

J Yang Tours Customized Group Travel Specialist to Asia

China • Vietnam • Cambodia • Thailand • Laos • Bhutan • Japan • Mongolia

Gems of China with Legendary Yangtze

Duration: 12 nights/13 days

We visit: Beijing, Xian, Chongqing, Yangtze Cruise, Yichang, Shanghai, Zhujiajiao Watertown

This tour will provide you, in a relatively short time, insights into major cities with truly remarkable sites, notably Beijing and Xian both richly endowed with historical and archaeological monuments of world significance. In Chongqing and Shanghai you will see and feel the vitality of two enormous cities that play a crucial role in the Chinese economy. On your cruise down the Yangtze River you will marvel at the beauty of the Three Gorges scenery along the way. In all, you will experience China's highlights and marvel along the way.

Highlights:

- Beijing - Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Peking Duck dinner, the Great Wall, Summer Palace, Hutong Tour, Temple of Heaven
- Xian - Terracotta Warriors & Horses, City Wall, Bell Tower, Dumpling Banquet, Tang Dynasty Dinner & Show
- Chongqing - Stillwell Museum, People's Square
- Yangtze Cruise - Chongqing to Yichang
- Shanghai - the Bund, Yu Garden and its market, Huangpu River Cruise, Shanghai World Financial Center Observatory, Acrobatic show
- Excursion to one of the ancient Watertowns - Zhujiajiao

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 **Arrive Beijing**
Transfer to your hotel.

Day 2 **Beijing**
After breakfast you will visit Tiananmen Square, look across the vast space to the Great Hall of the People and stand before the massive Tiananmen (Heavenly Peace) Gate bearing a huge portrait of Mao Zedong, where he proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic on 1 October 1949. Lying behind is the Forbidden City, as the former imperial palace is called, where the magnificent marble courtyards, huge halls, gilded temples and ornate pavilions, the residence of the emperors and their families, are now open to your wonderment. This evening a traditional Peking Duck dinner completes a very special day. (B/L/D)

Day 3 **Beijing**
You will be taken north today to pace the ramparts of China's famed Great Wall, originally constructed over 2000 years ago to keep northern invaders at bay. (B/L)

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Day 4 **Beijing**

Today you will visit the Summer Palace, the famed pleasure garden of the Qing emperors. Beautiful ornamental plantings, languid willows and painted pavilions surround a scenic lake, across which are enchanting views to the pagoda-capped Jade Spring Hill and the mountains beyond.

After lunch there will be a rickshaw tour of Beijing's old Hutong District, a fascinating maze of narrow alleys, old houses and hidden courtyards dating from Yuan Dynasty times (14th century), where people who live and work here welcome you into their homes. (B/L)

Day 5 **Beijing-Xian**

Finally you will visit the Temple of Heaven, where the emperors for the good of the empire, carried out the most important sacrifices and ceremonies of the year. Set in a huge park planted with conifers, the beautiful blue-tiled buildings represent the epitome of Ming architecture.

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Xian and on arrival check into your hotel.

Tonight you will enjoy a traditional Dumpling Banquet. (B/L/D)

Day 6 **Xian**

Today you will visit the army of some 6000 life-size terracotta warriors and their horses made and buried, lined up facing east in battle array, over 2000 years ago to guard the tomb of Qinshihuang, the first emperor who died in 210 BC. Later you will walk along Xian's massive City wall, one of the best preserved in China. You will then visit the famed Bell Tower. (B/L/D)

Day 7 **Xian-Chongqing**

You fly to Chongqing.

Chongqing is an enormous modern city of over 30 million on the banks of the Yangtze.

After the orientation tour, including visits to the Stillwell Museum and People's Park, you will be transferred to your luxurious Yangtze River cruise ship. (B/L/D)

Day 8-9 **Yangtze Cruise**

You cruise the famous Yangtze River in a superbly appointed cruise ship as it winds its way through the spectacular scenery of the Three Gorges. For many people a cruise along this famous river is a lifelong dream. At 3915 miles, the Yangtze is the third longest river in the world, made famous today by its spectacular Three Gorges and the controversial Three Gorges Dam. The Three Gorges stretch for 120 miles, along which are many historic sites such as Baidi City, cliff inscriptions, suspended coffins of the Bai Tribe, tombs of the Han Dynasty (prior to 220 AD), and battlefields of the Three Kingdoms period. Where the river widens, terraced fields spread out up mountain slopes, interspersed with orange orchards and tea gardens. The mist-shrouded landscape of the Yangtze Gorges is as lovely as a traditional Chinese painting. Along the way you stop and visit interesting places. (All meals on board)

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Day 10 Arrive Yichang-Shanghai

You disembark at Yichang and transfer to the airport for your flight to Shanghai, transferring to your hotel on arrival. (B/L)

Day 11 Shanghai

Dominating the Yangtze Delta, Shanghai is the pulsating commercial heart of China. Walk along the famous Bund past the facades of the colonial buildings lining the Huangpu River and look across to the fantastic skyscrapers of the Pudong district on the opposite side. After lunch you will visit the beautifully maintained Yu Garden, an outstanding example of a classical garden dating from the 16th century, now surrounded by a bustling market area. Later you will cruise across Huangpu River to ascend the Shanghai World Financial Centre Observatory Tower, one of the world's tallest buildings, for an astonishing view over the whole city. This evening you will be entertained by one of Shanghai's famous acrobatic troupes. (B/L/D)

Day 12 Shanghai

Located in a suburb of Shanghai city, Zhujiajiao is an ancient water town well-known throughout the country, with a history of more than 1700 years. Unique old bridges across bubbling streams, small rivers shaded by willow trees, and houses with courtyards attached all transport people who have been living amidst the bustle and hustle of the modern big city to a brand-new world full of antiquity, leisure and tranquility. (B/L/D)

Day 13 Depart Shanghai

You transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

Superior Hotels ****

Price (per person)	Twin	Single
September - October 12	\$3950	\$5250
November 12	\$3590	\$4695

Luxury Hotels *****

Price (per person)	Twin	Single
September - October 12	\$4550	\$6410
November 12	\$4135	\$5735

The prices of above tour are based on the basis of a minimum of 2 persons traveling together For 6 or more travelers or customize this itinerary, please contact us

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Inclusions:

Flights-Internal flights and regional flights are included (refer to individual itineraries for included cities).

Accommodations- We use centrally located 4-5 star hotels. In the more remote areas we use the best available hotels.

The hotels we use are a combination of the premier properties and boutique hotels. In each city our hotels are centrally located to ensure you can step out of your hotel door and absorb the atmosphere of the local destination.

Sightseeing- sightseeing is included at every destination to ensure you make the most of your time in each region; there are no "surprise" additional cost tours.

On most tours we also include flexible options, enabling you to tailor your holiday to your personal desires. In each destination we use local English speaking guides who provide information on the history, culture, geography and modern way of life.

Each day whilst sightseeing bottled water is provided.

Dining- Feature dinners with regional entertainment are included on most tours, enabling you to absorb the local culture.

Bottled or purified water accompanies all meals and is provided to you each day whilst sightseeing.

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