

China Sampler 11 Days

Beijing, Suzhou, Wuxi,
Hangzhou, Shanghai



Highlights

- Walk on the incredible **Great Wall**
- Unfold the mystery of the **Forbidden City**
- Stroll in one of the finest Chinese gardens in **Suzhou**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis **Shanghai**
- Sit by the tranquil West Lake in **Hangzhou**

As its name suggests, this tour is designed to give you a *sample* of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, thriving industries, and modern architecture. Walk along the Great Wall and unfold the mystery of the Forbidden City in China's capital Beijing, discover the exquisite cities of Suzhou and Hangzhou both on par with heaven for their natural beauty according to a Chinese saying, and immerse yourself in the dynamic cosmopolitan city Shanghai.



Peking Roast Duck



Local Snack in Wangfujing



The Bund



Beijing Zoo



Forbidden City

2018 Guaranteed Departures Package Price (NZD) Single Supplement

2018 Guaranteed Departures	Package Price (NZD) per person twin-share	Single Supplement
27 Feb [^]	29 May	28 Aug*
06 Mar ^{^*}	05 Jun	04 Sep
13 Mar [^]	12 Jun*	11 Sep**
20 Mar [^]	19 Jun*	18 Sep**
27 Mar ^{^**}	26 Jun*	25 Sep*
03 Apr*	03 Jul*	02 Oct*
10 Apr*	10 Jul**	09 Oct*
17 Apr**	17 Jul*	16 Oct
24 Apr**	24 Jul*	23 Oct
01 May*	31 Jul	30 Oct
08 May	07 Aug	06 Nov
15 May	14 Aug	13 Nov
22 May	21 Aug	

\$1,999 \$600

Package Inclusions:

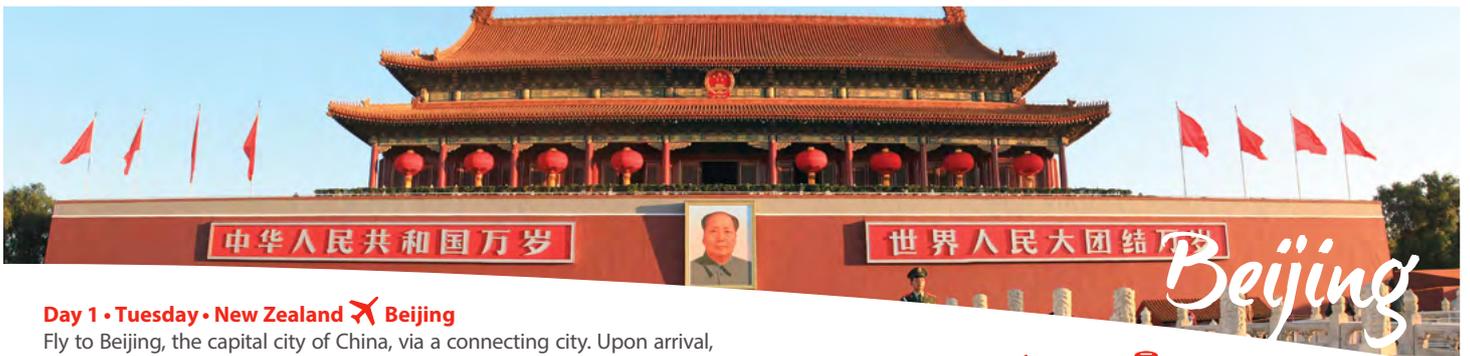
- Economy class airfares, taxes & fuel surcharges departing Auckland with China Southern Airlines or China Eastern Airlines
- Internal flights
- 9 nights hotel accommodation
- Daily meals as indicated (B, L, D)
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

Package Exclusions:

- Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$110
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal expenses

Price Guide:

- *Peak Season Surcharge: NZD\$330
- **School Holiday Surcharge: NZD\$440
- Stay Behind Surcharge: From NZD\$275 surcharge (subject to availability and applicable fare difference)
- Pre/Post-Tour Accom. (incl. breakfast): NZD\$85/person/night twin-share, NZD\$165/person/night single
- Child Price: Same as adult



Day 1 • Tuesday • New Zealand ✈ Beijing

Fly to Beijing, the capital city of China, via a connecting city. Upon arrival, you will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel. (Note: Some flights may depart the day before.)

