



## A China Experience

**10 Days**

**Fully Inclusive from the US**

This classic itinerary visits the three most famous cities of China: cosmopolitan Shanghai, historic Xian and bustling Beijing. Included are the must-see sights of the Terracotta Warriors, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. For contrast we also visit the historic canal town of Wuzhen with its old-world charm and picturesque setting.

### Fully Inclusive price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals (excluding drinks)
- Touring with Guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for US residents

### Welcome to Wendy Wu Tours

China continues to amaze, fascinate and thrill our passengers, many of whom have travelled to one country in Asia with us, then another, year after year. We urge you to keep in mind all the rewards, as well as challenges of travelling in a country with a history, culture and attitude so unlike your own.

A typical day's sightseeing may include the bustle and noise of a city street, sights and smells of a local market and interacting with the locals. Travelling in China requires patience and potential delays are to be expected due to standards of service. There is a low level of English spoken throughout China, so your local guides or National Escort will be indispensable during your trip.

Almost everything will be different to what you may be used to. We have found that our passengers who embark with a sense of humour and adventure, who accept that things do not always go to plan, are those who find their experience most rewarding. It is essential that all passengers recognize the demands of factors such as basic facilities and cultural differences they may encounter in some areas.



### Your Tour Dossier

This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the other pre-departure information provided by Wendy Wu Tours including the tour itinerary as described in our brochure and/or website. It aims to provide a straightforward description of the physical activities involved in sightseeing or travelling during the tour.

If there are any particular challenges, from the length of time spent on your feet, the length of drives and flights, to the standard of remote accommodation; they will be explained here.

All passengers must read this document to ensure the itinerary is suitable for their interests and physical capabilities. This is not your final itinerary and therefore does not mention all the sites visited.

## A China Experience - Comfortable Paced Tour

This itinerary is accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. The tour involves sightseeing on foot, and some climbing of stairs.

This is the easiest pace of tour which Wendy Wu Tours offers in China. Anyone with a reasonable level of fitness should be able to complete this itinerary. Of course our local guides always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance, but they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

NB Please note that times and distances listed in the tour dossier are approximate.

### Days 1-2: US/Shanghai

On Day 2, you will be met at Shanghai's Pudong International Airport in the arrivals hall by your Local Guide and/or National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours. Together with all the other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will drive approx. 1 hour to your hotel. There is no sightseeing today. A tour introduction will be held in the hotel later today or tomorrow morning. There will not be food or drinks served at this meeting; it is simply an opportunity for your group to meet and learn more about travelling in China.

### Day 3: Shanghai/Wuzhen day trip

Drive approx. 3 hours to the preserved water canal town of Wuzhen. Sightseeing here is leisurely and involves a few hours exploring on foot. Return to Shanghai in the afternoon.

### Day 4: Shanghai

Full day of sightseeing around the central city. Beware of your valuables while in the Old Town (Yuan Bazaar) as it is very crowded.

### Day 5: Shanghai/Xian

Any time before your airport transfer this morning is at leisure. Your group will transfer approx. 1.5 hours to Shanghai domestic airport and fly to Xian (flight duration 2.5 hours). Transfer approx. to your hotel and check-in.

### Day 6: Xian

The Museum of the Terracotta Warriors is located approx. 1 hour drive outside of Xian. From the bus park to the Museum entrance is a 15 minute walk. There are electric carts offered by private vendors which can be organised at your own cost. There is no electric cart available for the return from the Museum exit to the bus park. Within the Museum area the warriors can be seen in 3 different "pits", which are active archaeological digs. The site is large and, towards the summer months, can be hot outside. Sightseeing here involves approx. 2.5 hours on foot.

This afternoon you will visit the City Wall. The Local Guide will give you time to explore at your own pace. There are options here to hire a bicycle or an electric cart to drive along the length of the Walls. These are offered by private vendors and can be organised at your own cost.

### Day 7: Xian/Beijing

Sightseeing at the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and Shaanxi Museum involves approx. 2.5 hours walking. Beware of your valuables while in the Muslim Quarter's alley market stalls. Your flight will probably depart in the early evening. In the late afternoon you will transfer to the airport and fly to Beijing (flight duration 1 hour 40 minutes). From Beijing airport, transfer approx. 50 minutes to your hotel and check-in.

### Day 8: Beijing

Sightseeing in central Beijing involves approx. 3 to 4 hours walking during the morning to see Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. This afternoon, visit the Temple of Heaven with approx. 1 hour of walking.

