

China Essence 10 Days

Tour Code: CHINA10DAYS-SPE

USD
\$299
Land Only

Day 1 Home City (USA) - Beijing

To start off your amazing China Tour, you will leave your departure city and fly to Beijing. Meals and snacks will be provided on the plane.

Day 2 Arriving Beijing

When you arrive in Beijing, a Compass Holiday local representative will meet and greet you at the airport. The local representative will transfer you to your hotel and the rest of the day is yours to explore and relax.

Day 3 Beijing (Breakfast)

A day at leisure to explore at your own pace.

We suggest an optional excursion (USD\$75/person) with lunch to the Forbidden City, the former seat of the emperors throughout the Ming and Qing dynasties. It is a true architectural masterpiece and home to the National Palace Museum. After an included lunch, proceed to the Summer Palace, a former royal retreat and now a lovely part. Then visit a Chinese Herbal Institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine.

This evening, delight in an optional banquet (USD\$35/person) featuring the famous "Peking Duck".

Day 4 Beijing (Breakfast, Lunch)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the Great Wall (Juyongguan), one of the "Seven Wonders of the World"! Recognized by UNESCO, and get a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. Tour the iconic "Beijing 2008 Olympic Center"; which includes the famous Bird's Nest and Water Cube which now hosts many spectacular opening ceremonies and events. Visit one of the largest Jade Exhibitions in Asia enroute. After lunch, see skilled artisans work at a Cloisonné Factory.

Tonight, You can choose to enjoy the famous Beijing Kung fu show(USD\$50/person).

Day 5 Beijing fly to Shanghai Bus to Suzhou (Breakfast, *Lunch included only with optional tour, *Dinner on airplane) Flight after 5pm

Today you are free to explore Beijing, or you can sign up to join one of our popular day tour programs. We will take a late evening flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival at Shanghai airport, transfer directly to Suzhou by bus. It is only about a one hour drive.

Additional one day tour Program: Take a morning tour to Temple of Heaven, Recognized by UNESCO, an architectural masterpiece built between 1406-1460 AD to be used by the emperors from the Ming and Qing dynasties for ceremonies honoring the god of harvests. Take a famous rickshaw Hutong Tour & Local Family Visit, this package also includes a traditional Beijing Zhajiangmian ("Fried Sauce noodles") as lunch.(Optional USD\$69/person)

Day 6 Suzhou-Wuxi (Breakfast, Lunch-Wuxi Style Ribs)

Suzhou—the city of paradise is also known as the Oriental Venice for its exquisite canals, bridges, pagodas, and beautiful gardens. Suzhou is designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After breakfast, tour the Lingering Garden, a classic private garden with 500 years of history. Continued to visit the Suzhou Silk Factory, the largest silk factory in the country to discover the mysterious

processing of silk.

After featured local cuisine lunch, Wuxi is apparently best known for 'Hong Shao Paigu' or braised spare ribs, cooked in a 'red style', that is, a sauce of rice wine and soya sauce flavoured with ginger, cloves, anise and black pepper.

Optional cruise along the ancient canal from the city to the picturesque Grand Canal (Optional \$30/person).

Late afternoon, continue to Wuxi, visit the Yuantouzhu, located in the southwest of Wuxi City, is a peninsula on the bank of Taihu Lake, where a huge rock protrudes itself into the lake, which appears as if a turtle is floating in water, raising its head, so the place got the name Turtlehead Isle is famous for its natural scenery, surrounded by hills and girdled by the lake, occupying the most beautiful corner of Taihu Lake scenery area. It's has long been known as the first scenic spot of Taihu Lake. Guo Moruo, the eminent poet had composed a poem in praise of the place "The Supreme Sight of Taihu Lake, after all, lies in Turtlehead Isle" which had charm to the spot, made it even more famous, within and outside the country.

Day 7 Wuxi-Hangzhou (Breakfast, Lunch-Dongpo Pork)

This morning tour the Brilliance of Lake Lihu located at Famous Lake Taihu, followed by visit a Fresh Water Pearl Farm.

