

China Discovery 11 Days

\$1,399.00

Beijing, Wuxi, Suzhou, Hangzhou, Shanghai

Tour Highlights:

- Uncover the mystery of **Beijing's Forbidden City**
- Take a boat ride on tranquil **West Lake in Hangzhou**
- Stroll in one of the finest **Chinese gardens in Suzhou**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis **Shanghai**

As its name suggests, this tour is designed to give you a sample of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, thriving industries, and modern architecture. Walk along the Great Wall and unfold the mystery of the Forbidden City in China's capital Beijing, discover the exquisite cities of Wuxi, as well as Suzhou and Hangzhou – both cities 'on par with heaven' for their natural beauty, according to a Chinese saying. Finally, immerse yourself in the dynamic cosmopolitan city, Shanghai.

In stock

Categories: Asia, China Tags: Beijing, China, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Suzhou

Departure Dates

2018			Price Per Person	Single Supplement
19 Jun [±]	28 Aug [±]	23 Oct		
24 Jul [±]	04 Sep	30 Oct		
07 Aug	18 Sep ^{±±}	06 Nov		
14 Aug	02 Oct [±]	13 Nov		
21 Aug	16 Oct [±]			
2019				
24 Feb ^{*~}	26 May	25 Aug		
03 Mar [~]	02 Jun	01 Sep		
10 Mar [~]	09 Jun	08 Sep		
17 Mar [~]	16 Jun	15 Sep [*]		
24 Mar [~]	23 Jun	22 Sep [*]		
31 Mar [~]	30 Jun [*]	29 Sep [±]		
07 Apr [*]	07 Jul [*]	06 Oct [*]		
14 Apr [*]	14 Jul [*]	13 Oct		
21 Apr [*]	21 Jul [*]	20 Oct		
28 Apr [*]	28 Jul	27 Oct		
05 May	04 Aug	03 Nov		
12 May	11 Aug	10 Nov		
19 May	18 Aug	17 Nov		
* = Peak Season Surcharge: \$300 ** = School Holiday Surcharge: \$400 ~ = Yangtze River Cruise extension is not available				

Package Inclusions:

- Airfares, taxes & fuel surcharges from Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane with a full service Chinese carrier
 - Eg. China Southern/Eastern Airlines, Air China, China/Hainan/Sichuan/Xiamen Airlines
- 9 nights 4 to 5-star (local rating) hotel accommodation
- Daily meals as indicated (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Internal flights (2018) / bullet train (2019)
- Round trip airport and hotel transfers
- Coach transportation
 - Baggage limit: 1 piece 20kg per person
- Entrance fees to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

Package Exclusions:

- Prepaid tipping: \$100
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal expenses & anything optional

Price Guide:

- **Airline Upgrade**[^]: Qantas, Cathay Pacific or Singapore Airlines from \$500 subject to availability & applicable fare difference
- **Seasonal Surcharges**: * = Peak Season: \$300, ** = School Holidays: \$400
- **NOTE**: ~ = Yangtze River Cruise extension is not available
- **Interstate Surcharge**: Adelaide, Perth \$300 (interstate flights are via Sydney or Melbourne)
- **Early Arrival/Stay Behind/Stopover Surcharge**: From \$250 (subject to availability and applicable fare difference)
- **Pre/Post-Tour Accommodation (incl. breakfast)**: \$75/person/twin room twin share, \$150/person/single room
- **Premium Economy Upgrade**[~]: Cathay Pacific from \$2200 (subject to availability)
- **Business Class Upgrade**[~]: China Eastern or China Southern Airlines from \$2500, Cathay Pacific or Singapore Airlines from \$4100 (subject to availability)
- **Please Note**: Flight itineraries are not available until approximately 2 weeks before departure and involve transits
- **Child Price**: Same as adult
- **Triple Share**: Available (rollaway bedding)
- **Group Size**: Up to 40 passengers

[^] = International long haul sectors only.

Please note: Several shopping stops are included as cultural learning experiences with no obligation to purchase local specialty products.

All prices, itineraries, airlines, hotels and cruise ships are subject to availability and change without prior notice. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar standard and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Passengers must remain with the tour group at all times and must not deviate from the set itinerary. The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land. Please check all information before booking. By booking, you accept all **Booking Conditions**.

Tour Extensions

Yangtze River Cruise 4/5 Days from \$950

Yichang, Xiling Gorge, Three Gorges Dam Site, Shennong Stream, Wu Gorge, Qutang Gorge, Shibaozhai Pagoda, Chongqing

A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a lifetime. You will enjoy the stunning picturesque scenery and amazing natural beauty of the famed Three Gorges: Qutang, Wu, and Xiling, while exploring historical relics and ancient cultural sites along the mighty river.

