

Peregrine Travel Tour 21-day Package
21days 20nights Beijing/Xi'an/Lhasa/Chengdu/Chongqing/Yichang/Shanghai/Guilin
(PT21D-1)

USD:\$6,878 Double Occupancy

USD:\$8,671 Single Occupancy

As the capital of China, Beijing is one of the world's truly imposing cities, with a 3,000-year history and 11 million people. Covering 16,808 square kilometers in area, it is the political, cultural and economic center of the People's Republic of China. Situated in northeast China, Beijing adjoins the Inner Mongolian Highland to the northwest and the Great Northern Plain to the south. Five rivers run through the city, connecting it to the eastern Bohai Sea. Administratively, the Beijing municipality equals the status of a province, reporting directly to the central government. Rich in history, Beijing has been China's primary capital for more than seven centuries. China's imperial past and political present meet at Tiananmen Square, where the Forbidden City palace of the emperors gives way to the Great Hall of the People congress building and the mausoleum of Chairman Mao Zedong. The old city walls have been replaced by ring roads, and many of the old residential districts of alleys and courtyard houses have been turned into high-rise hotels, office buildings, and department stores. Beijing, a dynamic city where the old and new intermingle, remains a magnet for visitors from inside and outside China.

Xi'an is a city with incredible history, as well as a prosperous modern city. As the capital city of Shaanxi province, it holds a key position in the fertile plain between the highland plateau of the north and the Qinling Mountains to the south. Xi'an has been the capital of eleven dynasties for more than 2000 years. Along with Rome and Constantinople, this city played a vital role in bridging the gap between east and west. There are important sites and relics in this city. The Terracotta Army of Qin Emperor is regarded as the eighth wonder of the world.

Lhasa is rightly one of the most featured and dreamt-about cities in the world. This is not only because of its remoteness, its high altitude at 3,650 meters (11,975 feet) means limited accessibility, but also because of its impressive heritage of over a thousand years of cultural and spiritual history that has helped to create the romantic and mysterious Tibetan religion. Differing from the inland cities and other places in Tibet, Lhasa is unique with an allure all of its own. In the Tibetan language, Lhasa means the Holy Land or the Buddha Land. It is the center of Tibet's politics, economy and culture. The city has also been appointed as one of the 24 historical and cultural cities of China. The splendor and grandeur of the Potala Palace in Lhasa remains a world-famous symbol of the enigmatic power of politics and religion in this region.

The history of Chengdu as well as its name can be traced back 2,400 years. Praised as 'the best place for living', Chengdu is a city brimming with a strong leisurely ambience. The handcrafts of the city have been famous for thousands of years and include brocades and embroideries. Sichuan Cuisine with hot flavor is welcomed all over the country. Few people do not know about the Giant Panda. Their symbolic black and white fur-colour distinguishes them well from any other animals. Giant Panda, with only about one thousand left in the wild, is also the most well known endangered animal in the world. The rare animal is endemic to China, though some of the habitats were found in northern Vietnam and other nearby areas over half a million years ago. Since the very beginning, most of the research works on Giant Panda have been carrying out on-site at the Giant Panda's natural habitats. Wolong is a part of the Sichuan Province of China. From Chengdu, it is about 3.5 hours' drive. Further drive from Wolong through the Balang Shan (Balang Mountain) will take you to Jiusaigou. Wolong is a highland with almost one thousand meters above sea level. The altitude brings it high contrast of weather among the four seasons of a year.

Chongqing is a port city with the largest municipal area and population in China. It is situated in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River at the confluence of the Yangtze and Jialing Rivers in southwest China. With an area of 31,800 square miles, the municipality of Chongqing has a registered population of 32 million, of which the majority is the Han nationality. Numerous other ethnic groups including Yi, Tibetan, Miao, Qiang, Hui, Man, You and Tujia also reside here and retain their own traditional customs. Since its founding 3,000 years ago, Chongqing has been called Jiangzhou, Yuzhou, and Gongzhou, before getting its present name nearly 800 years ago. Today, Chongqing is a modern city, China's fourth municipality after Beijing, Shanghai, and Tianjin. Within its borders Chongqing encompasses a wealth of water reserves, mineral resources, dense forests, and abundant flora and fauna. Located at the head of the reservoir behind the [Three Gorges Dam](#), Chongqing is planned to be the spearhead for the development of the western part of the country by China's Central Government. With the completion of the Three Gorges Project, its reservoir will bring ocean going ships to the quays of Chongqing. The hope is to make this megalopolis a "Chinese Chicago", opening up the interior, shifting the country's center of gravity west, and kick-starting the economy – as did Chicago in the [United](#)

[States](#) during the nineteenth century.

Lying on the northern bank of the Yangtze River, Yichang covers an area of about 8,108 square miles. It is an ancient city and its history can be traced back for 4,000 years. Now, after thousands of years' development, the city stands out with its various unique characteristics. Located in the middle of China, Yichang is the transportation center which connects the eastern and the western parts of China. Yichang has abundant water resources. Yangtze River runs through the city center and the [Gezhouba Water Conservancy Project](#) and [Three Gorges Dam Project](#) are located there. Benefiting from these projects, Yichang has become the largest hydroelectric resource center in China.

