

CHINA SAMPLER

BEIJING > WUXI > SUZHOU > HANGZHOU > SHANGHAI



11 DAYS FROM

\$1,599

per person twin-share



This tour gives you a sample of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, and modern architecture. Walk the Great Wall, explore Beijing's Forbidden City, discover exquisite Wuxi city, Suzhou, and Hangzhou - historically considered 'on par with heaven' for their natural beauty. Finally, immerse yourself in cosmopolitan Shanghai.

Image: Cruise experience along the Grand Canal in Wuxi

Nexus Holidays

  Nexus Holidays Australia



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Day 1: Arrive in 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. Note: Some flights may depart the night before.

Day 2: Beijing (B, L, D)

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**.

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 **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.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk on the incredible **Great Wall**
- Uncover the mystery of the **Forbidden City**
- Sit by the tranquil **West Lake in Hangzhou**
- Stroll in one of the finest **Chinese gardens in Suzhou**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis **Shanghai**

Day 5: Beijing ✈️ Shanghai 🚗 Wuxi (B, D)

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, we have the option of visiting **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 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 fresh water 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).



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Images: 1. Forbidden City, 2. The Golden Mask Dynasty, 3. The Bund, 4. Lingering Garden, 5. ERA: The Intersection of Time, 6. Giant Panda, 7. Terracotta Army, 8. Impression West Lake, 9. City God Temple, 10. Ancient City Wall

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** (at your own expense).

Day 9: Shanghai (B, D)

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

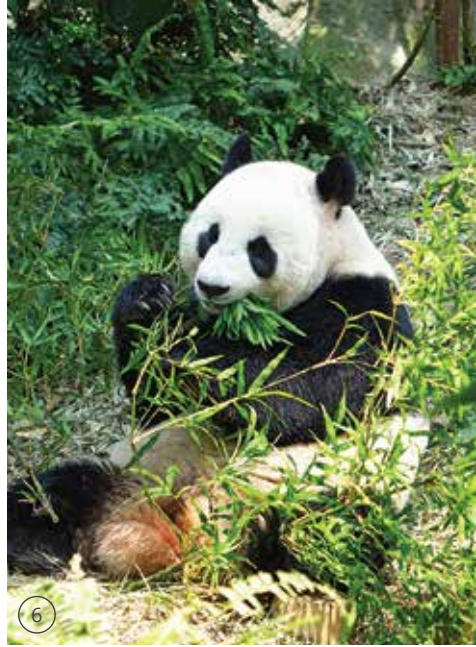
Day 10: Depart Shanghai (B)

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: Arrive Home



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8 XI'AN TERRACOTTA ARMY EXTENSION

fr \$590; single supplement \$120; includes
 + Economy class flights
 + 2 nights hotel accommodation (twin-share)
 + 2 breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L) & 1 dinner (D)
 + Coach transportation & transfers
 + Entrance fees to scenic attractions
 + English speaking tour guide
 Excludes prepaid tipping: \$30

Day 1: Arrive in Xi'an

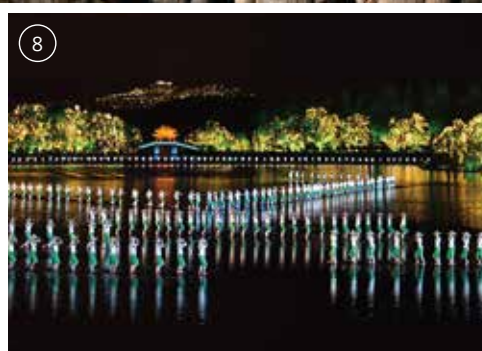
Fly to Xi'an via a connecting city. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest.

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

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)

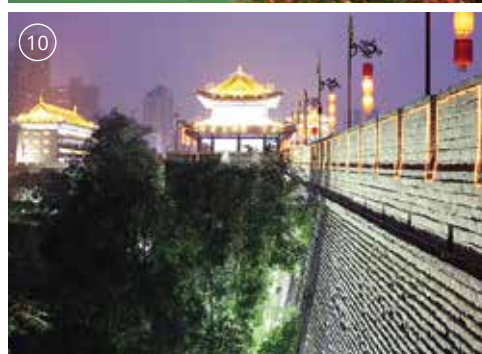
After breakfast, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial History Museum**. Enjoy a special noodle lunch including an interesting noodle making demonstration. Then visit the **Great Wild Goose Pagoda**, the symbol of the city. Later, walk along the **Ancient City Wall**, which is not only the most complete city 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 Tour.



