

## China Delight Tour 2015

# 18th Annual Great China Adventure

## Discovery the Ancient & Modernized China

**Sixteen-day tour: July 21<sup>st</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup> With Dr. Xiping Zhou, expert in Chinese culture and medicine Contact: [drxzhou@acupunctureherbalmd.com](mailto:drxzhou@acupunctureherbalmd.com); 608-236-9000 [www.ChinaDelightTour.com](http://www.ChinaDelightTour.com)**

Note that itinerary is subject to minor change.

### Day01 July21 Depart Madison or Milwaukee for Beijing - crossing International Date Line

**Day02 July22** Arrive historical Beijing, capital of People's Republic of China, also a modern metropolis now with population of over 21 million! met by our professional guide at the airport and transfer to **5-star Beijing New Century Grand Hotel (or similar hotel)** to check in & rest. Dinner at local restaurant. (D, dinner)

### Day03 July23 Beijing

Tour of Beijing, including a stop and stroll along the Tiananmen Square, and from here we'll walk directly to visit the Forbidden City, the imperial palace of 24 Ming and Qing Dynasty emperors. In the afternoon, afterwards we'll go to see Beijing's old residential area - the Hutongs, and enjoy a nice rickshaw ride tour into the alleys; today we'll also have a chance to visit a fresh-water Pearl Workshop. (BLD, Buffet breakfast at hotel; lunch/dinner at local restaurants; same for below). **Kungfu Show** performance for tonight.

### Day04 July24 Beijing

Full day trip to Great Wall, a symbol of Chinese ancient civilization, climb the wall as much as you can and enjoy the breath-taking view; lunch at a Cloisonne Factory on the way; later today pay a visit to 2008 Beijing Olympic Village, take a close look of **Bird's Nest**, the National Stadium & Water Cube; afterwards visit to a Traditional Chinese Medicine Center, have a basic idea of TCM and enjoy a free traditional foot massage there. **Pekin Duck**

### Day05 July25 Beijing-Xian by flight

After breakfast, check out from hotel and proceed to visiting Temple of Heaven, the holy place where the ancient emperors worshipping the heaven and praying for a good harvest; afternoon we take flight to Xian; the cradle of Chinese civilization and being the state capital for 73 emperors spanning 11 dynasties for 1,110 years dating from 4000 B.C. On arrive, met by our Xian guide and transfer to the town, check in 5\* **Golden Flower Shangri-la Hotel**

### Day06 July26 Xian

Full day tour Xian, our first stop is at Ancient City Wall, the best preserved city walls from the dynasties, walking on the Wall. Later visit a Jade Carving Workshop, chance to learn Chinese jade culture and pick up some beautiful quality jade items if interested. Afterwards, proceed to Terra Cotta Soldiers & Horses, which was one of the most exciting archeological findings in 20<sup>th</sup> century and known as the "8<sup>th</sup> wonder" of the world: see the various pits of the terra cotta figures and also the bronze chariot of the powerful Qin Emperor, all these dating back to more than 2200 years ago. Return to our hotel. This evening, enjoy a fabulous **Tang Dynasty Dinner & Show** at Tang Theater. (BLD)

### Day07 July27 Fly Xian/Guilin

After breakfast, transfer to airport and fly to Guilin, beautiful south China city that has the distinction of having the most majestic scenery and landscape in China. This is the locale where James Cameron received his backdrop inspiration for Avatar. Upon our arrival, we'll have lunch and tour to a beautiful Karst cave, the Reed Flute Cave. Check in 5\* **Guilin Royal Garden Hotel**,

**Day08 July28 Guilin**

Drive to the pier to and board your boat to enjoy this 4-hour leisurely cruise along Li River and enjoy the breathtaking landscape; lunch served on boat. Disembark at Yangshuo town early afternoon, have a bit of free time in the local market; then drive back to Guilin city, on the way make a stop for rice paddies! (BLD)

**Day09 July29 Fly Guilin/Chongqing, Chongqing-Yangtze River Cruise**

After breakfast, transfer to airport and fly to Chongqing, meeting our guide in Chongqing airport. Chongqing is one of the biggest city in whole China and back in the 1940s it served as China's war time capital during World War II. Here is also the place where we start our 3 days cruise along the Yangtze River. Upon arrival Chongqing, have some light tours including People's Hall, City Square, and General Stilwell's Museum; etc. After dinner, we'll go to the pier, board our Yangtze Cruiser – **5\* Gold Cruises MV**. The ship starts sailing at 2200 this evening. Overnight on board. (BLD)

**Day10 July30 Yangtze River Cruise**

Cruise on the Yangtze, in the afternoon we'll have a shore excursion to one of the many towns along Yangtze River valley; after visit return to our ship. - Meals served on the cruise ship. (BLD)

**Day11 July31 Yangtze River Cruise**

Enjoy cruise on the Yangtze River, later today we'll sail into the deep valleys of Yangtze, known as the "Three Gorges", appreciate the spectacular views and also side trip to one of Yangtze tributaries with smaller ship. - Meals served on the cruise ship. (BLD)

**Day12 Aug01 Yangtze River Cruise, Yichang fly to Shanghai- & to Suzhou**

Cruise arrive in Yichang today, before checking out from the ship we'll have a tour to the stunning Three Gorges Dam Project which is the largest hydraulic project in the world, a huge work that took China 20 years to finish. Disembark the cruise ship and have lunch at Yichang city, then transfer to airport to fly to Shanghai, upon arrival, meet our guide and drive 1.5 hours to Suzhou, check in Bamboo Grove Hotel or similar hotel. (BLD)

**Day13 Aug02 Suzhou**

Full day tour in Suzhou: Suzhou is known as the Garden City in China and also the "oriental Venice" for its water ways (canals) in town, & "silk city" for the fine quality China silk produced in this area. Our tours will include visiting the most famous and beautiful Humble Administrator's Garden, Suzhou Museum and Suzhou No. 1 Silk Factory where we can learn how this beautiful fabric produced and chance to get some real, quality silk products. Balance of the day is free for you to relax. Dinner at local restaurant. (BLD)

**Day14 Aug03 Suzhou-Shanghai**

This morning we drive back to Shanghai, the financial, economic center and a showcase of modern China, and most populated town of China with about 23 million habitants. Arrive Shanghai and tour this dynamic town, first stop at the waterfront, the Bund, viewing the beautiful architectures on both side of the river, you hardly believe you are in Shanghai; and later in the afternoon visit Shanghai Museum. This evening, enjoy a wonderful **Shanghai Acrobatics Show**. Check in 5\* Jinjiang Tower Hotel.

**Day15 Aug04 Shanghai**

More tours of Shanghai, visit to the former French concession at "Xintiandi" and then spend time and do some fun bargain shopping at Old Town Market in the old city center. After lunch, you'll have some free time to explore Shanghai or do more shoppings on your own. In the evening, we'll gather again for our **Farewell Dinner**. Return to hotel. (BLD)

**Shanghai/USA** Transfer to airport and take flight back home.