Shanghai is China's most comprehensive industrial and commercial city, ranking the first in population and population density. As a tourist city, it attracts travelers from both home and abroad by its commercial activity rather than scenic beauty. Shanghai is situated on the bank of the Yangtze River Delta, with East River in the east and Hangzhou delta in the south. Housing a population of over 16 million at present, it was once a small town supported by fishing and weaving before the first Opium War. Late in 1990, the central government started developing the area, and has since become the well-known booming metropolis city.

The city of Guilin, named after the fragrance of osmanthus, built in Qin dynasty over 2000 years ago, prospering in Tang and Song, flourishing in Ming and Qing, is a world famous tourist city for its picturesque scenery, as well as a well-known cultural and historic city. Located in the subtropical zone, Guilin boasts a pleasant climate for sight-seeing throughout the four seasons. It is inhabited by 12 nationalities with a total population of 1,260,000. The typical Karst formation makes Guilin the prettiest wonder on earth which notables of all dynasties and heads of different states have been coming one after another to appreciate, all gasping with admiration: "Guilin is the most beautiful place in the world!" Today's Guilin ranks second respectively on the list of China's ten best scenic spots and that of China's top forty tourist spot. With her new appearance today, she is ready at any moment to bid you welcome.

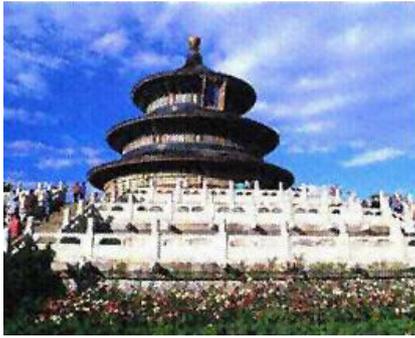
Schedule:

- Day 1** Arrive at Beijing. Transfer to Days & Suites Beijing Hotel for 3 nights stay. (D)
- Day 2** Full Day City Tour (Forbidden City & Temple of Heaven) (B,L,D)
- Day 3** Badaling Great Wall & Summer Palace (B,L,D)
- Day 4** Flight to Xi'an, Transfer to Xi'an Sheraton Hotel for 3 nights stay. (B,L,D)
- Day 5** Full Day Terra cotta Tour (Terracotta Museum & Big Wild Goose Pagoda & Banpo Museum) (B,L,D)
- Day 6** Full Day City Tour (City Wall & Shaanxi History Museum & Forest of Stone Steles Museum) (B,L,D)
- Day 7** Flight to Lhasa. Transfer to Lhasa Hotel for 3 nights stay. (B,L,D)
- Day 8** Full Day Potala Palace, the Jokang Temple, Barkhor Street (B,L,D)
- Day 9** Full Day Yamdrock Yutso Lake. (B,L,D)
- Day 10** Flight to Chengdu. Transfer to Chengdu Holiday Inn Crown Plaza Hotel for 2 nights stay. (B,L,D)
- Day 11** Panda Hug (B,L,D)
- Day 12** Fly to Chongqing & Chongqing City tour (Huguang Guild Hall) then transfer to Chongqing Pier on Yangtze River Cruise. (B,L,D)
- Day 13** Yangtze River Cruise (B,L,D)
- Day 14** Yangtze River Cruise (B,L,D)
- Day 15** Yichang City Tour (Three Traveler Cave, The Garden of Chinese Sturgeon) then fly to Shanghai. Transfer to Shanghai Hotel for 3 nights stay. (B,L,D)
- Day 16** Full Day City Tour (Shanghai Museum, Yu Yuan Garden & The Jade Buddha Monastery) (B,L,D)
- Day 17** Full Day Zhou zhuang tour. (B,L,D)
- Day 18** Fly to Guilin. Transfer to Guilin Bravo Hotel. (B,L,D)
- Day 19** Full Day Li River Cruise. Transfer to Yangshuo Regency Holiday Hotel. (B,L,D)
- Day 20** Full Day Yangshuo. Evening flight to Beijing. Transfer to Days & Suites Beijing Hotel. (B,L,D)
- Day 21** Departure from Beijing. (B)



The Forbidden City

Forbidden City was the imperial palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties which is the largest palace complex in the world. It is surrounded by 10-meter high walls and a 52-meter wide moat. It covers 74 hectares and has 9999 rooms. In the Forbidden City, you can get more knowledge about the eastern architecture, splendid painted and beautiful craftwork.



