



Mysteries of

CHINA

October 14 - 28, 2016

*Hosted by:
Dan and
Carol Koelpin*



320 Elton Hills Dr NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128
Fax (507) 281-9747
www.ed-ventures.com
tours@ed-ventures.com



Great Wall of China

DAY 1: Friday, October 14, 2016

Depart from Milwaukee International Airport

DAY 2: Saturday, October 15, 2016

Upon arrival in Beijing, we transfer to our hotel. **Sunworld Hotel Beijing or similar**

DAY 3: Sunday, October 16, 2016

We start our day visiting the **Juyongguan Great Wall**. Located in ChangPing County, about 50 km from Beijing, JuYongGuan Great Wall is the nearest section of the Great Wall in Beijing. It is circular with a perimeter of about 4,142 meters (about 4,530 yards). Situated in a valley surrounded by mountains, Juyongguan Pass has long been a military stronghold and is one of the three greatest passes of the Great Wall of China. Next we tour a **Jade Factory**. We end our day visiting the **Summer Palace**, one of the China's largest and best-preserved imperial gardens. It is a masterpiece of Chinese landscape garden design, harmoniously combining the natural landscape of hills and open water with man-made features. **B,L,D Sunworld Hotel Beijing or similar**

DAY 4: Monday, October 17, 2016

After breakfast, we travel to the **Temple of Heaven**. Dating to the 15th century, the Temple of Heaven was where the emperor made an annual pilgrimage to pray for good harvests. Occupying an area of 273 hectares with four gates at the cardinal points, and walls to the north and east, it is China's largest existing complex of ancient sacrificial buildings. Next, on our agenda is **Tiananmen Square**. Located in the center of Beijing, it is the biggest square in the world. It is 880 meters from north to south, and 500 meters from east to west, with total area of 440,000 square meters and can hold one million people. We then make our way to the **Forbidden City** (also known as the Palace



Temple of Heaven



Tiananmen Square

Museum) where 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties lived. It was named an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987 and is the biggest and best-preserved cluster of ancient buildings in China. We continue our day with a **Hutong Tour and family visit**: We will explore Beijing's narrow and curved alleys and have a glimpse of traditional Beijing life in a rickshaw. Next, we enjoy an **Acrobatic Show**. In China, acrobatics involve difficult feats of balance, agility and coordination and have been a part of the culture since the Western Han Dynasty over 2500 years ago. Today the performance art remains one of the most important within Chinese variety art, mostly referred to in the west as "Chinese Circus". In this show, you can enjoy gravity-defying contortionism, juggling, chair-stacking, and plate-spinning acts. For dinner tonight, we experience **Peking Roast Duck**, a famous duck dish that has been prepared since the imperial era, and is now considered one of China's national delicacies. **B,L,D Sunworld Hotel Beijing or similar**

DAY 5: Tuesday, October 18, 2016

This morning we transfer from our hotel to the Beijing Airport for our flight to Xi'an. Upon arrival, we tour **Shaanxi Provincial History Museum**, the first large state museum with modern facilities in China, which has been called the "bright pearl of ancient city; treasure house of China." Exhibited in the main exhibition hall are 2,700 pieces works of art selected from all periods which show the development of civilization in this region. We continue to the **Great Mosque**, the largest of its kind in Xi'an and one of the best preserved mosques in China. Unlike Arabic mosques, the Great Mosque in Xi'an embodies Chinese tradition in both its design and its artistic outlook, from the Chinese pavilions with painted beams to the engraved ridgepoles. We end our day in the **Muslim Quarter**. Located behind the Drum Tower, Xi'an Muslim Street is a fascinating region to wander around. It is well known for serving Muslim