Continue to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Enjoy a slow cooked Dongpo Pork which is cooked by braising fine-skinned and thin pieces of fat streaky bacon with famous Shaoxing wine in a sealed pot. When the dish is ready, the bacon will be moist and red, and the sauce will be thick and tasty. It tastes savory, sweet and full of body, but not greasy.

In the evening, you may enjoy an optional performance show "Impression West Lake", and see the story of West Lake come alive before your eyes (\$79/person from Feb- Oct). or West Lake Night Show (\$65/Person all seasons)

Day 8 Hangzhou-Shanghai (Breakfast, Lunch-Steamed Bun Xiao Long Bao)

Hangzhou, also known as the "Paradise on Earth", has been immortalized by countless poets and artists. The West Lake Cultural Landscape has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. After breakfast, visit The West Lake, the most beautiful lake in the country.

You may take an optional boat ride on the serene West Lake (USD\$35/person), the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites.

Featured lunch Steamed Bun Xiaolong Bao- Xiaolongbao is a type of steamed bun (baozi) from the Jiangnan region of China, especially associated with Shanghai and Wuxi. It is traditionally prepared in xiaolong, small bamboo steaming baskets, which give them their name.

Then, visit No.1 Tea Plantation and taste the well-known Dragon Well Tea. Many studies say that green tea is excellent for your health. Dragon Well Tea is the best Green Tea in China. After lunch, drive to Shanghai. Walking along the famous Bund, lined by the colonial architecture of European design, this area is the best place to capture the Western influences of the old days. It is now called "Wall Street of the East". At night, you may enjoy and optional "Huangpu River Night Cruise" and get a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai at your own expense (USD\$50/person)

Day 9 Shanghai (Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner-Shanghai Local Cuisine Ben Bang)

In the morning, visit the Shanghai Museum, to see ancient Chinese art, furniture and jade, followed by a visit to an Emerald exhibition center. Then visit the City God Temple Bazaar, which is composed of specialty stores, selling traditional Chinese arts and crafts, medicine and souvenirs. This evening, enjoy Farewell Dinner Shanghai cuisine, also known as Hu cuisine, is a popular style of Chinese food. In a narrow sense, Shanghai cuisine refers only to what is traditionally called Benbang

Evening choose optional Chinese Acrobatic Show - "ERA The Intersection of Time" (USD\$60/person)

Day 10 Shanghai-Home City (USA) (Breakfast)

After breakfast transfer to the airport, departure Shanghai and head back home or extend your trip to other city in China.

Hotel

Beijing	Weishi Hotel or CNCC Grand Hotel Or The Great Wall Hotel Beijing or six star Hotel 5* or similar hotel
Shanghai	Crowne Plaza Shanghai Jiangong Hotel 5* or similar hotel
Suzhou	Grand Metropark Hotel Hotel 5* or snowy sea hotel or similar hotel
Wuxi	Swiss Bellhotel Liyuan 5* or Junle Hotel or similar hotel
Hangzhou	Jinma International Hotel 5* or similar hotel

USA Departure Date

Jan 16 / 30	Feb 6	Mar 6 / 27
Apr 10 / 17 / 24	May 8 / 15 / 22 / 29	Jun 5 / 12
Jul 10 / 17	Aug 14 / 28	Sep 4 / 11 / 25
Oct 16 / 23	Nov 5 / 6 / 12 / 13 / 19 / 20 / 26 / 27	
Dec 4 / 6		

Inclusions:

- 1) Local 5* Hotel Accommodation;
- 2) Daily meals as per itinerary;
- 3) Sightseeing and orientation tours included in the itinerary;
- 4) Daily transportation on modern air-conditioned coaches;
- 5) English speaking guide

Exclusions:

- 1) Any international, domestic Airfare and airport taxes;
- 2) China Visas;
- 3) Travel Insurance;
- 4) Gratuity for the tour guide and driver (USD \$10 per person per day);
- 5) Meals and drinks not listed in the itinerary;
- 6) Optional programs listed;
- 7) Personal expenses and any item not listed.