Temple of Heaven

Temple of Heaven was built in 1420 in the Ming Dynasty, which is the most holy of all Beijing's imperial temples. This is where the Emperor came every winter solstice to worship heaven and to solemnly pray for a good harvest. True to the Chinese saying, "Round Heaven, Square Earth." The park is in a square shape and the temple in a round shape which symbolizes that the emperor had to leave the Earth (represented by the square) for Heaven (represented by the round-roofed building)



The Great Wall

The Great Wall is perhaps China's most famous and most mythologized site. Several sections are conveniently visited from Beijing, including at Badaling, the most popular site, about 70 km (43 mi.) northwest of Beijing and at Mutianyu, 90 km (56 mi.) northeast of Beijing. These impressive brick and earth structures date from the Ming dynasty, when the wall was fortified against Mongol forces to the north. The Ming wall is about 26 feet tall and 23 feet wide at the base, and could accommodate up to six horsemen riding abreast. Watch towers, built on high points every 200-300 meters or so with small garrison forces, used fire signals or fireworks as a means of communication. These stretches of the wall are part of a system that extends from the Shanhaiguan fortress on the Bohai Gulf in the east to the Jiayuguan fortress in the west, altogether some 6000 km (3700 mi).

The Summer Palace



The Summer Palace landscape, dominated mainly by Longevity Hill and Kunming Lake, covers an area of 2.9 square kilometers, three quarters of which is under water. Its 70,000 square meters of building space features a variety of palaces, gardens and other ancient-style architectural structures. The Summer Palace is a monument to classical Chinese architecture, in terms of both garden design and construction. Borrowing scenes from surrounding landscapes, it radiates not only the grandeur of an imperial garden but also the beauty of nature in a seamless combination that best illustrates the guiding principle of traditional Chinese garden design, which is: "The works of men should match the works of Heaven".



Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Emperor Qin Shi Huang

The Terracotta Warriors and Horses are the most significant archeological excavations of the 20th century. Upon ascending the throne at the age of 13 (in 246 BC), Qin Shi Huang, had work begun on his mausoleum. It took 11 years to finish. It is speculated that many buried treasures and sacrificial objects had accompanied the emperor in his after life. It is a sight not to be missed by any visitor to China.



Big Wild Goose Pagoda

Big Wild Goose Pagoda is a well-preserved ancient building and a holy place for Buddhists. This attraction can be divided into three parts: the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, the Da Ci'en Temple, and the North Square of Big Wild Goose Pagoda. It attracts numerous visitors for its fame in the Buddhist religion, its simple but appealing style of construction, and its new square in front of the temple.



Banpo Museum

The Banpo Museum is located in the eastern outskirts of Xi'an City. As the first museum at the prehistoric site, it was built at the base of the excavations of the Banpo site. The Banpo site is a typical Neolithic matriarchal community of the Yangshao Culture dating back about 6,000 years. Here a lot of relic exhibited to show how ancient people



Xi'an City Wall

Xi'an City Wall initially built during the old Tang dynasty (618-907) and ZhuYuanzhang, the first emperor of Ming dynasty, rebuilt the wall, creating the modern Xi'an City Wall. The wall now stands 12 meters tall, 12-14 meters wide at the top and 15-18 meters thick at the bottom. It covers 13.7 kilometers in length with a deep moat surrounding it. It's the most complete city wall that has survived in China, as well as being one of the largest ancient military defensive systems in the world.



Shaanxi History Museum

Shaanxi History Museum Shaanxi Province is the birthplace of the ancient Chinese civilization. Xi'an City was the capital city in thirteen dynasties which in total lasted over 1100 years. The Shaanxi History Museum considers it an obligation to be a showcase of ancient civilizations. It was opened to the public in 1991. Over 700,000 people visit this national treasure each year.



Forest of Stone Steles Museum

Once the site of the Temple of Confucius during the Northern Song dynasty (960-1127), the Forest of Stone Steles Museum is situated on Sanxue Street, near the south gate of Xi'an City Wall. With 900 years of history, this treasure house holds a large collection of the earliest stone steles of different periods, from the Han Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty, all together there are 3,000 steles.

The Potala Palace

Perched upon Marpo Ri hill, 130 meters above the Lhasa valley, the Potala Palace rises a further 170 meters and is the greatest monumental structure in all of Tibet . Early legends concerning the rocky hill tell of a sacred cave, considered to be the dwelling place of the Bodhisattva Chenresi (Avilokiteshvara) that was used as a meditation retreat by Emperor Songtsen Gampo in the seventh century AD. In 637 Songtsen Gampo built a palace on the hill. This structure stood until the seventeenth century, when it was incorporated into the foundations of the greater buildings still standing today. Construction of the present palace began in 1645 during the reign of the fifth Dalai Lama and by 1648 the Potrang Karpo, or White Palace , was completed. The Potrang Marpo, or Red Palace , was added between 1690 and 1694; its construction required the labors of more than 7000 workers and 1500 artists and craftsman. In 1922 the 13th Dalai Lama renovated many chapels and assembly halls in the White Palace and added two stories to the Red Palace . The Potala Palace was only slightly damaged during the Tibetan uprising against the invading Chinese in 1959. Unlike most other Tibetan religious structures, it was not sacked by the Red Guards during the 1960s and 1970s, apparently through the personal intervention of Chou En Lai. As a result, all the chapels and their artifacts are very well preserved.



