

Great Chinese Discovery with Majestic Yangtze River Cruise - 12 Days CN-06



Absolutely, exploring China's mega cities provides a vibrant and dynamic experience, but the country's vast and varied landscapes, including the iconic Yangtze River, offer a different dimension to the journey. The Yangtze, one of the world's largest waterways, meanders through diverse scenery from its source in Qinghai Province, flowing almost 4,000 miles before reaching the East China Sea at Shanghai. This tour promises a fun-filled and enlightening way to witness many of China's diverse highlights, from bustling urban centers to the natural beauty along the Yangtze River.

DEPARTURE DATES:

05.04.2024; 05.11.2024; 05.18.2024; 05.25.2024; 06.01.2024; 06.08.2024; 06.15.2024; 06.22.2024; 06.29.2024; 07.06.2024; 07.13.2024; 07.20.2024; 07.27.2024; 08.03.2024; 08.10.2024; 08.17.2024; 08.24.2024; 08.31.2024; 09.07.2024; 09.14.2024; 09.21.2024; 09.28.2024; 10.12.2024; 10.26.2024; 11.09.2024; 11.23.2024; 12.07.2024; 12.21.2024; 12.28.2024.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Beijing

Upon your arrival at the airport, our driver will be waiting for you at the arrival sector. Enjoy a comfortable transfer to the hotel, where you can settle in and start your journey in China. To provide a glimpse of old and authentic China, your exploration begins with a guided Hutong neighborhood rickshaw tour. Hutongs, characterized by narrow alleys, represent a disappearing aspect of the city due to rapid development. This photogenic tour takes you through these historic areas, offering a unique opportunity to travel back in time and witness the cultural heritage preserved in Beijing's old hutong neighborhoods. (D)

Day 2 - Beijing

Embark on a journey through the historical heart of Beijing, starting at the iconic Tiananmen Square, which gained global recognition with Mao Zedong's proclamation of the People's Republic of China in 1949. This square stands as the fourth largest city square globally, boasting an impressive area of 440,000 square meters. Proceed to explore the famous Imperial Palace and the Forbidden City, a symbol of China's imperial history. It served as the residence of Chinese emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties from 1420 to 1924. The Forbidden City houses an extensive collection of one million treasures, and your experienced guide will direct you to the most captivating ones. Later in the day, immerse yourself in the beauty of Chinese landscape garden design as you visit the magnificent Summer Palace. Conclude the day with a well-deserved roast duck dinner, savoring the culinary delights of Beijing. (B,L,D)

Day 3 - Beijing

Explore the magnificent Great Wall of China, a symbol of Chinese civilization with roots dating back to the 7th century BC. Your destination is the Badaling Great Wall, situated in Yanqing County, approximately 70 kilometers

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

Domestic flights in China
Accommodation
Full board meals
High-speed day train
English - speaking guides
Guided tours & entrance fees
Airport & railway transfers

Not included

Personal travel insurance
Optional excursions
Meals on the train

Practical information

Chinese visa procedure
Book with Confidence - Covid FAQs

(44 miles) north of Beijing. Renowned for its excellent preservation, Badaling provides a captivating glimpse into the historical significance and sweeping landscapes of this iconic structure. Following this awe-inspiring visit, transition to a more contemporary chapter with a tour of the Olympic Park, a testament to Beijing's role as the host city for the 2008 Summer Olympics. Discover architectural marvels such as the "Bird's Nest" Beijing National Stadium, the Aquatics Centre, or "Water Cube," and the Green Hockey Field. As the day unfolds, treat yourself to the captivating performances of one of Beijing's premier Acrobatic Shows. (B,L,D)

Day 4 - Beijing - Xian

Commencing the day with excitement, a high-speed train will whisk you away to Xian, covering the expansive distance of 711 miles from Beijing in a mere 4 hours and 40 minutes. This modern train, introduced in 2012, offers Business, First, and Second-class options for a comfortable and swift travel experience. Upon a swift hotel transfer in Xian, your city exploration begins. You'll visit the Big Goose Pagoda, a seven-storey Buddhist temple dating back to the 7th century, and the Little Goose Pagoda, both exquisite examples of Tang dynasty masonry and once part of a larger architectural ensemble. A short stroll from the City Wall leads to the Bell Tower, historically signaling the city gates' dawn opening, and the Great Mosque, a testament to the early mosques built in China. Savor a delectable local lunch, followed by an evening of cultural delights with dinner at the Tang Dynasty Singing and Dancing Show. (B,L,D)