Compass Holidays reserve the right to substitute hotels in similar standard if the hotels listed in the flyer are not available.



Optional Program

Forbidden City tour with Lunch (Beijing)

USD\$75/Person

Forbidden City is the palace of ever 24 emperors as its householders in Ming Dynasty and Qing Dynasty, one of the largest and most majestic and best preserved imperial palaces in the world. Guide, Transfer and Admission included.



Kung fu show (Beijing)

USD\$50/Person

The Legend of Kung Fu, presented by China Heaven Creation International Performing Arts Co., Ltd. (CHC) -- China's leading performance art production company, every night have Kungfu show at Red Theatre. is a must-see production in Beijing for tourists and Kung Fu lovers. A group of the best Kung Fu practitioners of China are collected and the best directors and designers of the country are invited by CHC. There are English subtitles shown above the stage to keep you informed of the story line. There is no speaking of the actors, just Kung fu show, dance and acrobatics. The fusion of modern dance with Chinese traditional martial arts makes this performance unique and spectacular.

The Legend of Kung Fu Show is a mix of traditional martial arts and modern theatre. Presenting stunning Kung Fu skills, exquisite ballet and music, this beautiful story in no doubt has become the most loved Kung Fu show in China.

The story tells of about a young boy who dreams of becoming a Kung Fu master and attain enlightenment. He takes the path of a monk in which he must face many obstacles both from this world and his own mind to overcome his fears and to become a true master of Kung Fu.

The show made its first appearance on the Beijing stage in July 15th 2004. Ever since it has received numerous awards and become a world class spectacle known around the world.



Duck Banquet (Beijing)

USD\$35/Person

Peking Duck is a famous duck dish from Beijing that has been prepared since the imperial era. The meat is prized for its thin, crisp skin, with authentic versions of the dish serving mostly the skin and little meat, sliced in front of the diners by the cook. Ducks bred specially for the dish are slaughtered after 65 days and seasoned before being roasted in a closed or hung oven. The meat is eaten with scallion, cucumber and sweet bean sauce with pancakes rolled around the fillings. Sometimes pickled radish is also inside, and other sauces (like hoisin sauce) can be used.

Beijing Day Tour

USD\$69/Person

Take a morning tour to Temple of Heaven, Recognized by UNESCO, an architectural masterpiece built between 1406-1460 AD to be used by the emperors from the Ming and Qing dynasties for ceremonies honoring the god of harvests. Then take a famous rickshaw Hutong Tour & Local Family Visit, this package also includes a traditional Beijing Zhajiangmian ("Fried Sauce noodles") as lunch.



Optional boat ride on the serene West Lake

USD\$35/Person

The most renowned feature of Hangzhou, noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites.

"West Lake Night" Show (Hangzhou)

USD\$65/Person

This performance reflecting the long and splendid culture of the region. Songs, dances, opera, acrobatics and stunts are integrated in this performance to present Hangzhou's rich ancient civilization and remarkable customs. The performance consists of five scenes lasting around 1 hour in total.



ERA: The Intersection of Time (Shanghai)

USD\$60/Person

This multi-million dollar show is Shanghai's most popular acrobatic show, featuring the gamut of traditional and contemporary Chinese acrobatics from aerial walking, bowl balancing, and trampoline shows to high flying trapeze acts and motorcycle cage stunts.



Huangpu River Night Cruise (Shanghai)

USD\$50/Person

Cruising along the Huangpu River, you will take a glimpse of the history and charming night view of the cosmopolitan of Shanghai. On one side of the river, there is the Bund, a landmark of Shanghai, with buildings of Western style dating back to the early 19th century. On the other side is the image of a new Shanghai with steel and glass skyscrapers.



Grand Canal Cruise (Suzhou)

USD\$30/Person

The Grand Canal is the world's longest man-made waterway, being 1,800 kilometers long. The canal connects the present cities of Beijing in the north and Hangzhou in the south. Since most of China's major rivers flow from west to east, the fact that the Grand Canal runs north and south provides it as an important connector between the Yangtze River valley and the Yellow River valley.