For details, tap the image above or click here.

Xi'an 3 Day Tour Extension from \$590

The tour will be either self-guided or a group tour depending on the size of group.

Xi'an was the capital of China for eleven dynasties, over a period of more than 2,000 years. Now the city is famed for the 'Terracotta Army' of Qin Shi Huang – the first ruler to unify the lands that became modern China. Take in one of the wonders of the ancient world with two nights in Xi'an.

For details, tap the image above or click here

Optional Programs

Get to know China better with our list of in-depth excursions recommended to add another dimension to your total experience! They can be prepaid in Australia more than 30 days prior to departure at the discounted AUD prices below, or paid directly in the local currency to your tour guide upon arrival in China. Prepay for all optional programs to receive a \$15 discount off the total price. English speaking guide, admissions and round trip transfers are included in the prices.

Beijing	The Golden Mask Dynasty	\$75
Beijing	Hutong Life Tour	\$70
Beijing	Chinese Kung Fu Show	\$75
Wuxi	Grand Canal Cruise	\$35
Hangzhou	Impression West Lake or similar	\$80
Shanghai	ERA: The Intersection of Time or SPIRAL	\$75
Shanghai	Shanghai Dumpling Lunch	\$25 (not available for 2019 dep)
Shanghai	Huangpu River Cruise	\$55 (2018 dep), \$40 (2019 dep)

Hotel Accommodation

Beijing	Wyndham Beijing North or similar
Suzhou	Pan Pacific Hotel or similar
Wuxi	Days Hotel Baile Wuxi or similar

Hangzhou

Merchant Marco Garden Hotel or similar

Shanghai

Radisson Exhibition Centre Shanghai or similar

Testimonials

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you everyone at Nexus Holidays for organising a magnificent China Sampler tour. The tour exceeded my expectations in every way. It was operated by very efficient local and national guides, who were both experienced and helpful. The level of accommodation was exceptional in most instances and the food was great. The optional tours were highly enjoyable and I would give this trip a full 5 star rating. I will have no hesitation in recommending it to everyone contemplating travelling to China. Thank you for this most memorable experience.

(Janette. August 8, 2015 at 10:01)

My wife and I are just back from the 11 day tour of China. What a fantastic experience it was too with an interesting program taking in many great sights and a ride on the Maglev too. Our Nexus guides were brilliant and nothing was too much for them. The hotels were of an excellent standard and the food was very good and very plentiful. I would recommend Nexus to all my friends and am very grateful for the experience of visiting China in springtime when all the trees are blossoming. I look forward to my next Nexus trip.

(Mike Jones. April 13, 2017 at 11:58 am)

Day 1: Australia ✈ Beijing

Fly to Beijing, the capital city of China, via a connecting city. Upon arrival, you will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel.

Please note: Some flights may depart the night before.

Day 2: Beijing (B, L, D)

2018 Itinerary:

Beijing served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second largest public square in the world, and the **Forbidden City**, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Continue on to the **Temple of Heaven**, one of the best examples of Ming Dynasty architecture and also an ornate sanctuary where Chinese emperors offered sacrifices to heaven and prayed for a good harvest. Your welcome banquet includes the local delicacy, **Peking Roast Duck**.

2019 Itinerary:

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Day 3: Beijing (B, L)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall** at Juyong Pass, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. You will also visit one of the largest jade exhibitions in Asia en-route. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a **cloisonné factory**. Tonight, you can choose to attend an optional large scale dramatic musical, **The Golden Mask Dynasty** (at your own expense).

Day 4: Beijing (B, L)

Today tour the exquisite **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient garden in China and a former summer resort for emperors, followed by the **Panda House** at Beijing Zoo to see China's adorable national treasure – the Giant Panda. Then visit a Chinese herbal institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine which has existed for thousands of years, as you enjoy a rejuvenating foot massage. Later, you can join an optional **Hutong Life Tour** (at your own expense), a special journey which explores Beijing's ancient alleyways or 'hutongs' by pedicab, or take a stroll in **Wangfujing**, one of the Chinese capital's most famous shopping streets. Cap off the day by attending a thrilling **Chinese Kung Fu Show** (at your own expense).

Day 5: Beijing 🚄 Bullet Train to Wuxi (B, D)

2018 Itinerary:

Fly to Shanghai and travel to Wuxi, an ancient city richly endowed with natural attractions due to its pleasantly warm and moist climate. Wuxi boasts a reputation of being the 'Land of Fish and Rice'. Enjoy the scenery as we pass by **Lake Tai**, the third-largest freshwater lake in China. This evening, go sightseeing around Nanchang Street and take a cruise along the **Grand Canal** (at your own expense) to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday. Then, take a stroll along the trendy pedestrian streets composed of both ancient and modern architecture.

