leave for Suzhou by coach. Suzhou is well-known as “Venice in the East”, “City of Gardens”; and “Capital of Silk”. Today's tour includes the **Silk Spinning Factory**, **Garden of Master Fishnet** (a World Heritage Site), and **Boat trip on ancient Grand Canal**. Stay in centrally located garden-like **Pan Pacific Suzhou (5 star. Formerly Sheraton Suzhou Hotel & Towers)**. B, L

#### Day 5: Suzhou/Yichang/Yantze River Cruise (upstream)

Take a flight for Yichang, where we'll board deluxe **President 1** after dinner for the majestic Yangtze River cruise. B, D

#### Day 6: Cruise

Tour the **Three Gorges Dam**. Then our ship will sail through the **Xiling Gorge** and **Wu Gorge**. **Captain's welcome banquet** followed by **Chinese cultural show**. B, L, SD

#### Day 7: Cruise

Today's excursion is to enjoy a sampan boat ride on the beautiful **Shennong Stream**, one of the tributaries of the Yangtze River. Return to the cruise ship and pass through **Qutang Gorge**. B, L, D



### Day 8: Cruise

Shore excursion to **Fengdu** (known as the Ghost City), a famous culture and historic site. **Captain's farewell dinner** followed by **cabaret show**. B, L, SD

### Day 9: Chongqing/Guilin

air

Disembark in Chongqing after breakfast. Visit **giant pandas**, **Art Gallery**, **City Square** and **Gen. Stilwell Museum** (if time permits). Take an afternoon flight to Guilin. Stay in centrally located (by the Li River) **Sheraton Guilin Hotel** (5 star). B, L

### Day 10: Guilin

Board a riverboat and sail on the **Li River** surrounded by majestic karst limestone formations, mist-covered hills and bamboo groves. Lunch on boat. Disembark in **Yangshuo** in the afternoon and have some free time in the **bustling market town of Yangshuo**. Then drive back to Guilin. B, L

### Day 11: Guilin/Xi'an

air

Visit a **Tea Farm**, where you will visit the tea bushes, witness the tea processing and enjoy tea ceremony. Then take a flight to Xi'an. Stay in comfortable **Shangri-la Golden Flower Hotel, Xi'an** (5 star). B, D

### Day 12: Xi'an

Today's tour starts with the ancient **City Wall** built in Ming Dynasty (1368 – 1644 AD), where you will also see the **Draw Bridge**. Then the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** (built in 652 AD), the landmark of Xi'an. In the afternoon, we'll visit the **Museum of History**, one of the finest museums in China. Fantastic **Tang Dynasty dinner show**. B, L, SD

### Day 13: Xi'an/Beijing

Today's highlight is the **Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses** - the eighth wonder of the world. Take an afternoon flight to Beijing. Stay in centrally located (1 1/4 miles from Tiananmen Square) **Beijing International Hotel** (5 star). B, L

### Day 14: Beijing

Today's tour starts with the **Tiananmen Square** followed by the **Forbidden City** (aka Palace Museum), in which 24 emperors lived from 1421 to 1911. **Hutong tour** by rickshaw in the afternoon. This tour will take you to the old residential quarters and a visit to a **private home**. B, L, D

### Day 15: Beijing

Start with the **Temple of Heaven**, one of the most photographed buildings in the world. Built in 1420, it was the place where the

emperors of Ming and Qing Dynasties worshipped heaven and prayed for abundant harvest. This is also the place that retired people get together for various cultural activities. Then we'll drive out of the city to the **Great Wall** (at Badaling), the greatest project in ancient China. Enjoy climbing the Wall! Today we'll also visit a cloisonné workshop to witness the making procedures of **cloisonné**, a unique handicraft in Beijing with a history of over 500 years). B, L

### Day 16: Beijing

air

Today's highlight is the famous **Summer Palace** – China's largest and best preserved imperial garden. Today we'll drive by the **Bird's Nest** (National Museum) where 2008 Olympic Games were held. Have your cameras ready for pictures. The afternoon is free at leisure. **Peking Duck dinner** in a Peking Duck restaurant. B, L, SD

### Day 17: Beijing/Home

air

Depart Beijing and arrive home the same day. B

### \*\*\*IMPORTANT NOTES\*\*\*

\*Abbreviations in the itineraries:

B – Western buffet breakfast; L – Chinese lunch

D – Chinese dinner; SD - Special Chinese dinner

\*A few meals are not included due to flight schedules or for the convenience to have your own choice. Our past experience and feedback from tour members have approved that this arrangement is favorable to clients. For excluded meals, your tour director or guides will provide you with sufficient information for dining in your hotel or in local restaurants where various cuisines are available (Some flights offer in-flight meals.).

\*The tour itinerary and hotel arrangements are subject to change in case of unexpected and unavoidable circumstances.

\*The list tour prices do not include departure taxes, governmental fees, fuel surcharges, Chinese visa fees, travel insurance and gratuities. Details are described in "Terms and Conditions".

\*We mostly use U.S. air carriers as our designated airlines for transpacific flights. Different groups may take different designated airlines. Low airfare add-on for departure from most U.S. cities is available. Gateway cities are not limited to LAX or SFO. Not all passengers need to connect flights in West Coast. Airline tickets upgrade is available at additional cost.

For reservation and information, please visit

[www.chinaplustour.com](http://www.chinaplustour.com), or call us at 1-888-868-8811, or e-mail to [info@chinaplustour.com](mailto:info@chinaplustour.com).