Day 5 - Xian - Chongqing

Discovered by local farmers working in the fields in 1974, not far from the city, the Terracotta Army has become a must-see attraction, drawing millions of tourists globally each year. This extraordinary site features a stone army estimated to comprise over 8000 soldiers, 520 horses, and 130 chariots. During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to explore the pits and ascend the burial mound of the emperor, with your guide providing detailed information about the site, its excavations, and answering any questions you may have. Designated as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site since 1987, the Terracotta Army stands as a testament to China's rich history. Following this enlightening experience, your driver will meet you in the hotel lobby, escorting you to the airport for your flight to Chongqing and the beginning of your special cruise on the Yangtze River. (B,L,D)

Day 6 - Along the Yangtze

Today, the ship will make a stop in Shibaozhai. You have the option to take advantage of some available excursions on board or explore the city on your own. (B,L,D)

Day 7 - Along Yangtze

As the ship begins its eastward journey, picturesque gorges unfold before you. The first, Qutang Gorge, is a narrow passage, only 500 feet wide and 5 miles long, surrounded by towering mountains. Following this, you'll encounter Wu Gorge, stretching 25 miles and adorned with green mountains blending into the river, creating a

stunning panorama. Optional excursions are available for those seeking additional exploration. In the afternoon, the journey takes you through the longest (41 miles) and deepest gorge on the river, Xiling Gorge. As evening falls, the boat will reach the Three Gorges Dam locks, crossing to the other side of the Dam. (B,L,D)

Day 8 - Along Yangtze - Yichang - Shanghai

Begin your morning with a visit to the world-renowned Three Gorges Dam, a monumental structure that holds the title of the largest dam in the world. After this awe-inspiring experience, your ship will arrive in Yichang, and disembarkation will take place late in the morning. Upon leaving the ship, our driver will be waiting for you at the ship entrance, holding a "China & Beyond" signboard. You will then be transferred to the airport to catch your flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival in Shanghai, our team will meet you at the airport arrival sector and assist with transferring you to the hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 9 - Shanghai

Shanghai, a perpetual highlight in any Chinese journey, stands as the largest and most bustling city in the country, offering a blend of ultra-modern architecture and tranquil gardens. Embark on a panoramic city tour by car, where your first stop is the People's Square, nestled in the heart of the city. This vibrant square houses Shanghai's local government and serves as a gathering spot for locals. Explore the Shanghai Museum, located on the square, which boasts a new building showcasing the finest in Chinese art, from exquisite bronzes and paintings to calligraphy and furniture. Later, immerse yourself in the local experience by strolling along the renowned Bund, a mile-long riverside promenade adorned with European-style buildings. This iconic landmark provides a picturesque view of the cityscape. (B,L,D)

Day 10 - Shanghai

Embark on an exploration of Shanghai's vibrant highlights, beginning with a visit to the enchanting Yu Garden. Spanning five acres in Suzhou style, the garden features six main areas, including a rockery, a chamber of ten thousand flowers, multiple halls, and picturesque ponds. Contrast the traditional charm of Yu Garden with a visit to the modern Oriental Pearl TV Tower. Built in 1994, it stood as the tallest building in China for over a decade. Today, its impressive 468-meter tower boasts 15 viewing levels, providing a must-visit destination for photography enthusiasts. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy a coffee at the revolving restaurant located at 267 meters. Conclude the tour with a leisurely stroll along Nanjing Road, Shanghai's bustling main shopping street, once known as Park Lane until the mid-19th century. With over one million visitors daily, this iconic street offers a vibrant and dynamic shopping experience. (B,L,D)

Day 11 - Shanghai - Suzhou - Shanghai

Experience a delightful contrast from city life with a visit to Suzhou, renowned as China's Garden City and celebrated for its captivating landscape design. Suzhou's walled gardens once served as havens from the outside world, and today, they stand as testaments to exquisite

craftsmanship and tranquility. Explore this green oasis and indulge in a boat trip on the Grand Canal, providing a unique perspective of the city from the water. Conclude your Suzhou adventure with a visit to a captivating silk factory. This stop isn't just about shopping but offers an educational insight into the intricate process of crafting this delicate fabric. As the day winds down, transfer back to Shanghai, reflecting on the serene beauty of Suzhou. (B,L,D)

