

# MAGICAL CHARLES STATES OF THE STATES OF THE

12N & 14D

Beijing • Xi'an • Chengdu • Chongqing • Shanghai

Embark on a magnificent journey through China, where millennia of history meet futuristic skylines. This exclusive tour, "From Ancient Capitals to Modern Marvels," takes you on an unforgettable adventure from the imperial splendor of Beijing and the ancient wonders of Xi'an to the vibrant energy of Shanghai. Experience the country's profound cultural heritage, breathtaking natural landscapes, and cutting-edge urban life as you travel in style aboard China's high-speed rail.

### **DAY 1: A GRAND DEPARTURE FROM HOUSTON**

Your epic adventure begins as you board your international flight from Houston to Beijing. Settle in, relax, and let the anticipation build for the extraordinary experiences that await you.

Overnight: In-flight

# DAY 2: ARRIVAL IN BEIJING, GATEWAY TO IMPERIAL CHINA

Upon arrival in Beijing, you'll be warmly greeted and escorted to your luxurious hotel. After checking in, immerse yourself in the vibrant local atmosphere with a visit to **Wangfujing Street**. This lively hub is a feast for the senses, famous for its bustling markets, tempting street snacks, and premier shopping.

Overnight: Beijing Included: Dinner



### DAY 3: BEIJING'S IMPERIAL TREASURES & ACROBATIC WONDERS

Step back in time to the heart of imperial power. Begin your day at **Tiananmen Square**, one of the world's most iconic public spaces, before exploring the legendary **Forbidden City**, an awe-inspiring palace complex that served as the home of Chinese emperors for centuries. Next, discover the harmonious architecture of the Temple of Heaven, a UNESCO World Heritage site where emperors once prayed for good harvests. Your day culminates with a mesmerizing Acrobatic Show, a thrilling display of human skill, strength, and artistry.

Overnight: Beijing

· Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

# **DAY 4: CONQUER THE GREAT WALL & OLYMPIC LANDMARKS**

Today, stand in awe of one of the greatest architectural feats in human history: the **Great Wall of China**. Travel to either the Mutianyu or Badaling section and enjoy a scenic cable car ride to the top. Stroll along its ancient battlements, taking in sweeping panoramic views that stretch for miles. Afterward, capture memorable photos at the **Bird's Nest Stadium** and **Water Cube**, stunning legacies of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Overnight: Beijing



#### DAY 5: HIGH-SPEED JOURNEY TO XI'AN'S ANCIENT WALLS

Bid farewell to Beijing as you embark on a thrilling high-speed train journey to Xi'an. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted by the grandeur of the **Ancient City Wall**, the largest and best-preserved city wall in all of China. Ride a bike along its top or walk its perimeter for a spectacular perspective of the city. Later, explore the elegant **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**, a celebrated Tang Dynasty landmark, and get lost in the vibrant alleys of the **Muslim Quarter**, a sensory explosion of local delicacies and unique souvenirs.

Overnight: Xi'an X

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

# DAY 6: THE UNFORGETTABLE TERRACOTTA WARRIORS & TANG DYNASTY DINNER SHOW

Prepare for a truly iconic experience at the **Terracotta Warriors Museum**. Marvel at the army of thousands of life-sized clay soldiers, horses, and chariots—each with its own unique features—that have stood guard for over two millennia. This evening, immerse yourself in the golden age of Chinese history with a spectacular **Tang Dynasty Cultural Show and Dinner**, featuring enchanting music, exquisite dance, and beautiful costumes.

Overnight: Xi'an

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



#### **DAY 7: CHENGDU'S LIVELY STREETS**

Another high-speed train takes you to Chengdu, the heart of Sichuan province. Get a taste of local life at **Jinli Ancient Street**, a beautifully preserved pedestrian street with traditional tea houses, craft shops, and incredible street food. Afterward, find serenity at the **Wuhou Shrine**, a tribute to the legendary strategist Zhuge Liang, set amid peaceful gardens.