Day 2 • Wednesday • Beijing • (B, L, D)

Beijing has served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second largest public square in the world, and the **Forbidden City**, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Continue on to the **Temple of Heaven**, one of the best examples of Ming Dynasty architecture and also an ornate sanctuary where Chinese emperors offered sacrifices to heaven and prayed for good harvest. Your welcome banquet includes the local delicacy, **Peking Roast Duck**.

Day 3 • Thursday • Beijing • (B, L)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall** at Juyong Pass, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. You will also visit one of the largest Jade Exhibitions in Asia en-route. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a Cloisonné Factory. Tonight, you can choose to attend an optional large scale dramatic musical, **"The Golden Mask Dynasty"** (at your own expense).



Tiananmen Square



Temple of Heaven

Day 4 • Friday • Beijing • (B, L)

Today tour the exquisite **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient garden in China and a former summer resort for Emperors followed by the **Beijing Zoo** to see China's adorable national treasure - the Giant Panda. Then visit a Chinese Herbal Institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine as you enjoy a rejuvenating foot massage which has existed for thousands of years. Later, you can join an optional **"Hutong Life Tour"** (at your own expense), a special journey which explores Beijing's ancient alleyways or "hutongs" by pedicab or take a stroll in **Wangfujing**, one of the Chinese capital's most famous shopping streets.



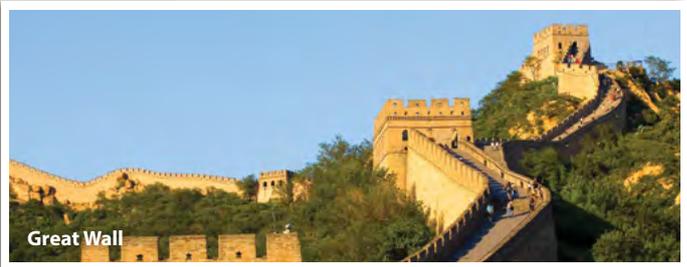
Summer Palace



Grand Canal

Day 5 • Saturday • Beijing ✈ Shanghai 🚆 Wuxi • (B, D)

Fly to Shanghai and travel to Wuxi, an ancient city richly endowed with nature due to its pleasantly warm and moist climate - it boasts a reputation of being the "Land of Fish and Rice". Enjoy the scenery as we pass by **Lake Tai**, the third-largest freshwater lake in China. This evening, we have the option of visiting **Nanchang Street** and take a cruise along the **Grand Canal** to view life along China's golden waterway in its heyday then stroll along the charming and trendy pedestrian street composed of both ancient and modern architecture (at your own expense).



Great Wall

Day 6 • Sunday • Wuxi 🚆 Suzhou • (B, L)

This morning visit one of the largest Fresh Water Pearl Exhibitions in the country. After lunch, travel by coach to Suzhou, an extraordinarily delicate and elegant city with its canals, stone bridges and meticulously designed gardens which has often been referred to as "Paradise on Earth" by Chinese poets and writers since ancient times. As a large area of the city is covered by water, including a vast number of ponds and streams, Suzhou is also known as "Venice of the East". It is also known as the "Garden City" due to its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Visit the **Lingering Garden** which is among the finest gardens in China.



Nanchang Street

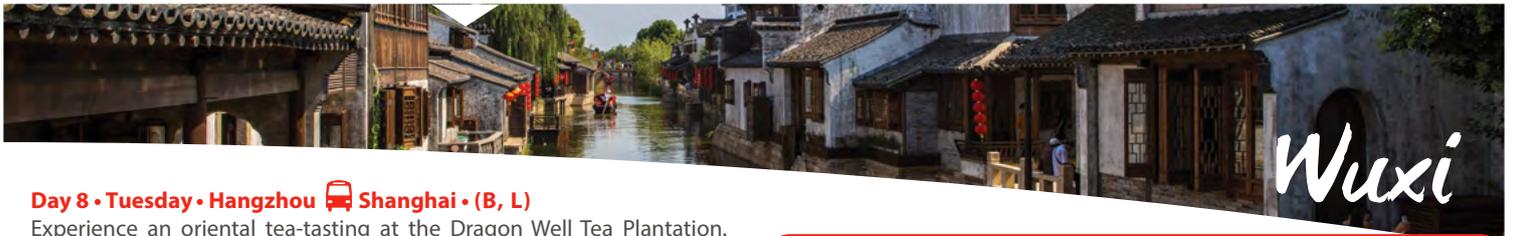


Lake Tai

Day 7 • Monday • Suzhou 🚆 Hangzhou • (B, L, D)

