# 12 Day Incredible China with Xi'an

### Asia Vacation Group - Authentic Asia!

Local knowledge, adventures of a lifetime.

Discover <u>Asia</u> with our team of experts, and a carefully selected, value-packed exploration of Asia's most iconic destinations. Our tours offer must-visit sights, rich experiences and quality inclusions all at an unbeatable prices. Your bucket list dreams are ticked off on these all-encompassing vacations.

Travel with the confidence. Your trip has been carefully crafted by <u>our team</u> with you in mind and it's that same team that takes you on the journey. One amazing team to help and guide you, not only as your local travel expert but also as a friend with helpfulness and sincerity.

Specialists in Asia touring since 2015, <u>Asia Vacation Group</u> is proud to be the people who craft your itinerary, help you at each step, plus guide and operate your tour.

New Zealand Company Owned	Returned Flight Included	Relaxed Itinerary
7 Day Change Of Mind		

### 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 flight included
- Compulsory Tipping for driver and tour guide (NZ\$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 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 fascinating 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 bottles per person per day
- 10 nights 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 (NZ\$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 NZ\$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Thursday</b> 23 May 2024	<b>Monday</b> 03 Jun 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 02 Jun 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 13 Jun 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Monday</b> 10 Jun 2024	Friday 21 Jun 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 16 Jun 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 27 Jun 2024	NZ\$2,499		Sold Out
<b>Sunday</b> 07 Jul 2024	Thursday 18 Jul 2024	NZ\$2,999		Sold Out
<b>Sunday</b> 21 Jul 2024	Thursday 01 Aug 2024	NZ\$2,999		Sold Out
<b>Sunday</b> 04 Aug 2024	Thursday 15 Aug 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 11 Aug 2024	Thursday 22 Aug 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Monday</b> 19 Aug 2024	<b>Friday</b> 30 Aug 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 25 Aug 2024	Thursday 05 Sep 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Monday</b> 16 Sep 2024	<b>Friday</b> 27 Sep 2024	NZ\$2,899		Book
<b>Monday</b> 14 Oct 2024	<b>Friday</b> 25 Oct 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 20 Oct 2024	Thursday 31 Oct 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 27 Oct 2024	Thursday 07 Nov 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Sunday</b> 03 Nov 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 14 Nov 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 10 Nov 2024	Thursday 21 Nov 2024	NZ\$2,499		Book
<b>Sunday</b> 17 Nov 2024	Thursday 28 Nov 2024	NZ\$2,899		Book

# **OPTIONAL TOURS**



Forbidden City Tour NZ\$85



Hutong Life Tour NZ\$39



Beijing Golden Mask Dynasty Show NZ\$95



Beijing Peking Duck Dinner NZ\$50



Wuxi Grand Canal Cruise NZ\$65



Shanghai Insight Tour NZ\$75



Romantic Show of Song-Cheng NZ\$109



Huangpu River Cruise NZ\$85



Shanghai Chinese Acrobatic Show NZ\$105



Grand Tang Everbright City & Dumpling Banquet NZ\$60

# **FINE PRINT**

# FLIGHT INFORMATION

This package includes international flights from Auckland and surcharge **NZ\$500** from Queenstown and Christchurch, surcharge **NZ\$450** from Wellington

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: Air New Zealand, Qantas Airlines, Jetstar Airlines, Vietnam Airlines, China Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Vietjet Air or similar airlines (20kg 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 20 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 NZ\$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 NZ\$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 NZ\$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.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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### **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 your travel consultant 7 days before you depart. A gratuity of NZ\$10 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 NZ\$ 650 per person in addition to the twin share price.

### **Paired Solo Traveler**

Not available.

**Group size:** From 20 – 40 persons

**Triple Share** Not avaialble for this one

### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

### **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 visa is required for travel to Vietnam. The visa is easiest to complete with Asia Vacation Group and just need to pay NZ\$160 for single entry for Vietnam Visa.

### **Tour Documentation**

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

## Children

Children is not available for this trip.

#### **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**

NZ\$190 per room, per night based on double/twin room share NZ\$140 per vehicle per way

### **Post Tour Accommodation**

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