



# China

The Great Wall

## The facts

**Geography:** The third largest country in the world encompasses a land of mountains and plains, rivers and canals, deserts and hill country with a population of 1.2 billion (the highest in the world).

**Language:** Mandarin Chinese is the official language. In the south Cantonese is more widely spoken along with a number of local dialects.

**Passports:** You need a full British passport valid for a minimum of six months beyond your date of return.

**Visas:** Visas are required and must be obtained prior to your departure from the UK. Visa applications cannot be processed until 60 days before travel. For further information please contact the Chinese Embassy on 0207 631 1430 or visit their website at [www.chinese-embassy.org.uk](http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk). We can provide you with details of a specialist agency, who can assist you with the process and on some coach tours, a group visa is included.

**Vaccinations:** Vaccinations are strongly recommended. For further information, please consult your doctor.

**Travelling time:** Beijing is approximately 11 hours by non-stop flight from the UK, whilst Shanghai is approximately 10 hours flying time. Many visitors enter China via Hong Kong.

**Local time:** GMT +8 hours

**Currency:** Renminbi, although you can only purchase limited local currency outside China. Hong Kong dollar or sterling traveller's cheques are advisable. Whilst credit cards are widely accepted in the cities, especially in hotels, they may be less so in off the beaten track locations. Cash is a requirement if you are bargaining in markets!

## The holiday price

We have chosen not to include price grids in this brochure as holiday prices fluctuate constantly and, in a competitive market, can often be lower than brochure prices. We work closely with all our airlines and hotels to ensure that we always receive the best offers available, so that when you call us, we can offer you the most competitive price and most attractive added value offers in the market.

## The climate Beijing

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature °C	-4	-2	5	14	20	25	27	25	20	13	4	-2
Monthly rainfall (cms)	1	1	1	2	3	6	15	14	4	2	1	1

Travellers from all over the world visit China to soak up its unparalleled cultural attractions, although many are surprised to discover how modern it has become. Of course, the ancient with all its traditions and splendour is still there in abundance, but nowadays it sits alongside the new creating startling, and often surreal, contrasts right across the country. China is far from being a holiday destination – it is a traveller's paradise and one of life's truly great adventures. There's no other experience like it!

## The flights

International flights to China are available with a variety of airlines including Air China, Air New Zealand or Cathay Pacific (via Hong Kong), British Airways, China Airlines, Emirates (via Dubai), KLM (via Amsterdam), Qatar Airways (via Doha) or Virgin Atlantic. Flights operate to and from China on a daily basis. Regional flights are also available. See page 12 for full details.

**Upgrade international flights to:** One way premium/enhanced economy from as little as £377 per person; business class from £979; first class from £1999.

## The place

It is now perfectly possible to do your own thing in China just booking hotels in different cities and arranging sightseeing locally. However, if you want to cover the whole of this vast and diverse country in a short space of time, then an organised tour may be the best option as your guide takes the strain of the organisation and can bring you to the major sights with the minimum of fuss avoiding any language barriers.

## The events *dates are subject to change*

Chinese New Year (Year of the Rabbit) 03-04 Feb 11  
Shanghai Grand Prix Apr 11

## The culture

Words cannot do justice to a country with the cultural heritage of China. Its dynasties are legendary and its struggles with communist rule have shaped a people who are a massive force in the twenty first century.

## The shopping

If shopping is your thing then right across the country there are bargains of every kind to be had - from the Friendship Department Stores to exploring the old silk markets in Beijing and Shanghai to searching for antiques in Panjiayuan Market in Beijing which is unequalled in the whole of China! It truly is a shopper's paradise, where bargaining is a way of life!

## The nightlife

The major cities of Beijing and Shanghai have whole districts devoted to nightlife which have grown in the last few years – these areas are full of bars, nightclubs and excellent restaurants offering some of the finest culinary delights from the East. Don't expect Chinese food to be like it is at home. The authentic version may contain a few surprises.



