

M A J E S T I C T O U R

Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin & Shanghai

OCTOBER 2016

YOUR QUICK VIEW ITINERARY



October 6	Thursday	Arrive Beijing	VIP Airport Pickup Transfer to Four Seasons Hotel
October 7	Friday	Beijing	Tian'anmen Square Forbidden City & Chonghuagong Access Hutong Tour
October 8	Saturday	Beijing	Great Wall & Banquet
October 9	Sunday	Beijing	Panjiayuan Market Summer Palace
October 10	Monday	Beijing Xi'an	Temple of Heaven Fly to Xi'an Transfer to Sofitel Legend People's Grand Hotel Dumpling-Making Lesson Dinner



YOUR QUICK VIEW ITINERARY

October 11	Tuesday	Xi'an Guilin	Terracotta Warriors Fly to Guilin Transfer to Banyan Tree Resort
October 12	Wednesday	Guilin	Bamboo Raft Ride Village Visit
October 13	Thursday	Guilin Shanghai	Morning at Leisure Fly to Shanghai Transfer to Peninsula Hotel
October 14	Friday	Shanghai	Colonial Architecture Tour with Expert Former French Concession Acrobatic Show
October 15	Saturday	Shanghai	Shanghai Museum Yu Gardens
October 16	Sunday	Shanghai	Depart China



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

BEIJING



Beijing Airport

DAY 1

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6

Upon arrival at **Beijing** International Airport, you will be met at the gate by airport VIP staff, holding a sign with your name, who will lead you through immigration, baggage claim and customs.

After transferring to the hotel, you will have the remainder of the evening at leisure (no other services included this evening).

(Please note that this itinerary assumes one transfer per room; additional transfers will be subject to an extra charge.)

(Four Seasons Hotel – Deluxe Room)

BEIJING



Forbidden City

DAY 2

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

B / L / D

Whether by force of irony or expediency, China's government has been located in the same area continuously for over six hundred years. You will walk back in time; strolling across **Tian'anmen Square**, one of the largest squares of the modern era, you will pass the Monument to the People's Heroes - - dedicated to the ravages of the hundred year long Opium War -- and finally enter the ancient epicenter of Imperial Power, the **Forbidden City**.

We arrange for special access to **Chonghuagong**, a section of the Forbidden City that is normally closed to the general public. Please note that Chonghuagong is filled with antiques and in the event that the weather is particularly rainy/humid, the authorities will not grant access.

In the afternoon, we explore **old Peking's traditional alleyways** (called *hutong*). Our visit to the Hutong Museum shows how China's revolutionary politics changed these residential areas. After, we compare these developments to the now gentrified areas by the Imperial lake; bicycle repair stalls make way for double car garages, the din of bustling crowds is appeased by the trill of birdsong and disheveled structures yield to beautifully restored exclusive courtyard homes, now once more housing the business and political leaders of China.

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

The long awaited flagship hotel for the Four Seasons. Service is impeccable and rooms stylish and familiar.

IMPERIAL AMENITIES

- Buffet breakfast for two
- In-room wifi access

LOCATION

Close to the north embassy district with convenient access to the airport.

ROOMS

334

www.fourseasons.com



B / L / D denoted breakfast, lunch, and dinner

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

BEIJING



Great Wall

DAY 3

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

B / L

Today, you will visit the **Great Wall of China**. Built to protect China from the incursions of predatory nomads, the utility and meaning of this fortification has been contested for centuries. The unprecedented scale and unexpected charm of the Great Wall may inspire you. The section that we most highly recommend is the further away, about 2.5 hours drive, but is generally considered one of the most beautiful sections of the Great Wall. Once there, you will be treated to a **private banquet on the Wall** itself (weather permitting). After lunch you will be given some time for a stroll along this most magnificent of sites.

[Dinner at Leisure]

BEIJING



Summer Palace

DAY 4

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9

B / L / D

For shoppers, Beijing's largest **open-air market** will come close to paradise. Here you will mingle with Beijingers, overseas and local art dealers as well as farmers who import goods from the countryside. This is your opportunity to buy a Ming dynasty set of the Confucianist classics for a song or else, and more likely, to buy from an astonishingly rich variety of Chinese and Tibetan cultural objects (at usually a tenth the price found in the U.S. and at often half the price found at local shops). For non-shoppers, this market can be thought of as China's largest museum of modern cultural life, where you can see, talk to and photograph a wide range of local and regional Chinese going about their daily lives and business.

Afterwards, we take a tour of the Imperial **Summer Palace**, a retreat said to have been given to the Empress Dowager Cixi in return for political favors. Whether or not you believe the popular demonization of this female leader, she certainly had taste. Her enchanting mansion, set on 700 acres of land, incorporates stunning temples, arched bridges, capacious pavilions and the world's longest covered corridor, all within a landscape crafted according to the dictates of fengshui.