Forbidden City



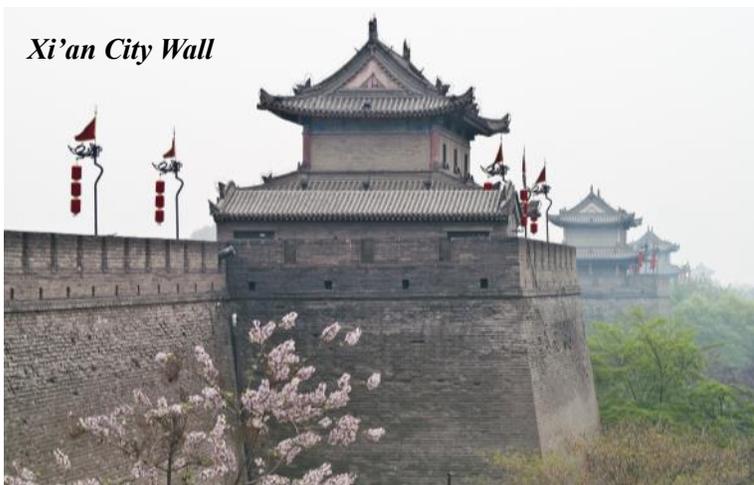
food for centuries, with a wide diversity of tastes and ethnic delicacies. **B,D Grand New World Hotel or similar**

DAY 6: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

On today's itinerary is a visit to the well-known **Terracotta Army and Qinshihuang Mausoleum**. Located east of Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum, the Terracotta Warriors and Horses were buried underground 200 years ago to protect Emperor Qinshihuang in the afterlife. There are more than 8,000 life-size terra-cotta figures of soldiers and horses excavated from this area, displayed in battle formation in 3 pits respectively. The Terracotta Army is now regarded as the Eighth Wonder of the World. We make a stop at **Terracotta Warriors Factory** on our way to Xi'an City Wall. The **Xi'an City Wall** is the best preserved, oldest and largest ancient city defense system in China. It is also one of the most important landmarks of Xi'an city. The original foundation of the city wall was based on the ruins of the Imperial City Wall of Chang'an City--the capital of the Tang Dynasty. We conclude our day with a **Dumpling Dinner & Tang Dynasty Show**. The Xi'an Dumpling Banquet offers various kinds of dumplings and with their varying shapes, it is a dinner both beautiful and delicious. The Tang Dynasty Dance & Music Show is a recreation of a traditional entertainment attributable to a great variety of historical records and relics. It has become a classic entertainment which is warmly appreciated by audiences from home and abroad. **B,L,D Grand New World Hotel or similar**

DAY 7: Thursday, October 20, 2016

On today's agenda is a visit of Huxian County Farmers' Paintings exhibition. Originating in the 1980's with depictions of peasant work life, today the paintings portray not only farmer's daily life but also folk activities, harvest and festival celebrations. Most of



Xi'an City Wall



the paintings are themed on figures, animals and flowers, vividly recording the beautiful rural scenery of the county. **B,L Grand New World Hotel or similar**

DAY 8: Friday, October 21, 2016

After breakfast, we are transferred to the Xi'an airport for our flight to Chongqing. Once there, we visit **Ciqikou Old Town (Porcelain Village)**. Perched on a hill overlooking the Jialing River in the west of the city, Ciqikou Old Town (Porcelain Village) dates back to the late Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and was named for its infamous production of porcelain during that time. It has become one of the most popular tourist sites in Chongqing today and is home to many local artists whose work you can view in progress. We continue to **Eling Park**, originally named Edingling (Goose Nape Hill), for its narrow and steep shape resembling a nape of a goose. Eling Park was built in 1909 with special plant species and a tower providing a view of the entire city. **B,D Glenview ITC PLAZA Chongqing or similar**

DAY 9: Saturday, October 22, 2016

We explore the **Dazu Grottoes** today. With over 50,000 statues of Buddha, there are more than 70 locations of carvings in the county of Dazu and its surrounding areas. The earliest carvings date from 650 AD in the Tang Dynasty and continued through the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and Qing Dynasty (1616-1911). The Dazu Grottoes represent a beautiful gem in the grotto arts of China. **B,L Glenview ITC PLAZA Chongqing or similar**

DAY 10: Sunday, October 23, 2016

We start our day at the **Museum of General Joseph W. Stilwell**. The residence is now a memorial hall to commemorate General Joseph W. Stilwell who was chief commander of US forces in the China-Burma-India Theatre during World War II. In 1942, he



