

# Explore China

Tour Departs Australia:  
16 October 2011



For **SINGLE TRAVELLERS 45 Years and Over**

Sunday 16 October to Thursday 3 November 2011 (19 Days ex Australia)

Australia • Shanghai • Wuzhen • Hangzhou • Shanghai • Yichang • Yangtze River Cruise • Chongqing • Chengdu • Xian • Beijing • Australia

## China Discovery

Explore Eastern China from Beijing to Shanghai including a four night Yangtze River Cruise on this 19 day small group tour ex Australia operated by Helen Wong's Tours.

China is a destination larger than life with a tremendous historical and cultural heritage. There are also its impressive natural wonders including the Yangtze River and the giant pandas. Your tour covers all the major attractions including including Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Summer Palace, Terracotta Warriors, the Three Gorges, giant pandas and so much more.

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## Tour Pace

This is a medium pace, small group tour with a maximum of 20 travellers, including the bigger cities and major attractions in China with the opportunity to visit smaller places while cruising the Yangtze River. The tour utilises air, private coach and cruise boat travel. The itinerary includes a number of two and three night hotel stays,

We 'go the extra mile' and offer a pre-departure contact service for group members (*see itinerary page for details*).

## Tour Highlights

- Highlight lunch & dinner; a dumpling teahouse lunch, a Peking Duck dinner
- 5 cultural shows including; Musical production in Shanghai, The Tang Dynasty Theatre in Xian, Legend of Kung Fu performance in Beijing
- Two full days exploring the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai.
- Cruise the mighty Yangtze River through the famous three gorges.
- A special visit to the Giant Panda Breeding Research Base.
- In X'ian marvel at the archaeological wonder of the Terracotta Warriors
- Experience Tai Chi with the locals.
- Visit the Great Wall, one of the most precious historical & cultural heritage sites in the world.
- Enter the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Summer Palace.



Bookings will close before published close date if places sell out.



## TOP 5 REASONS TO BOOK

1. Age-matched holiday groups
2. Travel with like-minded singles
3. Tours provided by leading tour operators
4. Early bird savings with many tours
5. Room-mate matching option

### Tour Inclusions

- Return economy flights ex-Australia with Singapore Airlines to/from China
- Domestic flights & airport taxes in China
- 13 nights hotels
- 3 night cruise of Yangtze River, cabin with private facilities and shore excursions
- 17 buffet breakfasts, 17 lunches, 9 dinners
- 5 evening cultural shows
- All specified transfers, sightseeing and entrance fees
- Professional English speaking guides
- National tour escort with group of 15 or more paying passengers
- Transfers between airport and hotel in China
- Single entry China visa processing for Australian Passport holders\*
- Helen Wong's Tour travel bag, china travel guide and kit
- \$520 departure taxes, security charges and fuel charges (subject to change ^)

### Tour Dates ex Australia

16 October to 3 November 2011

### Tour Prices

Prices Per Person*	Twin Share	Single Room
Tour & Airfare Package **	\$5749	\$6949
Land Only Prices (no international airfare) ~	\$4749	\$5899

\*All prices are in Australian Dollars

\*\* International airfare included is for departures ex-Australia from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth.

^ Airfare taxes & fuel surcharges are included in the tour & airfare package price but are subject to change at any time. Any change/additional amount due would be advised when the tour final monies are due.

~ land only prices excludes airport transfers, airfares, airfare departure taxes, security & fuel charges, visa processing, visa fee.

### About Us

At *arendzvous travel & leisure* we offer holiday groups for single travellers. All trips age-matched so there's more chance you'll share your journey with like-minded travellers.

Visiting destinations across Australia and around the globe, choose from short escapes to adventure trips and leisurely touring.

### Contact Us

#### *arendzvous travel & leisure*

Monday to Thursday 10am to 5:30pm  
Friday 10am to 5pm (AEST/AEDT)

Phone 1300 653 692  
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For your protection and peace of mind we are a member of the Travel Compensation Fund.

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# Itinerary for Explore China 16 October - 3 November 2011



## Day 1 16 OCTOBER 2011

### Australia/Singapore/Shanghai

Depart Australia on your flight to Shanghai via Singapore. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel for the next three nights.

## Day 2-3 Shanghai

Two full days are spent exploring this gracious and cosmopolitan city. See the former Colonial Concessions along the Bund and take a short cruise on the Huangpu River where you will have a spectacular view of the "yesterday and today" of Shanghai. Take a stroll along the twisting alleyways of Old Chinatown and visit the Yu Garden. Lunch will be at the Nanxiang Dumpling Teahouse in the Yu Yuan Bazaar. Also visit the impressive Shanghai Museum and the Jade Buddha Temple. On one evening, an acrobatics show will be organised for the group. (B/L/one dinner).

