



China Family Stay

Shanghai • Hangzhou • Beijing



Day 1 • Departure

Our journey begins as we board our international flight bound for Shanghai, China.

Day 2 • Shanghai

Welcome to Shanghai, Shanghai, a dynamic metropolis which ranks alongside New York and Paris as a global center of culture, commerce, and research. Upon arrival at the Shanghai airport we meet our tour guide and motor coach and transfer to our hotel. Dinner is at the hotel. **D**

Day 3 • Shanghai

We embark on a full day of sightseeing in this fascinating city. Our first visit is to the Yu Garden, the largest and most beautiful of Shanghai's ancient gardens with architectural styles from the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Next we visit the Bund, the birthplace of Shanghai, with its Waibaidu Bridge and the promenade along the Hungpu River. We also visit the Shikumen Museum, a renovated house built in the 1920's, which depicts home life as many Shanghai citizens knew it. **B/L/D**

Day 4 • Hangzhou

Boarding a bullet train this morning, we travel to Hangzhou, one of the most scenic cities in China. Here we visit the Tea Garden and learn about the production of green tea as well as its history. The ancient Chinese discovered long ago the benefits of tea as a relaxing beverage with medicinal qualities. We then enjoy a tea ceremony at Meijiawu Village, learning why tea is important to understanding Chinese culture. And we have the pleasure of the perfect cup of tea! This evening we meet our families at a local school and begin our 3-night stay. Dinner is with our families. **B/L/D**

Day 5 • Hangzhou

After breakfast with our families, they take us to the school where we meet the rest of our group and begin a day of exploration. This morning we visit one of the most famous Buddhist temples in China, the Lingyin Temple. Dating from the 4th century, the temple's main hall, a one-story building, rises over 100 feet. Returning to school for lunch, we attend one of the classes this afternoon. Later our host families pick us up and we continue to experience the local culture and family customs. This evening we enjoy a home cooked dinner. **B/L/D**

Day 6 • Hangzhou

Breakfast is with our families. Our sightseeing today begins with a cruise on charming Xizi Lake (West Lake). The surrounding landscape has an almost surreal quality, almost like a painting. We wonder if we're traveling through a

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fairyland! We also visit the Chinese Medical Center where we learn about traditional Chinese remedies. A special lunch exemplifies the healthy, energy-sustaining qualities of Chinese herbs. We now return to the school for some time to interact informally with the Chinese students – playing table tennis, basketball, singing, or performing. This evening we attend a thank you dinner with the local students and our host families at a local restaurant. **B/L/D**

Day 7 • Beijing

After breakfast our families take us to the school. Here we bid them farewell and board a bus for our transfer to the airport. A domestic flight takes us to Beijing, the capital city of China. This afternoon we ride by rickshaw through Hutong (Old Beijing). The district is now under government preservation. Local residents can now continue to enjoy life here as they have known it for the past 2-3 generations. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant. **B/L/D**

Day 8 • Beijing

A full day of sightseeing awaits us. We begin with a visit to a school for children who were homeless. Grades run from 1st to 8th and the teachers in the school are all volunteers. Here we have an opportunity to attend a class (or even teach some English!) and participate in some volunteer activities. Lunch is at a local restaurant. This afternoon we experience one of humankind’s most stunning achievements as we hike along the Great Wall, construction of which began in the 7th century B.C. The Great Wall is the only man-made object visible from the moon. Upon our return to Beijing we visit two of the most recognizable sites from the 2008 Olympic Games, the National Stadium (also known as the “Bird’s Nest”) and the “Water Cube,” or Aquatics Center, where Michael Phelps won his 8 gold medals. Dinner is at a local restaurant. **B/L/D**

Day 9 • Beijing

We have a full and fascinating final day of our tour. We begin at the Temple of Heaven, where we can join local citizens in their daily fitness routines. Martial arts, anyone? This magnificent outdoor setting represents the pinnacle of Ming and Qing architecture, where the emperors worshiped and prayed. In the afternoon we spend some time on Tian’anmen Square, considered the largest plaza in the world, where on October 1, 1949, Chairman Mao Zedong proclaimed the birth of the Peoples’ Republic of China before one million people. We also visit the Imperial Palace, commonly called the Forbidden City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner. **B/L/D**

Day 10 • Return

Our exploration of China draws to a close as we transfer to the Beijing airport and board our homebound flight. We return with a wealth of knowledge of this ancient yet dynamic land, its people and its culture. But more importantly, we have established relationships that can last a lifetime. *Zàijiàn!* **B**

Abbreviations for Meals: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner

<p>Cost of tour: \$1,989* <i>Land portion only</i> <i>*Based on minimum of 20 paying participants</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Included</u></p> <p>Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach • Train fare from Shanghai to Hangzhou • China domestic flight from Hangzhou to Beijing including taxes <p>Accommodations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior tourist class hotels • 3-day family stay in Hangzhou <p>Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily <p>Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission to all activities as indicated in itinerary <p>Tour Guides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional tour director • Local guides for city tours and major attractions <p>Taxes and Tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All taxes and tips for provided services except for end of tour tip for driver and tour director <p>Complimentary Tours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One tour per 10 paying participants (1½ comps for minimum of 15, 2 comps for 20, etc.) 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Not included</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtrip air transportation • China visa fee • Meals not indicated in the itinerary • Beverages, except with breakfast • End of tour tip for driver and tour director • Items of a personal nature such as passport fees <i>Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date</i> • Travel Insurance <p style="text-align: center;">This tour can be customized to your specifications.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tour Code: SPXF10</p>

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