



## China Essence Tour (SHF-CGT-04)

Beijing - Xian - Guilin - Shanghai | Duration: 11 Days | Tour Type: Group Tour of Fixed Departure Dates | Hotels: 4 Stars +

### Availability & Prices 2013

Year of 2013	Dates of Arrival at Beijing Airport			Price ( per adult)	Price (per kid) with/o bed	Price (per kid) with bed
Mar.	04	11		\$1439	\$1239	\$1439
Apr.	08	22		\$1539	\$1339	\$1539
May.	06	20		\$1599	\$1399	\$1599
Jun.	03	17		\$1539	\$1339	\$1539
Jul.	01	15	29	\$1559	\$1359	\$1559
Aug.	12	19		\$1599	\$1399	\$1599
Sep.	09	16		\$1599	\$1399	\$1599
Oct.	07	21		\$1599	\$1399	\$1599
Nov.	04	11		\$1559	\$1359	\$1559

Kids should be under 18 years old.

### Special Remarks

**Tipping \$110/person to the local tour guide and the driver;**

The tipping is \$10/day X 11 days = \$110 per group member.

**Single room supplement \$499:**

The price per adult is based on the assumption that two adult travelers will share a double room (with two single beds or one king-size bed as per request). Any traveler requiring a single room will need to pay supplement of \$499.

**Shopping Stops:** Beijing: Pearl + Chinese Herb; Xian: Terracotta Sculpture; Guilin: Silk; Shanghai: Emerald.

**Group Schedule:** The group has fixed itinerary and schedule. Every member must follow the group during the 11 days. Any traveler who leaves the group before the tour ends, needs to pay \$100/day. And the prepaid amount won't be refunded.

**China Internal Flights Included:**

from Beijing to Xian : Economy-class tickets

from Xian to Guilin : Economy-class tickets

from Guilin to Shanghai : Economy-class tickets

The above airfares already include airport tax and fuel surcharge.



### Price Inclusions

- ✓ Hotel accommodation (10 nights in 4 or 5-star hotels);
- ✓ Buffet breakfasts in hotels;
- ✓ Coach transportation in each city;
- ✓ Meals of Chinese food as specified in itinerary;
- ✓ English-speaking guide service;
- ✓ Entry tickets of tourist sites as indicated in itinerary.

### Price Exclusions

- ✗ Int'l /airport tax / fuel surcharge;
- ✗ China Visa;
- ✗ Travel Insurance (recommended)
- ✗ Additional tours;
- ✗ Tipping to the tour guide or the driver;
- ✗ Single room supplement.

**Day 01 Arrival Beijing**

The tour guide will wait for you at Beijing airport. After warm welcome, you will be transferred to check in the hotel we have reserved for you. Free at your own leisure for the rest of the day.

**Hotel: Howard Johnson Paragon or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 02 Beijing (B+L)**

Enjoy buffet breakfast in hotel and then start your Beijing sightseeing with the local guide. First stop will be the world's largest city plaza - **Tiananmen**, also the iconic symbol of China politics nowadays. It is a part of imperial complex **Forbidden City** where you will also visit this morning. It was ever the permanent residence of the emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties. Civilians were ever not allowed to enter the buildings, hence its name Forbidden City. Proceed to **Beijing Hutongs** and hop on a rickshaw, riding along these narrow valleys. Visit a local family and have lunch of family dishes with the host. After lunch, say farewell to the family and drive to **Summer Palace** - the world's largest royal garden. Its 70,000 square meters of building space features a variety of palaces, garden and other ancient-style architectural structures.

**Hotel: Howard Johnson Paragon or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 03 Beijing (B+L+D)**

Today's highlight will be hiking on the **Great Wall**. The total length of the Wall would exceed 50,000 kilometers (31,000 miles). Today you will visit the **Juyongguan Section**. Fortifications built here could be traced back to as early as Spring and Autumn Period (770BC-476BC). More as military stronghold, Juyongguan Great Wall is also famous for its enthralling natural scenery around. Tonight you will attend an amazing **Kung Fu stage show**.

**Hotel: Howard Johnson Paragon or same level ★★★★★**

Lunch will be reserved with a decent restaurant nearby the Great Wall. Dinner will be mouthwatering **Peking Duck**.

**Day 04 Beijing → Xian (B)**

Continue your Beijing tour this morning by visiting **Temple of Heaven** - a masterpiece of China's architectural art. It was the place where emperors worshipped heaven and prayed for good harvests, the largest one of its kind extant in the world. This morning you will also stop by **Bird's Nest** and **Water Cube** - the main venues of Beijing Olympics. Some photo-taking time outside the two sites will be available. Lunch will be of your own arrangement. This afternoon, you will be transferred to Beijing airport. Board the flight to Xian. Your Xian tour guide will pick you up at Xian airport and assist you to check in Xian hotel.

