

Yangtze River Delight

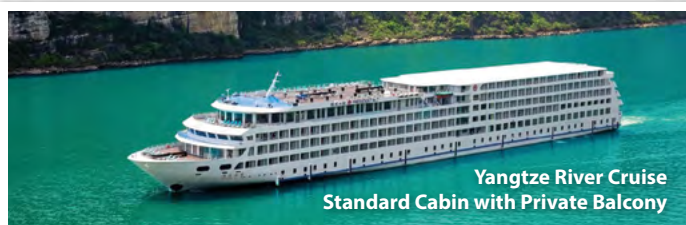
15 Days

Beijing, Suzhou, Wuxi, Hangzhou,
Shanghai, Yangtze River Cruise



Highlights

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



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.

Afterwards relax as you cruise along the majestic Yangtze River on board a luxury five-star vessel - the Yangtze 2 and discover the dramatic gorges, mountain villages and breathtaking scenery.

A Yangtze River cruise is the thrill of a lifetime. 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.

2018 Guaranteed Departures

Package Price per person twin-share

Single Supplement

03 Apr*	05 Jun	07 Aug
10 Apr*	12 Jun*	14 Aug
17 Apr**	19 Jun*	21 Aug
24 Apr**	26 Jun*	28 Aug*
01 May*	03 Jul**	04 Sep
08 May	10 Jul**	11 Sep**
15 May	17 Jul*	18 Sep**
22 May	24 Jul*	25 Sep*
29 May	31 Jul	

(NZD)
\$3,399 \$1,400

Package Inclusions:

- Economy class international airfares, taxes and fuel surcharges departing Auckland flying China Eastern Airlines or China Southern Airlines
- Internal flights
- 9 nights hotel accommodation
- 4 nights standard cabin with private balcony aboard President 7, Yangtze 2 or Victoria Jenna (twin share only, subject to change)
- 3 shore excursions (subject to change)
- 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\$200
- 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): \$85 pp twin-share, \$165 pp single
- Please Note: Flight itineraries are not available until approximately 3 weeks before departure and involve transits
- Child Price: Same as adult



Day 1 • 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: flights may depart the night before.)

Day 2 • 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 • 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).



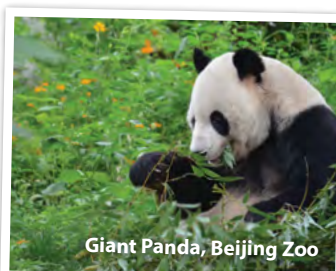
Peking Roast Duck



Temple of Heaven

Day 4 • Beijing • (B, L)

This morning visit 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, which has existed for thousands of years. This afternoon, you can join an optional "**Hutong Life Tour**", a special journey which explores Beijing's ancient alleyways or "hutongs" by pedicab, (at your own expense) including dinner at a local restaurant featuring mouth-watering dumplings.



Giant Panda, Beijing Zoo



Hutong

Day 5 • Beijing ✈ Shanghai 🚌 Suzhou • (B, D)

Fly to Shanghai and 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". Upon arrival, take a cruise along the **Grand Canal** (at your own expense) to view life along China's golden waterway in its heyday. Then, visit a local art gallery which features priceless works of beautiful Silk Embroidery.



Linger Garden



Nanchang Street

Day 6 • Suzhou 🚌 Wuxi • (B, L)

Suzhou is also known as the "Garden City" due to its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Visit the **Linger Garden** which is among the finest gardens in China. Then, 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 Wuxi, one of the oldest cities in China with more than 3,000 years of history. This evening, stroll along **Nanchang Street**, a charming and fashionable pedestrian street composed of both ancient and modern architectural styles.



West Lake

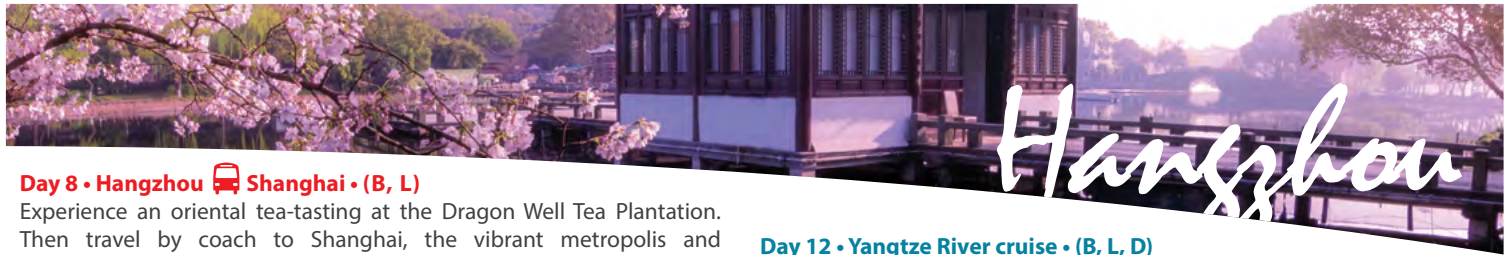


The Bund

Day 7 • Wuxi 🚌 Hangzhou • (B, L, D)

This morning visit one of the largest Fresh Water Pearl Exhibitions in the country. 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 • 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 • 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 • 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 - wharf
24:00	Departs Yichang

Day 11 • Monday • 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



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.

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.

Day 12 • 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 13 • 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 14 • Chongqing ✈️ New Zealand • (B)

We disembark from our cruise in the port city of Chongqing this morning. Transfer to the airport for your flights to New Zealand via a connecting city.

Day 15 • New Zealand

Arrive home today.

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

Hotel Accommodation *All hotels based on local hotel ratings

Beijing	Loong Palace	5 Star or similar
Suzhou	Pan Pacific	5 Star or similar
Wuxi	Swiss-Bell	5 Star or similar
Hangzhou	White Horse Lake	5 Star or similar
Shanghai	Wyndham Bund East	5 Star or similar
Yangtze River	Yangtze 2	5 Star or similar





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
Suzhou	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



The Golden Mask Dynasty



Hutong Life Tour



Grand Canal Cruise



Impression West Lake



ERA: The Intersection of Time



Dim Sim Lunch

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

We recommend you utilise our visa processing service to avoid any hassles with obtaining your visa. Information is subject to change. Please contact us for updates.

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.

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. CTS tours supplies complimentary bottled water everyday on the tour. Your hotel will also provide several bottles a day free of charge.

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)

Tipping

Tipping is a firm and expected element in the tourism industry today and China is no exception. The nominated tip amount is total NZD\$200, and your National Guide will do all the necessary tipping on your behalf. Tipping includes National Guide, local guides, drivers and bell-boys.

Pre-tour Extension

Xi'an Terracotta Warriors

3 Days 2 Nights



from \$750

Your Travel Agent