



Ancient and Modern China 13-Day Tour (CIT012)

Beijing 北京 – **Xi'an** 西安 – **Guilin/Yangshuo** 桂林/阳朔 – **Shanghai** 上海 – **Hong Kong** 香港

Note: *The Chinese names listed in the itinerary are written with the simplified characters used in Mainland China, except for those referring to places in Hong Kong, where traditional characters are still used.*

Day 1: U.S.A. – Beijing

Today you will board a plane bound for China, where you will witness the vicissitudes of China's five thousand-year history. Your tour will begin with the dynamic capital city of **Beijing**, a city that encompasses the vast range of China's cultural styles.

Day 2: Arrival in Beijing

Today, after arriving in Beijing, you will be greeted at the airport by CIT's professional bilingual tour guide and escorted to the hotel where you will be staying overnight.

Beijing Accommodations: **Grand Gongda Jianguo Hotel** 工大建国 (5-Star) or equivalent

<http://www.bjut-hoteljianguo.com/en/hotelinfo.html>

Day 3: Beijing

After breakfast, you will visit **Tiananmen Square**. Originally the front entrance of the imperial palace during the Ming and Qing Dynasties, Tiananmen ("the Gate of Heavenly Peace") was built in the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Yongle. When it was renovated during the Qing Dynasty, its name was changed to Tiananmen to suggest the idea that the emperor's mandate to pacify and rule the nation came from heaven. You will make a special trip to see the **National Centre for the Performing Arts**, whose exterior looks like an enormous eggshell, earning it the nickname "The Egg." Next, you will tour the **Forbidden City**, which served as the royal palace for 24 consecutive emperors during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. There you can explore art exhibits from every dynasty, exhibitions of Qing Dynasty cultural relics, the **Three Great Halls**, the **Imperial Garden**, the **Palace of Heavenly Purity**, and other attractions. In the afternoon an expert guide will take you on a pedicab tour of Beijing's **hutong**, or "narrow alleyways," where you can take pictures that will make you feel like you've traveled back in time, and afterward you will stroll along the shore of **Shicha Hai**, a picturesque man-made lake. After dinner you will enjoy a theatrical **kung fu show**.

Day 3 Attractions:

Tiananmen Square (天安门广场, Tiānānmén Guǎngchǎng)

National Centre for the Performing Arts (国家大剧院, Guójiā Dàjùyuàn)

Forbidden City (故宫, Gù Gōng, or 紫禁城, Zǐjìn Chéng)

Three Great Halls (三大殿, Sān Dàdiàn)

Imperial Garden (御花园, Yùhuā Yuán)

Palace of Heavenly Purity (乾清宫, Qiánqīng Gōng)

Beijing's **hutong**, (胡同, hútòng)

Shicha Hai (什刹海, Shíchà Hǎi)

Special Arrangements: theatrical **kung fu show** (功夫秀, gōngfū xiù)

Day 4: Beijing

After breakfast, you will visit the **Great Wall of China**, one of the Eight Wonders of the Ancient World. Located in a strategically important area that military commanders throughout history have sought to control, the **Badaling** stretch of the Great Wall is the best-preserved, most representative, and most finely constructed section from the Ming Dynasty. After visiting the Great Wall, you will tour the **Summer Palace** used by the imperial family during the Qing Dynasty. Originally called "Clear Ripple Garden," the Summer Palace was burned down in 1860 by the allied forces of England and France. Beginning in 1888, the Empress Dowager Cixi rebuilt it with a huge sum of money embezzled from the navy. After its reconstruction was completed ten years later, it was given its current name. Next, you will tour the largest extant temple complex in China, the **Temple of Heaven**, where the emperor held sacrificial rites. The famous **Echo Wall** and **Three-Tone Stone** are located here. Afterward, you will visit the famous sites of



many 2008 Beijing Olympics events: the **National Aquatics Center**, or “Water Cube,” and the **National Stadium**, or “Bird’s Nest.”

