

CHINA & HONG KONG EXPLORER 15 days

Itinerary:



Day 1 : Arrive Beijing

Upon your arrival in Beijing transfer to your hotel and time to relax from your flight.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 2 : Beijing - City Tour (B / L)

After breakfast start your tour first is Coal Hill from where you have a nice birds eye view over Beijing before you stroll around Tian An Men Square in the city center near the Tiananmen Tower. Next visit the Forbidden City, the former residence of the Ming and Qing emperors. During lunch at the Roayl Temple restaurant you can try some vegetarian sausages. After lunch see the Temple of Heaven with its outstanding round shape, covered by an exquisite triple roof of blue tiles. This is where the Emperor used to pray for good harvests.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 3 : Beijing - Great Wall (B / L)

After breakfast this morning you visit the Great Wall, the Mutianyu section is located in Huairou county in the suburbs of Beijing 70 km from Beijing city center. Later continue your tour visiting the Chang Ling of the Ming Tombs, the chief of the Ming Tombs which is the largest in scale and completely preserved. Walk along the Sacred Path leading to the necropolis and giant tortoises, along the path are bizarre mythical stone monster standing guard.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 4 : Beijing - Xian (B / L)

After breakfast walk inside the Summer Palace gardens. Stroll under the covered gallery winding its way along the north shore of Kunming Lake. In the afternoon visit Lama Temple located in a well maintained part of Beijing's old town. Then take a Hutong tour by rickshaw and visit a local residents home. Climb the drum tower and enjoy a bird view of the old quarters of Beijing city and watch the Drum Ceremony show. Later transfer to the train station for an express train to Xian where you are accommodated in a sleeper compartment.

Lodging: Train

Day 5 : Xian (B / L)

Arrive in Xian in the morning and have breakfast at a local restaurant. Next discover the famous Terra Cotta Army of Qinshihuangdi, the first Emperor of China. This is one of the most significant archeological excavations of the 20th century. Return to town where you enjoy a

walk along the old city wall, the oldest and largest city defence systems in China. Later visit the old quarters around the Drum Tower. Located beside the Tower is the Muslim street running 500 meters from south to north. See the ancient folk house of Gao Yue Song's, who was a high rank official during the Ming Dynasty. The house won the UNESCO Prize for Cultural Heritage Protection. Later enjoy a typical local shady play.

Lodging: Sofitel Hotel

Day 6 : Xian - Chongqing (B / L / D)

After breakfast visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda situated in the Da Ci'em Temple known as the best preserved Buddhist Temple complex. Later transfer to the airport for your domestic flight to Chongqing. After arrival visit the Pandas at Chongqing Zoo. In the evening board the cruise ship for your Yangtze cruise

Lodging: Yangtze 2 cruise

Day 7 : Yangtze cruise (B / L / D)

Enjoy breakfast on your cruise on the Yangtze River, there are stops at Gendu, the City of Ghosts and many more interesting things to see while cruising along the river.

Lodging: Yangtze 2 cruise

Day 8 : Yangtze cruise (B / L / D)

Today your cruise continues. Cross the Qutang Gorge and board a small boat on the Daning River where you catch a glimpse of the three small gorges. Return to the cruise ship. In the afternoon cross the Wu Gorge.

Lodging: Yangtze 2 cruise

Day 9 : Yangtze cruise - Yichang - Shanghai (B / L)

Continue your cruise on the Yangtze river. Cross Gezhouba Dam after passing the last gorge, Xiling Gorge. The cruise ends in Yichang. After disembarkation transfer to the airport for your flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival in Shanghai transfer to your hotel.

Lodging: Hyatt on the Bund Hotel

Day 10 : Shanghai - Suzhou (B / L)

After breakfast visit the Shanghai Museum where you see a beautiful collection of bronze, china, porcelain, sculptures and calligraphy. Get a glimpse of the famous Opera before you visit the Jade Buddha Temple, which hosts two jade Buddha statues and displays the architecture typical of the lower Yangtze area. Continue to visit the Mandarin Yu Garden located in the heart of old Shanghai, where the narrow streets busting with activity.

Lodging: Hyatt on the Bund Hotel

Day 11 : Shanghai - Suzhou (B / L)

After breakfast drive to Suzhou. Laced by canals and stone bridges, Suzhou is a UNESCO Cultural Heritage site and famous worldwide for its luxury silk and the beautiful gardens built by scholars. Discover prestigious gardens such as the Master of Nets and the Humble Administrator. Walk through the old streets along the canals and visit a silk work shop.

Lodging: Shangri-La Hotel

Day 12 : Shanghai - Hong Kong (B)

After breakfast in the morning depart to Zhouzhuang village, a typical small city of the area built on a dense network of canals. Some of the old mandarin and merchants residences can be visited here. Later transfer to Shanghai airport for your international return flight or OPTIONAL extension flight to Hong Kong. Upon arrival in Hong Kong transfer to hotel.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 13 : Hong Kong - City Tour (B)

After breakfast drive to Victoria peak, Repulse Bay and Stanley market. In the afternoon visit the Aberdeen fishing village. You have the opportunity for factory shopping before touring Kowloon city, Wo Tai Si Temple, Jade and Bird market are also on the program.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 14 : Hong Kong (B)

After breakfast enjoy a day at leisure to discover more of this fascinating city on your own.

Lodging: Peninsula Hotel

Day 15 : Hong Kong Departure (B)

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your international departure.