From as early as the eleventh century the palace was called Potala. This name probably derives from Mt. Potala , the mythological mountain abode of the Bodhisattva Chenresi (Avilokiteshvara / Kuan Yin) in southern India . The Emperor Songtsen Gampo had been regarded as an incarnation of Chenresi. Given that he founded the Potala, it seems likely that the hilltop palace of Lhasa took on the name of the Indian sacred mountain. The Potala Palace is an immense structure, its interior space being in excess of 130,000 square meters. Fulfilling numerous functions, the Potala was first and foremost the residence of the Dalai Lama and his large staff. In addition, it was the seat of Tibetan government, where all ceremonies of state were held; it housed a school for religious training of monks and administrators; and it was one of Tibet 's major pilgrimage destinations because of the tombs of past Dalai Lamas. Within the White Palace are two small chapels, the Phakpa Lhakhang and the Chogyal Drubphuk; dating from the seventh century, these chapels are the oldest surviving structures on the hill and also the most sacred. The Potala's most venerated statue, the Arya Lokeshvara, is housed inside the Phapka Lhakhang, and it draws thousands of Tibetan pilgrims each day.

The Jokang Temple



Included on UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2000 as part of the Potala Palace, the Jokhang Temple is located in central Lhasa in Tibet. With an area of 25,100 square meters (about six acres), it is the ultimate pilgrimage destination for Tibetan Pilgrims. The Jokhang Temple is a four-storey timber complex with a golden top. It adopted the architectural styles of the Tang Dynasty, as well as those of Tibet and Nepal. Standing in the square of the Jokhang Temple, one can view the entire complex. On the square there are two steles, one recording an alliance between the king of Tibet and the emperor of the Tang, the other portraying the teaching of the Tibetan people to prevent and treat smallpox, a once incurable disease in Tibet. In the eastern section of the yard there are rows of votive lights. These flicking lights provide a path leading all the way to the main hall. The main hall, over 1,300 years old, is the oldest shrine of the complex. Above the major entrance, there is a Dharma Wheel (chakra) flanked by two deer. This represents the unity of all things and symbolizes Sakyamuni himself. On both sides of the passageway, paintings showing the building of the temple, and renderings of the temple from the seventh century are adorned on the wall. The statue of Sakyamuni at age 12 sits in the middle of the hall. It has been gilded many times and decorated elaborately with jewels typical of Tibet. Statues of King Songtsem Gampo, Princess Wen Cheng and Princess Bhrikuti are on the second floor. On the top floor, there are four gilded bronze tile tops crafted in the emblematical Tang style.

The statue of Sakyamuni is a rare treasure. When Sakyamuni was alive, he disagreed with the idea of 'personal worship' and did not allow likenesses of himself to be created. Only three statues, designed by he himself, were permitted to be sculpted during his lifetime. The first is a likeness of him at age eight; the second shows him at age twelve when he was still a prince of India; and the third is of him as an adult. The statue kept in the Jokhang Temple is the statue of Sakyamuni at age eight. It was presented to the king of the Tang Dynasty and brought to Tibet by Princess Wen Cheng.



Barkhor Street

Located in the old area of Lhasa City, Tibet, Barkhor Street is a very ancient round street surrounding the Jokhang Temple and the Tibetan people are always proud of it. As a symbol of Lhasa, this street is also a must-see place for the tourists. It's said that in 647, the first Tibetan King Songtsen Gampo (617 - 650) built the Jokhang Temple. Due to its magnificence, it quickly attracted thousands of Buddhist pilgrims. As a result, a trodden path appeared. That is the origin of Barkhor Street. Today even still many pilgrims hold the prayer wheels to walk clockwise there from dawn to dark. Also you can see some pilgrims walking or progressing body-lengths by body-lengths along the street. Even some of them are teenagers or have experienced thousands of miles' walk to reach this sacred place. The way they express their piety could make you understand the holiness of religion.

To sum up, Barkhor Street is a place full of religious atmosphere and a world of exotic articles. If you have been attracted by it, you should go there. Believe your eyes, and you will get a lot of surprise there.

Yamdruk-sto Lake



Yamdruk Yumtso (or Yamdrok-tso), one of the three holiest lakes in Tibet, lies at Nhagartse, located about 100 kilometers (62 miles) to the southwest of Lhasa. According to legend, it was a fairy that descended to earth. Her husband followed suit and transformed into Mt. Kampala. Besides Mt. Kampala, Yamdrok Yumtso is also surrounded by Mt. Nyinchenkhasa, Mt. Chetungsu and Mt. Changsamhamo. Befitting its mythical feminine origins, the turquoise blue lake has indescribable scenic beauty, prompting the Tibetans to compare it with the fairyland in heaven. The lake is also called Coral Lake of the Highlands due to its shape. The charming lake produces abundant aquatic life. On the surrounding expansive pasture, animals and birds flourish in huge numbers. There are dozens of islets in the lake, on which flocks of birds roost. During the herding season, the local herdsmen will ferry their herds of sheep across to these islets since there aren't any predators on these islets, and leave them there until the onset of winter. The holy lake is also a pilgrimage site for Tibetans. Every summer, gangs of pilgrims trek there to pray and receive blessings. Pilgrims believe that its water can make the old young again, grant the middle-aged a longer life and make the children smarter. Being a sacred lake, the color of its water may be taken by the devout as having spiritual meaning. Tibetans will usually visit the lake before making important decisions. On one of the islets, stands a Nyinmapa monastery. South of the lake, one finds the Sangding Monastery, which is famous as the residence of the only female high lama in Tibet.