Terracotta Warriors



Nanjing Road, Shanghai



Temple of Heaven

## The sights

**Beijing:** Formerly known as Peking, Beijing has been China's capital for 3,000 years under the Mongols and Manchu Emperors and of the People's Republic of China of today. The Forbidden City, Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven are popular sights as are the art and antique stores. Other Beijing sights include the infamous Tiananmen Square, the antique stores of Liulichang Street, Silk Street, the Friendship Stores and Chairman Mao's Mausoleum.

**The Great Wall:** Easily accessible from Beijing, a journey to the legendary Great Wall, which meanders over 3,000 miles across the China landscape is a never to be forgotten experience and should be combined with a visit to the Ming Tombs.

**Shanghai:** It is cosmopolitan, famous for its fine arts, entertainment and crafts as well as being an important commercial centre. Former occupation by foreign powers is reflected in Shanghai's architecture, particularly on the "Bund" road which runs along the busy Huangpu River. Make sure you visit the Garden of Joy (Yu Yuan), Jade Buddha Temple, and take a stroll along the "Bund". A evening out would not be complete without calling in at the famous Peace Hotel to listen to the jazz band.

**Xi'an:** A highlight of any visit to China must be the underground army of 7,000 terracotta warriors found in the tomb of the first Chinese emperor on the outskirts of Xian. The tomb took 36 years to build and the section in which the warriors are found is only a small part of the whole. It is an incredible sight!

**Suzhou:** "In heaven above there is paradise, on earth there are Suzhou and Hangzhou", so says the poem. Known as the Venice of the East, the charming town of Suzhou is home to intimate gardens tucked away down winding alleys and 24 canals. The gardens are works of art, of which the Humble Administrator's Garden, covering 10 acres, is the most famous.

**Guilin:** The Li River winds like a green, silk belt through a landscape made up of limestone hills which rise dramatically from the river's bank. Guilin is a thriving modern city, but it is the surrounding scenery, which is the main attraction. A boat trip down the river allows you to drink in the peace and tranquillity as you float by cormorant fishermen aboard bamboo rafts or the occasional water buffalo working the fields.

## The excursions Beijing

**Great Wall & Ming Tombs:** This never to be forgotten full day tour starts with a walk on the stunning Great Wall of China then visit the tombs of Emperors from the Ming Dynasty. Lunch is included. **From £124**

**Forbidden City and Temple of Heaven:** A full day tour starting with the Forbidden City followed by a visit to the infamous Tiananmen Square. Finish the day at the Temple of Heaven. Lunch is included. **From £126**

## The excursions Shanghai

**Shanghai City:** A fascinating half day tour of the Yu Yuan (Yu gardens), the old town of Shanghai followed by a visit to the Shanghai Museum. Lunch is included. **From £99**

**Suzhou:** A full day tour by train from Shanghai to Suzhou – home of the garden of the Net Master, Tiger Hill and the silk factory. After lunch take an optional cruise along the Grand Canal before returning to Shanghai. Lunch is included. **From £134**



Tiananmen Square



Yangtze River



Guilin

## China Experience

from only **£1490**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Shanghai</b>	3 nights
<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights
<b>Beijing</b>	3 nights

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/4 Shanghai:** Arrive in Shanghai and check-in to your hotel. Your stay in this cosmopolitan city includes an enjoyable excursion to Wuzhen, home to an intricate system of canals and ancient architecture. A full day tour of Shanghai includes the beautiful Yu Gardens and the Old Town, the many antiquities of the Shanghai Museum and the famous Bund, which offers an exhibition of grand architecture dating back to the early 1900s. There will be time to shop along Nanjing Road and to enjoy an evening cruise on the Huangpu River.

**Day 5 Shanghai/Xi'an:** Fly to the former imperial capital of Xi'an.

**Day 6 Xi'an:** Visit one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th century, the spectacular Terracotta Warriors, followed by the ancient city wall, one of the best preserved in all of China.

**Day 7 Xi'an/Beijing:** Enjoy a visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and the Shaanxi Museum which is home to thousands of priceless relics, continue to the Muslim Quarter before flying to Beijing. On arrival view the unique Temple of Heaven before enjoying a traditional 'Peking duck' dinner.

**Day 8/9 Beijing:** During your stay, you will visit the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and, if time permits, Chairman Mao's Mausoleum. No visit to Beijing is complete without a walk along a stretch of the Great Wall and a visit to the exquisite Summer Palace.