## Day 4 Shanghai/Wuzhen/Hangzhou

Travel by coach to Wuzhen, a 1000 years old town embraced by the Grand Canal and intersected by countless rivers and small canals. The ancient docks, waterside pavilions and corridors that stretch for miles combine to create a truly romantic atmosphere. Continue to Hangzhou where you will spend two nights. This evening enjoy a lakeside performance of the world staged musical production "Impression West Lake". (B/L)

## Day 5 Hangzhou

Hangzhou, renowned for its "heavenly beauty", picturesque gardens and tranquil surroundings, is revealed today as you enjoy a leisurely cruise on the West Lake and view the Three Moon Reflection Island. Continue on to the Pagoda of Six Harmonies and Lingyin Temple. There will also be a chance to visit a tea plantation. (B/L/D)

## Day 6 Hangzhou/Shanghai/Yichang

Transfer to Shanghai airport for your flight to Yichang where you will be transferred to the pier and embark on your Victoria Cruise ship this evening. (B/L/D)

## Day 7-9 Victoria Cruises

Enjoy spectacular days sailing along the mighty Yangtze River. Relax and marvel at the breathtaking scenery as steep cliffs rise from the water's edge to form fantastically-shaped peaks and pinnacles. Cruise to Chongqing through the famous three gorges of Xiling, Wu and Qutang which together are considered the most stunning stretch of the river. Shore excursions will be included during the voyage to the Three Gorges Dam site, the Daning River or Shennong Stream, Wanzhou or Shibaozhi navigation (subject to variation due to water levels and navigation authority advice). (B/L/D)

## Day 10 Arrive Chongqing/Chengdu

Disembark at Chongqing and transfer to the airport for your flight to Chengdu where you will spend two nights. (B/L)

## Day 11 Chengdu

A special visit today to the Giant Panda Breeding Research Base which houses exhibits on panda evolution, habits and conversation efforts. A wonderful opportunity awaits as you will have a group photo with Helen's adorable adopted panda "Ankali". Also visit the Sanxingdui Museum and see the extraordinary sophistication of China's early bronze culture depicted in the amazing and dramacharged bronze masks dating from the Shang dynasty in 1700-1100BC. Enjoy an evening performance of Sichuan's renowned local act "Changing Face". (B/L/D)

## Day 12 Chengdu/Xian

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Xian where you will spend two nights. Enjoy a cultural show with dinner at the Tang Dynasty Theatre. (B/L/D)

## Day 13 Xian

In Xian you will marvel at amazing archaeological wonders - the Terracotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang, the Chariot Exhibition and the Shaanxi History Museum and the 14th Century old City Wall. The group will be given a fun and easy option of riding a bike around the wall. (B/L)

## Day 14 Xian/Beijing

Depart today on a group flight to Beijing. On arrival, the group will be transferred to your Beijing Hotel. (B/L)

## Day 15-17 Beijing

An early morning visit to a park where you can experience Tai Chi with the locals. There are three full days of visiting sights such as the magnificent Summer Palace, the exquisite Temple of Heaven, the splendours of the Forbidden City - as well as Tiananmen Square. See the Pandas at the Beijing Zoo and visit the Silk Market. Tour the 'hutongs' - the "back alleys" - by cycle rickshaw where you can see Chinese life at its most traditional and obtain a fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpse into the lifestyles of the local people. Spend a day visiting the Sacred Way, the Exhibition Hall of the Ming Tombs and the Great Wall, truly one of the world's greatest wonders. Enjoy a "farewell Peking Duck dinner" and an exciting performance of 'The Legend of Kung Fu' during your stay. (B/L/one dinner)

## Day 18 Beijing/Singapore/Australia

Transfer to the airport for your overnight flight to Australia via Singapore. (B)

## Day 19 THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2011

### Arrive Australia

A morning arrival home.

## THE HOTELS:

SHANGHAI: CHARMS HOTEL -3.5 STAR  
619 Jiu Jiang Road Huangpu District

HANGZHOU: HOLIDAY INN HOTEL -4 STAR  
289 North Jianguo Road

CHENGDU: TIBET HOTEL - 4 STAR  
No. 10 North Renmin Road Sichuan

XIAN: TITAN TIMES HOTEL- 3.5 STAR  
360 West Huancheug Road

BEIJING: JIANGUO GARDEN HOTEL- 3.5 STAR  
17 Jianguomennei St, Dongcheng District

**MEAL GUIDE:** All meals as indicated by the itinerary. Drinks with meals not included.

**PRE-DEPARTURE CONTACT SERVICE:** As a friendly gesture to everyone in our group, we offer a pre-departure contact service. With your permission, we share your first name, state and email (or other preferred contact method) with other travellers on the tour.

**ROOM MATE MATCHING:** We offer an optional room mate matching so you don't have to pay the single room supplement (subject to availability)

**GETTING AROUND:** Travel by private coach, cruise ship and air are included on this itinerary.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Full terms and conditions are available on the holiday website. Information was correct at the time of publishing however some details may change without notice.

This tour is operated by Helen Wong's Tours exclusively for: **arendezvous travel & leisure**  
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