Giant Panda Wolong Research Center



The Wolong Giant Panda Reserve Centre was one of the earliest research bases established in the early 1980s by the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Until 1989, the Ministry of Forestry of PRC and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) formulated the long-term Giant Panda Management Plan. Today, the Wolong Giant Panda Reserve Centre has been turned into the Giant Panda Breeding Centre focusing on research works on breeding and bamboo ecology. Much other research works are being carried out at other Reserves such as the one in Qinling Mountains of Shaanxi Province.

The Centre basically takes care of giant pandas under three situations:

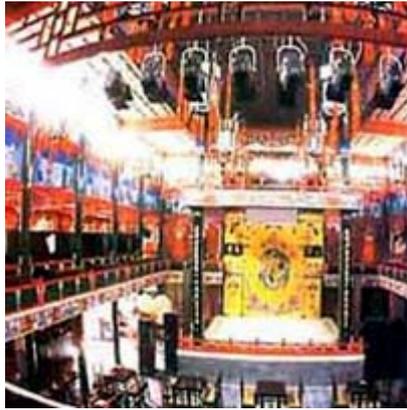
- when the giant pandas are brought up from captive breeding,
- when the giant pandas are somehow dispersed from the group, or are rescued from injury, and have lost the ability to survive if released back to the wild,
- when the giant panda are ready to be released back to the wild.



The Centre has two types of 'accommodations' for giant pandas - the Captive Cages and the Semi-nature Enclosures.

Most of the giant pandas in the Centre stay individually in the captive cages, which are in fact large enclosures, each consists of an in-door room and an out-door courtyard.

The semi-nature enclosures are very large wild areas but protected by border fences. Those giant pandas that will soon be released back to the wild will be put in the semi-nature enclosures for a long enough period of time for them to adapt to the natural environment. Although food has to be provided, the giant pandas will sleep there, eat there and recover their natural survival skills there until they can be released back to the wild.



Huguang Guild Hall

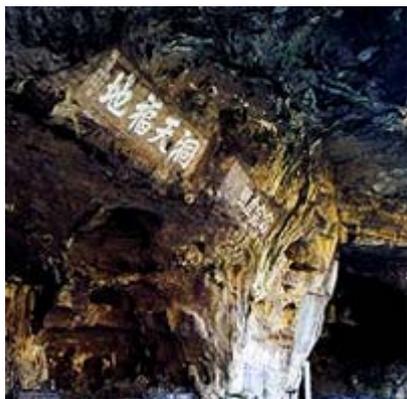
This combination museum-theater, housed in a complex of traditional buildings with gray tile roofs and bright red gables, has a connection with Beijing Opera dating back to 1830. To the right of the main entrance is a small museum filled with old opera robes and photos of famous performers (including the legendary Mei Lanfang), probably interesting only to aficionados. On the left is the expertly restored theater, a riot of color with a beautifully adorned traditional stage, paper lanterns hung from the high ceilings, and gallery seating on all three sides. Subtitles are in Chinese only, but brochures contain brief plot explanations in English. Performances take place nightly at 7:30pm.

Yangtze River Cruise



Coursing over a distance of 6,380 kilometers, the mighty Yangtze is the longest river in China and the third longest in the world after the Amazon in South America and the Nile in Africa. It begins at Qinghai plateau at southwest, and flows through nine provinces, some major industrialized cities and into Yellow Sea after Shanghai in the east. It is also a cradle of ancient Chinese civilization. However, Yangtze River also floods every year causing lose of lives & millions of dollars. Therefore, the government decided to build dams to control the water; and Gezhouba & Three Gorges dams are born. Highlights of the cruise include the famed Three Gorges "Qutang, Wu and Xiling" showcasing dramatic scenery, deep valleys, verdant landscapes and stunning vistas; shore excursions of the Small Gorges with visits to either Shennong Stream Gorges or the Daning River; and the Three Gorges Dam Site, the world's largest construction project and an engineering marvel.

Three Travelers' Cave, Yichang



The cave is 10 kilometers away from City of Yichang. Its great mountains, beautiful rivers, and charming landscapes are like a giant painting. Three Travelers' Cave is located in a deep valley; it is warm in winter and cool in summer with great and beautiful views. The cave is about 30 meters deep, 23 meters in width and is about 9 meters high. Inside the cave, there are many stalagmites; the three main stalagmites divided the cave into two chambers. The chamber near the front is wide and bright, along the walls there are more than 40 stone tablets. The tablets caved with poems and prose made from the famous poets when they tour this area. The other chamber is gloomy and deep with great many strange stalactites. If you throw a rock at those stalactites, you will hear the echo sound of a bell, yet when the rock falls in to the water you will hear the echo sound of a drum. This is one of the reasons this cave became tourist attraction. The origin of this cave may be traced back to the Tang Dynasty. In 819, three Tang Dynasty poets, Bai Juyi, his brother Bai Xingjian and Yuan Zhen, met in Yichang and made an excursion to this site. While enjoying the spectacular scenery, they inscribed some poems on the cave walls. Afterwards they were considered as the 'First Three Travelers'.