Overnight: Chengdu

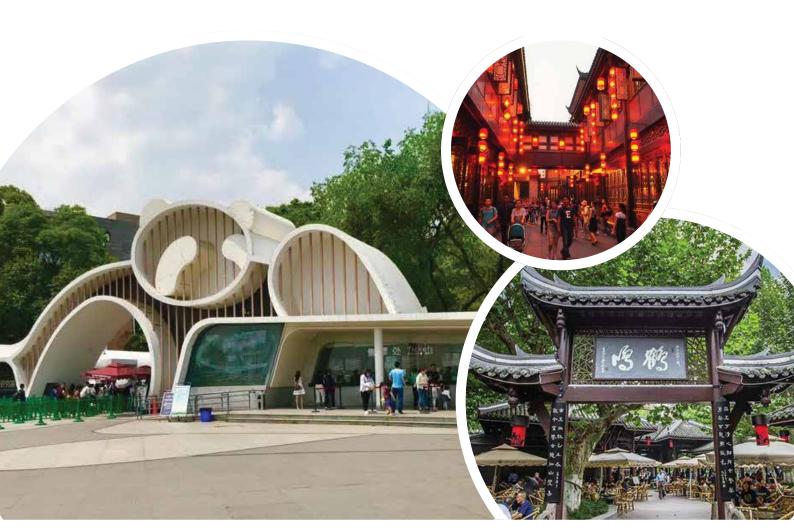
Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

#### **DAY 8: MEET THE GIANT PANDAS & FIND YOUR ZEN**

A highlight of your trip! Today, you'll visit the Chengdu Research Base of Giant **Panda Breeding** to see China's most beloved creatures up close. Observe these gentle giants as they play and eat in a naturalistic environment. Later, experience the authentic rhythm of Chengdu life at **People's Park**, where you can sip tea, watch locals play mahjong, and simply soak up the relaxed atmosphere.

• Overnight: Chengdu

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



## DAY 9: THE MOUNTAIN CITY OF CHONGQING

Journey to the sprawling metropolis of Chongqing. Begin with a visit to the charming **Ci Qi Kou Ancient Town**, a hilltop village with stunning Ming-Qing architecture and local specialties. Discover the rich history of the Yangtze River at the **Three Gorges Museum** before enjoying the panoramic views of the city's rivers from **Eling Park**.

Overnight: Chongqing

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

# DAY 10: THE WULONG "FLYING KISS" & THE LIGHTS OF HONGYA CAVE

Prepare for a breathtaking day at the **Wulong Baima Mountain Tianchi Love Scenic Spot.** Experience the unique "Flying Kiss" ride—two massive rotating platforms shaped like statues—that soar over a 1,000-meter drop, offering spectacular views of the Wu River. In the evening, return to Chongqing to witness the magical glow of Hongya Cave, a complex of stilt houses built into a cliffside that lights up the night sky.

Overnight: Chongqing

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



#### **DAY 11: FREE TIME & HIGH-SPEED TO SHANGHAI**

Enjoy a relaxing morning in Chongqing for some last-minute souvenir shopping or exploration. In the afternoon, you'll board the final leg of your high-speed journey to Shanghai, a city that perfectly blends tradition with modernity.

Overnight: Shanghai

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

#### DAY 12: SHANGHAI'S TRADITIONAL & MODERN LANDMARKS:

Today, experience the best of Shanghai. Begin at the exquisite **Yu Garden**, a classical Ming Dynasty garden of serenity and beauty. Then, wander through the lively **Old City Bazaar**, a bustling market of teahouses and shops. In the afternoon, stroll along The Bund, a famous riverside promenade with colonial architecture, before immersing yourself in the energy of **Nanjing Road**, Shanghai's premier shopping street.

• Overnight: Shanghai

· Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



# **DAY 13: THE SKYSCRAPERS & ART DISTRICTS OF SHANGHAI**

Ascend to the heavens at the **Shanghai Tower Observation Deck**, one of the world's tallest buildings, for awe-inspiring 360-degree city views. Next, delve into China's artistic heritage at the **Shanghai Museum**, renowned for its magnificent collection of ancient art. Finish your day by exploring either **Tianzifang** or **Xintiandi**, trendy art and lifestyle districts set in beautifully restored traditional Shikumen houses, offering a perfect mix of old-world charm and modern flair.

Overnight: Shanghai

Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

### **DAY 14: FAREWELL TO CHINA**

After a final breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight to Houston, carrying with you memories of an unforgettable grand tour through the heart of China.

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Economy Class Airfare including Taxes from Houston
- 12 Nights First Class Accommodation
- 3 Nights in Beijing
- · 2 Nights in Xian
- 2 Nights in Chengdu
- 2 Nights in Chongging
- 3 Nights in in Shanghai
- All sightseeing and entrance fees as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Guided tours as per the itinerary
- Services of a Professional Tour Manager
- All necessary ground transfers by chartered bus or other specified
- transport.

## **EXCLUSIONS:**

- Tips to the Driver & Guides (USD100/- Per Person for the whole tour)
- Travel Insurance
- Any meals other than specified in the itinerary.
- Porterage, laundry, mineral water, mini bar, telephone Charges
- Anything not mentioned on "Cost Includes".