This morning visit a Silk Spinning Mill, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. After lunch, travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Upon arrival, take a boat ride on the serene **West Lake**, the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. This evening, you can enjoy an optional open-air performance, **"Impression West Lake"**, a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony (at your own expense).





Day 8 • Tuesday • Hangzhou 🚗 Shanghai • (B, L)

Experience an oriental tea-tasting at the Dragon Well Tea Plantation. Then travel by coach to Shanghai, the vibrant metropolis and commercial centre of China. Upon arrival, walk along the famous **Bund**, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined with colonial architectures of European design, it is the best place to capture the Western influences of the old days. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure strolling along the bustling shopping district, **Nanjing Road**. Tonight you can watch a superb and thrilling **Chinese Acrobatic Show "ERA: The Intersection of Time"** (at your own expense).



Day 9 • Wednesday • Shanghai • (B, D)

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of Huangpu River and the Bund. Then taste the famous **Xiao Long Bao** at a Shanghai Dim Sim restaurant for lunch (at your own expense). After lunch, head to the **City God Temple of Shanghai**, symbolic of the large temple complex and surrounding traditional district of commerce in the city. After tonight's farewell celebration dinner, you can cap off the celebrations by joining an optional **Huangpu River Night Cruise** and get a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai (at your own expense).

Day 10 • Thursday • Shanghai ✈️ New Zealand • (B)

Enjoy the morning at leisure before you are transferred to Shanghai airport to board your overnight flight via a connecting city to New Zealand.

Day 11 • Friday • New Zealand

Arrive home.

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

All prices, itineraries, airlines, hotels and cruise ships are subject to availability and change without prior notice. CTS Tours reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar standard and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure the smooth running of the tour. The itinerary and sites to be visited are subject to change due to local and seasonal conditions, time and other unforeseen constraints beyond our control. Passengers must remain with the tour group at all times and must not deviate from the set itinerary. The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

Hotel Accommodation *All hotels based on local hotel ratings

Beijing	Loong Palace Hotel	5 Star or similar
Suzhou	Pan Pacific Hotel	5 Star or similar
Wuxi	Swiss-bell Hotel	5 Star or similar
Hangzhou	Metropark Hotel	5 Star or similar
Shanghai	Wyndham Bund East	5 Star or similar



Optional Tour Extensions

Xi'an Terracotta Warriors
3 Days 2 Nights



From \$750

Majestic Yangtze River Cruise
5 Days 4 Nights



From \$1,200

China Visa

New Zealand passport holders must have a valid visa to enter China. Passports must be valid for at least six months prior to entry. The Chinese visa is only valid for 3 months from the date it is issued so you cannot apply for it too soon in advance. It is typically done 2 months before departure and it normally takes 4-5 working days to process.

Required documentation for China visa application:

- 1) Original Passport (with at least 6 months validity)
- 2) Photocopy of your passport photo page
- 3) Photocopy of your Chinese visa page (If been to China before)
- 4) 1 passport size photo (on proper photo paper)
- 5) Completed China Visa Application Form

Information is subject to change. Please contact us for updates.



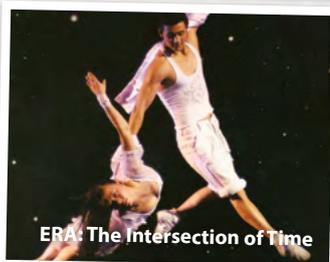
Linger Garden



Recommended Excursions

Get to know China better with our list of in-depth excursions recommended to enhance your total experience! Prepay for all optional programs to receive a NZD\$20 discount off the total price.

