

# Grande Holiday

## 13-Day China Scenic Tour

Touring cities: Yellow Mountain, Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Suzhou

Departures (2008): 4/9, 5/14, 6/12, 9/3, 10/9, 11/1

Price: **\$2,088 + Tax**

Single Supp: \$ 580

AB: American Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner | SD: Special Dinner

### Day 1 Honolulu – Beijing

We start our vacation by boarding an international flight bound for Beijing, the capital of China, an ancient city of great splendors. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

### Day 2 Beijing

Arrive at Beijing Capital International Airport, where we will be greeted by our friendly Grande Holiday representative and escorted to our hotel.

### Day 3 Beijing

(AB, L, D)

In the morning, we'll walk around *Tiananmen Square*, probably the largest and most magnificent public square in the world. Explore *The Forbidden City*, the largest and best preserved imperial palace, whose vast and exotic grandeur was brilliantly captured in the movie *The Last Emperor*. Tour the *Summer Palace*, former summer retreat for the imperial family during the late Qing Dynasty and now China's largest and best preserved royal garden. Afterwards, enjoy a visit to the *fresh-water pearl shop*. In the evening, take pleasure in traditional *Chinese Martial Arts with the "Legend of Kung Fu" Show*.

### Day 4 Beijing

(AB, L, SD)

Begin today's full tour with a visit to a *jade workshop*, where we will learn about Chinese jade culture. Drive through the peaceful valley where Ming emperors had chosen as their burial ground, and descend for a walk along the *Sacred Way*, the Avenue of the Animals lined with massive stone statues. In the afternoon, ascend by *cable car*, to the fabled *Badaling Great Wall*, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a massive defensive structure built to keep off intrusion. Tonight's dinner features China's famous *Peking Duck*.

### Day 5 Beijing – Hangzhou

(AB, L, SD)

In the morning, visit the *Temple of Heaven*; widely regarded as the noblest example of religious architectures in all of China, it was the site where emperors came to worship heaven for a bountiful harvest. Proceed for an entry to *Tongrentang*, Chinese most famous traditional pharmacy, where you could learn the mystifying Chinese theory of Yin & Yang balance. In the afternoon, fly to Hangzhou, a famed scenic, historical and cultural city with a glamorous byname, "Paradise under Heaven". Visit the *Ling Ying Temple*, one of the best-known Buddhist monasteries in China.

### Day 6 Hangzhou – Thousand Island Lake – Yellow Mountain

(AB, L, D)

Take the coach to *Thousand Island Lake*. Its water is crystal clear, interwoven with branching streams and beautiful scenery all over the lake; with over 90% of occupying vegetation, it is also known as the Green Lake. A lake cruise is arranged with lunch on board. During the cruise, a shore excursion will take us to visit some of the islands. We will continue to drive to *Yellow Mountain* (Huangshan). The five elements of Yellow Mountain consist of exotic pines, grotesque rocks, seas of clouds, hot springs, and winter snow scenery.

### Day 7 Yellow Mountain

(AB, L, D)

In the morning, coach to the foot of *Yellow Mountain*, a city noted for its natural beauty. Upon arrival, catch a *cable car ride* to Mt. Huangshan; a subsequent one hour and a half stroll will take us back to the hotel. After that, tour the *Beihai scenic area* that includes Writing Brush Peak, Lion Peak, and Flying over Rock. Also, enjoy the poetic and illusive atmosphere of the Black Tiger pine, Interlocking pine, and Chessboard pine. Here, it feels like heaven on earth. Stay overnight atop Yellow Mountain.

**Day 8                      Yellow Mountain                      (AB, L, D)**

Get up early in the morning to *watch sunrise*. Here, it is one of the most beautiful sunrises on earth to emerge with nature. Tour the *Cloud Dispelling Pavilion, Bright Top Peak, and Believe Peak*. Then we will go down to the city via telfer. The city tour will include the *Huangshan Museum and Tunxi Ancient Street*, which is a cultural and historical reserve. It beholds a Song dynasty atmosphere.

**Day 9                      Yellow Mountain – Hangzhou                      (AB, L, D)**

Today we will drive back to Hangzhou. Upon arrival, we will take a boat ride on the *scenic West Lake*. Marco Polo once wrote: "... it skirts the city... and commands a distant view of all its grandeur and loveliness, its temples, monasteries, and gardens with their towering trees, running down to the water's edge." Follow on with a visit to *Huagang Park*.

**Day 10                      Hangzhou – Suzhou                      (AB, L, D)**

In the morning, take a coach to Suzhou; criss-crossed by 300 bridges and famous for its classic gardens, it is also known as 'the Venice of the East' with its network of canal streets. Then we will visit the *Garden for Lingering In*, renowned for the artistic way in which the spaces between various kinds of architectural forms are accomplished.

**Day 11                      Suzhou– Shanghai                      (AB, L, D)**

We will take a boat ride to explore the *Grand Canal*; second only to the Great Wall as a Chinese engineering feat, it was constructed 2,400 years ago. Take in graceful bridges that cross over the water, and tile-roofed whitewashed houses that sit close to shore. As Suzhou is famous for its delicate and smooth silk and embroidery, we've arranged a visit to a silk factory as well. Drive back to Shanghai. Attend the most famous *Chinese Acrobatic Show* in the evening.

**Day 12                      Shanghai                      (AB, L, SD)**

Explore the *Pudong New Development Area* and visit the *Oriental Pearl TV Tower*, where you could get a bird's eye view of the bustling City. Travel along the famous *Bund*, a five-block long riverfront promenade containing many of Shanghai's banks and trading houses. We'll also make a stop at a nearby *Carpet Factory* and do some leisure shopping at *City God Temple Open Market*. Afterwards we will also go to the *Bustling Nanjing Road* and enjoy a *farewell dinner of Brazillian B.B.Q.*

**Day 13                      Shanghai – Honolulu                      (AB)**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home with lasting memories with a marvelous trip.

**Tour Fee Includes:**

1. International and China domestic airfare
2. Deluxe hotel accommodation; Admissions and meals as stated.
3. Escorted tour from Hawaii with a minimum of 20 passengers
4. Refer to "General Condition of Grande Holiday"
5. We reserve the right to modify the itinerary so as to ensure a smooth operation. Please call for details.

**\*\*\* Prices are subject to change without notice. This is due to unforeseen circumstances like fuel prices increase, lower exchange rate and others. \*\*\***

**\*\*\* Seasonal surcharge may apply for June, July, August, and December \*\*\***