

Taste of China 9 Days w/Flights

\$999.00

Beijing, Wuxi, Suzhou, Hangzhou

Tour Highlights:

- Walk on the incredible **Great Wall of China**, near Beijing
- Race across China on a **high-speed bullet train** from Beijing to Wuxi
- Uncover the mysteries of the **imperial Forbidden City**
- Sit by tranquil **West Lake in Hangzhou**, much admired by Marco Polo
- Stroll in one of the finest **Chinese classical gardens, in Suzhou**

Savour a taste 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, and discover three exquisite southeastern cities; Wuxi, Suzhou, and Hangzhou – long known for their natural beauty.

You'll also have the option to extend your tour to include dynamic, cosmopolitan Shanghai, including a trip to Disneyland!

Pace: Moderate – please be prepared for intervals of brisk walking and full days.

In stock

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

Departure Dates

2019			Twin Share PP	Single Supplement		
26 Feb	28 May	27 Aug	From \$999 Valued at \$1399	\$500		
05 Mar	04 Jun	03 Sep				
12 Mar	11 Jun	10 Sep				
19 Mar	18 Jun	17 Sep				
26 Mar	25 Jun	24 Sep				
02 Apr	02 Jul	01 Oct				
09 Apr	09 Jul	08 Oct				
16 Apr	16 Jul	15 Oct				
23 Apr	23 Jul	22 Oct				
30 Apr	30 Jul	29 Oct				
07 May	06 Aug	05 Nov				
14 May	13 Aug	12 Nov				
21 May	20 Aug	19 Nov				
* = Peak Season Surcharge: \$300pp ~ = Yangtze River Cruise extension is not available						

Package Inclusions:

- Airfares, taxes & fuel surcharges from Sydney or Melbourne with a full service Chinese carrier
 - Eg. China Southern/Eastern Airlines, Air China, China/Hainan/Sichuan/Xiamen Airlines (subject to availability)
- 7 nights 3-4 star (local rating) hotel accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- High-speed bullet train
- Round trip airport & hotel transfers
- Air conditioned coach transportation
 - Baggage limit: 1 piece 20kg per person
- All sightseeing & entrance fees
- English-speaking tour guide(s)

Package Exclusions:

- Prepaid tipping: \$80pp
- China visa (required)
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses & anything optional

Price Guide:

- Airline upgrade[^]: Cathay Pacific, Singapore Airlines from \$300pp
- Interstate surcharge: Brisbane/Adelaide/Perth \$300pp (flights may be via Sydney or Melbourne)
- Early arrival/stay behind surcharge: From \$250pp
- Pre & post tour accommodation w/breakfast: \$150/twin room/night
 - Optional private transfers \$120/vehicle for 3 persons/way
- Child price: Same as adult
- Triple share: Available (rollaway bedding)
- Group size: Up to 48 passengers

Please note:

All prices are subject to availability & applicable fare difference.

[^] = International long haul sectors only.

~ = Yangtze River Cruise extension is not available.

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

All prices are per person twin-share 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. Flights are not available until approximately two weeks before departure and may involve up to two transits per leg. Please check all information before booking. By booking, you accept all **Booking Conditions**.

Tour Extensions

Xi'an 3 Day Pre-tour Extension from \$590

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

Shanghai 3 Day Post-Tour extension from \$333pp

Shanghai

Immerse yourself in dynamic, cosmopolitan Shanghai with this exciting tour extension. For many years, Shanghai was China's window to the world, hosting large foreign settlements while the rest of the country was off-limits. Once holding a reputation as a pit of vice and corruption, and the site of fierce battles against invading Japan and between China's Nationalists and Communists, this ancient city is now China's showpiece to the world and a financial and industrial powerhouse to rival any other. An exciting trip to Disneyland Shanghai may also be added as an optional activity.

For details, tap the image above or click here.

Yangtze River Cruise 4/5 Day Post-Tour extension from \$950pp

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.

NOTE: Hangzhou to Yichang is by high-speed train. If combined with the Shanghai with Disneyland extension, Shanghai to Yichang is by air.

For details, tap the image above or click here.

Stopover Packages

Hong Kong Stopover from \$399pp

Once a sleepy fishing village, Hong Kong has developed into one of the premier financial powerhouses of the Far East. It is a city which boldly blends modernity with Chinese heritage and British colonial influence. A safe, well organised, fast paced shopping paradise, it also offers up some unmatched cuisine experiences.

For details, tap the image above or click here.

Optional Programs

These special programs can be prepaid in Australia more than 30 days before departure. Note: If certain activities or shows are unavailable, a similar alternative will be provided.

