



Beijing + Jiangnan + Yellow Mountain 11-Day Discount Tour (CITS11)

Beijing 北京 – **Suzhou** 苏州 – **Wuxi** 无锡 – **Hangzhou** 杭州 –
Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) 黄山 – **Shanghai** 上海

June 15, 2012

Please note:

* As this is a discount tour, the tour guides featured on this tour are primarily Chinese speakers and are not fully proficient in English.

* The term “Jiangnan” refers to the densely populated region south of (and around) the Yangtze River; it might also be described as “East-Central China.”

* Chinese names are written with the simplified characters used in Mainland China.

Day 1 (6/15): 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**.

Day 2 (6/16): Arrival in Beijing

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

Beijing Accommodations: **Beijing Wan Fang Yuan Business Hotel** 万方苑 (4-Star) or equivalent

Day 3 (6/17): Beijing (B/L/D)

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. Afterward you will stop at the **National Centre for the Performing Arts** to admire its stunning design, which looks like a giant 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, you will make a stop at **Tongrentang** (sometimes written "Tong Ren Tang"), a world-famous Traditional Chinese Medicine company, to gain some insight into the world of Chinese medicine. Afterward, you will stroll along the shore of **Shicha Hai**, a picturesque man-made lake. After dinner you will enjoy an evening walk along bustling **Chang'an Avenue**.

Day 3 Attractions:

Tiananmen Square (天安门广场, Tiānānmén Guǎngchǎng)

exterior view of the **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)

Tongrentang (同仁堂, Tóngréntáng)

Shicha Hai (什刹海, Shíchà Hǎi)

Chang'an Avenue (长安街, Cháng'ān Jiē)

Day 4 (6/18): Beijing (B/L/D)

After breakfast, you will visit the **Juyongguan** (“Juyong Pass”) section of the **Great Wall**, one of the Eight Wonders of the Ancient World. You can climb up to the highest point and admire the spectacular view of mountains arrayed around you. After visiting the Great Wall, you will have an opportunity to peruse the fine jade carvings and ornaments available at a **jade ware factory**. Then 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. 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, relax and recover from your travels with a **foot bath and massage** before visiting the famous sites of many 2008 Beijing Olympics events: the **National Aquatics Center**, or “Water Cube” and the **National Stadium**, or “Bird’s Nest.” Tonight, you can enjoy a dinner of Beijing’s most famous dish, **Peking Duck** (烤鸭, kǎoyā).

Day 4 Attractions:

Great Wall of China at Juyong Pass (居庸关长城, Jūyōngguān Chángchéng)
jade ware factory (玉器工厂, yùqì gōngchǎng)
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)
exterior views of **Water Cube** (水立方, Shuǐ Lìfāng) and **Bird’s Nest** (鸟巢, Niǎo Cháo)

Day 5 (6/19): Beijing – Shanghai – Suzhou (B/L/D)

After breakfast, you will take a flight to **Shanghai**, China’s largest city. From there you will proceed by coach to Suzhou to tour **Cold Mountain Temple** (also known as “Hanshan Temple”), made famous by the poem “Anchored at Night by Maple Bridge.” Then you will visit one of the four most famous gardens in China, the **Lingering Garden**, which features a variety of beautiful and interesting works of architecture and landscaping. Afterward, you can explore the “old street” areas of **Shantang Street**, which has a history of more than 1100 years, and **Guanqian Street**. Here you can admire row upon row of traditional houses and shops, many of which are sandwiched between the street and the canal behind them, and some of which even feature a connecting span built over the street itself.