Beijing	The Golden Mask Dynasty	NZD\$80
Beijing	Hutong Life Tour	NZD\$75
Wuxi	Grand Canal Cruise	NZD\$40
Hangzhou	Impression West Lake	NZD\$85
Shanghai	ERA: The Intersection of Time	NZD\$80
Shanghai	Shanghai Dumpling Lunch	NZD\$30
Shanghai	Huangpu River Night Cruise	NZD\$60



Travel Insurance

Comprehensive travel insurance is highly recommended.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

When is the best time to visit China in terms of climate?

Spring and autumn is generally the best time to visit China when the weather is mild - not too cold and not too hot. Normally, the most comfortable season of the year is early autumn (September to early October). During that period, temperatures are reasonable throughout China with a limited amount of rain. Spring (March to May) can also be delightful with the average temperatures roughly the same as in autumn. Regardless of the time of the year, a visitor will always be rewarded with charming scenery throughout China.

What language is spoken in China?

The official national language in China is Mandarin. There are several ethnic minority languages in the western and southern most provinces.

What is the local currency in China?

Chinese money is called Renminbi (RMB) which literally means "The People's Currency". The popular unit of RMB is "yuan". One New Zealand Dollar is currently worth around RMB\$4.95. (AUG 2016)

Are any vaccinations required for travel to China?

No vaccinations are required for a trip to China (except for Yellow Fever if you're arriving from an infected area), however, it is recommended that you consult your physician and preferably a doctor at least 4-6 weeks before you are scheduled to depart. There are some recommended vaccines and it's important that you take the necessary precautions and be up-to-date on your routine vaccines.

Are there any water and food safety concerns in China?

It goes without saying you should be careful with food and water. Only drink bottled water and use it to brush your teeth. Tour operator supplies complimentary bottled water everyday on the tour. Your hotel will also provide several bottles a day free of charge.



Tipping

Tipping is a firm and expected element in tourism industry today and China is no exception. The nominated tip amount (NZD\$11/day/person - total NZD\$110) is to be given to your National Guide at the beginning of your group tour upon arrival at your destination and they will do all the necessary tipping on your behalf. Tipping includes National Guide, local guides, drivers and bell-boys.

Your Travel Agent

Pre-tour Extension Package

Xi'an Terracotta Warriors

3 Days 2 Nights

Xi'an

was the first Chinese city to open its doors to the world during the Tang dynasty and the capital for eleven dynasties over a period of more than 2,000 years. Together with Athens, Cairo and Rome, Xi'an is among the four major ancient civilization capitals of the world.



Tour Highlights

- Terracotta Warriors & Horses
- Ancient City Wall
- Big Wild Goose Pagoda
- Shanxi Provincial History Museum
- Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show
- Imperial Dumpling Banquet

Day 1 • Sunday • New Zealand ✈ Xi'an

Board your international flight from New Zealand via a connecting city to Xi'an. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest. (Note: some flights may depart one day before.)



Day 2 • Monday • Xi'an • (B, L, S)

The highlight today is a visit to the **Terracotta Warriors & Horses** to see the life-sized defending army to the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. This site is among the top archaeological excavations of the 20th century. This will be followed by a visit to an Art Ceramics Factory. In the evening, enjoy a special **Imperial Dumpling Banquet** and **traditional Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show**.

Day 3 • Tuesday • Xi'an ✈ Beijing • (B, L)

After breakfast, visit the **Shanxi Provincial History Museum**. Enjoy a **special noodle lunch** including an interesting noodle making demonstration. Then visit the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**, the symbol of the city. Later, walk along the **Ancient City Wall**, which not only is the most complete city wall that has survived in China but also one of the largest ancient military defense systems in the world. Fly to Beijing in the evening to commence your China Sampler 10 Day Tour.

