

China Ethnic Discovery Tour - 14 Days

This 14-day journey starts with imperial wonders in Beijing. Then unfold the most extraordinary cultural diversity in Lijiang & Shangri-La. After you fly to the subtropical Guilin and cruise along the Li River. You also enjoy the Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces in Longsheng. Your trip concludes in Shanghai, a flourishing city that offers a fascinating glimpse into China's future.

Date	Destinations	Attractions, Meals & Transport
1	Day 1 Beijing	 airport-hotel transfer in Beijing
2	Day 2 Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City , Temple of Heaven, a silk gift shop en route The Tian'anmen Square is the world's largest and renowned public square where many historical events once took place. The Forbidden City (UNESCO) is the imperial place where the emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties ruled for nearly 500 years (1420-1911). Experience the architectural splendor of the palaces, ceremonial courtyards, and private quarters. The Temple of Heaven (UNESCO), where ancient Chinese emperors made sacrifices to Heaven and prayed for bountiful harvests, demonstrates the supreme achievement of traditional Chinese architecture. Good to know: Usually the guide service for a full day tour is about from 9:00 to 17:00, and the evening time is on your own. If needed, your guide is happy to offer some tips or help you buy tickets for evening entertainment. Ideas for leisure time: If you are interested in Chinese Kung Fu, the Legend of Kung Fu is a good choice for tonight. It is stunning Kung Fu show with a great story line and martial arts skills.

3	Day 3 Beijing	 breakfast, lunch  Great Wall, Summer Palace , a cloisonné workshop en route The Great Wall is one of the most spectacular structures ever built by humans and is the only one visible from space. The Summer Palace (UNESCO) is the largest imperial garden in the world. Emperors of successive dynasties created a summer retreat of Chinese gardens and pavilions, around the tranquil waters of Kunming Lake. Ideas for leisure time: 1. Enjoy the Peking Duck dinner at time-honored restaurant - Quanjude or Bianyifang. The duck is characteristic with its crispy skin, tender meat and the fragrance from the fruit-wood. 2. Watch a breathtaking acrobatic show at Chaoyang Theater or Tiandi Theater.
4	Day 4 Beijing - Lijiang (by air)	 hotel - airport transfer in Beijing, airport - hotel transfer in Lijiang  breakfast
5	Day 5 Lijiang	 breakfast, lunch  Jade Dragon Snow Mountain, Murals in Baisha Village, Old Town of Lijiang The Jade Dragon Snow Mountain is a famous for a magnificent view of the glacieris. The snow-covered mountain resembles a jade dragon lying in the clouds, hence the name. The Baisha Village is one of the oldest towns in Lijiang as well as one of the earliest communities of the Naxi ethnic group. The 44 pieces of ancient murals there were carved in the early Ming Dynasty. The Old Town of Lijiang (UNESCO) is one of the best-preserved ancient towns in China and is famous for its distinctive Naxi culture and ancient buildings.
6	Day 6 Lijiang – Shangri-La (by automobile)	 private transfer from Lijiang to Shangri-la  breakfast, lunch  Tiger Leaping Gorge Located 60 kilometres north of Lijiang City, the Tiger Leaping Gorge is one of the deepest and most spectacular river canyons in the world. Following an ancient trek, you will enjoy a magnificent close-up view of sharp cliffs and roaring water.
7	Day 7 Shangri-La	 breakfast, lunch  Ganden Songzanlin Monastery , Pudacuo National Park The Ganden Songzanlin Monastery is the largest Tibetan Buddhism monastery in Yunnan province. Built in the 17th century, during the reign of the Fifth Dalai Lama, it is often called ' the Little Potala Palace'. The Pudacuo National Park is notable as the first national park in China to meet International Union for Conservation of Nature standards. It incorporates the Bitu Lake and the Duhu Scenic Area, and holds the stunning view of three parallel rivers and dense deciduous forests.

8	Day 8 Shangri-La – Kunming (by air)	 hotel - airport transfer in Shangri-la; airport - hotel transfer in Kunming  breakfast, lunch  Stone Forest The Stone Forest (UNESCO) is a typical Karst landscape formed some 270 million years ago. This geological wonder consists of limestone cliffs and peaks that have weathered into various shapes since their formation beneath the sea.
9	Day 9 Kunming – Guilin (by air)	 hotel - airport transfer in Kunming; airport transfer in Guilin  breakfast  Fubo Hill The Fubo Hill is a perfect spot to explore the limestone karst landscape in Guilin.
10	Day 10 Guilin – Yangshuo (by cruise) - Guilin (by automobile)	 take a cruise ship from Guilin to Yangshuo; private transfer from Yangshuo to Guilin  breakfast, lunch  Li River Cruise, leisure time in Yangshuo, a pearl factory en route In the morning, meet your guide at the hotel and transfer to embark on a memorable Li River Cruise. Through this 3-hour journey of China's best known natural scenery, you can appreciate unique karst landscapes as well as verdant hills and lovely waters. Then, arrive at Yangshuo at about 13:00 and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. Ideas for leisure time in Yangshuo (optional tours): 1. Take a bamboo rafting on the Yulong River. Sitting in a chair on the raft and floating down the Yulong River, you will be impressed by the amazing natural beauty in the countryside. 2. Yangshuo County is dotted with rolling hills, bamboo forests and local villages. Taking an walking tour with your guide and explore this scenic countryside is not a bad choice. 3. Or you could join in a 3-hour Chinese Cuisine Cookery Class. It is a great chance to learn a course of Chinese dish from local people. Your friends and family will be amazed when you make them Chinese dishes at the party.
11	Day 11 Guilin - Longsheng - Guilin (by automobile)	 breakfast, lunch  Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces Today, take a 3-hour car ride to Longsheng. Longsheng is well known for its spectacular Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces. It is a beautiful place where the Zhuang and Yao ethnic people have lived for over the centuries. In the spring, when the terraces are full of water, they resemble irregular silver ladders; and in autumn, when the rice ripens, the mountains turn into golden waves.
12	Day 12 Guilin - Shanghai (by air)	 airport transfer in Guilin, airport-hotel transfer in Shanghai  breakfast

13	Day 13 Shanghai	 breakfast, lunch  Yu Garden, Jade Buddha Temple, Shanghai Museum, Bund, a local gift shop en route Owing to its ingenious design in Ming and Qing dynasties, the Yu Garden becomes a real museum of Chinese ancient architecture. The Jade Buddha Temple is famous for its two precious jade Buddha statues brought from Burma, which are not only rare cultural relics but also exquisite artworks. The Shanghai Museum has a collection of 120,000 pieces of Chinese ancient treasures. The Bund, featured outstanding European colonial architectures, is full of new skyscrapers and historical buildings in the center of Shanghai. Ideas for leisure time: 1. Acrobatic Shows in Shanghai are known as the best in China. You can never imagine how exciting the show is. 2. Or you could take a Huangpu River Night Cruise which is the perfect way to enjoy the gorgeous night view of Shanghai.
14	Day 14 Shanghai	 hotel - airport transfer in Shanghai  breakfast

Tour Includes :

- Private tour guide
- Private air-conditioned car or coach
- Land transfers between airport or train station and hotel
- First entrance tickets as listed
- Chinese lunch as listed
- Centrally located hotels with breakfast
- Domestic flight tickets with taxes as listed
- Service charge & government taxes

Tour Excludes :

- International flight
- Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, phone bills, optional activities
- Tips for guides and drivers
- China Visa
- Travel insurance

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