



## China Connoisseur and Tibet

### Day-to-Day Itinerary

#### **Day 1, U.S./Beijing**

- Depart from U.S. and take Air China non-stop flight to Beijing.

#### **Day 2-5, Beijing**

*Beijing, the 800-year-old ancient capital of China, is the exuberant heart of the Middle Kingdom. With thirteen million residents, it is the living epitome of China's past, future and everything in between. Peninsula Palace Hotel, 4 nights*

- Day 2, arrive in Beijing. Meet the guide and transfer to hotel. Dinner provided. D
- Day 3, visit the **Forbidden City**, a magnificent palace built between 1406 and 1421, from which 24 emperors ruled China for 500 years. Continue to the historic landmark **Tian-An-Men Square**. Rest in the afternoon. Welcome Dinner: [Beijing Roast Duck](#) B/L/D
- Day 4, climb the **Great Wall**, the only visible human construction from the moon. Built in 600 B.C., it once stretched for over 6,000 miles. B/L
- Day 5, take a Rickshaw **Hutong Tour** among the old courtyard homes bordering the Forbidden City. Visit the **Summer Palace**. Special Dinner: [Royal Fang Shan](#) B/L/D

#### **Day 6-7, Xian**

*Xian, the ancient capital of eleven dynasties from the first Chinese Emperor to the Tang Dynasty in the 9<sup>th</sup> century, where the legendary Silk Road set off. Hyatt Hotel, 2 nights*

- Day 6, fly to Xian. Visit the **Wild Goose Pagoda** and the Ancient Ramparts of Changan. [Xian Ravioli Banquet](#) B/L/D
- Day 7, explore one of the most stunning archeological discoveries in the 20<sup>th</sup> century – the **Terracotta Warriors**. This legendary, life-size terracotta army was created to protect the tomb of Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor of China who conquered seven rival kingdoms and united China as one nation in 221 B.C. Visit the **Great Mosque** (founded in 742). [Tang Dynasty Music & Dance](#) B/L/D

#### **Day 8-10, Tibet**

*Lhasa, capital of Tibet, is the home of six million Tibetan Buddhists. The unique spiritual civilization makes the land majestic and unearthly beautiful, which even let you feel that*



*the world of spirit seems more real than the world of human being.* Lhasa Hotel (best local 4-star), 3 nights

- Day 8, fly to Lhasa. Rest at hotel to adjust for high altitude. B/L
- Day 9, visit **Tibet Museum** and the **Norbulingka** -- “the summer palace of Dalai Lama”. This afternoon journey to the **Jokhang Temple**, built 1,300 years ago to commemorate the marriage of the Chinese Princess Wencheng to the Tibetan King Songtsen Gampo. Later tour the **Barkhor Market** and visit a Tibetan family. B/L/D
- Day 10, explore one of the world’s architectural wonders – the **Potala Palace**. This immense palace is thirteen stories high with over 1,000 rooms including the Dalai Lama’s residence, tombs and numerous prayer halls. Watch Tibetan monks chant prayers at the **Sera Monastery**. **Tibetan Dinner & Dance** B/L/D

### **Day 11-12, Chengdu**

*Chengdu, hometown of giant panda and famous Sichuan food, is the capital of China’s Sichuan Province.* JingJiang Hotel, 2 nights

- Day 11, fly to Chengdu. **Sichuan Dinner** B/L/D
- Day 12, explore **Giant Panda Breeding Center**. Free in the afternoon. B/L

### **Day 13-14, Guilin**

*Guilin, famous for its spectacular limestone karst formations, formed millions of years ago and eroded over the ages by the elements, has been the inspiration for generations of Chinese painters and poets.* Sheraton Hotel, 2 nights

- Day 13, fly to Guilin. After arrival, visit the **Reed Flute Cave**, the Elephant Trunk Hill and the Solitary Beauty Peak. B/L/D
- Day 14, **cruise on the Li River** from Guilin to Yangshuo. The picturesque Li River winds its way through the pointed, craggy hills, rice paddies, sugar loafs, beautiful limestone rock formations. End your cruise with an exploration of the small and charming market town of Yangshuo. B/L/D

### **Day 15-16, Shanghai**

*With sixteen million residents, Shanghai is now the engine and the showcase of tremendous economic development in modern China. Set against 100-year European colony architecture in the Bund, the avant-garde futurist skyscrapers on the east bank of the Huang Pu River reflects its ambitious dream to regain the title of “Oriental Pearl”.* Ritz Carlton, 2 nights

- Day 15, fly to Shanghai. Stroll along the beautiful waterfront **Bund** and thorough **Old Town**. Later, walking through twisted alleys, narrow streets and tiny shops,



we find ourselves in front of the extraordinary **Yu Garden**, built in 1577.  
[Shanghai Acrobat](#) B/L/D

- Day 16, explore the **Shanghai Museum** for its magnificent collection of jade, bronze, furniture and Chinese painting and calligraphy. Free in the afternoon. Farewell Dinner in Old Town: [Lu Bou Lang Restaurant](#) B/L/D

#### **Day 17, Shanghai/U.S.**

- Transfer to airport for flying back to U.S. B