Chinese Sturgeon Museum

Chinese Sturgeon Museum is a part of the Chinese Sturgeon Garden which is located in Xiaoxita Town, in Yichang of Hubei Province. The museum was set up in 1993 by the Chinese Sturgeon Research Institute. This institute aims to preserve the rare species of Chinese sturgeon that includes 27 species of sturgeon that still exist in the world. Chinese sturgeon, also known as Green Sturgeon, is a kind of migration fish. Having lived on the earth for 140 million years, the Chinese sturgeon is one of the oldest vertebrate lying between chondrichthian and bony fish. In this case, Chinese sturgeon are called the 'living fossil'. Chinese sturgeon is the king of the freshwater fish for it is the largest and lives the longest. An adult sturgeon can be more than 4 meters (about 13 feet) long and weigh in excess of 500 kilograms (about 1,102 pound). A mature Chinese female sturgeon, over 14 years old can lay about 0.3 million to 1.3 million eggs at one time; unfortunately, more than 90% of these eggs will become the dinner of other fish, such as the bronze gudgeon and the yellow catfish. Therefore, the considerable reduction of the number of this specie makes it a highly prized variety of Chinese sturgeon. Since the building of the famous [Gezhouba Water Conservancy Project](#) in the 1980's, the Chinese sturgeon's migration route has been obstructed by the dam. As a result, Chinese sturgeons have lost their spawning area for reproducing offspring which has also put the survival of Chinese sturgeon at risk. In 1982 the Chinese government set up a major institution to protect the precious rare species, and to research the reproduction of the rare Chinese sturgeon in order to preserve them. From 1984, 4.44 million young Chinese sturgeons have been put into the Yangtze River . Since 1988 in order to provide the species with even greater protection, the Chinese sturgeon has been upgraded and has received a state-protected animal classification.



Yu Yuan Garden

Yuyuan is a 400 year old classical Chinese garden in the Old Town of Shanghai, not far from the Bund. Pan Yunduan spent twenty years and all his savings building it to please his parents in their old age. In the garden you can feel the harmonies between the construction, plants and human.



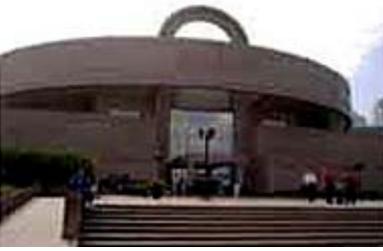


The Jade Buddha Monastery

The Jade Buddha Monastery is famous for the Jade Buddhas in it. During the rule of Emperor Guang Xu of the Qing dynasty, Hui Gen, an abbot from Putuo Mountain, went on a pilgrimage to Tibet traveling through China and finally arriving in Burma. He found Burma to be rich in jade and superb in craftsmanship. He wanted to bring carved jade Buddha back to China. He obtained donation of over 20,000 taels of silver and got special permission from the Burmese king to dig and select jade in the mountains. He hired excellent jade carvers to carve five jade Buddhas in various sizes, all decorated with treasured stones and big pearls. On his way back from Burma, he left two Buddha carvings in Shanghai for the Buddhist disciples there to worship.

Shanghai Museum

As a museum of ancient Chinese art, Shanghai Museum houses a collection of 120,000 precious works of art. Its rich and high-quality collection of ancient Chinese bronze, ceramics, painting and calligraphy is specially celebrated in the world. Its unique architectural form of a round top with a square base, symbolizing the ancient Chinese philosophy that the square earth is under the round sky, is a distinguished architectural combination of traditional feature and modern spirit. The present Shanghai Museum has eleven galleries and three special temporary exhibition halls. It extends warm welcome to the visitors from all over the world.



Zhouzhuang

Zhouzhuang, situated between Shanghai and Suzhou, is an ancient town of Kunshan City, Jiangsu Province, abounds with rivers and lakes. Thus it is thought by many to be the best waterside town in China. This ancient town has a history of more than 900 years old with many houses built in the Ming and Qing Dynasties. There are about 100 houses with courtyards, and 60 of them have arch gateways made by carved bricks. With lakes on four sides, the beauty of Zhouzhuang is found, especially, along the waterside lanes and around a number of the stone bridges. A different vista at every turn can be found here. All these make the visit most enjoyable. Also, one can enjoy the fairyland atmosphere of the evenings here when the myriad stars twinkle as though in communication with the glittering lights.