**Day 10: Beijing/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK. *This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. Please refer to hotel and tour information.*

Premier Holidays work in conjunction with Wendy Wu Tours in China. The tours shown on these four pages are just a small sample of the selection we can offer throughout China. Please call for further details and additional tour information.

## Grand Tour of China

from only **£2490**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Beijing</b>	4 nights	<b>Yangshuo</b>	1 night
<b>Overnight train</b>	1 night	<b>Guilin</b>	2 nights
<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights	<b>Shanghai</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangtze River Cruise</b>	4 nights	<b>Suzhou</b>	1 night
<b>Kunming</b>	3 nights	<b>Hangzhou</b>	2 nights
<b>Dali</b>	2 nights	<b>Shanghai</b>	1 night

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/5 Beijing:** Arrive in Beijing. Stroll through Tiananmen Square, past Chairman Mao's Mausoleum to the Forbidden City, the largest and best preserved collection of ancient buildings in China. Also walk on the Great Wall, visit the unique Temple of Heaven, shop at the bustling markets, tour the exquisite Summer Palace and enjoy a Chinese Acrobatic Show.

**Day 6 Beijing/Xi'an:** Enjoy a walk along Liulichang's ancient shop fronts and calligraphy market before boarding the overnight sleeper train to Xi'an.

**Day 7/8 Xi'an:** Morning arrival in Xi'an. Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda followed by the renowned Shaanxi Museum, home to thousands of priceless relics, walk through the lively Muslim Quarter to see the fascinating Islamic food markets and the Great Mosque. Enjoy a full day tour to the Terracotta Warriors and also see the remaining ancient city walls before ending your stay in Xi'an with a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 9 Xi'an/Yangtze River Cruise:** Fly to Wuhan and transfer by coach (approx 6 hours) to board your Yangtze cruise vessel.

**Day 10/12 Yangtze River Cruise:** Enjoy a tour of the Three Gorges Dam before sailing upstream to see some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Take a side trip to the striking Shennong Stream in a pea-pod boat or visit the Lesser Three Gorges and enjoy various shore excursions along the way.

**Day 13 Yangtze River Cruise/Kunming:** Disembark your cruise vessel this morning and depart for a tour of the new Panda House at Chongqing Zoo before flying on to Kunming.

**Day 14 Kunming:** Travel to the Stone Forest for a full day tour of these stunning limestone columns.

**Day 15 Kunming/Dali:** Drive to the enchanting town of Dali.

**Day 16 Dali:** Relax and enjoy a cruise on Erhai Lake, participate in a traditional tea tasting, visit the picturesque Three Pagodas and explore Dali's Ancient Quarter.

**Day 17 Dali/Kunming:** This morning you will enjoy a visit of Xizhou Village where there is an opportunity to explore the bustling local market and the Yen Family House which is an ancient courtyard home. Return by coach to Kunming.

**Day 18 Kunming/Guilin:** Today there is a visit to the Bird and Flower Market before an afternoon flight to beautiful Guilin.

**Day 19 Guilin/Yangshuo:** Cruise the Li River and enjoy the breathtaking landscape of tranquil fishing scenes and picturesque villages whilst travelling to the town of Yangshuo which is set in the lush green rice paddies of Southern China.

**Day 20 Yangshuo/Guilin:** Visit the colourful local markets and walk through this charming town before returning to Guilin by road to visit Mt Diecai for views of the surrounding Karst landscape.

**Day 21 Guilin/Shanghai:** Visit the dramatic Reed Flute Caves before your flight to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai.

**Day 22 Shanghai:** Experience Shanghai, the Paris of the East and enjoy visits to the majestic Yu Gardens, Old Town, the Shanghai Museum and the famous Bund.

**Day 23 Shanghai/Suzhou:** Depart by road for the city of Suzhou, famous for its exquisite gardens and silk production. A visit to a local silk mill is followed by a cruise on the ancient Grand Canal and a visit to some of the finest Oriental gardens in China.

**Day 24 Suzhou/Hangzhou:** Travel by coach to beautiful Hangzhou where you will visit the local markets and experience an Oriental tea tasting.

