



A section of the Great Wall of China



CAPITAL CITY:

Beijing

LANGUAGE: Mandarin Chinese, Shanghai-, Canton-, Fukien-, Hakka- dialects, Tibetan, Vigus (Turkic)

CURRENCY: Yuan
CNY10 = ZAR11.16

VISA:
Visa is required for SA Passport Holders

AREA:
9, 596, 960 km²

TIME DIFFERENCE:
SA time + 6 hours

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
None



Shanghai, situated on the estuary of the Yangtze River of China, this is a multi-cultural metropolis with both modern and traditional Chinese features. A city with three key features: shopping, business and sightseeing. Nanjing Road is a must for all shopping enthusiasts. With sites like the Shanghai Museum, Yuyuan Garden, Oriental TV Tower and Jingmao Building.

X'ian, the eternal city is the largest metropolis in north western China and a world renowned ancient capital. Visit the famous underground army of the Terracotta Warriors, praised as the eighth major miracle of the world, the Greater Wild Goose Pagoda, Banpo Village and the old quarter and Bell Tower.

Guangzhou, otherwise known as Canton, is a famous historical city. Sights include Dr Sun Yatsen's Memorial, Chen Family's Temple and Banyan's Temple. Today it retains its ancient customs but is also still a large city full of vigor and current fashions. Canton is also very popular for its Trade Fair which is held twice a year in Spring and Autumn and is China's largest trade fair of the highest level.

WHAT THINGS COST

These prices are an average price and may vary according to areas, hotels and season. (US Dollars)

Glass of wine:	US\$ 4.50
Beer:	US\$ 1.50
Tea / coffee:	US\$ 3.50
Soft drinks:	US\$ 1.50
Local menu (lunch):	US\$ 7
Dinner (local menu):	US\$ 9

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

China has great climatic variation, from tropical conditions in the south to a cold climate in the north, northeast and northwest. Northern winters fall between December and March, with temperatures below freezing. Summer is from April to August and is hot and humid. Rains are mostly in July and August, the south can be wet at times in the winter and the northern regions are cold and dry. The best time to visit is March to May is Spring-time and September to October in Autumn.

China is a country of great contrasts and a very different destination with its vast, picturesque rural landscapes, congested cities and natural beauty. With sites that will evoke your curiosity and stir your emotions whilst holding you enraptured for many days thereafter. Timeless and mystical, China offers unlimited experiences and adventure. A country rich in cultural treasures with a mind-blowing history, involving the rise and fall of many Chinese dynasties.

Visit the following cities whilst in China:

Beijing, is the capital of the People's Republic of China and has a population of over 14 million. It is a favoured city of wide, tree-lined boulevards with both ancient and modern neighbourhoods. One of the six ancient cities in China, it offers ancient architecture, temples, palaces, royal gardens as well as modern mansions and structures. Visit the great-wall of China, the Forbidden City, Ming Tombs and Summer Palace where you become engrossed in the story of Empress Dowager Cixi who is remembered as one of history's most monstrous women, seducing and murdering her way to the throne in 1861 to rule China for more than 50 years.

2008 Canton Trade Fair dates: (Subject to change)
15-21 April and 25-30 April
15-21 October and 25-31 October

Festivals:
Chinese New Year - starts in the first day of the Lunar calendar, usually in Jan/Feb
Lantern Festival - Around mid February to mid March
Tomb Sweeping Day - April, when families spend the day tending to the graves of departed loved ones.
Temple & moon-based festivities - These include the Birthday of Confucius (28 Sep) and more.

China Tours

Beautiful Beijing

4 Days / 3 Nights



Day 01

- Arrival in Beijing and transfer to hotel

Day 02

- Sightseeing takes you to Tiananmen Square, the world's largest plaza, the legendary once Forbidden City, whose acres of splendid 15th century halls and pavilions graced with imperial treasures now comprise the Palace Museum and The Temple of Heaven.



Day 03

- A memorable daylong excursion combines a visit to the soul-stirring Great Wall, like a winding dragon across northern China - only earthly evidence of men, visible from space.
- Walk along the Sacred Way, guarded by sculpted stone animals, which are a photographer's delight.



