



## The Best of Beijing

7 Days/6 Nights

### Day 1 ► Arrive Beijing

Transfer from the airport to your hotel.

### Day 2 ► Beijing

This morning you will tour the massive **Tiananmen Square**, look across the vast space to the Great Hall of the People and stand before the massive Tiananmen Gate. Continue on through the gates into the hidden glories and mysteries of the **Forbidden City**, as the former imperial palace is called, where the magnificent marble courtyards, huge halls, gilded temples and ornate pavilions the residence of the emperors are now open to your wonderment. This is followed by a rickshaw tour of Beijing's old **Hutong District**, a maze of narrow alleys, old houses and hidden courtyards, dating from Yuan Dynasty times. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

### Day 3 ► Beijing

You will be taken north this morning to pace the ramparts of China's famed **Great Wall**, originally constructed over 2000 years ago to keep northern invaders at bay. On the return to your hotel, you will stop at the **National Olympic Stadium**. (Breakfast/Lunch)

### Day 4 ► Beijing

At leisure today. You may shop for silk, jade and other treasures on famous Wangfujing Street, visit an antique market or more of the famous sights of the city. We've got maps and lots of suggestions – just ask! (Breakfast)

### Day 5 ► Beijing

Today walk the white marble staircases and corridors of the **Temple of Heaven**, where the emperors carried out the most important sacrifices and ceremonies of the year. Set in a huge park planted with conifers, the beautiful blue-tiled buildings here represent the epitome of Ming architecture. Finally you will visit the **Summer Palace**, the famed pleasure garden of Qing emperors. Languid willows and painted pavilions surround a scenic lake, across which are enchanting views to the pagoda-capped Jade Spring Hill and the mountains beyond. (Breakfast/Lunch)

### Day 6 ► Beijing

Day at leisure. (Breakfast)

### Day 7 ► Depart Beijing

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight. (Breakfast)

**LAND ONLY PRICE:** (Departure every Thu-Sat, January-February 2012)

Per person twin share: \$695.00  
Single Supplement: \$299.00

#### INCLUSIONS:

6 nights twin share accommodation with full buffet breakfast, private transfer airport-hotel-airport (minimum of 2 people), entrance fees, private car with an English speaking guide, meals as indicated in the itinerary.

#### EXCLUSIONS:

International airfare, gratuities to guide and driver, China visa fee, travel insurance, personal expenses and anything not mentioned in the itinerary.

## The Best of Shanghai

7 Days/6 Nights

### Day 1 ► Arrive Shanghai

Transfer from the airport to your hotel.

### Day 2 ► Shanghai

Dominating the Yangtze Delta, Shanghai is the pulsating commercial heart of China. Walk along the famous **Bund** past the facades of the colonial buildings lining the Huangpu River and look across to the fantastic skyscrapers of the Pudong district on the opposite side. After lunch you visit the beautifully maintained **Yu Garden**, an outstanding example of a classical garden dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Later you will ascend the **Shanghai World Financial Centre Observatory Tower** (100<sup>th</sup> floor), one of the world's tallest buildings, for an astonishing view over the whole city. This evening you will be entertained by one of Shanghai's famous **acrobatic troupes**. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

### Day 3 ► Shanghai

Visit **Shanghai City Planning Centre** and renowned **Shanghai Museum** which is famous for its collection of paintings, sculptures, porcelain, costumes, ancient bronzes and other artefacts. (Breakfast)

### Day 4 ► Day Excursion to Suzhou

Suzhou is home of China's most famous gardens. You will visit the **Master of the Nets Garden** where the main garden space is a lake surrounded by rockwork, halls, covered walkways and pavilions – one of the most charming and tranquil garden scenes in China. In the afternoon you will join a **Canal Cruise** to enjoy the bustling and unique canal scenery. Later you will visit another popular garden, the **Humble Administrators Garden**. This large garden was originally built in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. (Breakfast/Lunch)

### Day 5 ► Shanghai

Day at leisure. (Breakfast)

#### Optional Day Excursion to Hangzhou by Superfast Train

Travel to Hangzhou and visit one of the most famous Chan (Zen) temples in China, the **Lingyin Temple**. Then you will take a cruise on the incomparable **West Lake**, for centuries one of China's best known scenic attractions. Return to Shanghai. (Lunch)

### Day 6 ► Shanghai

Day at leisure. (Breakfast)

### Day 7 ► Depart Shanghai

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight. (Breakfast)

**LAND ONLY PRICE:** (Departure January-February 2012)

Per person twin share: \$955.00  
Single Supplement: \$470.00  
Optional Excursion to Hangzhou: \$210.00

#### INCLUSIONS:

6 nights twin share accommodation with full buffet breakfast, private transfer airport-hotel-airport (minimum of 2 people), entrance fees, private car with an English speaking guide, meals as indicated in the itinerary.

#### EXCLUSIONS:

International airfare, gratuities to guide and driver, China visa fee, travel insurance, personal expenses and anything not mentioned in the itinerary.

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