

[Travelzoo] 12 Day Incredible China with Xi'an

Asia Vacation Group – World Travel Expert

Local knowledge, adventures of a lifetime.

Explore the world with our team of experts and embark on a carefully selected, value-packed exploration of the world's most iconic destinations. Our tours offer must-visit sights, rich experiences, and quality inclusions all at an unbeatable price. Your bucket list dreams are ticked off on these all-encompassing vacations. Specializing in travel tours that span the globe since 2015, we are proud to be the people who craft your itinerary, help you at each step, plus guide and operate your tour. You can travel with confidence, knowing our team has curated these itineraries based on their first-hand travel experience.

Exclusive Travelzoo Member	Unbeatable Price Deal	7 Day Change of Mind
Fully Escorted by English speaking guide		

Day by Day Itinerary

Beijing, Wuxi, Suzhou, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Xi'an

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover the Incredible China at an unbelievable price. Explore Beijing, Wuxi, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shanghai and Xi'an

- **Return flights included**
- Compulsory Tipping for driver and tour guide (AU\$12 per person/day)
- Incredible sightseeing, including Beijing, Wuxi, Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai, Xi'an
- Comfortable group experience with no more than 40 persons
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of the tour
- 10-night hotel accommodation
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily breakfast buffet, 1 lunch
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- Tour guides are not available on bullet trains
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

ITINERARY

Day 1: Beijing Arrival

Welcome to Beijing – Capital of China!

Today begins your spectacular tour through China! Upon arrival at Beijing Airport, you will be warmly greeted and escorted to your hotel to rest after your flight (you will most likely be arriving late in the evening).

Meals: In-flight meals

Accommodation: Ramada Beijing North Hotel 4* or similar

Day 2: Beijing – Tiananmen Square

After breakfast, set out with your guide to discover the iconic imperial treasures of China's massive capital, Beijing. Stand in Tiananmen Square, one of the largest public squares in the world.

After our tour, you may explore the city at your own pace or instead, you may wish to take part in an optional excursion to enhance your experience.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ramada Beijing North Hotel 4* or similar

Remark: If you do not join our optional tour, you will be dropped off somewhere and informed when and where to pick up to go back to hotel. (Normally it will be 4 – 5 hours later). If you do not want to wait this long, you can hail a

taxi to hotel. The taxi fee is paid on your own.

Day 3: Beijing - Great Wall and Jade Carving Workshop

Today's excursion is one of the most anticipated of our trip – a visit to the **Great Wall of China**. Often recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of the World, this UNESCO World Heritage site is a staggering feat and a bucket list destination. We will be touring the Juyongguan section, one of the three most famous passes along the Great Wall. Located 60km from downtown Beijing, it used to be a stronghold that protected the northern access routes to the city. Here we'll get a chance to climb a portion of this architectural marvel, which stretches an astonishing 21,000km. En route back to the city we'll visit one of the largest jade exhibitions in China and learn all about China's most precious and celebrated stone.

Upon returning to Beijing, the rest of the day is yours to spend at leisure or to participate in one of our optional excursions.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ramada Beijing North Hotel 4* or similar

Day 4: Beijing - Bullet Train to Wuxi - Sightseeing

After breakfast, you will begin our day at a Chinese herbal institute, where we will have the opportunity to learn about traditional Chinese medicine. Later you will pay a visit to the Temple of Heaven which is seen as the most holy of Beijing's imperial temples. It has been described as "a masterpiece of architecture and landscape design". Morning is the best time to visit it. You will have an interesting experience watching local people doing morning exercises, like dancing, walking, practicing tai chi or playing games, as you walk to the temple.

In the afternoon we will board a bullet train to reach the city of Wuxi. China's bullet train network is now the most expansive in the world and you'll be rocketing towards Wuxi at speeds up to 300km/h. Upon arrival in Wuxi, you'll be met by our local representative and escorted to your hotel where you may spend the rest of the day relaxing, exploring or spending time with newly made friends.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Grand Park Hotel Wuxi 4* or similar

Day 5: Wuxi - Suzhou

This morning our day begins with a visit to The Brilliance of Lake Lihu, a branch of Lake Taihu. The lake is well known for its gorgeous park and many interesting features. Locally it is famous thanks to the work of numerous scholars, who have written that notable historical figures, such as Fan Li and Xi Shi, boated here. While here we'll also visit a freshwater pearl farm.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Lakeside Hotel Suzhou 4* or similar

Day 6: Suzhou - Hangzhou

The classical garden called the **Lingering Garden** is one of more than 60 in the city – it's recognized as having the most UNESCO World Heritage gardens in the world.

After this we continue our journey to the **Suzhou Silk Factory**, which is said to be the largest silk manufacturer in the country. Here, we'll discover the incredible methods that lay behind silk harvesting.