### Day 9: Beijing

There will be an early rise this morning to drive approx. 2 hours (40 miles) northwest of the city to the Juyongguan Pass section of the Great Wall. The aim of this is to avoid the crowds of tourists who will arrive later in the morning, and the heat of the day. Visiting the Wall involves walking from the bus to the first section. After your group has been given an introduction to the Great Wall's unique history you will have free time to explore the rest at your own pace. After lunch, drive approx. 1.5 hours to the Summer Palace in the north of the city. The palace is set over an extensive park and man-made lake complex and there is approx. 1.5 to 2 hours on foot involved at this site.

### Day 10: Depart Beijing

Transfer from your hotel to Beijing Airport for your flight to the US. Depending on your chosen airline, some flights to the US will arrive the same day, whereas others will arrive the following day.

### Land Only

If you are travelling on a land only basis, then we will provide a transfer for you from Shanghai Pudong airport to your hotel on Day 2 of the itinerary. On Day 10, you will check out from your hotel, and transfer to Beijing airport. Please ensure that you confirm your flight details with us as soon as possible before departure.

Please refer to the Wendy Wu Tours brochure and/or website for details on departure dates, prices, itineraries, inclusions and tour extensions available as well as full booking conditions.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Before You Leave

**Itinerary Changes** - The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in China are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your Local Guide or National Escort will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Roads in China have generally been improved over recent years, but some road construction and/or weather conditions may still lengthen the driving times.

**Visas** - A visa is required for entry into China. A standard visa processing service is included in your tour cost. We will require your passport, completed visa application form, and 1 passport photo, taken within the last 6 months, to process your visa. We will require all this information 8 weeks prior to departure. With our standard visa processing service, we will have your passport for at least 4 weeks. Any passports and visa applications that require a faster service, or that are received in our office less than 6 weeks prior to departure will incur a \$100 per person expedite fee. In some cases, you may be required to provide further information or documentation and if this is the case we will notify you as soon as possible.

Please note that if you intend to arrive more than 24 hours before your tour commences or intend to stay in China after your tour has ended and **you are NOT staying in a hotel** you will need to register with the local Public Security Bureau. If you are staying in a hotel, registration is done on your behalf as part of the check-in process.

**Vaccinations and Your Health** - We recommend that you contact either your primary care physician or a travel doctor for advice on vaccinations and travel health.

**Climate** - Please refer to our website or brochure for detailed temperature charts.

**Insurance** – We strongly recommend that you take out suitable travel insurance at the time of booking and Wendy Wu Tours offers a travel policy with Travel Guard. You may choose an alternative policy but you should provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter in case of emergency. You will also need to provide insurance details on your China visa application form. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

### What to Expect on Tour

**Development** - Although China is developing quickly, it still lacks international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. For example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade; concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in the US. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in the US. However, all of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense as well as refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escort/Local Guides.

**Group Size** – This group tours is guaranteed to run subject to a minimum of 2 travellers and a National Escort will accompany each group of over 10. The maximum group size varies depending on the tour, but is usually no more than 28 passengers.

**Accommodation** - Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the US and China. Rest assure that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

**Tippling** - As with most countries, tipping is a way of life in China. For our passengers' convenience we ask for a compulsory amount to be paid at the beginning of our group tours to cover tipping for guides, drivers, restaurant staff etc. Approximate tipping amounts can be found in our brochure and/or website; however exact tipping amounts will be stated in your final documentation pack.

**Meals** - All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from the groups' arrival until the day of departure. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout China.

**Optional Extras** - Our tours are planned to be as fully inclusive as possible. However, from time-to-time your National Escort or Local Guide may suggest optional tours/sightseeing in addition to the standard sightseeing planned for that city. Such options are at an additional cost, with prices ranging from 100-300 Yuan per person (payable in local currency). If you do not wish to take part in any optional extras, you will have the option of enjoying some free time at leisure or to return to the hotel.

**Personal Expenses** - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of \$250 per week should be sufficient; however for those that can't resist a bargain, consider allocating a higher amount.

#### **After Your Booking**

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form, help sheet, and a China and Tibet travel guide. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approx. 2 weeks prior to departure, and will include a travel wallet, badge, lanyard, suggested packing list and a phrase book, along with your final itinerary and international etickets.

Updated February 2012