Beijing	Forbidden City Tour	\$80pp
Beijing	Peking Duck Dinner	\$40pp
Beijing	The Golden Mask Dynasty	\$75pp
Beijing	Hutong Life & Panda House Tour w/Lunch	\$80pp
Beijing	Chinese Kung Fu Show	\$75pp
Wuxi	Grand Canal Cruise	\$35pp

Wuxi	Jiangnan Dumpling Lunch	\$25pp
Suzhou	Western Buffet Dinner	\$40pp
Hangzhou	Impression West Lake or similar	\$80pp

Hotel Accommodation

Beijing	Beijing Ramada by Wyndham Beijing North or similar
Wuxi	Wuxi Holiday Inn Express or similar
Suzhou	Ramada by Wyndham Suzhou or similar
Hangzhou	Hangzhou Starway Hotel Hangzhou (formally Meiziqing Hotel Hangzhou) or similar

Day 1: Australia ✈ Beijing

Fly to **Beijing** via connecting cities and transfer to the hotel. Beijing, China's massive capital, has a history stretching back three millennia, and since the 2008 Olympic Games, it has been known for its modern architecture as well as grand ancient sites such as the Forbidden City complex, the imperial palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

Please note: Some flights may depart the night before.

Day 2: Beijing (B)

After breakfast, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second-largest public square in the world! Tiananmen Square is named after the Tiananmen (Gate of Heavenly Peace) located to the north of the square, separating it from the Forbidden City. The square contains the Monument to the People's Heroes, the National Museum of China and the Mausoleum of Chairman Mao Zedong, and holds great cultural significance as it was the site of several important events in Chinese history.

Optional Program: Forbidden City Tour – Continue on to the incredible Forbidden City, a true architectural masterpiece, and the imperial palace from the Ming to the Qing dynasty (1420 to 1912). The complex is home to the National Palace Museum, and consists of 980 buildings covering 72 ha (over 180 acres). The Forbidden City was declared a World Heritage Site in 1987 and is listed by UNESCO as the largest collection of preserved ancient wooden structures in the world!

Optional Program: Peking Duck Dinner – Tonight, head out for a Beijing speciality which is one of the most famous Chinese dishes, Peking Duck.

Day 3: Beijing (B)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall of China at Juyong Pass**. This is one of the three most famous passes along the Wall, together with Jiayuguan and Shanhaiguan. Just 60 km from downtown Beijing, Juyong Pass was the northern route to Beijing in ancient times. Once here, there is plenty of time to learn about the wall's construction and you'll have the chance to climb a portion of this 6,000 km marvel.

On the way back to Beijing, we stop at one of the largest jade exhibitions in Asia. Then, after lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a cloisonné factory. Cloisonné is a famous traditional enamel ware, known as the 'Blue of Jingtai' in China, with a history of over 500 years. It was so called because blue was the colour typically used for enamelling, and Jingtai was the reign title of the 7th Ming Emperor.

Optional Program: The Golden Mask Dynasty – This phenomenal show incorporates dancing, acrobatics, magnificent costumes and lot of surprises. Seen by an estimated 1.1 million people, it is one of Beijing's must-see shows.

Day 4: Beijing (B)

Enjoy a tour to the **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient garden in China and a former summer resort for Emperors followed by a visit to a Chinese Herbal Medicine Institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine, which has existed for thousands of years, as you enjoy a rejuvenating foot massage.

Optional Program: Hutong Life & Panda House Tour w/Lunch – A rickshaw will take you around the intricate winding hutongs to admire these old courtyard dwellings, built during the Mongol Yuan Dynasty. Even today, when many have been developed into upscale restaurants, tea houses, and boutiques, many residents are reluctant to move from their beloved hutongs. On this tour, you are invited to visit a local family's house to experience authentic 'old Beijing' life. Next, visit the Panda House in Beijing Zoo to see China's adorable national treasure – the Giant Panda.

Optional Program: Chinese Kung Fu Show – This show is an energetic mix of traditional Chinese martial arts, dance and high-flying acrobatics set in a modern theatre. Combined with an excellent storyline, exceptional stage design and professional actors this show is not to be missed for kung-fu enthusiasts or those seeking a thrilling performance.

Day 5: Beijing – 🚄 Bullet Train – Wuxi (B)

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, we will stroll along the trendy yet traditional Nanchang Street, composed of both ancient and modern architecture, and juxtaposed with the peaceful atmosphere of the waterside town and fashionable life of Wuxi.

Optional Program: Jiangnan Dumpling Lunch – Enjoy a traditional lunch that includes the famous xiao long bao, a Chinese steamed bun filled with minced pork and tasty soup, prepared in a small bamboo steaming basket (xiao long).

Day 6: Wuxi 🚗 Suzhou (B)

This morning, visit one of the largest freshwater pearl exhibitions in the country. After lunch, travel by coach to **Suzhou**, an elegant city with 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.

Optional Program: Grand Canal Cruise – Take a cruise along the UNESCO World Heritage listed Grand Canal of over a thousand years to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday.

Optional Program: Western Buffet Dinner – Enjoy a sumptuous western style buffet dinner with at your hotel, a relaxing way to wind down the day.

Day 7: Suzhou 🚗 Hangzhou (B)

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.

Optional Program: Impression West Lake - This evening, enjoy an open-air performance, a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, acclaimed film and theatre director, and architect of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony.

Day 8: Hangzhou ✈ Australia (B)

Today after breakfast you will depart Hangzhou for your return flight/s home via connecting cities. If time permits, you will experience tea-tasting at the **Dragon Well Tea Plantation** before departure.

Day 9: ✈ Australia

Arrive back in Australia today.