2019 Itinerary:

Take a high speed train to Wuxi, an ancient city richly endowed with natural attractions due to its pleasantly warm and moist climate. Wuxi boasts a reputation of being the 'Land of Fish and Rice'. Enjoy the scenery as we pass by **Lake Tai**, the third-largest freshwater lake in China. This evening, go sightseeing around Nanchang Street and take a cruise along the **Grand Canal** (at your own expense) to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday. Then, take a stroll along the trendy pedestrian streets composed of both ancient and modern architecture.

Day 6: Wuxi 🚗 Suzhou (B, L)

This morning visit one of the largest freshwater pearl exhibitions in the country. After lunch, travel by coach to Suzhou, an extraordinarily elegant city with its canals, stone bridges, and meticulously designed gardens. Suzhou has been referred to as 'Paradise on Earth' by Chinese poets and writers since ancient times. As a large area of the city is covered by water, including a vast number of ponds and streams, Suzhou is also known as 'Venice of the East'. It is also known as the 'Garden City' due to its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Visit the **Lingering Garden**, which is among the finest in China.

Day 7: Suzhou 🚗 Hangzhou (B, L, D)

This morning visit a silk spinning mill, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. After lunch, travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Upon arrival, take a boat ride on the serene **West Lake**, the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, and noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. This evening, you can enjoy an optional open-air performance, **Impression West Lake**, a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony (at your own expense).

Day 8: Hangzhou 🚗 Shanghai (B, L)

Experience tea-tasting at the Dragon Well Tea Plantation. Then travel by coach to Shanghai, a vibrant metropolis and the commercial centre of China. Upon arrival, walk along the famous **Bund**, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined with colonial architecture of European design, it is the best place to capture the Western influences of the old days. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure strolling along the bustling shopping district, **Nanjing Road**. Tonight you can watch a superb and thrilling Chinese acrobatic show **ERA: The Intersection of Time or SPIRAL** (at your own expense).

Day 9: Shanghai (B, D)

2018 Itinerary:

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of Huangpu River and the Bund. Then taste the famous **xiao long bao** at a Shanghai dumpling restaurant for lunch (at your own expense). After lunch, head to the Old Street in the City God Temple area, symbolic of the large temple complex and surrounding traditional district of commerce in the city. After tonight's farewell celebration dinner, you can cap off the celebrations by joining an optional **Huangpu River Cruise** for a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai (at your own expense).

2019 Itinerary:

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of Huangpu River and the Bund. After lunch, head to the Old Street in the City God Temple area, symbolic of the large temple complex and surrounding traditional district of commerce in the city. After tonight's farewell celebration dinner, you can cap off the celebrations by joining an optional **Huangpu River Cruise** for a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai (at your own expense).

Day 10: Shanghai ✈ Australia (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Shanghai airport to board your overnight connecting flight via an intermediate city to Australia. The trip may be over, but the experiences and memories will certainly last a lifetime.

Day 11: Australia

Arrive home this morning.

Optional Pre-Tour Extension Package

Xi'an Terracotta Warriors 2 Nights

From \$590

Xi'an was the first Chinese city to open its doors to the world, during the Tang dynasty, and the capital for eleven dynasties over a period of more than 2,000 years. Together with Athens, Cairo and Rome, Xi'an is among the four major civilisation capitals of the ancient world.

Highlights:

- Terracotta Army
- Ancient City Wall
- Big Wild Goose Pagoda
- Shaanxi Provincial History Museum
- Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show
- Imperial Dumpling Banquet

Inclusions:

- Return economy class airfares to Xi'an
- All transfers
- Coach transportation
- Daily meals as indicated (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, S=Special Banquet)
- 2 nights hotel accommodation (twin/double/triple share)
- Entrance fees to scenic attractions
- English speaking guide

Exclusions:

- Tipping prepaid in Australia: \$30
- Personal expenditure

Price Guide:

- Single Supplement: \$120
- All airline or flight related upgrades defined in the Price Guide of the core tour incur an additional \$200
- This extension can be combined with other optional tour extensions

Accommodation:

- Kempinski Hotel 5 star local rating or similar

Day 1: Australia ✈ Xi'an

Board your international flight from Australia for a connecting flight via an intermediate city to Xi'an. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest.

Day 2: Xi'an (B, L, S)

The highlight today is a visit to the **Terracotta Army** to see the life-sized defending army of the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. This site is among the

top archaeological excavations of the 20th century. This will be followed by a visit to a ceramic art factory. In the evening, enjoy a special **Imperial Dumpling Banquet** and **traditional Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show**.

