



11 Days

China

Walls, Warriors and Women

With mountains worthy of worship, man-made wonders to marvel at and cities that will take your breath away, this educational journey to China offers you and your students a unique opportunity to discover a rapidly developing country, with a deeply traditional heart. Interspersed amongst China's classic highlights are unique opportunities to explore the differences between rural Chinese villages and the ultra-modern megacities. You'll come face to face with Pandas, visit the Forbidden City and meet female entrepreneurs to hear about the impact of the one child policy on a woman's social status.

**A WOMAN'S
PERSPECTIVE**



Recommended tour itinerary

Day
1-2

Arrive Beijing & Summer Palace

Leave UK and fly to Beijing, China on an overnight flight. We are met on arrival and after a transfer to the hotel, we drive to the Summer Palace. It is an immense park containing some Chinese traditional architectures and arts. This evening we have a welcome dinner at a Peking Duck Restaurant and learn about the preparation and complexity of food transportation and storage in ancient times.

Day
3

Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City, The Temple of the Heaven & Beijing Opera

We visit Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City where the emperors of Qing dynasty used to live. We continue to explore Beijing with a visit to the Temple of Heaven where the emperors worshipped and prayed for harvest in the Ming & Qing Dynasties. We spend the rest of the afternoon learning about Beijing Opera, painting masks, and then visit the Opera in the evening.

Day
4

The Huanghuacheng Great Wall, 798 Art Center

In the early morning we drive directly to Huanghuacheng Great Wall, known for its well-maintained watch towers. Upon arrival, we hike and enjoy one of the Seven Wonders of the Medieval Wall– a stunning spectacle. After lunch in a local restaurant, we transfer to 798 Art Centre, where Chinese artists display their modern art in an old converted factory complex. Finally we are transported to the train station for the overnight train to Xi'an.

Day
5

Xi'an City Wall, Museum of Stone tablets, Wild Goose Pagoda, the Great Mosque

On arrival in Xi'an, we have breakfast at a local restaurant, before visiting the City Wall and Museum of Stone tablets. After some free time for shopping we have a local dumpling lunch and visit the Wild Goose Pagoda and the Great Mosque in the Muslim Quarter. Dinner will be in a typical Qin Dynasty Style Restaurant.

Day
6

Tai Chi lesson, Terra Cotta Army Museum, Han Yang Ling Mausoleum

The morning will start with a Tai Chi lesson, followed by a lesson on Chinese Culture (Philosophy and religion) ending in a short session of Chan Meditation. After Lunch we visit the incredible Terra Cotta Army Museum – an extraordinary example of craftsmanship and extravagance. After our visit here we drive to the Han Yang Ling Mausoleum before depart for our overnight train to Chengdu.





Day
7

Pandas and Sichuan cooking school

Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province, is the home of the Giant Panda Breeding Research Base. We visit the centre and learn about their struggle for survival in modern China, and the environmental issues that are affecting much of China as a whole. After lunch, we visit a local family and learn about the role that Chinese housewives traditionally follow. We will have a distinctive homemade cooking class of Sichuan cuisine which will take us step-by-step through the process of preparing a traditional Sichuan meal.

Day
8

Life of business woman in China, Hotpot & face-changing show

In the morning, we have a small discussion & presentation with a local business woman regarding her life in China and female standing within society. This gives us a great insight into women's lives in China and comparing their experiences in this destinations changing society. After the discussion, we will have hot pot for dinner whilst enjoying the unique Sichuan face-changing opera.

Day
9

The World Financial Centre, panoramic view of Pudong, Shanghai History Museum

We take an early morning flight to Shanghai arriving around 10:30 a.m. We visit the financial centre and take in the famous panoramic view of Pudong new area, followed by a trip to the Shanghai History Museum. Here, we literally walk through Shanghai's history, with life-size exhibits reflecting the historical evolution of the politics, economy, culture, society and people's life in this prosperous city. Finally we drive 84km to Suzhou and overnight there. In many ways, Suzhou is an antidote to the excesses of Shanghai, with canal scenes, pagodas and humpbacked bridges, but don't be fooled – it's still a busy Chinese city and a popular tourist spot.

Day
10

The Humble Administrator's Garden, Pan Gate, Walking the Bund

We have most of the day to explore Suzhou and visit the Humble Administrator's Garden, a classic example of Chinese medieval gardens during the Ming period for which Suzhou is so famous. We move on to Pan Gate, an ancient city gate with land and water entrances, again typical of medieval China, (the Pan Gate is the only one left). In the afternoon, we return to Shanghai and have a walk around the Bund, soaking up the atmosphere.

Day
11

Fly home from Shanghai

We arrive back into the UK on day 11.

Further information

Look what's included!

-)] International flights
-)] All accommodation
-)] All food
-)] All transportation and activities
-)] Bi-lingual, first-aid qualified local tour leader
-)] Parent and student trip launch evening
-)] Pre-departure preparation evening
-)] 1-day offsite safety INSET day for staff
-)] ATOL financial protection
-)] Medical Emergency / Repatriation Travel Insurance
-)] Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
-)] BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
-)] Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
-)] Comprehensive teacher travel packs
-)] Permanent operations team in your destination
-)] 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
-)] Carbon offsetting of all flights
-)] Free t-shirt for every participant and teacher

What's excluded?

-)] Transport to airport in UK
-)] Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
-)] Visas or tourist cards if required
-)] Any required inoculations
-)] Personal spending money
-)] Tips for guides, drivers and porters
-)] Airport departure taxes paid locally
-)] Cancellation and personal effects insurance

Your educational journey timeline



Physical journey rating:



Some low level physical activities included in your trip, including walking on uneven terrain, maybe a morning/afternoon trek of two to four hours. That said, no physical preparation is required to make the most of the tour. High humidity and temperatures can occur at certain times of the year.

Culture shock rating:



Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.



A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your educational journey.

1 Get your tailor-made proposal and further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your educational travel itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an itinerary just for you. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk assessments and destination threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your pre-booking information pack too.

3 Arrange a trip launch evening at your school

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the planned adventure with a comprehensive information evening and an opportunity for questions.



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