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **S** = Special Banquet

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Package Price (NZD)
per person twin-share

Single Supplement

\$750

\$130

Package Inclusions:

- Domestic flights to Xi'an (economy class)
- 2 nights hotel accommodation
- Daily meals as indicated (B, L, S)
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Site entry fees
- English speaking tour guide

Package Exclusions:

- Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$33
- China visa
- Travel insurance (mandatory)
- Personal expenses



Hotel Accommodation *All hotels based on local hotel ratings

Xi'an Titan Times Hotel 5 Star or similar

Post-tour Extension Package

Majestic Yangtze River Cruise

5 Days 4 Nights

Package Price (NZD)
per person twin-share

\$1,200

Single Supplement

\$800

Package Inclusions:

- 2 economy class domestic flights (Shanghai >Yichang & Chongqing>Shanghai)
- All transfers
- Daily meals as indicated (B, L, D)
- Standard Cabin with Private Balcony (twin-share)
- 3 shore excursions (subject to change)
- English tour guide (on board cruise)

Note: Cruise ship is subject to change. Triple share is not available.

* CTS Tours reserves the right to substitute the ship with one of similar standard.

Package Exclusions:

- China visa
- Tipping - NZD\$60
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Personal expenses



After walk along the Great Wall in Beijing, stroll through classic gardens in Suzhou, and immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis Shanghai, relax as you cruise along the majestic Yangtze River and discover the dramatic gorges, mountain villages and breathtaking scenery.

A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a life time. You will enjoy the stunning picturesque scenery and amazing natural beauties of the famed Three Gorges: Qutang Gorge, Wu Gorge and Xiling Gorge, while exploring the historic relics and ancient cultural sites along the mighty river.

Enjoy shore excursions to explore the fascinating history and tranquil landscapes including the spectacle of Fengdu Ghost City, a peculiar site that contains statues of demons and ghosts that roam the after-world; the fun of drifting through Shennong Stream, which offers clear running waters, picturesque rock formations, and monkeys and goats along its banks; and the wonder of the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest dam.

A Yangtze River cruise is a visual delight, full of pleasant surprises and many treasures waiting to be discovered. The images will stay with you long after you have returned home.



Luxury 5 Star
President 7
Standard Cabin with Private Balcony

The luxurious President 7 is newly constructed ship with modern design and technique. It first sails on the Yangtze River in April of 2013. With the maximum length of 146.8m and width of 20.2m, the ship possesses 215 deluxe cabins, 13 executive cabins and 2 presidential cabins, which all together could accommodate up to 580 passengers. There are about 200 staff on board offering superior and all - directional service to guests whenever needed. Besides the high-quality service, the ship is also equipped with the most advanced facilities like Satellite Television, Satellite phone and air-conditioning system. Furthermore, you will be impressed by their humanized design of providing large swimming pool, deluxe cinema, Golf driving range, Children's park and barrier-free facilities, which made them quite different from the traditional luxurious cruise ships.

Day 1 • Thursday • Shanghai ✈️ Yichang 🚢 Yangtze River cruise • (D)
This morning fly to the port city of Yichang, the starting point of our Yangtze River cruise for the next four nights. After dinner, we board the cruise and receive an introduction on cruise events and onboard activities.

Arr/Dept	Events
19:00-20:00	Board the ship at Yichang Dock
24:00	Departs Yichang

Day 2 • Friday • Yangtze River cruise • (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept	Events
08:00	Briefing on the cruise
08:00-09:00	Passing the Xiling Gorge (East Part)
09:00-11:00	Shore excursion: Three Gorges Dam Site
01:00-13:00	Shore excursion: Visit tribe of Three Gorges (optional)
13:30-15:30	Passing the Three Gorges Dam
16:00	Sail through 5-stage shiplock
18:00	Captain's Welcome Dinner
20:00	Evening entertainment

Day 3 • Saturday • Yangtze River cruise • (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept	Events
06:30	Breakfast
08:00-12:00	Shore excursion: Shennong Stream
13:30-17:00	Sail through Wu Gorge and Qutang Gorge
17:30	Shore excursion: White Emperor City (optional -River conditions permitting)

Day 4 • Sunday • Yangtze River cruise • (B, L, D)

Arr/Dept	Events
07:00	Breakfast
08:30-10:30	Shore excursion: Shibaozhai Pagoda
10:30-12:30	Shore excursion: Fengdu Ghost City (optional)
14:00-16:00	Lectures
18:00	Farewell Dinner

Day 5 • Monday • Chongqing ✈️ New Zealand • (B)

After breakfast, disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing at 9am. Transfer to the airport and fly to New Zealand via a connecting city.



Yangtze River Cruise Map