**Day 25 Hangzhou:** Visit the Temple of Inspired Seclusion and the Six Harmonies Pagoda before relaxing on a tranquil West Lake cruise.

**Day 26 Hangzhou/Shanghai:** Return by road to Shanghai and in the afternoon you will have the opportunity to explore the Xintiandi area with its unique 1920s style Shikumen buildings. In the evening enjoy a Huangpu River cruise as a farewell celebration.

**Day 27 Shanghai/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. Please refer to hotel and tour information.*



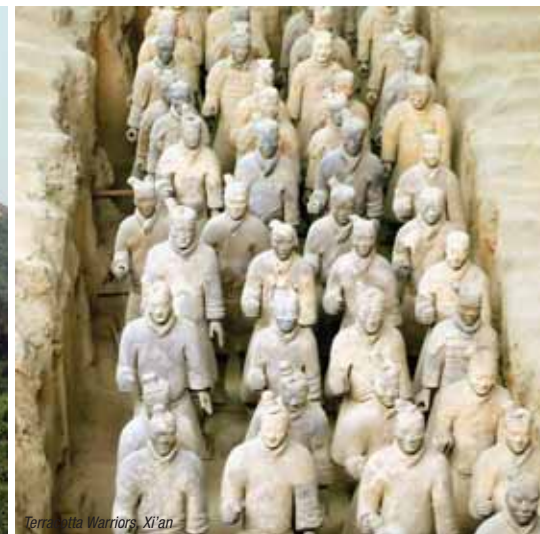
Shanghai



Chengdu Panda



Great Wall of China



Terracotta Warriors, Xi'an

## China Highlights

from only **£1990**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Shanghai</b>	4 nights	<b>Chongqing</b>	1 night
<b>Suzhou</b>	1 night	<b>Dazu</b>	1 night
<b>Hangzhou</b>	2 nights	<b>Chengdu</b>	3 nights
<b>Guilin</b>	2 nights	<b>Train</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangshuo</b>	1 night	<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights
<b>Kunming</b>	2 nights	<b>Beijing</b>	4 nights

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/3 Shanghai:** Arrive in the exciting and cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. Meet your tour guide and enjoy a welcome dinner. Enjoy exploring the beautiful Yu Gardens, Shanghai Museum, the fascinating Old Town and the unique Shikumen buildings of the Xintiandi area.

**Day 4 Shanghai/Suzhou:** Departure for Suzhou, the "Venice of the East" where you will visit the Humble Administrator's Garden and the Master of the Nets Garden before embarking on a cruise on the Grand Canal and visiting a local silk mill.

**Day 5 Suzhou/Hangzhou:** Travel to Hangzhou, one of China's former imperial capitals.

**Day 6 Hangzhou:** Visits are included to local markets, the Temple of Inspired Seclusion, the Six Harmonies Pagoda as well as a relaxing cruise on the West Lake.

**Day 7 Hangzhou/Shanghai:** On the return journey to Shanghai, a visit is made to Wuzhen for a leisurely walking tour of the intricate canals, pavilions and bridges.

**Day 8 Shanghai:** A chance to explore the famous Bund and the shops of Nanjing Road before an evening cruise on the panoramic Huangpu River.

**Day 9 Shanghai/Guilin:** Explore the Pudong area before taking a flight to Guilin.

**Day 10 Guilin/Yangshuo:** Enjoy a delightful cruise down the Li River, view the dramatic scenery of limestone hills rising from the river's edge as you travel to the picturesque town of Yangshuo.

**Day 11 Yangshuo/Guilin:** En route back to Guilin a visit is made to Mount Diecai for views of the stunning karst (limestone) landscape.

**Day 12 Guilin/Kunming:** A visit is made to the Reed Flute Caves, where stalactites, stalagmites and stone pillars glisten in the colourful lights. Continue by air to Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province.

**Day 13 Kunming:** Today there is a full day tour to the picturesque Stone Forest, where vast surreal limestone columns reach upwards to the heavens.

**Day 14 Kunming/Chongqing:** Admire the Western Hills which wrap around Dianchi Lake before flying to Chongqing.

**Day 15 Chongqing/Dazu:** The city tour includes Erlin Park, the People's Hall and the General Stilwell Museum. Continue by road to Dazu, home to some of the most fascinating rock carvings in the world.