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2018 DEPARTURES

06 Mar [^] *	15 May	10 Jul ^{**}	25 Sep*
13 Mar [^]	22 May	07 Aug	02 Oct*
20 Mar [^]	29 May	14 Aug	09 Oct*
03 Apr*	05 Jun	21 Aug	16 Oct
10 Apr*	12 Jun*	28 Aug*	23 Oct
24 Apr ^{**}	19 Jun*	04 Sep	30 Oct
01 May*	26 Jun*	11 Sep ^{**}	06 Nov
08 May	03 Jul*	18 Sep ^{**}	13 Nov

*Peak season surcharge: \$300

**School holiday surcharge: \$400

[^]Yangtze River cruise extension is not available

Single supplement: \$550

✈ DEPARTURE OPTIONS

- SYD/MEL/BNE: Airfare included
- Other cities: fr \$300

⊕ INCLUSIONS

- + Full service Chinese carrier afares & taxes (eg. China Southern/Eastern Airlines)
- + 9 nights hotel accommodation (twin-share)
- + 9 breakfasts (B), 6 lunches (L) & 4 dinners (D)
- + Internal flights (operated by a local carrier)
- + Coach transportation & transfers
- + Entrance fees to scenic attractions (unless otherwise indicated)
- + English speaking tour guide(s)

⊗ EXCLUSIONS

- Prepaid tipping: \$100
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

✈ AIR UPGRADES (long haul int'l sectors)

- Economy class: Cathay Pacific/Singapore Airlines fr \$500
- Premium economy: Cathay Pacific fr \$2200
- Business class: China Eastern/Southern fr \$2500, Cathay Pacific/Singapore Air fr \$4100

🕒 EXTEND YOUR STAY

- Break fee: fr \$250
- Hotel w/breakfast: \$75 twin-share, \$150 single

🏨 HOTEL ACCOMMODATION (local rating)

Beijing	Wyndham Beijing North or similar	5★
Suzhou	Pan Pacific Hotel or similar	5★
Wuxi	Swiss-Belhotel Liyuan or similar	5★
Hangzhou	Metropark Hotel or similar	5★
Shanghai	Wyndham Bund East or similar	5★

🎈 OPTIONAL PROGRAMS

Beijing	The Golden Mask Dynasty	\$75
Beijing	Hutong Life Tour	\$70
Wuxi	Grand Canal Cruise	\$35
Hangzhou	Impression West Lake	\$80
Shanghai	ERA: The Intersection of Time	\$75
Shanghai	Shanghai Dumpling Lunch	\$25
Shanghai	Huangpu River Night Cruise	\$55



All prices are per person twin-share in AUD unless otherwise stated and subject to revision without notice. Itineraries, airlines, hotels & ships are subject to availability and change. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar quality and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure smooth operations. Passengers must remain with the group at all times. Fees may apply for deviations from the set itinerary. Total length of trip includes time spent in flight and is subject to flight schedule. Final itineraries and flight info may not be available until 2 weeks before departure. Booking conditions apply, refer to website for latest information. ver23JAN2018



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. Discover the dramatic gorges, mountain villages and breathtaking scenery. 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 the historic relics and ancient cultural sites along the mighty river.

Enjoy shore excursions to explore 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.

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.

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, accommodating up to 580 passengers. There are about 200 staff on board offering superior service to guests whenever needed. 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.



Pamper yourself by upgrading to an executive package onboard your Yangtze River cruise extension. Contact Nexus Holidays for details.

 YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE EXTENSION

fr \$950; single supplement \$750; includes

- + Economy class flights
 - + 4 nights standard Cabin with private balcony (twin-share)
 - + 4 breakfasts (B), 3 lunches (L) & 4 dinners (D)
 - + All transfers
 - + 3 shore excursions (subject to change & favourable weather conditions)
- Excludes prepaid tipping: \$50 & optional shore excursions

Note: Cruise ship is subject to change. China Goddess 2, President 7, Yangtze 2, Victoria Jenna, or similar. Triple share is not available. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to substitute the ship with one of similar standard. Cruise itinerary including all arrival, departure times & shore excursions are subject to change.

Images: 11. Yangtze River
12. Shibaozhai Pagoda
13. President 7

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)

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 tribe of Three Gorges (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)
18:00 Captain's Farewell Dinner

Day 14: Depart Chongqing (B)

After breakfast, disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing. Transfer to the airport for a connecting flight home.

Day 15: Arrive Home