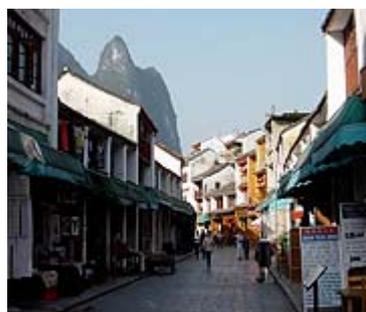


Li River Cruise



The poetic and picturesque Li River is the important component of Guilin scenery. It originates in Mountain Cat at Xinan county in the northeast of Guilin. It winds and meanders its way for 170 kilometers, passing through Guilin, Yangshuo to the outlet of Gongchen river in Pingle county. Li River, between Guilin and Yangshuo, traverses 84 kilometers like a jade ribbon winding among thousands of hills. Along the river, the rolling peaks, steep cliffs, green hills and clear water constitute a fascinating hundred-mile picturesque gallery. Li River scenery is known to all not only for its green hills, clear water, fantastic caves and spectacular rocks but also for its wonderful deep pools, springs and waterfalls. Moreover, people can enjoy the different beauties of Li River scenery at different seasons and weathers. In fine days, reflections of the hills in clear and greenish water are especially pleasing to the eyes, but it is more enchanting under rainy and misty weather. The hazy view of the drizzling rain and lingering clouds give birth to a wonderful fairyland for tourists.

Yangshuo West Street



West Street is the oldest street in Yangshuo with a history of more than 1,400 years. Situated at the center of Yangshuo County, West Street has become, since the 1980's, a window of eastern and western culture and the biggest 'foreign language center' in China. Visitors are attracted to West Street by its unique mix of cultures. West Street is 517 meters (1,696 feet) long and 8 meters (26 feet) wide, meandering in an 'S' along its length. Being completely paved with marble it is a typical example of a southern China street. It is greatly admired by foreigners for its simple style and courtyard-like setting. There is a saying about West Street that 'half is village while the other half is stores'. Because, at times, foreigners outnumber Chinese, West Street is also called 'foreigners' street'. Visiting West Street, you may see a multitude of items, from embroidered silk cloth, wax-painted weaving, to ethnic costumes made of batik fabric. At night, the restaurants on "Foreigner's Street" are crowded with diners. With facades decorated stylishly with tree bark, palm leaves and colorful lights, these restaurants all boast their own specialties.

Days & Suites Beijing Hotel (Chang An Grand Hotel)

27 Hua Wei Li Chaoyang District Beijing China



Offering comfortable accommodation and various facilities, the Chang An Grand Hotel is an ideal travel destination for both business and leisure travelers visiting Beijing. The hotel has 373 rooms.



Hotel Amenities:

- Airline reservation desk
- Beauty shop
- Car Rental
- Babysitting
- Bar & Lounge
- Concierge desk
- Foreign exchange
- Restaurants
- Housekeeping service daily
- Laundry on-site



Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: Guests are provided with the comfort of tastefully decorated rooms that are spacious and facilitated with numerous in-room amenities. The hotel also offers 24-hour room service for your convenience.

Location: The Chang An Grand Hotel is located in the southeast corner of Beijing City, adjacent to Beijing Curio City, China's largest curio and folk artwork market. It is also close to the Central Business District and downtown.

Restaurant: Guests can enjoy delicious western cuisine in the relaxed atmosphere of the onsite restaurant and later chill out with a refreshing drink at the cocktail bar.

Xi'an Sheraton Hotel

No. 262 Fenghao Road, Xi'an, China



It is close to the Xi'an West Wall and only a few minutes from the center of the city.



Hotel Amenities:

- Baby sitting service
- Banquet facilities
- Beauty salon
- Business centre
- Cocktail bar
- Concierge
- Conference facilities
- Currency exchange
- Disabled facilities
- Photocopying facilities
- Reception facilities
- Restaurants
- Room service
- Safe deposit box
- Sauna
- Shopping arcade
- Spa
- Swimming pool
- Table tennis
- Tour desk

Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: The guestrooms are very large and in good condition. They are all tastefully decorated and equipped with a wide range of deluxe amenities to make your stay as comfortable and convenient as possible.

Location: The hotel is adjacent to the West Second Ring Road, only minutes away from the new Xi'an Developing Zone of High Technology Industries. It is also near the Xi'an West Wall. The major scenic spots can all be accessed easily from this hotel.

Restaurant: The hotel restaurants serve authentic Cantonese seasonal specialties and an array of regional gourmet dishes. The American cuisine is served in the western restaurant.

Lhasa Hotel

No.1, Minzu Road, Lhasa, China



Lhasa Hotel is one of the most luxurious hotels in Lhasa. This former Holiday Inn hotel was renovated in 1999. The hotel has 450 rooms.



Hotel Amenities:

- Meeting Facilities
- Business Center
- Ticketing Office
- Domestic Long-distance Access
- Laundry Service
- First Aid
- Beauty Salon



Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: Some are decorated in Tibetan Style while others are decorated in Western comfort. All rooms come with amenities that meet the needs of the international travelers.