**Day 16 Dazu/Chengdu:** Visit the Baodin Stone Carvings before driving on to Chengdu, renowned for its lush and dramatic landscapes as well as its cuisine.

**Day 17 Chengdu/Leshan:** See the remarkable Grand Buddha at Leshan, the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist statue. Enjoy a short boat trip for a further view of the statue before returning to Chengdu.

**Day 18 Chengdu:** Visit the famous Panda Reserve where they are reared in spectacular wooded surroundings.

**Day 19 Chengdu/Train:** Enjoy a city tour of Chengdu before boarding your sleeper train for an overnight journey to Xi'an.

**Day 20/21 Xi'an:** On arrival you will enjoy a visit to the Little Wild Goose Pagoda before a traditional Shui Jiao dinner. A visit is also included to the world famous Terracotta Warriors and the ancient city wall.

**Day 22 Xi'an/Train:** Other attractions of Xi'an include the Shaanxi Museum, the lively Muslim Quarter where you will explore the Great Mosque and Islamic food markets before boarding your overnight train to Beijing.

**Day 23/26 Beijing:** During your four days in the capital you will visit the Forbidden City, stroll across Tiananmen Square and of course walk along the Great Wall. Marvel at the unique Temple of Heaven and the exquisite Summer Palace and enjoy browsing the silk markets.

**Day 27 Beijing/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. Please refer to hotel and tour information.*

### Tour information for pages 70, 71, 72 and 73

#### Tour numbers:

Majestic Yangtze	1169;	Grand Tour of China	1176;
China Experience	1170;	Wonders of China	1173;
Magnificent China	1172;	China Highlights	1171;
Glories of China	1184		

**Departures:** Tours depart on specific dates. Please ask for details.

**Sightseeing:** As outlined.

**Meals:** All meals (excluding beverages) are included.

**Extensions:** Available. Please ask for prices.

**The tour prices:** The prices shown are lead-in prices for low season travel and are based on joining a group tour on fixed departure dates. Prices include international flights, onward internal flights throughout the tours, transfers and sightseeing by coach, train travel where applicable in sleeper compartments of 4 berths (double and single occupancy at a supplement), services of an English speaking guide, entrance fees and accommodation in bronze standard tour hotels. Private tours and upgraded silver standard accommodation options are available at a supplement.

**Visa cost:** Included for UK passport holders (passports must be submitted 8 weeks prior to departure and will be retained for approximately 4 weeks for processing). Supplements may apply for express visa processing services.

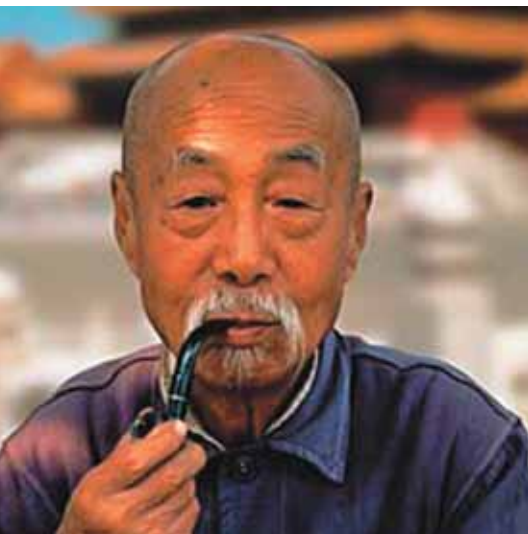
**Tiping:** For passenger's convenience a compulsory amount is to be paid at the beginning of group tours to cover tips for guides, drivers, restaurant staff etc. This should be paid in cash.