Day 04

- Enjoy a morning visit to the Summer Palace, a breathtaking arrangement of lake and landscape, pagodas and pavilions.
- A boat ride on the Kunming Lake inside the palace, which was ordered to be built by using the fund planned to build the Chinese navy in the 1900s. Transfer to airport for departure.

from US\$ 448 pp

China Wonder

8 Days / 7 Nights



Day 01

- Arrival in Beijing and transfer to hotel

Day 02

- Sightseeing takes you to Tiananmen Square, the world's largest plaza, the legendary once Forbidden City, whose acres of splendid 15th century halls and pavilions graced with imperial treasures now comprise the Palace Museum and The Temple of Heaven.

Day 03

- A memorable daylong excursion combines a visit to the soul-stirring Great Wall
- Walk along the Sacred Way, guarded by sculpted stone animals, a photographer's delight, to the Ming Tombs.

Day 04

- Visit the Summer Palace, thereafter a boat ride on the Kunming Lake.
- Transfer to airport and flight to Xi'an, ancient capital for 11 imperial dynasties and the cradle of Chinese civilization.

Day 05

- Experience awe of seeing the individually sculpted, life-sized terracotta warriors.
- Visit to Huaqing Hot Spring, a magnificent summer residence for Tang emperors.
- Tang Dynasty Palatial dinner and show.

Day 06

- Visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, the Bell Tower and the Great Mosque.
- Fly to Shanghai and transfer to your hotel.
- Dinner and a tour to the Bund, the former foreign settlement.
- Visit Nanjing Road, praised as the '5th Avenue' of the East.

Day 07

- Visit the Jade Buddha Temple, and the Yuyuan Garden at the 'Old Quarter'.
- Watch the world famous Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe perform at Shanghai Opera House.

Day 08

- Morning at leisure. Transfer to airport for return flight home.

INCLUDES:

- Flights from Beijing to Xi'an and Xi'an to Shanghai in economy class
- All transfers and tours
- 7 nights accommodation & breakfast daily. (Excludes flights into Beijing & out of Shanghai.)

from US\$ 1446 pp

Scenic Panda Tour

8 Days / 7 Nights



Day 01

- Arrive Chengdu and transfer to Crown Plaza Chengdu

Day 02

- Depart for Wulong Panda Reserve, en route, visit Dujiangyan Irrigation System on the Minjiang River.
- Travel through spectacular mountain scenery to Wulong Nature Reserve and overnight at the newly refurbished Wulong hotel, where a Sichuan dinner is served.

Day 03

- A visit to China Research & Conservation Centre for the Giant Pandas.
- After a brief relaxation at your hotel (Crown Plaza Chengdu), visit a genuine Sichuan teahouse, followed by dinner.
- Sichuan Opera show

Day 04

- Brief Chengdu City Tour in the morning and afternoon transfer to the airport for your flight to Guilin.
- Accommodation at Sheraton Guilin Hotel

Day 05

- Enjoy a cruise (with lunch en-route) down the fabled Li River through a surrealistic landscape of limestone karst formations.
- Observe life in the rural south.
- After approximately 6 hours, the boat ties up at Yangshou, a market town, where you can find souvenir bargains aplenty.

Day 06

- Free morning to discover this scenic town. In the afternoon, visit a tea farm for a tea ceremony. Discover the Reed Flute Caves, spectacularly lit by pastel lights.
- Visit the Seven Star Park (Bonsai Garden) & The Elephant Trunk Hill.
- Dinner, transfer to airport for your flight to Hong Kong. Meet and transfer to Metro Park Hotel.