BEIJING OPTIONALS

1. *Diplomatic Pick-up*



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

BEIJING XI'AN



Temple of Heaven

DAY 5

MONDAY OCTOBER 10 B/L/D

This morning we will visit the **Temple of Heaven** – a Confucianist complex spanning 670 acres – created for the exclusive use of the Emperor as a place to mediate affairs between God and man. Morning is a wonderful time to visit the Temple as you will see local Beijingers out doing their morning exercises.

This afternoon, you will fly to **Xi'an**, where in the evening you will enjoy a private **dumpling-making and noodle-throwing lesson** by expert chefs.

(Sofitel Legend People's Grand Hotel – Superior Room)

XI'AN GUILIN



Terracotta Warriors

DAY 6

TUESDAY OCTOBER 11 B/L/D

Competing Chinese kingdoms were united for the first time within a Chinese empire by the virile King Zheng, of the Kingdom of Qin. Many claim that this first Imperial dynasty of "Qin" (pronounced "chin") gives English the etymological root for the name "China". China's first ever Emperor, known as Qinshihuangdi, designated Xi'an the capital of his rule. He arranged for an underground army to be buried in his tomb. These are the stunning **Terracotta Warriors**, which you will visit this morning.

In the afternoon we fly south towards the Guangxi Autonomous Region. "I often sent pictures of the hills of **Guilin** which I painted to friends back home," wrote Song Dynasty (960-1279 CE) scholar Fan Chengda, "but few believed what they saw." Take a stroll around the grounds and the neighboring countryside to savor the China of traditional scroll paintings: poetic karst landscapes where peasants and water buffaloes plow the fields.

Upon arrival, you will be joined by a locally based guide and transferred to your hotel.

(Banyan Tree Resort – Mountain View Suite)

SOFITEL LEGEND PEOPLE'S GRAND HOTEL

The first hotel in a landmark building in Xi'an. This hotel has all the makings to become one of the hotels in the country with private butler service in all rooms and décor that exudes luxury.

IMPERIAL AMENITIES

-Buffet breakfast for two

LOCATION

Very central within the city wall.

ROOMS

71

www.sofitel.com



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

G U I L I N



Lush Guilin Countryside

DAY 7

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12 B / L

A glance at a Chinese 20-yuan bill will identify the scenery through which we are cruising today: that of the Li River system, where you will take a leisurely ride on a traditional **bamboo raft**. This emerald ribbon meanders through a multitude of hills and peaks mirrored by the water below. On drizzly days, the mists embrace the peaks and lend the scenery an eerie beauty.

In the afternoon, you will travel far from the tourist trail and deep into the countryside for a rare view of **agricultural life**. Despite China's global superpower status and ongoing economic miracle, between 600 and 800 million out of 1.3 billion people continue to work in this sector. You will wander through the rice paddies and learn how to make soy milk and tofu from villagers.

[Dinner at Leisure]

G U I L I N S H A N G H A I



Yulong River

DAY 8

THURSDAY OCTOBER 13 B / L

This morning has been left free, and with good reason. This is one of your best chances to enjoy a little down time. You may wish to go for a swim in one of the hotels pools or perhaps take a stroll along the river.

Following lunch we fly you to **Shanghai**. This city will take your breath away. Since the early 80's Shanghai has been growing like no other, the Pudong waterfront becoming as emblematic of economic prowess as that of Manhattan or Hong Kong. Before dinner, you will have a chance to walk or drive along the Bund, taking in some of the loveliest buildings in the city.

(Peninsula Hotel – Deluxe Riverview Room)

[Dinner at Leisure]

BANYAN TREE YANGSHUO

This newly opened scenic resort has luxurious private suites and villas that follow the design of local architecture. With mesmerizing views of the karst scenery immortalized in traditional scroll paintings this will be the perfect place to relax.

IMPERIAL AMENITIES

- Buffet breakfast for two
- In-room wifi access

LOCATION

In Yangshuo County

ROOMS

142 suites and villas
www.banyantree.com



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

S H A N G H A I



Acrobatic Show

DAY 9

FRIDAY OCTOBER 14

B / L

Your tour of Shanghai begins with a **lecture/tour on colonial architecture** in Shanghai given by a member of the Shanghai Historical Society. This tour will take you into some of the most important buildings along the Bund and French Concessions including the former Hong Kong Shanghai Bank.

En route to lunch, we will travel along sycamore-lined boulevards into the heart of the **Former French Concession**. This section of the “Paris of the Orient” now hosts many arts-based businesses and art galleries that we can visit if you so desire. The afternoon will be spent discovering some of Shanghai’s great shopping treasures. This might include a contemporary ceramics shop, the private studio of a renowned fashion designer or a shop selling cashmere for children.