### Tour hotels

Beijing	Grand View Garden or similar
Chengdu	Sichuan or similar
Chongqing	Huangjia Grand or similar
Dali	Asian or similar
Dazu	Dazu or similar
Guilin	The Osmanthus or similar
Hangzhou	Lily or similar
Kunming	Kunming Jin Jiang or similar
Shanghai	Ramada Shanghai Zhabei or similar
Suzhou	New Century or similar
Xi'an	Oriental or similar
Yangshuo	New Century or similar
Yangtze River Cruise	4 star cruise vessels from the Victoria and Yangtze Star Lines



Yangtze River



## Majestic Yangtze

from only **£1990**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Shanghai</b>	2 nights	<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangtze River Cruise</b>	4 nights	<b>Beijing</b>	3 nights
<b>Chengdu</b>	1 night		

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/3 Shanghai:** Arrive in the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. During your stay you will visit the beautiful Yu Gardens, Old Town, the Bund, Shanghai Museum, cross the Great Nanpu Bridge and tour the Pudong area. Also explore Xintiandi with its 1920s style buildings and end your stay with a stunning Huangpu River cruise.

**Day 4 Shanghai/Yangtze River Cruise:** Fly to Yichang and onward transfer by coach (approximately 1 hour) to board your Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Day 5/7 Yangtze River Cruise:** Enjoy a tour of the Three Gorges Dam before cruising on the mighty Yangtze River, passing through the spectacular Three Gorges. Take a side trip to the Lesser Three Gorges or travel upstream to the equally dramatic Shennong Stream in a pea-pod boat.

**Day 8 Yangtze River Cruise/Chengdu:** Disembark in Chongqing and transfer by road to Chengdu.

**Day 9 Chengdu/Xi'an:** Visit the famous Panda Reserve to see these endearing animals in wooded surroundings. You will then take a flight to the historic city of Xi'an.

**Day 10 Xi'an:** Explore one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th century - the Terracotta Warriors, followed by the ancient city wall and a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 11 Xi'an/Beijing:** Visit Little Wild Goose Pagoda and see the priceless relics at the renowned Shaanxi Provincial Museum, visit the lively Muslim Quarter and explore the food markets. You will then take a flight to Beijing.

**Day 12/13 Beijing:** During your stay in Beijing stroll through Tiananmen Square, see the magnificent Forbidden City and the exquisite Summer Palace. You will also have the opportunity to walk on the Great Wall, tour the unique Temple of Heaven and enjoy a fascinating Chinese Acrobatic Show.

**Day 14 Beijing/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. See page 71 for hotel and tour information.*



Guilin

## Wonders of China

from only **£2090**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Beijing</b>	3 nights	<b>Guilin</b>	2 nights
<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights	<b>Shanghai</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangtze River Cruise</b>	4 nights		
<b>Yangshuo</b>	1 night		

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/4 Beijing:** Arrive in Beijing and stroll through famous Tiananmen Square past Chairman Mao's mausoleum to the Forbidden City, the largest and best preserved collection of ancient buildings in China. Visits are also included to the Temple of Heaven, the beautiful Summer Palace and not forgetting the walk along the magnificent Great Wall.

**Day 5 Beijing/Xi'an:** Fly to the former imperial capital of Xi'an where you can view the priceless relics at the vast Shaanxi Provincial Museum, considered to be a showcase of ancient civilisations. In the evening you will have the opportunity to enjoy a traditional Shui Jiao dumpling meal.

**Day 6 Xi'an:** Be amazed by the life-size Terracotta Warriors which date back over 2,000 years, before a visit is made to the ancient city wall. Stroll through the lively Muslim Quarter to visit the Great Mosque and explore the Islamic food markets before enjoying an evening performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 7 Xi'an/Yangtze River Cruise:** Fly to Wuhan and onward transfer by coach (approximately 6 hours) to board your Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Day 8/10 Yangtze River Cruise:** Tour the Three Gorges Dam which is one of the largest of its kind in the world, and admire some of the world's most beautiful scenery, with various shore excursions along the way, including the Ghost City of Fengdu and the Lesser Three Gorges or Shennong stream.

**Day 11 Yangtze River Cruise/Guilin:** Disembark and enjoy a morning visit to the Panda House at Chongqing Zoo for a close up view of these adorable animals. Onwards to the airport and fly to the beautiful city of Guilin.

**Day 12 Guilin/Yangshuo:** Relax as you cruise on the Li River past tranquil scenes of water buffalo grazing along the river bank, farmers working in the rice paddies, children and fisherman floating past on bamboo rafts as well as picturesque villages with the backdrop of stunning limestone columns towering above the river. Your cruise ends at the charming town of Yangshuo set amid the lush green rice paddies of Southern China.