Day 5 Attractions:

Cold Mountain Temple (寒山寺, Hánshān Sì)
Lingering Garden (留园, Liú Yuán)
Shantang Street (山塘街, Shāntáng Jiē) and **Guanqian Street** (观前街, Guānqián Jiē)

Suzhou Accommodations: **The Garden Hotel** 园外楼饭店 (4-Star) *or equivalent*

<http://www.ywl-hotel.com/en/index.asp>

Day 6 (6/20): Suzhou – Wuxi (B/L/D)

After breakfast, you will take a tour of the **Suzhou Embroidery Research Institute**, a silk factory that produces high-quality silk products, before heading by coach to the city of **Wuxi**. Wuxi combines stunning “mountain-and-water” scenery, beautiful lake and river views, and human ingenuity. There you will visit the lovely **Li Lake Park**, whose enchanting variety of flower gardens and “mountain-and-lake” scenery look like something out of a poem or painting. Afterward you will visit **Three Kingdoms City**, a recreation of a Three Kingdoms-era town featuring architecture, costumes, and performances from the 3rd century A.D. Then you will take a **boat tour** of Lake Tai, which is the most iconic symbol of Wuxi and is also famous for the freshwater pearls that thrive in its clean water and favorable ecological conditions. Lake Tai boasts a vast expanse of emerald water and peaks that appear and suddenly disappear in the lake mist, creating a magical, constantly changing scene.

Day 6 Attractions:

Suzhou Embroidery Research Institute (苏州丝绸刺绣研究所, Sūzhōu Sīchóu Cìxiù Yánjiūsuǒ)
Li Lake Park (蠡园, Lí Hú Gōngyuán)
Three Kingdoms City (三国城, Sānguó Chéng)
Lake Tai (太湖, Tài Hú), including a **boat tour**

Wuxi Accommodations: **Sujia Business Hotel** 金龙商务 (4-Star) *or equivalent*

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

Day 7 (6/21): Wuxi – Hangzhou (B/L/D)

After breakfast, you will take a tour of a **freshwater pearl farm** at Lake Tai, followed by a visit to a **teapot museum**. Then you will proceed to the beautiful city of **Hangzhou**. There you will visit the city’s iconic **West Lake**, situated between downtown Hangzhou and the surrounding hills. You will take a **boat tour**



of the lake and admire the magnificent views laid out along the shore in every direction. Afterward, you can stroll around the lake and enjoy such famous sights and attractions as **Red Carp Pond**, **Broken Bridge**, and a view of **Six Harmonies Pagoda**. From there you will proceed to **Dragon Well Tea Village** (literally, "Inquiring About Tea at Dragon Well"), which will introduce you to China's most famous tea, **Dragon Well**, or **Longjing** (龙井, Lóngjǐng) green tea. Then, you can explore the quaint shops and enjoy the traditional atmosphere of **Qinghefang Ancient Street**, which reflects the distinctive culture and charm of the Ming and Qing Dynasties.

Day 7 Attractions:

freshwater pearl farm (淡水珍珠养殖场, dànsuǐ zhēnzhū yǎngzhíchǎng)

teapot museum (茶壺博物館, chá hú bówùguǎn)

West Lake (西湖, Xī Hú), including a **boat tour**

Dragon Well Tea Village (龙井问茶, Lóngjǐng Wèn Chá)

Qinghefang Ancient Street (清河坊古街, Qīnghé fāng Gǔjiē)

Hangzhou Accommodations: **St. Rich Hotel** 圣瑞驰财富大酒店 (4-Star) *or equivalent*

<http://www.strichhotel.com/en/about.asp?Articleid=1>

Day 8 (6/22): Hangzhou – Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) (B/L/D)

After breakfast, you will head to the **Spring of the Running Tiger**, a famous spring whose water passes through an incredibly dense and hard layer of quartz sandstone before emerging through cracks and veins in the rock, purifying the water and giving it natural health-promoting qualities. **Running Tiger springwater** and **Dragon Well tea** are known as Hangzhou's "dual incomparables"; if you'd like, you can purchase tea brewed with springwater during your visit. Afterward, you will proceed by coach to your hotel in **Huangshan**. After your arrival, you will have time to rest and recover from your travels in preparation for tomorrow's trip up to the top of Yellow Mountain.

