

NATURAL WONDERS OF CHINA

ZHANGJIAJIE > FENGHUANG > YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE > HUANGLONG > JIUZHAIGOU > CHENGDU > LESHAN > MT. EMEI



19 DAYS FROM

\$4,999

per person twin-share



This journey offers an introduction to a number of the most famous natural wonders of China. From the stunning mountain landscapes that have been evoked in Chinese paintings for centuries, to ancient villages and adorable giant pandas, this extensive tour by coach, cruise, and air will surprise and delight you over and over again.

Image: Fenghuang

Nexus Holidays

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Images: 1. Yellow Dragon Cave, 2. Zhangjiajie, 3. Huanglong, 4. Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, 5. Jiuzhaigou, 6. Mt. Emei, 7. Grand Buddha, 8. Face Changing show, 9. Tianmen Fox Fairy.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Zhangjiajie:** Be mesmerised by the breathtaking landscapes of Zhangjiajie
- **Fenghuang:** A wonderful example of what villages were like prior to the onset of modernisation
- **Yangtze River Cruise:** See the Three Gorges Dam as you cruise along the magnificent Yangtze River
- **Chongqing:** Enjoy a short tour of the city's historic sites
- **Jiuzhaigou:** Bask in the inherent natural beauty of 'Nine Villages Valley'
- **Huanglong:** Numerous unique geological landforms, eroded limestone landscapes and pools
- **Chengdu:** Get up close to adorable giant pandas
- **Leshan:** Stand at the foot of the towering Giant Buddha
- **Mount Emei:** The tallest of the four sacred Buddhist mountains of China

Day 1: Arrive in Changsha

Board an overnight flight via a connecting city to Changsha.

Day 2: Arrive in Changsha (L, D)

Arrive in Changsha, the capital city of Hunan in south central China. You will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to the hotel.

Day 3: Changsha Zhangjiajie (B, L, D)

Today, enjoy breathtaking scenery exploring the UNESCO World Heritage listed Zhangjiajie area, which offers a mix of spectacular limestone formations, sub-tropical forests, waterfalls, and mountain ranges. The inspiration for the floating 'Hallelujah Mountains' featured in the Hollywood blockbuster 'Avatar', directed by James Cameron, are found here in Zhangjiajie. Visit **Zhangjiajie National Forest Park**, set up in 1982. It has been described as majestic, tranquil, delicate, and wild. The park features fantastical peaks, translucent brooks, abundant fauna and flora and a hospitable climate. Your welcome banquet tonight features the local cuisine.

Day 4: Zhangjiajie (B, L, D)

Today, visit **Tianzi Mountain Nature Reserve**. Rich in bewildering peaks and spectacular rock formations, the reserve is renowned for its ethereal clouds and mist, luminous moonlight, enchanting winter snow, and blushing dawn and dusk clouds. Explore **Yellow Dragon Cave**, a limestone cave which has four levels and is known as the most beautiful cave in China. This evening, enjoy a spectacular musical drama based on a traditional Chinese myth and folk tale, 'Love between Man and Fox' – **Tianmen Fox Fairy** (at your own expense), performed at the foot of Tianmen Mountain, with the high mountains and deep valleys as a magnificent backdrop.

Day 5: Zhangjiajie Fenghuang (B, L, D)

Travel to **Fenghuang** (Phoenix) County, an exceptionally well-preserved ancient town that harbours unique ethnic languages, customs, and arts, as well as many distinctive architectural remains of Ming and Qing styles. Immerse yourself in this mysterious, elegant, and simple world, dominated by the colour green. The mountain slopes are covered with green foliage, the fields are green, and even Tuo Jiang River reflects the greenery.

Day 6: Fenghuang Yichang Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Travel by coach to Yichang, the economic and cultural centre of China's Hubei province and starting point of the Yangtze River adventure. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to the docks to board the luxury five-star **Yangtze River Cruise**. You will receive an introduction to all cruise events and activities on board.