**Day 13 Yangshuo/Guilin:** Visit the colourful local markets or western cafes and restaurants of West Street before returning to Guilin to see the Reed Flute Caves, a huge cave of multi-coloured lighting and fantastic stalactites, stalagmites and other geological curiosities.

**Day 14 Guilin/Shanghai:** Fly to Shanghai, known as the "Paris of the East". Admire the superb antiques and fine arts of the Shanghai Museum and wander around People's Square, a political, commercial centre of downtown Shanghai.

**Day 15 Shanghai:** Visit the beautiful Yu Gardens which are over 400 years old, the fascinating Old Town and the famous Bund. Visits are also included to the Pudong area and Xintiandi with its unique 1920s style Shikumen buildings. Your stay in Shanghai is completed with an evening cruise on the panoramic Huangpu River.

**Day 16: Shanghai/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. See page 71 for hotel and tour information.*

## Magnificent China

from only **£2690**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Beijing</b>	4 nights	<b>Yangshuo</b>	1 night
<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights	<b>Guilin</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangtze River Cruise</b>	4 nights	<b>Suzhou</b>	1 night
<b>Chengdu</b>	2 nights	<b>Shanghai</b>	3 nights

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2/5 Beijing:** Arrive in Beijing and take a stroll through Tiananmen Square, visit the Forbidden City, enjoy a memorable walk on the Great Wall and tour the unique Temple of Heaven. There will be time to shop at the bustling markets, visit the exquisite Summer Palace and enjoy a Chinese Acrobatic Show.

**Day 6 Beijing/Xi'an:** Fly to ancient Xi'an where you can view the priceless relics at the Shaanxi Provincial Museum.

**Day 7 Xi'an:** A highlight of your tour today is a visit to the life-size Terracotta Warriors before continuing to the ancient city wall. You will also tour the lively Muslim Quarter including the Great Mosque and Islamic food markets before enjoying an evening performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 8 Xi'an/Yangtze River Cruise:** Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda before flying to Wuhan. Travel by coach (approximately 6 hours) to board your Yangtze River Cruise vessel.

**Day 9/11 Yangtze River Cruise:** Cruise through some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Shore excursions are made to the captivating temples and statues of the "Ghost City" in Fengdu, before either travelling up the Sehnong Stream or exploring the lesser Three Gorges.

**Day 12 Yangtze River Cruise/Chengdu:** Disembark the cruise ship and transfer by road to Chengdu. On arrival enjoy a half day city tour.

**Day 13 Chengdu:** Visit the famous Panda Reserve where you can view these adorable animals being reared in wooded surroundings. Continue to Leshan to see the world's largest carved stone Buddha.

**Day 14 Chengdu/Guilin:** Fly to the beautiful city of Guilin and on arrival visit Mount Diecai for spectacular views of the limestone landscape.

**Day 15 Guilin/Yangshuo:** Cruise up the Li River for breathtaking views of this unique landscape as you travel to the charming town of Yangshuo, where you can explore the cobblestone streets.

**Day 16 Yangshuo/Guilin:** Visit the colourful local markets before returning to Guilin to visit the beautiful Reed Flute Caves which house some stunning stalactites and stalagmites.

**Day 17 Guilin/Suzhou:** Fly to Shanghai and travel onwards by coach to the charming garden city of Suzhou. Located on the lower reaches of the Yangtze River and on the shores of Lake Taihu, the city is renowned for its beautiful stone bridges, pagodas and meticulously designed gardens.

**Day 18 Suzhou/Shanghai:** Visit a silk mill, cruise the ancient Grand Canal and see classical oriental gardens before returning to Shanghai.

**Day 19/20 Shanghai:** See the superb antiques and fine arts of the Shanghai Museum, wander around People's Square, visit the beautiful Yu Gardens, fascinating Old Town and the famous Bund. A visit to the Pudong area is included as well as a stunning evening Huangpu river cruise.

