



Discovery Tour of China & Yangtze River Cruise

Product Code: **A-ACY14D**

EUR 1999 / P.P.

Double Room

EUR 2788 / P.P.

Single room

Shanghai – Yangtze River Cruise – Chongqing – Chengdu – Xi'an – Beijing



Day 1 Flight to Shanghai


Day 2 Shanghai

 Jinling Purple Mountain Hotel Shanghai***** or similar

Arrival at Shanghai International Airport. Meet your guide, then transfer and check-in at the hotel in Shanghai. Free time and dinner on your own.

Day 3 Shanghai

 Jinling Purple Mountain Hotel Shanghai***** or similar

 Breakfast | Lunch

After breakfast, visit the Shanghai Museum (closed on Mondays), which houses important collections illustrating the chronological evolution of Chinese art. Its eleven galleries contain some of the finest collections of paintings, bronzes, sculptures, ceramics, calligraphy, jade, furniture from the Ming and Qing dynasties, coins, seals, and minority arts.

After lunch, visit the Yu Garden, built in the 16th century. It was designed with circular shapes symbolizing the heavens: winding paths, circular doorways in the pavilions... every detail is meaningful. Earth mounds represent hills, small streams stand for rivers, the pond becomes the sea—depicting a miniature world.

To finish the day, visit the Jade Buddha Temple (Yufosi), home to two magnificent jade Buddha statues. Also, visit a silk workshop to learn about the ancient history of Chinese silk.

Dinner on your own and overnight at the hotel.

Optional: Dinner cruise on the Huangpu River

Day 4 Shanghai – Yichang by High-Speed Train 2nd Class – Yangtze River Cruise

 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Include

- 1. International flights;
- 2. 8 nights in 5-star hotels (local standards), in double rooms;
- 3. 4-night Yangtze River cruise on a 5-star boat, in standard double cabins;
- 4. Local transportation by coach or second-class train as indicated in the program;
- 5. Meals as specified in the program;
- 6. Entrance tickets for all visits mentioned in the program;
- 7. Services of English-speaking local guides during visits;

Exclude

- 1. Single room supplement (one person per room);
- 2. Personal expenses;
- 3. Meals not mentioned in the program;
- 4. Beverages during meals;
- 5. Tips for guides and drivers (€5 per person per day);
- 6. Portage service fees;
- 7. Optional activities;
- 8. Optional shore excursions



After breakfast, transfer to the train station and depart by high-speed train for Yichang. Lunch on your own. Upon arrival, transfer to the port to board the cruise ship. Presentation of the cruise and check-in to your cabin. Dinner on board. Overnight on board.

Day 5 Yangtze River Cruise

11 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Breakfast on board. In the morning, optional excursion to the Tribe of the Three Gorges – €38/p (to be booked on site). Lunch on board. In the afternoon, visit the gigantic Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric project, operational since the early 2000s. Observe the complex lock system. Cruise navigation continues. (Optional visit by Ship Lift at the Three Gorges Dam – €38/p to be booked on site). Dinner and welcome show.

Overnight on board.

Day 6 Yangtze River Cruise

11 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Breakfast on board. Cruise through the Three Gorges to admire the breathtaking scenery. Lunch on board. Cross the Wu and Qutang Gorges. The Wu Gorge stretches 45 km and features twelve iconic peaks, each named for the impressions they inspire—such as Goddess Peak, Flying Phoenix Peak, Climbing Dragon Peak, and Gathering Cranes Peak. The steep slopes often block out sunlight, giving the gorge a mystical atmosphere.

(Optional visit to the Mini Three Gorges and the ancient town of Dachang – €36/p to be booked on site).

Further upstream, the Qutang Gorge—only 8 km long—is the shortest but most dramatic of the three. Its steep limestone cliffs soar up to 1,200 m above the river and narrow the waterway to just 100 meters wide, forcing the current to rush through rapidly. The area is a maze of hills, cliffs, rocks, and caves.

(Optional visit to the White Emperor City – €38/p to be booked on site).

Dinner and dancing evening.

Overnight on board.

Day 7 Yangtze River Cruise

11 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Breakfast on board. Visit Fengdu, also known as the "Ghost City," home to numerous tombs, temples, and monasteries dedicated to Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism. Lunch on board. (Optional visit to Shuangguishan Mountain – €20/p to be booked on site). Continue cruising downstream on the Yangtze River. Dinner and dancing evening.

Overnight on board.