Location: Located at 3,600m above sea level. Right next to the hotel is the famous landmark of Norbulingka, the summer Palace of the Dali Lama. It takes only 10 minutes of drive to the "Holy City" centre, where one can see the mystical Potala Palace. The distance from airport is 95 km

Restaurant: The hotel has a range of restaurants, which provide Sichuan, Western, Indian and Tibetan food.

Chengdu Holiday Inn Crown Plaza

31 Zong Fu Street Chengdu, China



The Hotel is strategically located in the commercial center of the city. It is within the main shopping expanse of Zong Fu Street, close to the Sichuan Provincial Exhibition centre and the major government offices. The hotel has 402 rooms.



Hotel Amenities

- 24 Hour Room Service
- Baby-Sitting
- Beauty Salon
- Concierge Services
- Dry Cleaning/Laundry
- Foreign Currency Exchange
- Free Local Phone Calls
- Gift Shop
- Safety Deposit Box
- Secretarial Services
- Shoe Shine
- Turndown Service
- Wake Up Calls

Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: The property boasts 527 pleasantly decorated guestrooms, which provides its guests with modern and comfortable amenities. Attentive room service is also provided for your convenience.

Location: Situated in the heart of the city, Shanghai Hotel Shanghai is close to the ancient Jing'an Temple and the Bund. This property is 5 kilometres from the Shanghai Railway Station and 30 minutes drive from the Hongqiao International Airport.

Restaurant: Guests can dine at the on-site Bauhinia Restaurant that serves delicious cuisine for breakfast, lunch as well as dinner. The Kawakyu Restaurant serves delectable Japanese cuisine for you to feast on. Sip your favorite cocktail, while listening to the melodious music, at the cozy bar.

Shanghai Hotel

505 Wulumuqi Road North Shanghai



The hotel offers well-appointed meeting rooms for organizing your business as well as social events. After an exhausting day, you can workout in the state-of-the-art gymnasium, have a bracing dip in the swimming pool, pamper yourself at the sauna or avail the massage service. The hotel has 527 rooms.



Hotel Amenities:

Baby sitting service
Banquet facilities
Business center
Cocktail bar
Disabled facilities
Laundry facilities
Gymnasium
Lobby
Reception
Restaurant
Room service
Sauna
Swimming pool

Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: The property boasts 527 pleasantly decorated guestrooms, which provides its guests with modern and comfortable amenities. Attentive room service is also provided for your convenience.

Location: Situated in the heart of the city, Shanghai Hotel Shanghai is close to the ancient Jing'an Temple and the Bund. This property is 5 kilometers from the Shanghai Railway Station and 30 minutes drive from the Hongqiao International Airport.

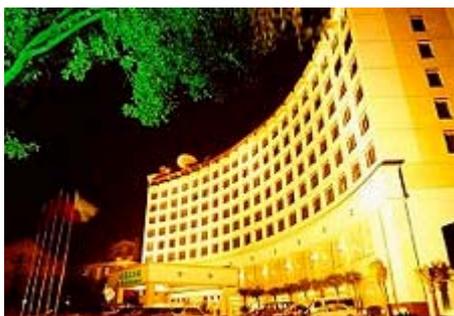
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Guilin Bravo Hotel

14 South Ronghu Road, Guilin, China



Guilin Bravo Hotel is a new four star hotel that provides the services and standards one would expect of an international five star hotel. The hotel has 268 rooms.



Hotel Amenities:

Meeting
Facilities
s Center
Parking
Currency Exchange
Ticketing Office
First Aid
Laundry Service
Business



Gift Shop
Beauty Salon
International Long-distance
Broadband Access in all
room

Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: The hotel offers 268 tastefully decorated guest rooms and suites, each with individually controlled air-conditioning and heating, mini-bar, private bathroom, radio, color television with free in-house movies and satellite channels, and an IDD telephone with extension in the bathroom. Non-smoking and handicapped rooms are also available.

Location: The Bravo Hotel Guilin is conveniently located near the city center on the Banyan Lake Promenade, just 30 minutes from the Guilin International Airport.

Restaurant: The Patio Cafe features Western, Asian and local dishes. The Windows of China Restaurant offers Cantonese and Sichuan cuisines. The Hao Di Fang Restaurant offers Dim Sum, local dishes and specialties from different Chinese provinces.

Yangshuo Regency Holiday Hotel

3 No. 117 West Street , Yangshuo , China , 541900



Yangshao Regency Holiday Hotel is a four star hotel that provides a fine balance of eastern and western decor. The hotel has 70 rooms.



Hotel Amenities

laundry service
business center
conference facilities
restaurant
parking 24-hour
front desk
Sauna
Health Club
Safe-deposit
box-front desk
Babysitting
Billiards
Copy machine
Swimming Pool
Conference facilities

Hotel Description

Guest Rooms: The hotel has 70 guestrooms and suites which are all tastefully decorated, fully equipped with IDD, satellite TV, mini bar and air-conditioning facilities.

Location: It is located in the world famous "West Street" in Yangshuo, by the bank of the Lijiang River in Yangshuo Town.

Restaurant: The restaurants in the hotel offer tempting oriental cuisines as well as a variety of western foods.