In the evening, you will be taken to witness the marvelous stunts of the **Acrobatic Show**.

[Dinner at Leisure]

S H A N G H A I



Shanghai Museum

DAY 10

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15

B / L / D

Today we take you to visit the **Shanghai Museum**, one of the most modern in the country. Arranged by category rather than according to a chronology, its collection introduces and elucidates the gamut of Chinese arts from ceramics to jade and ivory carvings to paintings.

In the afternoon we will visit the **Yu Gardens**, one of the best examples of traditional Chinese garden design in the country. Afterwards, you will have some time to stroll through Shanghai’s Old Quarter.

Dinner takes place at one of our favorite Shanghai restaurants, boasting a magnificent view over the Bund and Pudong waterfronts.

PENINSULA HOTEL

The Shanghai Peninsula evokes the Art Deco era. Comfortable rooms are equipped with the latest room technology featuring low cost, IP telephone calling and free internet service.

IMPERIAL AMENITIES

- American breakfast for two
- In-room wifi access
- Long distance calls via VOIP

LOCATION

North end of the Bund

ROOMS

235

www.peninsula.com



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

S H A N G H A I



Shanghai Pudong Skyline

DAY 11

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

B

This morning, you will be transferred to the airport in time for your international flight home. (Please note that this itinerary assumes one transfer per room; additional transfers will be subject to an extra charge.)



B / L / D denoted breakfast, lunch, and dinner

APPENDIX I

LIST OF OPTIONALS

We have not included the optional experiences that follow below in our quoted price, but encourage you to consider commissioning these in order to enhance further your experience of China.

B E I J I N G

DIPLOMATIC CHANNEL

You will be met off the jet bridge and whisked through the airport's Diplomatic Channel. No need to wait in line for Customs and Immigration, and no need to walk through the car park. Your car will be waiting for you at the airport exit (please note that this service is only available between 7:30 am – 10:00 pm). (CNY1,010 per person)

TOUR QUOTATION

CNY 55,055 (Approx. USD 8,870*) per person based on double occupancy;

CNY 13,220 (Approx. USD 2,130*) per person
for upgrades to suites at all hotels;

CNY 17,535 (Approx. USD 2,825) single supplement
for anyone requiring a single occupancy room

CNY 10,320 (Approx. USD 1,665*) per person
for upgrades to first class on internal flights;

**Tour size limited to 14 persons

** Should you wish so we can suggest pre or post-tour itineraries on a private tour basis.

**Please note that this non-RMB price uses the exchange rate of September 1st, 2014. Since foreign exchange rates are constantly fluctuating, the price in your home currency will be determined by the exchange rate on the day of payment, using the official exchange rate supplied by www.xe.com/uccl. Please note that all credit cards will be charged in U.S. dollars (USD). We accept checks drawn on bank accounts in the United States. Wire transfer payments may be made in your home currency.*

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- 10 nights accommodation in outstanding five star hotels
- 10 breakfasts (buffet breakfast), 9 lunches, 5 dinners at our carefully selected restaurants (including local mineral water, soft drinks and local beer)
- Services of a Western bilingual China Host and local tour guides
- 2 internal flights in economy class (Beijing/Xi'an, Xi'an/Guilin, Guilin/Shanghai) and land transportation (as listed in the itinerary)
- Entrance fees to all tourist sites (as listed on the itinerary)
- Gratuities to the local guides and drivers
- Baggage handling, guide & driver gratuities, hotel & domestic airport taxes

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- International airfare to/from China, visa processing fees, travel insurance
- Personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages, imported mineral waters, excess luggage fees, telephone charges, room service and laundry charges
- Optionals
- Gratuities to the China Host

PAYMENT

In conformity with our participation in the Travel Money Protection Plan - regarded as the most secure consumer protection plan in the travel industry - all funds paid to us, whether by check, credit card or wire transfer will be deposited in a "true" escrow account, held at the Shelby Financial Corporation/Bank of America, until after the completion of your trip. We accept check, wire transfer, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover. A deposit amount of 10% is due at the time of booking. The remaining 90% of the tour price can be settled 60 days prior to tour departure.

Please note that no arrangements have been made and are not guaranteed until Imperial Tours receives a deposit.

CANCELLATION CHARGES

- Should you decide to cancel your tour between the time of deposit and 90 days prior to the tour, you will forfeit USD150 per person, between 90 and 60 days prior to departure, you will forfeit your deposit, between 60 and 30 days prior to departure, you will forfeit 25% of the tour price, between 30 and 15 days you will forfeit 50% of the tour price, from 14 days or less, you will forfeit 70% of the tour price and from 3 days or less, you will forfeit 100% of the tour price.
- All notices of cancellation must be written to be effective. The date of cancellation will be the date of reception by Imperial Tours' personnel.