Day 8 Yangtze River Cruise – Chongqing – Chengdu by High-Speed Train 2nd Class

11 Dorsett Chengdu Hotel***** or similar

11 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Breakfast on board. End of the cruise and disembarkation in Chongqing. Visit the Panda Zoo. Lunch, then transfer to the train station for your high-speed train to Chengdu. Upon arrival in Chengdu, dinner at a local

during the cruise;

- 9. Insurance;
- Optional Activities (to be booked at the time of registration):
- Day 3: Huangpu River dinner cruise in Shanghai - 60/person
- Day 10: Chinese dumpling banquet with Tang Dynasty dance performance - €80/person
- Day 12: Peking duck specialty dinner and night tour of Beijing - €60/person

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restaurant and transfer to the hotel.

Day 9 Chengdu – Xi'an by High-Speed Train 2nd Class


 Grand Barony Xi'an***** or similar


 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

After breakfast, visit the old town of Jinli and Kuanzhai Xiangzi ("Wide and Narrow Alleys") in the city center. This historical area is composed of three alleys: Wide Alley, Narrow Alley, and Well Alley. Together, they form a miniature and symbolic representation of ancient Chengdu. Today, they offer a perfect mix of history, fashion, leisure, and gastronomy.

After lunch, transfer to the train station for your high-speed train to Xi'an. Dinner at a local restaurant and transfer to the hotel.

Day 10 Xi'an

 Grand Barony Xi'an***** or similar

 Breakfast | Lunch

After breakfast, depart for Lintong District, located 35 km east of Xi'an, where the Terracotta Army was discovered in 1974. This archaeological site, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1987, is part of the mausoleum of Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi. The emperor began construction of his tomb as soon as he came to power, and intensified it in 221 BC after unifying China. The construction involved over 700,000 workers over 38 years. The life-sized statues, averaging 1.86 meters tall and weighing about 300 kg each, include infantrymen, cavalry, archers, bronze chariots, and horses—each with unique features.

After lunch, visit the Small Wild Goose Pagoda and a renowned jade workshop.

Overnight at the hotel.

Optional activity: Dumpling banquet with Tang Dynasty dance performance

Day 11 Xi'an – Beijing by High-Speed Train 2nd Class


 Xiyuan hotel Beijing***** or similar

 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

After breakfast, transfer to the train station for your high-speed train to Beijing. Upon arrival, lunch followed by a visit to the Summer Palace, the former imperial garden of the Qing Dynasty. Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Summer Palace showcases natural beauty and the grandeur of royal gardens. The entire complex covers nearly 2.7 km². Dinner at a local restaurant and transfer to the hotel.

Day 12 Beijing

 Xiyuan hotel Beijing***** or similar

 Breakfast | Lunch

After breakfast at the hotel, depart to visit Tiananmen Square, the largest public square in the world. Located in the heart of the city, it once served as the main gate to the Imperial Palace during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Facing the Forbidden City (closed on Mondays), the square spans nearly 40 hectares. On the north side, the red walls of the Forbidden City rise on either side of the majestic Tiananmen Gate.

Visit the Forbidden City, also known as the Imperial Palace or "The Red City" by the Chinese. It was the residence of 24 emperors and spans 72 hectares, with over 9,000 rooms. After the fall of the empire in 1912, the



Forbidden City was gradually opened to the public.

After lunch, visit the Temple of Heaven, built in the 15th century during the Ming Dynasty. It was part of a system of altars located in the four cardinal directions of Beijing—dedicated to Heaven, Earth, the Sun, and the Moon. Under the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911), the site was expanded to become the largest temple complex in China, covering 273 hectares. The site is known for its symbolic design, harmonious colors, and architectural perfection.

Dinner on your own and overnight at the hotel.

Optional activity: Peking duck dinner and night tour of Beijing

Day 13 Beijing

 Xiyuan hotel Beijing***** or similar

 Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

After breakfast, visit the Great Wall at Juyongguan, located in the Changping District. Its name originates from an expression dating back to the Qin dynasty. During that time, Emperor Qin Shi Huang's soldiers were tasked with constructing this section of the Great Wall. To meet labor needs, they brought in low-cost workers, including immigrants and convicted criminals.

After lunch, visit the Lama Temple, the largest Tibetan Buddhist temple in Beijing and one of the best-preserved in China. Also known as Yonghe Temple, it boasts over 300 years of history and holds three world records: the tallest wooden Buddha, the trio of bronze Buddhas representing the past, present, and future, and the hill of 500 Arhats.

You will also take part in a class on the art and culture of Chinese tea.

Dinner at a local restaurant and transfer to the hotel.

Day 14 Beijing - London

 Breakfast

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time.

Depending on your flight schedule, transfer to the airport for your return flight to London.

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