Day 4 Attractions:

Great Wall of China at Badaling (八达岭长城, Bādǎlíng Chángchéng)

Summer Palace (颐和园, Yíhé Yuán)

Temple of Heaven (天坛, Tiāntán)

Echo Wall (回音壁, Huíyīn Bì)

Three-Tone Stone (三音石, Sānyīn Shí)

National Aquatics Center (国家游泳中心, Guójiā Yóuyǒng Zhōngxīn), or **Water Cube** (水立方, Shuǐ Lìfāng)

National Stadium (国家体育馆, Guójiā Tǐyùguǎn), or **Bird’s Nest** (鸟巢, Niǎo Cháo)

Special Arrangements: **gondola (cable car) transport** up and down the Great Wall; **Peking duck** (烤鸭, kǎoyā) at **Quanjudé** (全聚德, Quánjùdé), a famous restaurant

Day 5: Beijing – Xi’an

After breakfast, you will fly to the ancient city of Xi’an in Shaanxi Province. Formerly called Chang’an (“Eternal Peace”), it is considered one of the great cities of the ancient world along with Athens, Cairo, and Rome. Over the course of Chinese history, Xi’an was the capital of eleven dynasties. Because Xi’an was the eastern endpoint of the legendary Silk Road, it features numerous cultural relics and historical sites. First, you will tour **Big Goose Pagoda**, which was built to preserve the valuable scriptures that the famous monk Master Xuán Zàng brought back from India. Since ancient times, distinguished and cultured men have been inspired by the view from the tower to write timeless works. Afterward, you will tour Xi’an’s enormous **City Walls**, which have a history of more than 600 years. For dinner, we have arranged a meal of authentic Shaanxi-style food for you. Xi’an’s delicious cuisine is a highlight of any visit to Xi’an and has earned it a reputation as a “gourmet food capital.”

Day 5 Attractions:

Big Goose Pagoda (大雁塔, Dà yàn tǎ)

Xi’an’s City Walls (城墙, Chéngqiáng)

Special Arrangements: authentic **Shaanxi-style dinner**

Xi’an Accommodations: **Titan Times Hotel** 西安天朗时代大酒店 (5-Star) *or equivalent*

<http://www.titantimeshotel.com/>

Day 6: Xi’an

If you haven’t seen the **First Emperor’s terracotta army**, known as the Eighth Wonder of the World, you haven’t really been to Xi’an. The pit where the terracotta army is still in the process of being excavated is an ancillary section of the tomb of the infamous First Emperor, Qín Shǐhuáng. Your next stop is **Huaqing Hot Springs**, which since ancient times has been famed for the high quality of both its hot springs and its beautiful scenery, but even more for its description in the famous poem “Song of Eternal Sorrow” by Bái Jūyì: “Allowed to bathe at Huaqing on a cold spring day, she washed her creamy skin with the warm, silky water; languid and tired, she was helped out of the water by a maid, and the Emperor’s love for her was renewed.” Because of this poem, the story of the tragic love affair that occurred here between Yáng Guǐfēi and Emperor Xuánzōng of the Tang Dynasty has been passed down through the ages. After dinner, you will have a chance to admire modern musicians and dancers as they present an opulently staged show, re-created from historical materials, in imitation of Tang Dynasty performances.

Day 6 Attractions:

the First Emperor’s terracotta army (兵马俑, Bīngmǎyǒng)

Huaqing Hot Springs (华清池, Huáqīng Chí)

Special Arrangements: authentic **Defachang dumplings** (德发长饺子, Défācháng jiǎozi), **Tang**

Dynasty-style performance (仿唐乐歌舞, Fǎng Táng yuègēwǔ)

Day 7: Xi’an – Guilin

Today you will say goodbye to Xi’an and travel to a city with “mountain and water” scenery that ranks among the finest in the world: **Guilin**, whose verdant hills, picturesque rivers, and unusual landscapes make it deserving of its fame. **Reed Flute Cave**, the first stop on your Guilin itinerary, boasts some of