Day 7-9: Yangtze River Cruise (B, L, D)

Enjoy a tour to the **Three Gorges Dam**, the world's largest, before continuing on the Yangtze River Cruise. Relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery over the next few days as you cross through the Yangtze **Three Gorges: Xiling Gorge, Wu Gorge, and Qutang Gorge**. Enjoy shore excursions to explore the area's fascinating history and the tranquil landscapes at your own leisure.

Day 10: Yangtze River Cruise Chongqing (B, L, D)

Disembark from the cruise in the port city of Chongqing this morning. Enjoy a short tour of the city's historic sites, including the **Residence of General Joseph W. Stilwell, People's Assembly Hall, and Hongya Cave**, followed by a famous Chongqing hot pot dinner in the evening.

Day 11: Chongqing Huanglong Jiuzhaigou (B, L, D)

Fly to Jiuzhai Huanglong Airport and travel by coach to Jiuzhaigou – Nine Villages Valley.

Day 12-13: Jiuzhaigou (B, L, D)

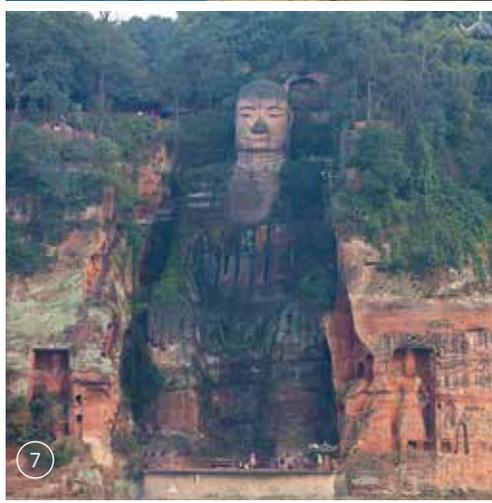
Explore **Nine Villages Valley Scenic Area**. The Nine Villages Valley is a great masterpiece of nature, with dreamlike scenery and abundant natural resources. It combines blue lakes, waterfalls, verdant forests, snow-covered mountains, and is home to the folk customs of the local Tibetan and Qiang peoples. Note: Due to a major earthquake in August 2017, some attractions are closed in Jiuzhaigou. Alternative destinations will be offered.

Day 14: Jiuzhaigou Huanglong Chengdu (B, L, D)

Travel to Huanglong. The 'World Wonder' and 'Fairy Land on Earth' are names enjoyed by the **Huanglong Scenic and Historic Interest Area**, which is renowned for its hundreds of sparkling mineral pools, where beautiful colours intertwine, and the water cascades down the mountains. From here, continue to the airport to board your flight to Chengdu, the capital of China's Sichuan province.

Day 15: Chengdu (B, L, D)

Today's highlight is a visit to the **Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding**. The best place to see Chengdu's most famous residents, it imitates the pandas' natural habitat to ensure they have the best possible environment for breeding and rearing young. The centre also cares for other rare and endangered wild animals. In the afternoon, explore the dynamic folk custom street **Jin Li**, and experience the lifestyle of Old Chengdu. This evening, you can enjoy a fascinating show featuring **Face Changing**, a traditional Chinese dramatic art that is the pride of Sichuan opera (at your own expense).



GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

2018 17 Apr* 12 Jun* 04 Sep*
15 May 14 Aug 16 Oct

2019 16 Apr 04 Jun 03 Sep
14 May 13 Aug 15 Oct

*Peak season surcharge: \$300
Single supplement: \$1350

DEPARTURE OPTIONS

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

INCLUSIONS

- + Full service Chinese carrier economy international airfares & taxes
- + 12 nights hotel accommodation
- + 4 nights standard Cabin with Private Balcony
- + 3 shore excursions (subject to change)
- + 16 breakfasts (B), 16 lunches (L) & 16 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: \$190
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

AIR UPGRADES (long haul int'l sectors)