**Day 21 Shanghai/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. See page 71 for hotel and tour information.*



The Great Wall of China



Guilin



Yangshuo

## Glories of China

from only **£1790**

An escorted coach tour

<b>Shanghai</b>	3 nights	<b>Guilin</b>	1 night
<b>Guilin</b>	1 night	<b>Xi'an</b>	2 nights
<b>Yangshuo</b>	1 night	<b>Beijing</b>	4 nights

**Day 1 Depart UK:** From selected airports.

**Day 2 Shanghai:** Arrive in the exciting and cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. Meet your tour guide and enjoy a welcome dinner of local cuisine.

**Day 3 Shanghai:** Today your sightseeing will include a visit to the Shanghai Museum which is the largest in China and houses over 120,000 pieces of Chinese art and relics. You will also walk along the famous Bund, a waterfront area with colonial architecture, chic restaurants and shopping opportunities. In the evening take the chance to call in at the famous Peace Hotel to listen to the resident jazz band.

**Day 4 Shanghai:** Visit the beautiful Yu Yuan Gardens, the Old Town and the modern Pudong area. You will also explore the restored Xintiandi area with its unique 1920s style Shikumen buildings. This evening, enjoy a cruise on the panoramic Huangpu River.

**Day 5 Shanghai/Guilin:** Morning at leisure before flying to the beautiful city of Guilin.

**Day 6 Guilin/Yangshuo:** Cruise the stunning Li River and enjoy the breathtaking landscape of beautiful limestone hills, tranquil fishing scenes and picturesque villages. Continue downstream to the town of Yangshuo set in the lush green rice paddies of Southern China.

**Day 7 Yangshuo/Guilin:** This morning explore the colourful local markets, walk along the cobblestone streets and soak in the atmosphere of this charming town before returning to Guilin. During the afternoon stroll through the picturesque Seven Star Park to see the huge Seven Star Cave, the largest in the area. You will also visit the 'Giant Panda Hotel' which is home to two of these adorable animals.

**Day 8 Guilin/Xi'an:** Visit Mount Diecai for views of the surrounding karst landscape before flying to the former ancient capital of Xi'an. In the evening enjoy a traditional Shui Jiao dumpling meal followed by a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

**Day 9 Xi'an:** Visit one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th century - the stunning Terracotta Army Warriors at the tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huang, where over 10,000 figures of soldiers, archers, chariots and horses have been unearthed since the 1970s with many more discoveries still being made. The tomb took 36 years to build and the section in which the warriors are found is only a small part of the whole structure. Your tour will also include a walk along the ancient City Wall.

**Day 10 Xi'an/Beijing:** Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and the renowned Shaanxi Museum which is home to thousands of priceless relics. You will also stroll through the lively Muslim Quarter to visit the Great Mosque and explore the Islamic food markets before flying to Beijing.

**Day 11 Beijing:** Sightseeing today includes a stroll through Tiananmen Square, an immense courtyard which is surrounded by a variety of significant buildings such as the Great Hall of the People, the Mao Zedong Memorial Hall and the Monument to the People's Heroes. Continue past Chairman Mao's Mausoleum to the treasure-filled Forbidden City, the largest and best preserved imperial palace complex in the world, with 9,999 rooms!

**Day 12 Beijing:** Walk on the Great Wall, one of the 'Seven Wonders of the World', which stretches over 3,000 miles to the Gobi Desert and offers some incredible views. Continue to the unique Temple of Heaven where the Emperors made homage to the glory of heaven.

**Day 13 Beijing:** Enjoy a rickshaw ride through the traditional Hutong areas (alleyways) and tour the exquisite Summer Palace which is home to a variety of palaces and gardens. Following on from the 2008 Olympic Games, Beijing now also has many modern buildings to see, including the striking Beijing National Stadium, affectionately known as the Birds Nest. Enjoy a fascinating Chinese Acrobatic show in the evening.

**Day 14 Beijing/UK:** Extend your stay? Or departure to the UK.

*This tour is operated by Wendy Wu Tours. Please refer to hotel and tour information.*

## China

China is the third largest country in the world offering a host of spectacular and famous tourist attractions as well as many lesser known sights and experiences. Our escorted tours have been carefully selected to offer a broad range of exciting itineraries for those looking to explore the history culture and scenery of this remarkable country.

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