

Grande Holiday

Roof of the World - Majestic Tibet (12-Day)

Touring cities: Guangzhou, Chongqing, Lhasa, Gyantse, Shigatse, Namtuo Lake, Beijing

TRAVEL DATES (2008): Jun 18 – 29 & Sep 10 – 21

PRICE: \$3,188 + TAX

SINGLE SUPP: \$550

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

Day 1 Honolulu – Narita

Depart for Guangzhou, the gateway of Southern China.

Day 2 Narita – Guangzhou

Arrive at Guangzhou Airport. A Grande Holiday representative will greet and escort us to the hotel

Day 3 Guangzhou – Chongqing (AB, L, D)

Following a morning city tour in Guangzhou, take a flight to *Chongqing*, the newest and fourth municipality city under China's central government. A magnificent view unfolds with miles of winding roads and streets along the hills and riverbanks. Take a city tour and visit the famous *Panda Zoo*. In the evening, try the *special Chongqing cuisine* and enjoy a *Chinese massage*.

Day 4 Chongqing – Konggar Airport / Lhasa (AB, L, D)

Fly to Konggar Airport and transfer to *Lhasa city*, capital of Tibet, which is located at 3,800 meters (about 11,600 feet) above sea level. The pace slows as we adjust to the thin air on the high plateau.

Day 5 Lhasa (AB, L, D)

Today's sightseeing starts from Lhasa's cardinal landmark – *Potala Palace*, a structure of great magnitude - have your awe struck upon its first sighting! About 3 miles to the east of Potala is the most revered religious structure in Tibet – *Jokhang Temple*. Bustling with worshippers and redolent with mystery, the Jokhang is an unrivalled experience. The quadrangle of streets surrounding the Jokhang is the *Barkhor* – Lhasa's most interesting pilgrimage circuit.

Day 6 Lhasa (AB, L, D)

Visit Drepung and Sera. *Drepung* was once the world's largest monastery with about 10,000 monks. Now, it remains one of Lhasa's two great Gelugpa monasteries; the other is Sera. The 'Buddhism Scriptures Debating' in *Sera* is very famous. During your stay in Lhasa, a *visit to Tibetan village* will be arranged. Enjoy a *Tibetan Song & Dance Performance* after dinner.

Day 7 Lhasa – Yamdrok Tso – Gyantse – Shigatse (AB, L, D)

We leave Lhasa today and travel by land to Gyantse and Shigatse. This journey goes through high mountain passes and travels along the beautiful shorelines of *Yamdrok Tso Lake*. On the way, enjoy awesome roadside views of the glacier. In Gyantse, visit the *Pelkor Chode Monastery and Kumbum*. Packed with exquisite Tibetan sculpture and paintings, it's a stunning architectural wonder in Tibet. Arrive in Shigatse and stay for the night.

Day 8 Shigatse -- Lhasa (AB, L, D)

Shigatse is the second largest city in Tibet and it is a popular destination for both pilgrims and tourists. Head west of town for the gleaming gold roofs of the magnificent *Tashilunpo Monastery*, which was founded in 1447. Close to Tashilunpo is *the Old Town*, a great place to wander about. Nicely decorated Tibetan houses and interesting market and bazaar will proffer you a vivid picture of local people's life. Drive back to Lhasa.

Day 9 Lhasa – Namtso Lake – Lhasa (AB, L, D)

Today's highlight is *Namtso Lake*. Namtso, literally heavenly lake, is famous for its high altitude (4720 meters (about 3 miles)), vast area (1961 square kilometers (about 757 square miles) and beautiful scenery. It is the biggest lake in Tibet and the second biggest salt lake in China as well as the highest lake in the world. Namtso Lake is one of the three holy lakes in Tibet, playing an important role among Tibetans. The water here is of such crystal blue that some feels it a soul cleansing experience. Distant clear skies join the lake surface to create an integrated, scenic vista.

Day 10 **Lhasa / Konggar Airport – Beijing** **(AB, L, D)**
 After breakfast, transfer to Konggar airport. Fly out to Beijing (via Chongqing).
Day 11 **Beijing** **(AB)**
 Free at leisure.
Day 12 **Beijing – Honolulu** **(AB)**
 After breakfast, transfer to airport for your flight back home, taking with you wonderful memories.

Optional Extension to Yangtze River Odyssey Price: \$750

Day 10 **Konggar Airport – Chongqing – Yangtze River** **(AB, L, D)**
 After breakfast, transfer to Konggar airport. Say goodbye to Tibet and fly out to Chongqing. Upon arrival, meet with a local tour guide who will take you around the city. After dinner, embark with *5-Star Regal Cruise* and start our *Yangtze River Adventure*.

Day 11 **Yangtze River** **(AB, L, D)**
 Start our sailing in the morning and take a shore excursion to Ghost city, Temple or relocation village.

Day 12 **Yangtze River** **(AB, L, D)**
 The ship will enter *Qutang Gorge* and *Wu Gorge*. Qutang Gorge is the shortest, narrowest but most striking section of the three gorges. Wu Gorge is famous for its meandering waterways; its distinct beauty bestowed upon the by the hanging fog. Take an excursion in a small boat exploring the *Shennong Stream and Bamboo Gorges*. In the afternoon, enter *Xinlin Gorge*; navigate *Three Gorges Ship lock*. *Anchor overnight*.

Day 13 **Yangtze River** **(AB, L, D)**
 In the morning, you will visit the *Three Gorges Dam Sites*, the biggest dam being built in the world and a large water conservation project of flood control, generation, cultivation and flood discharge. Navigate Gezhou Ship lock.

Day 14 **Wuhan – Shanghai** **(AB, L, D)**
 The Yangtze River Adventure concludes in Wuhan at noon time. Fly to Shanghai.

Day 15 **Shanghai** **(AB, L, D)**
 Today we will take you to the *City God Temple marketplace*, *“Pedestrian Only” Nanjing Road*, *the Bund*, *and silk & embroidery workshop ...*

Day 16 **Shanghai – Honolulu** **(AB)**
 After breakfast, transfer to airport for your flight home, taking with you last memories.

Tour Fee Includes:

1. International and domestic air, deluxe hotel or local best accommodation, transportation, meals, admission fees, and English-speaking tour guide service.
2. Refer to “General Condition of Grande Holiday”
3. For single cabin on the cruise ship, please add another **\$320** to the single supplement.
4. 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 *****