Eling Park



Various steamed dumplings in bamboo steamers

ranked as a major general and was regarded as one of the best field commander in the entire United States Army. We make a stop at **Three Gorges Museum** before embarking on our cruise down the Yangtze River. **B,L,D Overnight on cruise**

DAY 11: Monday, October 24, 2016

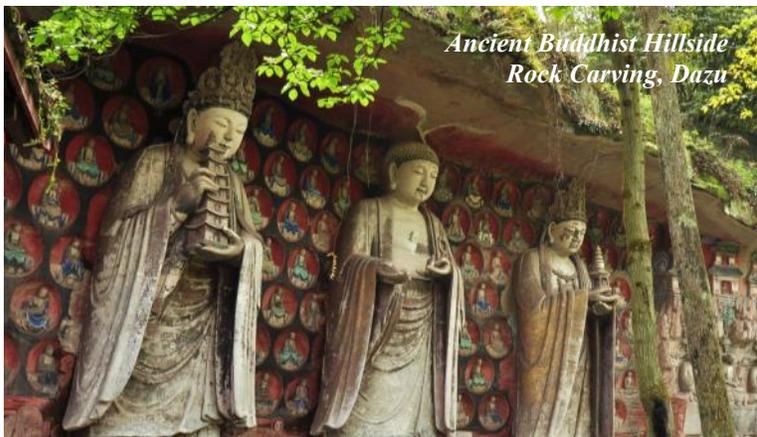
Our cruise continues as we explore **Shibaozhai**. Shibaozhai is a hill along the bank of the Yangtze River (Chang Jiang) in Zhong County, Chongqing, China. This rocky and craggy hill has extremely steep sides and is about 200 meters (660 feet) tall. At the river's edge is a red pavilion of nine floors which leans against the side of the hill, providing a walkway to the temple at the top of the hill. A yellow door at the base of the pavilion provides an entrance. **B,L,D Overnight on cruise**

DAY 12: Tuesday, October 25, 2016

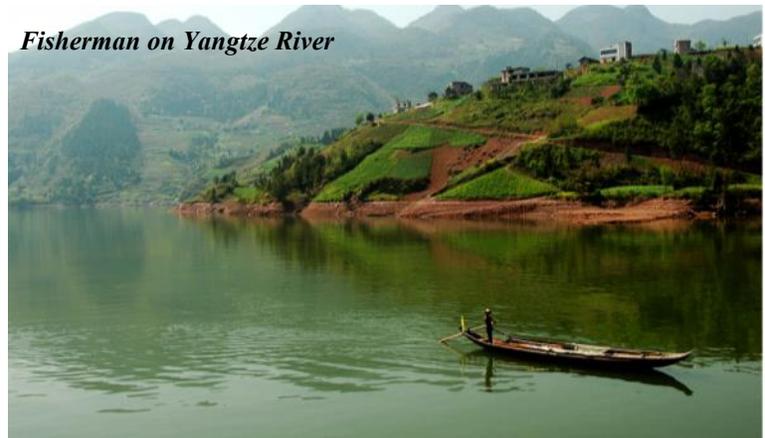
We spend part of our day on **Goddess Stream**. Situated at the south bank of the Yangtze River, Goddess Stream, with its source among Guandu Strict of Wushan County in Chongqing City, flows into the Yangtze River at Qingshi Town, opposite the Goddess Peak of Wu Gorge. The whole river, including the upstream named Guandu River, the middle Ziyang River and the downstream Goddess Stream, is 31.9 kilometers long. Due to precipitous geological conditions, Goddess Stream is surrounded by steep mountains and hidden in a deep valley. The primitive natural landscape of the stream is well-preserved and shows a spectacular view to travelers, especially after the construction of Three Gorges Project. **B,L,D Overnight on the cruise**

DAY 13: Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Sadly, our Yangtze river cruise comes to an end today. We see **Three Gorges Dam**, the world's largest power station in terms of installed capacity. As well as producing energy, the dam was intended to increase shipping capacity on the Yangtze River and



Ancient Buddhist Hillside Rock Carving, Dazu



Fisherman on Yangtze River

decrease flood risk downstream. After disembarking from the ship, we are transferred to the Yichang airport for our flight to Shanghai. **B,D Sunrise on the Bund or similar.**