In the afternoon we continue on to Hangzhou, once described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Upon arrival in Hangzhou you'll have the evening free to spend at your leisure: relax or take up our optional excursions, enjoying a performance.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Merchant Marco Garden Hotel Hangzhou 4* or similar

Day 7: Hangzhou - Shanghai

The city of Hangzhou, also known as 'Paradise on Earth', has been immortalised by countless poets and artists. The most renowned feature here is the West Lake Cultural Landscape of Hangzhou, which has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

After our visit to the West Lake, we'll continue on to tea plantations to taste Dragon Well tea, otherwise known as Longjing – a much sought-after local green tea leaf. Green tea is said to be great for health and wellbeing, packed with antioxidants, and today you'll have the opportunity to learn more about China's tea culture.

Following lunch, we'll drive to Shanghai, on China's central coast. This evening, we'll have the opportunity to get a glimpse of Shanghai's dazzling skyline by joining the optional Huangpu River Cruise ride.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Novotel Shanghai Qingpu Excellence 4* or similar

Day 8: Shanghai

Enjoy a full day in Shanghai – a city of some 26 million people and an important global financial hub. After breakfast, we'll travel to the Bund, a famous waterfront area in Shanghai that's lined with colonial architecture of European design. The Bund is perhaps the best representation of Western influences from a bygone era, and is now called the 'Wall Street of the East'. Following our tour here, the rest of the day is yours to spend as you please – relax or enjoy one of our optional tours and activities to help enhance your experience.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Novotel Shanghai Qingpu Excellence 4* or similar

Day 9: Shanghai - Xi'an

Pick up and transfer to visit the incredible Wild Goose Pagoda. The temple was originally used to keep the Buddhist scripts which were carried by the great monk Yi Jing from the Indian area and over time it has become a holy place for pilgrims. In the evening, be fascinated by the optional Grand Tang Everbright City and feast on a yummy Dumpling Banquet (not included)

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ramada by Wyndham Xi'an Chanba 4* or similar

Day 10: Xi'an

Today you will explore Xi'an on the Terracotta Warriors day tour. View the enigmatic ranks of the Terracotta Warriors in the company of our experienced local guide. You may have the opportunity of meeting the man who discovered the Warriors and learn about the moment they were uncovered by talking to one of the farmers who stumbled upon them in 1974. Afterwards Visit the famous Moslem Street, where many delicious local snacks and souvenirs are available for purchase.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Ramada by Wyndham Xi'an Chanba 4* or similar

Day 11: Xi'an - Home

After breakfast, you are free time at leisure until we drive to the airport for flight back home. Overnight on plane.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: On Plane

Day 12: Home

You arrive at your home today and we hope you enjoy your China trip with Asia Vacation Group.

INCLUSIONS

- **Return flights included.**
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of tour
- Water bottle per person per day
- 10 night hotel accommodation
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily Breakfast Buffet
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

EXCLUSIONS

- Meals and drinks are not mentioned in the program
- Visa fee in China
- **Compulsory Tipping for driver and tour guide (AU\$12 per person/day).** This is collected by our tour guide

when you arrives in Beijing.

- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (we strongly recommend you hold a valid travel insurance policy for all domestic and overseas travel)
- Trip delay or interruption by airline schedule change
- Extra cost or missing tour caused by flight delay or cancel
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

DEPARTURE DATES: PRICE IS QUOTED IN AU\$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Sunday 04 Aug 2024	Thursday 15 Aug 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 11 Aug 2024	Thursday 22 Aug 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 25 Aug 2024	Thursday 05 Sep 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Monday 16 Sep 2024	Friday 27 Sep 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Tuesday 15 Oct 2024	Saturday 26 Oct 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 20 Oct 2024	Thursday 31 Oct 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 27 Oct 2024	Thursday 07 Nov 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 03 Nov 2024	Thursday 14 Nov 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 10 Nov 2024	Thursday 21 Nov 2024	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 02 Mar 2025	Thursday 13 Mar 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 09 Mar 2025	Thursday 20 Mar 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 20 Apr 2025	Thursday 01 May 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 11 May 2025	Thursday 22 May 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 18 May 2025	Thursday 29 May 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 08 Jun 2025	Thursday 19 Jun 2025	AU\$1,449		Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Sunday 24 Aug 2025	Thursday 04 Sep 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 07 Sep 2025	Thursday 18 Sep 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 12 Oct 2025	Thursday 23 Oct 2025	AU\$1,449		Book
Sunday 19 Oct 2025	Thursday 30 Oct 2025	AU\$1,449		Book

OPTIONAL TOURS



Forbidden City Tour
AU\$75



Hutong Life Tour
AU\$35



Peking-duck Banquet Dinner
AU\$46



Beijing Golden Mask Dynasty Show
AU\$85



Grand Tang Everbright City & Dumpling Banquet
AU\$56



Huangpu River Cruise
AU\$75



Hangzhou Impression West Lake
AU\$79



Shanghai Chinese Acrobatic Show
AU\$98



Shanghai Insight Tour
AU\$65



Romantic Show of Song-Cheng
AU\$99



Wuxi Grand Canal Cruise
AU\$55

FINE PRINT

FLIGHT INFORMATION

This package includes international flights from Sydney/Melbourne and surcharge from Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Tasmania or other city if requested when selecting your departure city.

