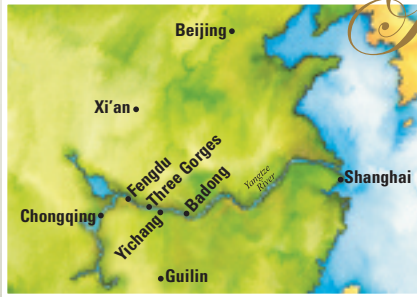


CHINA

AND THE YANGTZE RIVER

Grand Journey

featuring
**Beijing, Xi'an,
 Guilin, Shanghai and a
 Yangtze River Cruise**



No longer the “sleeping giant” described by Napoleon, China continues to hold its rightful place as one of the most fascinating countries in the world. This comprehensive travel program reveals the secrets of China’s mystique and highlights the most amazing landmark sights, including Beijing’s Forbidden City, the Terra Cotta Warriors near Xi’an, the distinctive landscape of Guilin, the spectacular beauty of the Three Gorges region and the Bund in cosmopolitan Shanghai.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy **First-Class accommodations** as you discover China’s treasures.
- Explore the magic of China on a **comprehensive program** priced at an **exceptional value** with **included excursions**.
- Marvel at Beijing’s **Imperial Palaces** and **Great Wall**, Xi’an’s **Terra Cotta Warriors**, and the **Bund** in Shanghai.
- Admire the unique scenery of the **Li River** in Guilin.
- Visit the **Chongqing Zoo** to see its resident pandas.
- **Cruise the scenic Yangtze River** aboard the *Century Sky* and marvel at the Three Gorges. All shore excursions are included.
- Gain insight into daily life during a **visit to two villages**, where you will meet the people and visit their homes.
- Travel without a care in the world! Your **AHI Travel Director** is always present to offer assistance.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Three nights** in **Beijing** at the *Hilton Beijing*.
- **Two nights** in **Xi’an** at the *Shangri-La Hotel*.
- **Two nights** in **Guilin** at the *Sheraton Guilin Hotel*.
- **Three nights** aboard the *Viking Century Sky*.
- **Two nights** in **Shanghai** at the *Hilton Shanghai*.

Transportation

- Flights from Beijing to Xi’an, Xi’an to Guilin, Guilin to Chongqing, Yichang to Shanghai, including baggage handling at the hotels and ship.

Activities and Events

- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- Attend a **Welcome Reception**.
- Attend a **Farewell Reception**.

Meals

- Enjoy 11 breakfasts, six lunches and four dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **AHI Travel Director** throughout your trip.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- **Tipping** of all guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

AIR PROGRAM

- Scheduled jet service.
- Deluxe motorcoach transfers between the airports and the hotels, with baggage handling at the hotels.
- All domestic and foreign governmental airport/departure taxes and fees.
- Automatic \$250,000 Flight Insurance for all passengers ticketed by AHI Travel, subject to policy terms.

*Top to Bottom
 Yangtze River; Viking Century Sun*

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: DEPARTURE

Depart for **Beijing, China**, aboard scheduled jet service. *(Provided for Air Program participants only.)*

DAY 2: BEIJING

Upon a midday arrival in Beijing, transfer by deluxe motorcoach to the **Hilton Beijing**. *(Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.)*

This evening, gather with fellow travelers for a *Welcome Reception*.

DAY 3: BEIJING

Excursion: Triple Happiness in Beijing. The day begins in Tiananmen Square. Next, explore the Forbidden City. After lunch, visit the Summer Palace's beautiful gardens.

DAY 4: GREAT WALL

Excursion: The Great Wall. In Badaling, admire panoramic views from atop the Great Wall.

Local Flavor: This evening, wield your chopsticks at a dinner of Peking duck.

DAY 5: BEIJING & XI'AN

Excursion: Temple of Heaven. Tour a temple used by the emperors to pray for bountiful harvests.

Board a flight to **Xi'an**. Check in at the **Shangri-La Hotel**.

DAY 6: XI'AN

Excursion: The Emperor's Army. Marvel at one of China's most exciting archeological finds, the Terra Cotta Warriors.

Optional Excursion: T'ang Dynasty Dinner and Show. Xi'an was the capital during the T'ang Dynasty, a Golden Age in Chinese history. The dinner and show highlight the era's great culture.

DAY 7: HUXIAN & GUILIN

Travel to a farming village in Huxian, where the folk art of painting is renowned. Visit a painter's studio, homes and farms. Then, board a flight to **Guilin**. Upon arrival, transfer to the **Sheraton Guilin Hotel**.

DAY 8: GUILIN

Excursion: Li River Cruise. See the distinctive landscape along the Li River. Enjoy free time in Yangshuo before returning to Guilin.

DAY 9: CHONGQING

Today, fly to **Chongqing**. Upon arrival, travel to the zoo to see its pandas. Afterward, transfer to the pier to embark the **Viking Century Sky**.

DAY 10: FENGDU

Sail from Chongqing through the spectacular Three Gorges region. **Excursion: Fengdu.** Visit a village that was relocated across the Yangtze from its original location because of the Three Gorges Dam. Visit families in their homes and learn how they are adapting to their new lives. Join the captain at a *Welcome Dinner*.

DAY 11: GORGES

Enter the Qutang Gorge. Next, the ship reaches Wu Gorge, considered the most beautiful of the Three Gorges.

Excursion: Shennong Lesser Gorges. Disembark in Badong and board small local boats for a closer experience of the magnificent gorges on the scenic Shennong Xi tributary.

DAY 12: NEW DAM

Sail through the east section of the Xiling Gorge.

Excursion: Three Gorges Dam. A fascinating tour provides insight into the world's largest construction project. Disembark the ship in Yichang and transfer to the airport for the flight to **Shanghai** and the **Hilton Shanghai**.

DAY 13: SHANGHAI

Excursion: Highlights of Shanghai. Drive along the Bund, Shanghai's "Wall Street," and stroll through beautiful Yu Garden.

Attend a *Farewell Reception* at the hotel.

DAY 14: RETURN

Transfer to the Shanghai airport for the return flight to North America. *(Provided for Air Program participants only.)*

NOTE: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motorcoach.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hilton Beijing, Beijing

Located in the Chaoyang business district, this hotel offers the utmost in comfort. Guestrooms feature modern amenities.

Shangri-La Hotel, Xi'an

This deluxe hotel is close to Xi'an's many attractions. It has four restaurants, a spa, health club and swimming pool. Well-appointed guestrooms have views of the city or the hotel's garden.

Sheraton Guilin Hotel, Guilin

Nestled on the banks of the Li River, this hotel boasts comfortable guestrooms with a full range of modern amenities.

Viking Century Sky

This elegant ship features all outside-facing cabins that showcase excellent views of the passing countryside. Each is comfortably equipped with modern amenities. The ship also offers a full range of services.

Hilton Shanghai, Shanghai

Situated between two shopping districts in the former French Concession area, the hotel offers an array of modern amenities.

EXCLUSIVE CRUISE EXTRAS:

This AHI River Cruise features:

- A deluxe river cruise ship providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; limited capacity; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- Pleasant dining aboard ship featuring special extras such as morning coffee, afternoon tea and expertly prepared culinary specialties of the region.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- Demonstrations and lectures on Chinese painting, calligraphy, dance and song.



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