Guilin's most iconic scenery and enjoys a reputation as "nature's architectural wonder"; it contains rock formations of every shape and color, including stone pillars, stone curtains, stone flowers, and all kinds of strange things. Seen under bright lights of every color, they dazzle the eyes like a dream or a hallucination. Another famous sight, **Elephant Trunk Hill**, looks like an enormous elephant with its trunk dangling in the water as if it were about to drink from the river. For dinner we will arrange for you to enjoy a meal of **Guilin-style rice-flour noodles**, which are even more famous than Guilin's scenery. So long they seem to never end, rice-flour noodles of the finest quality are soft and silky as well as tasty; with some peanuts or pickled cabbage on top, they're even more delicious, and they will give you a tremendous appetite.

Day 7 Attractions:

Reed Flute Cave (芦笛岩, Lúdí Yán)

Elephant Trunk Hill (象鼻山, Xiàngbí Shān)

Special Arrangements: authentic **Guilin-style rice-flour noodles** (米粉, mǐfěn)

Guilin Accommodations: **Guilin Bravo Hotel** 桂林宾馆 (4-Star) or equivalent
<http://www.qibravohotel.com/>

Day 8: Guilin – Yangshuo

Thanks to the beauty of the **Li River**, Yangshuo's scenery may be even better than Guilin's. The most picturesque part of the Li River is universally acknowledged to be the stretch located between Guilin and Yangshuo. Today at dawn, in the clear and crisp morning air, you will board a ship to tour the river, which will make you feel as if you're in nature's art gallery, with one beautiful painting after another slowly unfolding before your eyes. At noon you will enjoy a meal as you continue to admire the scenery, basking in the boundless pleasure of the journey. After arriving in **Yangshuo**, you can have a little something to drink and do some people watching: in the afternoon, we have arranged a bamboo raft trip along Yangshuo's tranquil **Yulong River**. In the evening you can also enjoy Yangshuo's lively **night market**. Chinese and Western cafes and restaurants line the street like trees in a forest, and the souvenirs everywhere are a feast for the eyes.

Day 8 Attractions:

boat tour of the **Li River** (漓江, Lí Jiāng)

bamboo raft trip on the **Yulong River** (遇龙河, Yùlóng Hé)

Yangshuo **night market** (夜市, yèshì)

Special Arrangements: "beer fish" (啤酒鱼, pījiǔ yú, a famous local Yangshuo dish), a special **bamboo raft route** arranged just for you

Yangshuo Accommodations: **Yangshuo New Century Hotel** 阳朔新世纪 (4-Star) or equivalent
<http://www.ysxsj.com/>

Day 9: Yangshuo – Guilin – Shanghai

After breakfast, you will depart Yangshuo and return to Guilin Airport, from which you will fly to **Shanghai**, the largest city in China. After your arrival, you will tour the architectural complex of the **Bund**, which lies along the **Huangpu River** in the downtown area. The Bank of China tower, Peace Hotel, Customs House tower, and other famous buildings built by Western nations during the colonial era are all located along the Bund, where the historical elegance of the "Wall Street of the Far East" has reappeared. On the opposite shore of the Huangpu River in **Pudong** stands a cluster of modern skyscrapers that represent China's new era of prosperity, conveying a sense of vigor, majesty, and luxury. After your stroll along the Bund, you will spend an hour enjoying Shanghai's bright and colorful night scenery as you cruise along the Huangpu River in a **tourist boat**. Later, you will walk among a sea of people on **Nanjing Road**, Shanghai's famed shopping district.