- Economy class: Cathay Pacific/Singapore Air fr \$700
- Premium economy: Cathay Pacific fr \$2400
- Business class: China Eastern/Southern fr \$2800, 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)

Changsha	Changsha Country Garden Phoenix Hotel	5 ★
Zhangjiajie	Dacheng Shanshui Int'l Hotel	5 ★
Cruise	M.S. Yangtze 2 or similar DoubleTree by Hilton	5 ★
Chongqing	Chongqing North	5 ★
Jiuzhaigou	Sheraton Jiuzhaigou Resort	5 ★
Chengdu	Sheraton Chengdu Lido Hotel	5 ★
Mt. Emei	Huasheng Hotel	5 ★
Hong Kong	Harbour Plaza 8 Degrees	4 ★

OPTIONAL PROGRAMS

Zhangjiajie	Tianmen Fox Fairy	\$120
Chengdu	Face Changing SHOW	\$55



Day 16: Chengdu Leshan Mount Emei (B, L, D)

Travel by coach and boat to Leshan, and marvel at the **Grand Buddha**, an enormous statue carved into the side of the Lingyun Mountain. The Buddha is over 71m tall and is wide enough for over 100 people to sit between its feet. Later this afternoon, travel onwards to Mount Emei, one of Chinese Buddhism's most sacred sites.

Day 17: Mount Emei Chengdu (B, L, D)

Today, explore the magnificent mountain of **Mount Emei**. Towering, beautiful, ancient and mysterious, Mount Emei resembles an enormous green screen standing on the southwest of the Chengdu Plain. It is the highest among all the famous sightseeing mountains in China. Return to Chengdu in the evening.

Day 18: Depart Chengdu (B)

Enjoy the morning at leisure before you are transferred to Chengdu airport to board your overnight flight home via a connecting city. The trip may be over, but the experiences and memories will certainly last a lifetime.

Day 19: Arrive home

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. ver08MAY2018

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 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 after-world; 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.



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The **M.S. YANGTZE 2** is the biggest cruise ship on the Yangtze River, at 139m long and 13,000 tons. Debuting in 2011, the Yangtze 2 is spacious, luxurious, and truly modern. Private balconies are provided for all cabins. A number of cultural activities are provided covering topics such as Tai Chi & Chinese calligraphy, and there are daily performances. Aboard this 'floating 5 star hotel', you'll find shops, a day spa, beauty salon, sauna and massage therapists, as well as a business centre, library, cards and chess room, and cigar bar.



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

HONG KONG & MACAU EXTENSION

- from \$1299; single supplement \$320; includes
- + Cathay Pacific economy international airfares & taxes
- + 3 nights hotel accommodation (twin-share)
- + 3 breakfasts (B) & 1 Lunch (B)
- + Round trip airport & transfers
- + Half day Hong Kong Island sightseeing tour
- + Macau day tour, lunch & round trip ferry tickets

Day 18: Chengdu ✈️ Hong Kong (B)

Fly to Hong Kong, the gourmet and shopping paradise of Asia, and transfer to your hotel.

Day 19: Hong Kong (B)

Enjoy a half day tour of Hong Kong Island visiting **Victoria Peak, Stanley Market and Aberdeen Fishing Village**. Spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 20: Hong Kong 🚢 Macau 🚢 Hong Kong (B, L)

Today, take a high speed ferry (Turbojet) to Macau for a tour of Asia's equivalent to Las Vegas, visiting the Ruins of **St Paul's Cathedral, A Ma Temple, Barrier Gate, Senado Square, casinos** and souvenir stores. Enjoy lunch before returning to Hong Kong in the evening.

Day 21: Depart Hong Kong (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Hong Kong airport to board an overnight flight to Australia.

Day 22: Arrive Home

Images: 10. M.S. Yangtze 2, 11. Yangtze River Cruise, 12. Hong Kong night, 13. Victoria Peak, 14. Hong Kong street snacks, 15. Senado Square, 16. St Paul's Cathedral.



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 YOUR TRAVEL AGENT