Day 8 Attractions:

Spring of the Running Tiger (虎跑泉, Hǔpǎo Quán) or **Dreaming of the Tiger Spring** (虎跑梦泉, Hǔpǎomèng Quán)

Huangshan Accommodations: **Huashan Hotel** 华山宾馆 (4-Star) *or equivalent*

<http://www.huashan-hotel.com/index2.html> (Chinese only)

Day 9 (6/23): Huangshan (B/L/D)

Today you will take a gondola (cable car) to the top of **Yellow Mountain**. The incomparable majesty of Yellow Mountain is described in the writings of Chinese thinkers and expressed in ancient sayings. Yellow Mountain's natural scenery, including exotic pine trees, strange rock formations, a "sea of clouds," and hot springs, makes it truly special. There are no less than 72 famous peaks in the Yellow Mountain area, each of them unique in appearance. Its three most famous peaks, **Heavenly Capital Peak**, **Lotus Flower Peak**, and **Bright Summit Peak**, all rise to an elevation of more than 1,800 meters above sea level. In addition to its numerous peaks, Yellow Mountain's clouds are a major aspect of its beauty, and people who visit Yellow Mountain invariably say that the most striking views are from the highest peaks when there are clouds and mist. After your tour, you will take the cable car back down the mountain and return to your hotel.

Day 9 Attractions:

the **spectacular scenery of Yellow Mountain** (黄山, Huángshān)

Day 10 (6/24): Huangshan – Shanghai (B/L/D)

After breakfast today, you will head to downtown Huangshan and take a stroll along **Tunxi Old Street**, where you can admire the area's traditional Anhui-style architecture and peruse the local products for sale in the quaint shops lining the street. After lunch, you will board a tour bus for the trip to **Shanghai**. Upon your arrival, you will visit lively **Old Town** and its **Temple of the Town Gods Shopping Center**. Then you can get a sense of the changes Shanghai has undergone in the last century as you take an evening stroll along bustling **Nanjing Road** and admire the old European buildings, left over from colonial days, that line the Huangpu River at the **Bund**. There you can also enjoy the stunning sight of an imposing cluster of modern skyscrapers across the river in **Pudong**, an area that, though it seems impossible, was still mostly farmland just twenty years ago.



Day 10 Attractions:

Tunxi Old Street (屯溪老街, Túnxī Lǎojiē)

Old Town (老城市, Lǎo Chéngshì) or **Old Street** (老街, Lǎo Jiē)

Temple of the Town Gods Shopping Center (城隍廟商圈, Chéng huáng Miào Shāngquān)

Nanjing Road (南京路, Nánjīng Lù)

The Bund (外灘, Wàitān)

view of **Pudong** (浦東, Pǔdōng)

Shanghai Accommodations: **Wujiaochang Holiday Inn** 五角場假日 (4-Star) *or equivalent*

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/pc/280/en/hd?hotelCode=SHGWJ>

Day 11 (6/25): Shanghai – U.S.A. (B)

Today you will say goodbye to Shanghai as you transfer to the airport by coach for your trip back to the **United States** and home, sweet home!



Price (including tax): \$1899 Departure Date: 6/15/2012

Extra charge for single occupancy: \$320/person

Please note:

1. Only Chinese-speaking tour guides are provided on this tour.
2. This tour departs from San Francisco (SFO) only.
3. There is no discount for children not requesting a separate bed on this tour.
4. Once your booking is confirmed, no changes can be made within 30 days of the departure date, including cancellation for any reason, changes to your itinerary, or name changes (exchanging your booking with another person).
5. Any tour member who wishes to leave the group during the tour must pay an extra USD \$99 per person per day.

Tour price includes the following:

1. round-trip international air ticket and all domestic travel fares within China
2. 4-Star deluxe accommodations throughout the trip (two people per hotel room)
3. expert tour guides
4. entrance fees and tickets for all places and programs listed on the itinerary (non-refundable if unused)
5. three satisfying meals a day (except on international arrival and departure days and as noted on the itinerary)
6. travel accident insurance

Tour price does NOT include the following:

1. Chinese visa processing fee
2. domestic airfare within the U.S. (to and from SFO)
3. any and all personal expenses
4. tips for tour leader, tour guides, driver, bellhops, etc.
5. any other expenses caused by acts of God, natural disasters, fires, weather, acts of government or authorities, political changes, strikes, war, riots, quarantine, customs regulations, damages or injury caused by accidents beyond the responsibilities or control of travel agents

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

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.
- 31-44 days prior to departure: \$400 per person will be assessed.
- 30 days or less (including 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.