Day 9 Attractions:

The Bund (外滩, Wàitān)

view of **Pudong** (浦东, Pǔdōng)

Huangpu River (黄浦江, Huángpǔ Jiāng)

Nanjing Road (南京路, Nánjīng Lù)

Special Arrangements: **Mongolian barbecue** (蒙古烧烤, Ménggǔ shāokǎo) for dinner, **Huangpu River boat tour**



Shanghai Accommodations: **Crowne Plaza Hotel Shanghai Fudan** 上海复旦皇冠假日酒店 (5-Star) or equivalent <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/shgfd>

Day 10: Shanghai

After breakfast, you will head to **Old Town** (also known as **Old Street**) to tour **Yuyuan Gardens** and the **Temple of the Town Gods Shopping Center**. Here you will find goods of every description, including artworks, jewelry, clothes, snacks, souvenirs, toys, and special folk handicrafts. After lunch you will visit the **Shanghai Museum**, whose artworks and artifacts are appreciated both within China and internationally. In the evening you will enjoy a mesmerizing performance by a Shanghai-based troupe of **acrobats**.

Day 10 Attractions:

Old Town (老城市, Lǎo Chéngshì)

Yuyuan Gardens (豫园, Yùyuán)

Temple of the Town Gods Shopping Center (城隍庙商圈, Chéngguáng Miào Shāngquān)

Shanghai Museum (上海博物馆, Shànghǎi Bówùguǎn)

Special Arrangements: a taste of authentic **Shanghainese food**, **Shanghai acrobats** (杂技, záji)

Day 11: Shanghai – Hong Kong

Today you will take the **Shanghai Maglev Train**, the world's only commercial high-speed maglev (magnetic levitation) train, to Pudong International Airport. With a maximum speed of 431 kilometers per hour, the train takes only 7 minutes and 20 seconds to transport you the entire 30-kilometer distance to the airport. From there you will fly to **Hong Kong**, known as a “shopping capital” and “bargainer's paradise.” The rest of the day is free for you to do all the shopping and sightseeing you wish in one of the world's most beautiful, fascinating, and dynamic cities. Because of its history as a British colony, its modern and Westernized culture, and its cosmopolitan atmosphere, Hong Kong is a convenient and tourist-friendly environment for Westerners to explore.

Note: *To give you the freedom to choose where you want to eat in Hong Kong, one of the world's great culinary capitals, we have not included meals for the Hong Kong portion of the itinerary in the prices below.*

Special Arrangements: **Maglev Train** (磁浮列车, Cífú Lièchē)

Hong Kong Accommodations: **Metropark Hotel Kowloon** 九龍維景酒店 (4-Star) or equivalent <http://hongkonghotel.metroparkhotelkowloon.com/>

Day 12: Hong Kong

Today you will take a bus tour of Hong Kong that will give you spectacular views of the city and take you to the most popular destinations on Hong Kong Island. You will stop at **Man Mo Temple**, a famous Taoist temple in the downtown area; **Stanley Market**, where you can explore the myriad shops and stalls and do some bargain hunting; fashionable **Repulse Bay**, where you can take photos of the lovely scene laid out before you; **Aberdeen's** “floating community,” where you will take a boat tour of the traditional community of fishermen who live in their boats; and **Victoria Peak**, where you will take a jaunt by cable car up the mountain to admire a panoramic vista of **Victoria Harbour**. The evening is free for leisure activities.

Day 12 Attractions:

Man Mo Temple (文武廟, Wénwǔ Miào)

Stanley Market (赤柱市場, Chìzhù Shìchǎng or 斯坦利市場, Sītǎnlì Shìchǎng)

Repulse Bay (淺水灣, Qiǎnshuǐ Wān)

Aberdeen (香港仔, Xiānggǎng Zǎi)

Victoria Peak (太平山, Tàipíng Shān or 維多利亞山, Wéidūōlìyà Shān)

view of **Victoria Harbour** (維多利亞港, Wéidūōlìyà Gǎng)

Day 13: Hong Kong – U.S.A.

Today you will say goodbye to Hong Kong and fly back to the United States and home, sweet home, taking many great memories of China with you.