Day 07 & 08

- At leisure in Hong Kong until transfer to airport

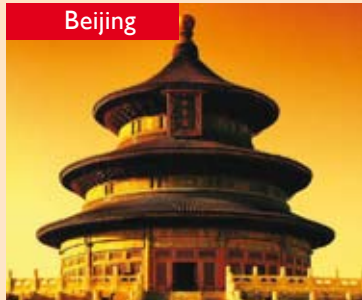
INCLUDES:

- Internal flights between Hong Kong, Chengdu & Guilin on Dragon Air
- Accommodation at deluxe & superior hotels
- All transfers and sightseeing points with English speaking guide
- All entrance fees.

from US\$ 1856 pp

Exploring China

Beijing



★★★★ Novotel Xinqiao Hotel - Beijing

LOCATION: Situated close to Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven with easy access to shopping and business centres.

ACCOMMODATION: A big hotel with 700 rooms in total, 31 of them suites. Rooms offer all the usual comforts expected from a 4* property with the convenience of WiFi internet access.

FACILITIES: The Novotel features 3 restaurants, a lobby bar, health centre, spa, sauna and outdoor tennis court. *from US\$ 124 per room per night*



★★★★ Prime Hotel - Beijing

LOCATION: In Beijing's business, cultural and shopping district Wangfujing Avenue, with easy access to all the famous attractions.

ACCOMMODATION: 400 air-conditioned guest rooms with satellite TV with CNN & HBC, mini-bar, safe, hairdryers and many other amenities.

FACILITIES: There are 4 restaurants, serving Mexican, Cantonese and international cuisines. Leisure facilities include an indoor heated pool, gymnasium, beauty parlour, sauna and 24 hour room service.

from US\$ 154 per room per night

Guangzhou



★★★ New Mainland Hotel - Guangzhou

LOCATION: Surrounding New Mainland Fashion Plaza, Liu Hua Park and situated close to the railway station. Only 2kms from the city centre and 40kms from the airport.

ACCOMMODATION: The 120 newly decorated rooms, have TV, air-conditioning, IDD telephone, laundry and internet access.

FACILITIES: Fitness centre, chess and poker room, beauty salon, pool room, table tennis, business centre and shopping arcade. Dining options include a Tea and Dim Sum restaurant serving Cantonese favourites, as well as a Western-style food restaurant. *from US\$ 82 per room per night*



★★★★ Huashi Hotel - Guangzhou

LOCATION: 50 kms from the Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport. Close by to the university, it owns the largest garden in Guangzhou with giant trees and colourful flowers.

ACCOMMODATION: Newly opened in 2005, this hotel has 200 rooms. It is a multifunctional and well-equipped luxury business hotel built according to four-star international standards. Rooms are air-conditioned and feature satellite TV, DDD/IDD and broadband internet access.

FACILITIES: These include a Chinese and Western restaurant.

from US\$ 87 per room per night

Shanghai



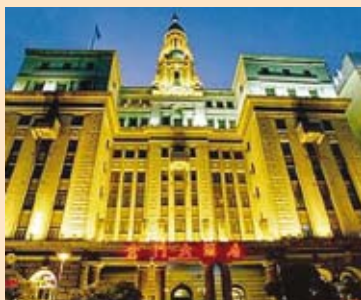
★★★ Pacific Hotel - Shanghai

LOCATION: In Nanjing Road, one of the world's busiest shopping streets, in the centre of Shanghai.

ACCOMMODATION: The Pacific Hotel Shanghai offers 185 spacious Standard and Superior rooms, featuring private bathroom, bathrobe, scale and hairdryer.

FACILITIES: This neo-classical hotel features a beauty centre, a gift shop, 3 restaurants, a bar, wireless Internet access available throughout, ensuring you a pleasant and comfortable holiday in Shanghai.

from US\$ 149 per room per night



★★★★★ Crowne Plaza Hotel - Shanghai

LOCATION: Whether for business or leisure, the 26-storey Crowne Plaza Shanghai is the ideal hotel, within easy reach of commercial districts, consulates, exhibition venues and shopping.

ACCOMMODATION: 497 rooms feature Internet access, bathrobes, coffeemakers, minibars, safes, in-room movies, satellite TV and more

FACILITIES: Food and beverage outlets feature a range of Chinese, Japanese, Western and Italian restaurants, live-entertainment lounge and bar. Health and leisure facilities include an indoor swimming pool and a fully equipped gymnasium. *from US\$ 167 per room per night*