Day 12 - Shanghai

Our driver will meet you in the hotel lobby and take you to the airport to catch your flight home. (D)

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

PREMIUM - 4* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
05/04/2024 - 05/15/2024	\$2895	\$695
05/11/2024 - 05/22/2024	\$2895	\$695
05/18/2024 - 05/29/2024	\$2895	\$695
05/25/2024 - 06/05/2024	\$2895	\$695
06/01/2024 - 06/12/2024	\$2895	\$695
06/08/2024 - 06/19/2024	\$2895	\$695
06/15/2024 - 06/26/2024	\$2895	\$695
06/22/2024 - 07/03/2024	\$2895	\$695
06/29/2024 - 07/10/2024	\$2895	\$695
07/06/2024 - 07/17/2024	\$2895	\$695
07/13/2024 - 07/24/2024	\$2895	\$695
07/20/2024 - 07/31/2024	\$2895	\$695
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09/07/2024 - 09/18/2024	\$2895	\$695
09/14/2024 - 09/25/2024	\$2895	\$695
09/21/2024 - 10/02/2024	\$2895	\$695
09/28/2024 - 10/09/2024	\$2895	\$695
10/12/2024 - 10/23/2024	\$2895	\$695
10/26/2024 - 11/06/2024	\$2895	\$695
11/09/2024 - 11/20/2024	\$2895	\$695
11/23/2024 - 12/04/2024	\$2895	\$695
12/07/2024 - 12/18/2024	\$2895	\$695
12/21/2024 - 01/01/2025	\$2895	\$695
12/28/2024 - 01/08/2025	\$2895	\$695

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Go Russia" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > [Beijing Explorer - Uncover the Wonders of the Chinese Capital - 6 Days \(CN-02\)](#), Price from \$895, 6 days
- > [China's Golden Triangle & Gardens of Suzhou - 9 Days \(CN-04\)](#), Price from \$1,995, 9 days
- > [Best of China: Exploring Beijing, Xian, Guilin & Li River, Shanghai, Suzhou - 11 Days \(CN-05\)](#), Price from \$2,695, 11 days
- > [Trans-Mongolian East-West: Beijing - Ulan Bator - Baikal - Yekaterinburg - Moscow - St. Petes \(TS-17\)](#), Price from

INFORMATION ABOUT VISAS

Go Russia provides assistance in processing visas and visa fees are included in the cost of most of our trips as detailed in the tour dossier. The visa application process is very straightforward. We have years of practical experience in dealing with tourist visas, and our in-house visa team provides assistance with completing the forms and checking the documents before consular submission. Please do not worry that your application will be unsuccessful (unless you have had any immigration issues with the relevant authorities in the past). All our tourists get their visas.

All nationalities require a full passport valid for at least six months beyond the intended length of stay. Please also make sure there are enough blank pages in your passport: Russian consulate requires minimum two blank pages.

USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

We have in-house visa teams in the US, UK, Germany, France and Spain. Upon your booking we will email you detailed guidance notes how to fill in the visa forms and what additional documents depending on nationality and your immigration status will be required. You will need to post your application pack to our visa processing office including your original passport. Please allow about two weeks for each visa application to be processed. Please advise us if you require your passport urgently, we can arrange urgent processing for an additional charge.

Non-USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

If you are not resident in the USA, UK, Germany, France or Spain, we will issue official paperwork and email the required documents to you. You will need to apply for your visa at the local consulate. The process is very straightforward and we can assist you with completing the visa forms. You will have to pay the correct visa fee at the consulate in the country of your residence.

You can read more information about visa and application forms on our website:

www.justgorussia.com/us/visa_services.html

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Go Russia holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.justgorussia.com and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Go Russia, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, brochure requests, lecture participation, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@justgorussia.com, or

Phone: call us on +1 (917) 259 13 33

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel / cabin category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum \$250) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer or credit card (2% surcharge applies for credit card payments). You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