Interstate Surcharge

Surcharge of **AU\$400** for departures from Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth and **AU\$ 300** from Tasmania

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: China Southern Airlines, China Eastern Airlines, ... or similar (20/23kg for checked baggage per passenger and 7kg hand luggage per passenger, 01-piece check-in baggage).

- Some flights will require a minimum of 1 transit (maximum 2).
- All tickets will include 23 kilos checked baggage per person, along with 7 kilos of hand luggage.
- Despite the airlines baggage allowance, we recommend travelling with 20 kilos per person due to restrictions with internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Also, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters is not included. If travelling over this amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable direct.
- Once ticketed, flights are non-refundable. Any changes will be subject to the airline rules, Airline change fees and an Asia Vacation Group change fee of \$250 per person.
- Full names as per passport (including all middle names) are required. Any error in the names submitted will be subject to an Asia Vacation Group name change fee of \$150 plus any applicable fees charged by the airline, or the ticket may be non-refundable with the purchase of a new ticket required.
- Any airline schedule changes or cancellations are beyond our control. It is important that you, as the customer, stay up-to-date with the latest airline schedule information prior to your departure. If a schedule change results in extended transits or an earlier/later departure from your destination, any additional accommodation or alternative arrangements will be at the traveler's expense.
- Any airline 'extras' such as pre-allocated seating is at your own arrangement (additional charges apply)
- After booking, the price payable may be subject to change as a result of factors beyond the control of Asia Vacation Group. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to increase the price payable and this will be reflected on the customer's invoice. Increases may be in relation to, but not limited to, currency fluctuations, airline taxes, airfare increases and fuel surcharges.
- Internal airfares (where applicable and included in the itinerary) will be using a local carrier and may include low-cost carriers without meals or entertainment. Checked baggage will still be included for each passenger. Any additional baggage required is payable at time of check-in.
- If you are travelling with another party on a separate booking, we cannot guarantee that the same flights will be booked for all parties, as this strictly depends on availability.
- You will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters are not included. If travelling over the recommended amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable directly.
- In the event of that you no-show on your scheduled flight, please be aware the airline will require you to pay a no show fee, Airline reissue fee plus any additional airfare and taxes. Asia Vacation Group will also charge a \$250 admin fee to assist re accommodating you on the next available flight. Please note that depending on the

airline's policy, purchasing a new ticket may be required.

Flight requests, amendments or preferences

We understand customers may wish to request changes to their included airfares. If you wish to fly with a certain airline, land at a certain time or change your flight in other ways we will gladly provide you with a personalized quote tailored to your specific requirements.

We would be more than happy to provide you with a quote for the following requests:

Airline Preferences – You may wish to fly with a particular airline

Cabin Preferences – These include upgrading to premium economy or business class

Extensions (start and end cities must remain the same) – You may request to extend your stay pre or post tour.

Meal Requests – You may request a specific meal for dietary requirements.

Seat Requests – If you would like to request particular seating. However please note, not all airlines allow the selection of pre-purchased seat arrangements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Physical Requirements

A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Please be advised that tipping for tour guides, drivers and bellmen are required and will be collected by our tour guide when you arrives in China. A **compulsory gratuity of AUD12 per person/day** can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry as they have done an impeccable job to serve you through your holiday.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is **AU\$650 per person** in addition to the twin share price.

Paired Solo Traveler

Not available.

Group size: min from 10 pax

Triple Share

Not available for this one.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is recommended to protect yourself against the unexpected. In addition to the support that a policy may provide, you may be asked to present a copy of your travel insurance documentation while traveling.

We have partnered with NibTravel Insurance to offer our customers competitive rates for their travel insurance.

You can book Comprehensive or Essentials cover for your domestic, international or multi-trip journeys simply with us.

Visa & Passport information

It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

A tourist visa for China is a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian Passport. Please note as of today you are required to attend a Chinese Visa Application Service Centre in person to apply for a visa. China Visa Application Service Centres can be found in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane.

Please visit <https://www.visaforchina.cn/> for more information.

You will be able to start your visa application process once you receive your final travel documentation approximately 6 weeks prior to departure.

Important:

- Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.
- Visa rules may have changed since Covid-19. Some countries and airlines may require you to obtain an

additional visa before arrival. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination you're entering.

Please note:

- Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.
- It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organizations, may have additional restrictions in applying for Visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.

Please note that these details are subject to change without notice. We recommend visiting <https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/> for up-to-date information in terms of entry requirements.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Children

Children is not accepted for this tour.

Tour Length

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day-by-day itinerary for the time spent on land.

HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre Tour Accommodation

AU\$190 per room, per night based on double/twin room share

AU\$140 per vehicle per way

Post Tour Accommodation

AU\$130 per room, per night based on double/twin room share

AU\$130 per vehicle per way

Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

ASIA VACATION GROUP

Australia Call: 1800 229 339