2012 Prices and Departure Dates

Departure Sunday	From SFO/LAX					
	Land Only	Air Ticket & Land	Single Occupancy	Fuel Surcharge	Taxes & Fees	Total Price*
10/14,28	\$2,099	\$2,599	add \$380	\$410	\$100	\$3,109
11/11,25	\$1,899	\$2,399	add \$350	\$410	\$100	\$2,909
12/9,30	\$1,799	\$2,299	add \$350	\$410	\$100	\$2,809

2013 Prices and Departure Dates

Departure Sunday	From SFO/LAX					
	Land Only	Air Ticket & Land	Single Occupancy	Fuel Surcharge	Taxes & Fees	Total Price*
1/13,27	\$1,899	\$2,399	add \$500	\$400	\$100	\$2,899
2/10,24	\$1,899	\$2,399	add \$500	\$400	\$100	\$2,899
3/10,24	\$1,999	\$2,499	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$2,999
4/7,21	\$2,099	\$2,599	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,099
5/5,19	\$2,099	\$2,699	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,199
6/2,16,30	\$1,999	\$2,799	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,299
7/14,28	\$1,999	\$2,799	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,299
8/11,25	\$1,999	\$2,799	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,299
9/8,22	\$2,099	\$2,699	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,199
10/6,20	\$2,099	\$2,699	add \$550	\$400	\$100	\$3,199
11/3,17	\$1,999	\$2,499	add \$500	\$400	\$100	\$2,999
12/1,29	\$1,899	\$2,399	add \$500	\$400	\$100	\$2,899

* "Total price" includes **air ticket, fuel surcharge, taxes and fees, land transportation, meals** (with some exceptions on international arrival and departure days and in Hong Kong), **hotels, tour guides, complimentary accident insurance, and all of the attractions** listed on the itinerary (including the "special arrangements") but does NOT include the **additional charge for single occupancy**; the base price per traveler assumes that hotel rooms are shared by two people.

Please read the "Standard Booking Notice" on our website's [Booking page](#) before making your tour reservations.

Charges for children: Children 11 years and under who share a room with two adults and do not ask for an extra bed will be charged the listed child fare or 75% of the regular adult price; if they need an extra bed in the same room with two adults, the cost will be 90% of the regular adult price. Children 12 and older will be charged at the regular adult price.

Airfare: Prices listed are for departures from Los Angeles (LAX) and San Francisco (SFO), based on Air China (CA) V Class. For New York (JFK) departures, the additional tour fare is \$100; fuel surcharge, taxes and fees are as listed. Fuel surcharge and taxes are associated with airlines and are subject to change at any time without prior notice. For departure gateways other than Los Angeles (LAX), San Francisco (SFO), and New York (JFK), please add appropriate USA domestic add-on fare (certain exclusions may apply):

Eastern Time Zone: add \$350, **Central Time Zone:** add \$350, **Mountain Time Zone:** add \$250, **Pacific Time Zone:** add \$100



China International Travel CA, Inc. cancellation policy: Notice of cancellation must be received by fax or mail; verbal notice only will not be considered sufficient. Please contact CIT to confirm that we have received your cancellation notice. A cancellation fee will be charged according to the following criteria:

- 60 or more days prior to departure: \$200 per person will be assessed.
- 45-59 days prior to departure: \$300 per person will be assessed.
- 30-44 days prior to departure: \$400 per person will be assessed.
- 15-29 days prior to departure: \$500 per person will be assessed.
- 3-14 days prior to departure: \$1000 per person will be assessed.
- Less than 3 days or nonappearance: 100% of total charge.

If tickets for any form of transportation (including, but not limited to, airline, cruise, or train) have already been issued or final confirmation has been received at time of cancellation, an additional penalty will be assessed in accordance with the policies of the company providing the transportation.

We strongly suggest that our clients consider purchasing cancellation insurance to prevent the loss of your tour investment in the event of illness, accident, or some other unforeseeable circumstance that might prevent you from going on the tour. Please see our website's [Booking page](#) for more information about the insurance policies we sell from USI Affinity, a trusted travel insurance company.