Day 3: Xi'an ✈ Beijing (B, L)

After breakfast, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial History Museum**. Enjoy a **special noodle lunch** including an interesting noodle making demonstration. Then visit the **Great Wild Goose Pagoda**, the symbol of the city. Later, walk along the **Ancient City Wall**, which is not only the most complete city wall to survive in China, but also one of the largest ancient military defence systems in the world. Fly to Beijing in the evening to commence your China Sampler 10 Day Tour.

Optional Post-Tour Extension Package

Majestic Yangtze River Cruise 5 Days 4 Nights

From \$950

After walking along the Great Wall in Beijing, strolling through classic gardens in Suzhou, and immersing yourself in the bustling metropolis Shanghai, relax as you cruise along the majestic Yangtze River and discover the dramatic gorges, mountain villages and breathtaking scenery. A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a life time. You will enjoy the stunning picturesque scenery and the amazing natural beauty of the famed Three Gorges: Qutang, Wu and Xiling, while exploring the historical relics and ancient cultural sites along the mighty river.

Enjoy shore excursions to explore the fascinating history and tranquil landscapes including the spectacle of Fengdu Ghost City, a peculiar site that contains statues of demons and ghosts that roam the afterworld; the fun of drifting through Shennong Stream, which offers clear running waters, picturesque rock formations, and monkeys and goats along its banks; and the wonder of the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest dam.

A Yangtze River cruise is a visual delight, full of pleasant surprises and many treasures waiting to be discovered. The images will stay with you long after you have returned home.

Ship: Luxury 5 Star – President 7, Yangtze 2, Victoria Jenna, or similar

The luxurious President 7 is a newly-constructed ship of modern design and construction technique. It first sailed on the Yangtze River in April of 2013. With a length of 146.8m and width of 20.2m, the ship possesses 215 deluxe cabins, 13 executive cabins and 2 presidential cabins, which all together can accommodate up to 580 passengers. There are about 200 staff on board offering superior and comprehensive service to guests whenever needed. Besides the high-quality service, the ship is also equipped with advanced facilities like satellite television, satellite phone and air-conditioning. You will be impressed by the considerate design of providing a large swimming pool, deluxe cinema, golf driving range, children's park and barrier-free facilities, which make this quite different from traditional cruise ships.

Inclusions:

- 4 nights standard cabin with private balcony (twin share)
- 3 shore excursions (subject to change and favourable weather conditions)
- Economy class domestic flights (operated by a local carrier)
- All transfers
- Daily meals as indicated (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- English speaking guide (on board)

Exclusions:

- Tipping prepaid in Australia: \$50
- Optional shore excursions (payable on board)
- Personal expenditure

Price Guide:

- Single Supplement: \$750
- Rooms are twin occupancy only, double and triple share are not available on the cruise
- Cruise ship used is dependent on availability and is subject to change
- This extension can be combined with other optional tour extensions

Day 10: Shanghai ✈ Yichang 🚢 Yangtze River Cruise (D)

This morning fly to the port city of Yichang, the starting point of our **Yangtze River Cruise** for the next four nights. After dinner, we board the cruise and receive an introduction on cruise events and onboard activities.

Arr/Dept	Events
19:00-20:00	Board the ship at Yichang Dock
24:00	Departs Yichang

Day 11: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Today, your cruise enters the Xiling Gorge. Named for Mount Xiling, this is the longest of the Three Gorges. In fact, Xiling Gorge comprises four smaller gorges with rather poetic names; Precious Sword, Horse Lung & Ox Liver, Soundless Bell, and Shadow Play.

Arr/Dept	Events
08:00	Briefing on the cruise
08:00-09:00	Passing the Xiling Gorge (East Part)
09:00-11:00	Shore excursion: Three Gorges Dam Site
11:00-13:00	Shore excursion: Visit Ba and Tujia ethnic minorities of the Three Gorges. Experience a charming reenactment of traditional life ways in a peaceful hillside village setting (optional)
13:30-15:30	Passing the Three Gorges Dam
16:00	Sail through 5-stage shiplock
18:00	Captain's Welcome Dinner
20:00	Evening entertainment

Day 12: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept	Events
06:30	Breakfast
08:00-12:00	Shore excursion: Shennong Stream
13:30-17:00	Sail through Wu Gorge and Qutang Gorge
17:30	Shore excursion: White Emperor City (optional, river conditions permitting)

Day 13: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept	Events
07:00	Breakfast
08:30-10:30	Shore excursion: Shibaozhai Pagoda
10:30-12:30	Shore excursion: Fengdu Ghost City (optional)
14:00-16:00	Lectures
18:00	Farewell Dinner

Day 14: Chongqing ✈ Australia (B)

After breakfast, disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing at 9am. Transfer to the airport for a connecting flight via an intermediate city to Australia.

Day 15: Australia

Arrive in Australia.