**Hotel: Grand New World Hotel or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 05 Xian (B+L)**

Today you will be escorted to **Terracotta Warriors and Horses** - the most attractive site of Xian to most visitors. It is deemed as the most significant archeological excavation in the 20th century. Dating from 3rd century BC, Qin Shi Huang, China's first Emperor had the terracotta army built in the hope that they would protect him in his afterlife. It is estimated that there are 3 pits containing over 8,000 soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses and 150 cavalry horses, with most of them unexcavated yet. After day excursion to this man-made wonder, get driven back to hotel. On the way, make a stop at **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** (exterior), a seven-storey pagoda of 64m in height. It was originally built in 652 to house Buddhist scriptures taken from India by the hierarch Xuanzang.

**Hotel: Grand New World Hotel or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 06 Xian → Guilin (B+L)**

In the morning, you will be guided to visit **Xian City Wall**. Xian is one of the Great Four Ancient Capitals in China. Many historic sites can still be traced now. Xian City Wall is the best preserved city wall in China, with sophisticated design and construction dating back to some 600 years ago. **Grand Mosque** is also on today's visiting list. It was built in year of 742 as a result of the introducing of Islam and the gradually expanding community. Different from most mosques in Mid East or Arab countries, the construction and architectural style of Great Mosque is in Chinese style except for some Arabic lettering and decorations.

**Hotel: Guilin Bravo Hotel or same level ★★★★★**

Take afternoon flight to Guilin and check in hotel with assistance of your Guilin tour guide.

**Day 07 Guilin (B+L)**

A Chinese saying goes "East or West, Guilin is best", which highly hails the breathtaking beauty of Guilin landscape. Today the tour guide will escort you to explore the enthralling land of Karst. **Elephant Trunk Hill** is the first stop. It is deemed as the symbol of Guilin and looks like an elephant drinking water (hence the name). Climb top of the mountain and get a grand view of rivers below. Then proceed to **Reed Flute Cave** of daedal stalactites, stone pillars and rock formations, gradually formed since some 180 million years ago. Walking along the 240-meter cave, get your eyes pleased with fantastic natural spectacle with colored lightening. Also today you will visit **Seven-Star Park**, Guilin's largest park where Bill Clinton gave his speech when he visited Guilin in 1998.

**Hotel: Guilin Bravo Hotel or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 08 Guilin → Yangshuo (B+L)**

Out of question, **cruising on Li River** is a must-do for any visitor to Guilin. This morning with the escort of the local guide, board a ferry on the river and cruise down. You will never get disappointed by the sight of various Karst peaks reflecting on limpid river, water buffalo patrolling fields along two banks, peasants working in rice paddies, school kids and fishermen floating by on bamboo rafts. Disembark at Yangshuo and take a bike ride to Yangshuo countryside. Exotic rurality together with China ethnic minority customs will definitely impress you much. Get back to Yangshuo township and check in hotel for overnight.

**Hotel: New Century Hotel or same level ★★★★★**

**Day 09 Yangshuo → Guilin → Shanghai (B)**

Check-out of Yangshuo hotel and get driven to Guilin airport. Board the flight to Shanghai. Meet your local guide at Shanghai airport. Meet your Shanghai tour guide upon arrival and then get driven to check in your Shanghai hotel.

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Vista or same level ★★★★★☆**

**Day 10 Shanghai (B+L)**

Start the day by visiting **City God Temple bazaar**, used to be central shrine for Taoist worship, but now more as tourist spot with kinds of yummy snack food as well as featured handcrafts. Also this morning you will visit **Yu Garden**, Shanghai No.1 classical garden. Next stop is the bustling **Nanjing Road**. In the afternoon you will be driven to visit **the Bund**, a waterfront area renowned as Gallery of World Architecture. Along this 1500-meter waterfront, there are 52 buildings of various architectural styles such as Romanesque, Baroque, Neo-Classical, Beaux-Arts, Gothic and Renaissance. After dinner you will enjoy the night **cruise on the Huangpu River** to enjoy the city's enthralling night scenery. A Jewelry Exhibition Center is also on today's visiting list.

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Vista or same level ★★★★★☆**

**Day 11 Exit Shanghai (B)**

Free at your own leisure till the hotel check-out time (before 12:00 noon). Free transfer from hotel to airport will be available at 09:00am. Transfer request of other time will be US\$35/person. Or you can organize it on your own.

(Extension booking of the hotel room and extension tour to other China cities can be arranged at request with extra charge.)