

Grande Holiday

18-Day China Highlight & Yangtze River (Upstream) Odyssey (B)

Touring cities: Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai, Suzhou, Wuhan, Chongqing, Shenzhen, Hong Kong

Departures (2008): 3/8, 4/19, 5/8, 6/20, 9/20, 10/18, 11/1

Price: \$2,888 + Tax

Single Supp: \$ 680 (Land Only)

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 splendor. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 2 Beijing

Arrive at Beijing Capital International Airport. Grande Holiday representative will greet and escort us 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 most well-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*, where the Avenue of the Animals can be seen 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 – Xi'an (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*, China's most famous traditional pharmacy, where you could learn the mystifying Chinese theory of Yin & Yang balance. Board a flight to Xi'an later in the day. Upon arrival, attend a *hot-pot dinner* at a local restaurant.

Day 6 Xi'an (AB, L, SD)

Go to one of the most exciting archaeological finds of the 20th Century - more than 6,000 of excavated *Terracotta Warriors*. Pay a visit to *Shaanxi Provincial Museum*, which beholds a treasure of 113,000 historic and cultural artifacts unearthed in Shaanxi. Today's exploration also includes a stop at a lacquer ware factory. Enjoy a fabulous night of *Dumpling Banquet Dinner* and the *Tang Dynasty Show*.

Day 7 Xi'an – Shanghai – Suzhou (AB, L, D)

Explore the *Big Wild Goose Pagoda*, a famous Buddhist pagoda in China. Visit the *City Wall* - one of the few ancient city walls still standing in China. In the afternoon, board a short flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival, we'll drive straight to Suzhou, which is known as 'Venice of the East' for its network of canal streets that are criss-crossed by 300 bridges.

Day 8 Suzhou – Shanghai (AB, L, SD)

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. Follow on with a visit to the *Garden for Linger In*. As Suzhou is famous for its delicate and smooth silk and embroidery, we've arranged for a visit to a silk factory as well. Drive back to Shanghai. Attend the most famous *Chinese Acrobatic Show* in the evening. Enjoy a Brazilian BBQ dinner.

- Day 9** **Shanghai — Wuhan** (AB, L, D)
 In the morning, 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*. In the afternoon, we will take a flight to Wuhan, from where we will board the *5-star Regal Cruise Ship* and begin our *Yangtze River Adventure*.
- Day 10** **Yangtze River** (AB, L, D)
 Full-day sail. Briefings and other events will be held onboard.
- Day 11** **Yangtze River** (AB, L, D)
 In the morning, navigate *Gezhou Ship Lock* and enter *Xiling* gorge. Then visit the *Three Gorges Dam Site*, the biggest dam built in the world and a large water conservation project for flood control, generation, cultivation and flood discharge. In the afternoon, navigate the *Three Gorges Ship Lock*.
- Day 12** **Yangtze River** (AB, L, D)
 In the morning, we will take an excursion in a small boat exploring the *Shennong Stream* and *Bamboo Gorges*. At noon, the ship will enter *Wu Gorge*, which is famous for its meandering waterways. Additionally, the fog bestows an indistinct and attractive beauty. In the afternoon, enter *Qutang Gorge*, the shortest, narrowest but most striking section of the three gorges, what with sky-soaring majestic mountains on both its sides.
- Day 13** **Yangtze River** (AB, L, D)
 Disembark for the *Wanxian* city tour. Wanxian is famous for silk, leather, bamboo, wood, and the suspended coffin, etc. You will visit the museum, the relocation village, and the market.
- Day 14** **Yangtze River – Chongqing – Shenzhen** (AB, L, D)
 The Yangtze River Adventure concludes in the city of Chongqing, the newest and fourth municipality city under China's central government. It presents a unique magnificent picture with miles of roads and streets winding up and down the hills and along its riverbanks. Finally, take a flight to Shenzhen, a famous shopping heaven.
- Day 15** **Shenzhen** (AB, D)
 Explore the city at leisure in the morning. In the afternoon, Visit the *China Cultural Village* and *Splendid China*. After dinner, watch the night show "*Dances & Music between the Dragon and the Phoenix*".
- Day 16** **Shenzhen – Hong Kong** (AB)
 Take the coach to Hong Kong, the Harbor of Fragrance. After check-in at your hotel, explore the charm and dynamic beauty of Hong Kong at your leisure.
- Day 17** **Hong Kong**
 Free at leisure.
- Day 18** **Hong Kong – Honolulu**
 After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home, taking with you lasting memories of a splendid trip.

Tour Fee Includes:

1. International and China domestic airfare
2. Deluxe hotel accommodation; Admissions and meals as stated
3. For single cabin on the cruise ship, please add another \$320 to the single supplement.
4. Escorted tour from Hawaii with a minimum of 20 passengers
5. Refer to "General Condition of Grande Holiday"
6. 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 ***