DAY 14: Thursday, October 27, 2016

We spend our last full day in China exploring Shanghai. We start with **Shanghai Museum**, a museum of ancient Chinese art, possessing a collection of 120,000 precious works of art. Its rich and high-quality collection of ancient Chinese bronze, ceramics, painting and calligraphy is especially celebrated in the world. We then go to **Jade Buddha Temple** which was originally constructed in 1882 to house two jade Buddha statues imported from Burma by sea. It was destroyed during the revolution that overthrew the Qing dynasty and was rebuilt in 1928 on the present site. We make a stop at a Silk Factory, before we end our day at the Bund. **The Bund** alongside Huangpu River once was the financial center of the Far East. It has been considered the city's symbol since the 1920s and is often referred to as "the Live Museum of Architecture", as many different styles of European buildings can be found here. **B,L Sunrise on the Bund or similar**

DAY 15: Friday, October 28, 2016

After breakfast we depart our hotel for the Shanghai airport and our return flight. **B**

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



Shanghai, view from Suzhou River

China

Please register me for:

- CPC16: Oct. 14 - 28, 2016 • \$3,989**
(includes air from Milwaukee)
- Single Supplement • \$475**
- Land only • \$2,709**

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Work phone/cell: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed Twin Beds

Roommate name: _____ **OR Single supplement:** Yes No

Travel Insurance *(please check one)*

- I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel insurance offered through Travel Guard.

Deposit Payment Information *(please check one)*

- Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make checks payable to Ed-Ventures, Inc.**
- Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

Card ID Code:* _____ **last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card*

_____ Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 3.3.16. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers travelling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ **Date:** _____



320 Elton Hills Drive NW, Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128 • Fax: (507) 281-9747
www.ed-ventures.com

3.3.16 land & est. air

TOUR PRICE: \$3,989* *per person,*
land and air from MKE (Milwaukee)
Other gateway cities available upon request

\$2,709 per person Land only, double occupancy
Single Supplement = \$475

**Price is per person based on a minimum of 20 paying participants, double occupancy.*

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- **Round trip air transportation** including taxes and fuel surcharges from Milwaukee to Beijing and return from Shanghai
- **Domestic flights** from Beijing to Xi'an, Xi'an to Chongqing, and Yichang to Shanghai
- **Land transportation** via private, deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Yangtze River Cruise** by Victoria Cruised based on main deck cabins
- **Accommodations** (double-occupancy) per itinerary
- **English speaking guide service** in each city
- **Meals** as indicated in itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary including shore excursions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- All taxes and tips for provided services including tips for Chinese national escort, drivers, local guides and cruise ship

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees and visa (*Passport must be valid for six months beyond return date.*)
- **China Tourist Visa** (required)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and highly recommended*)
- **Immunizations** (please check with your physician)

Payment Schedule:

An initial deposit of \$500 per person with applications as individuals sign up.

A second payment of \$1300 per person is due 120 days prior to departure.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure.

Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may [and regularly do] impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-V has received a final payment, Ed-V will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Ed-V will send airfare payment along with the name list within 5 days of receiving the final payment. At the time of ticketing, all remaining air space will be released. *Early registration is encouraged.*

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. Date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure. From time of departure to 100 days prior to departure a \$50 cancellation fee will be assessed. From 99 days prior to departure 14 days prior to departure, the penalty will be \$300 plus nonrefundable deposits. An individual canceling less than 14 days before departure will receive NO REFUND.

Purchase of health, baggage and trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances be liable to the client under or by reason of this agreement directly or indirectly for any accidents, injury, delay, damage, or inconvenience caused to the client by negligence of others, by malfunctions of transportation systems or equipment, by acts of war, terrorism, or rebellion, strikes, theft, itinerary changes, extreme weather conditions, or cancellations, and the client hereby releases the above mentioned corporation and persons from any and all such liability. The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.



320 Elton Hills Dr NW • Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128
Fax (507) 289-9747
www.ed-ventures.com • tours@ed-ventures.com