

JEWELS OF CHINA & HONG KONG

XI'AN - BEIJING - WUXI - SUZHOU - HANGZHOU - SHANGHAI - HONG KONG



2019/2020 - 16 DAYS FROM

\$2799



per person twin-share



CATHAY PACIFIC



QANTAS

This tour is designed for you to experience the best of China's ancient history, rich culture, delicate cuisine, thriving industries and modern architecture. Marvel at the thousands of Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an, walk along the Great Wall and unfold the mystery of Forbidden City in the country's capital. Explore the beautiful gardens and canals of Suzhou, Hangzhou and Wuxi before immersing yourself in the bustling metropolis of Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Image: Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong

Nexus Holidays



Nexus Holidays Australia



Images: 1. Terracotta Army, 2. Old Town Shanghai, 3. Great Wall, 4. Ancient City Wall, 5. Forbidden City, 6. West Lake, 7. Grand Canal Wuxi, 8. Shanghai city, 9. Lingering Garden

Day 1: Arrive in Xi'an

Fly to Xi'an via a connecting city. Your tour guide will greet you at the airport and then transfer you to your hotel to rest. **Note:** Some flights may depart the day before.

Day 2: Xi'an (B, L, S)

The highlight today is a visit to the **Terracotta Army** to see the life-sized defending army of the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. This site is among the top archaeological excavations of the 20th century. This will be followed by a visit to a ceramic art factory. In the evening, enjoy a special **Imperial Dumpling Banquet and traditional Tang Dynasty Singing & Dancing Show**.

Day 3: Xi'an ✈ Beijing (B, L)

After breakfast, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial History Museum**. The museum is one of China's largest, and houses over 370,000 items, including murals, paintings, pottery, coins, as well as bronze, gold, and silver objects. Enjoy a **special noodle lunch** including an interesting noodle-making demonstration. Then visit the **Great Wild Goose Pagoda**, the symbol of the city. Later, walk along the **Ancient City Wall**, which is not only the most complete city wall to have survived in China, but also one of the largest ancient military defence systems in the world. Fly to Beijing in the evening.

Day 4: Beijing (B, L, D)

Beijing has served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second largest public square in the world, and the **Forbidden City**, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Your welcome banquet includes the local delicacy, Peking Roast Duck.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Marvel at the 2200 year old **Terracotta Army** of China's first emperor
- Walk on the incredible **Great Wall of China**, near Beijing
- Uncover the mysteries of the **Forbidden City**, and walk in **Tiananmen Square**
- Sit by tranquil **West Lake in Hangzhou**, much admired by Marco Polo
- Stroll in one of the finest **Chinese gardens in Suzhou**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling metropolis **Shanghai**
- Enjoy a half-day tour of **Hong Kong Island**

Day 5: Beijing (B, L)

Today's highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall** at Juyong Pass, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 6,000 km long marvel. You will also visit one of the largest jade exhibitions in Asia en-route. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a cloisonné factory. Tonight, you can choose to attend an optional large scale dramatic musical, **The Golden Mask Dynasty** (\$75).

Day 6: Beijing (B, L)

Today tour the exquisite **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient garden in China and a former summer resort for Emperors, followed by the **Panda House at Beijing Zoo** to see China's adorable national treasure – the giant panda. Then visit a Chinese herbal institute to learn about traditional Chinese medicine, which has existed for thousands of years, as you enjoy a rejuvenating foot massage. Later, you can join an optional **Hutong Life Tour** (\$70), a special journey which explores Beijing's ancient alleyways or hutongs by pedicab or take a stroll in **Wangfujing**, one of the Chinese capital's most famous shopping streets. Cap off the day by attending a thrilling **Kung Fu Show** (\$75).



Day 7: Beijing 🚄 Wuxi (B, D)

Take a high speed train to Wuxi, an ancient city richly endowed with natural attractions due to its pleasantly warm and moist climate. Wuxi boasts a reputation of being the 'Land of Fish and Rice'. Enjoy the scenery as we pass by **Lake Tai**, the third-largest freshwater lake in China. This evening, go sightseeing around **Nanchang Street** and take a **cruise along the Grand Canal** (\$35) to view life along what was known as 'China's golden waterway' in its heyday. Then, take a stroll along the trendy pedestrian streets composed of both ancient and modern architecture.





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Day 8: Wuxi 🚗 Suzhou (B, L)

This morning visit one of the largest freshwater pearl exhibitions in the country. After lunch, travel by coach to Suzhou, an extraordinarily elegant city with its canals, stone bridges, and meticulously designed gardens. Suzhou has been referred to as 'Paradise on Earth' by Chinese poets and writers since ancient times. As a large area of the city is covered by water, including a vast number of ponds and streams, Suzhou is also known as 'Venice of the East'. It is also known as the 'Garden City' due to its many classical gardens, renowned for their charming natural beauty and harmonious construction. Visit the **Lingering Garden**, which is among the finest in China.

Day 9: Suzhou 🚗 Hangzhou (B, L, D)

This morning visit a silk spinning mill, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. After lunch, travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as "the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world". Upon arrival, take a boat ride on the serene **West Lake**, the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, and noted for its scenic beauty which blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. This evening, you can enjoy an optional open-air performance, **Impression West Lake** (\$80), a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony.

Day 10: Hangzhou 🚗 Shanghai (B, L)

Experience tea-tasting at the **Dragon Well Tea Plantation**. Then travel by coach to Shanghai, a vibrant metropolis and the commercial centre of China. Upon arrival, walk along the famous **Bund**, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined with colonial architecture of European design, it is the best place to recapture the Western influence on old Shanghai. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure strolling along the bustling shopping district centred on **Nanjing Road**. Tonight you can watch a thrilling **Chinese Acrobatic Show** (\$75).

Day 11: Shanghai (B, D)

After breakfast, visit **Jin Mao Tower Observation Deck** (88th floor) for a panoramic view of Huangpu River and the Bund. After lunch, head to the **Old Street** in the City God Temple area, symbolic of the large temple complex and surrounding traditional district of commerce in the city. Afterwards, you can cap off the celebrations by joining an optional **Huangpu River Cruise** for a glimpse of a charming view of Shanghai (\$40). OR

Shanghai Disneyland Package (\$199): Newly opened in June 2016. Shanghai Disneyland showcases a never-before-seen world of wonder where you can ignite the magical dream within your heart and experience fun, adventure and thrills for guests of all ages! Includes standard Shanghai Disneyland admission and one transfer in each direction.

Note: *Departure transfer is at a set time. If you prefer to stay behind at the resort, you must make your own way back to the hotel. You will need to forego the scheduled sightseeing for Day 11 (no refund payable) as the Shanghai Disneyland Package requires a full day. This package cannot be combined with other optional programs (Huangpu River Cruise) on this day.*

DEPARTURES

2019 06 Sep 27-Sep* 18 Oct 08 Nov
13 Sep* 04-Oct* 25-Oct 15 Nov
20-Sep* 11 Oct 01 Nov

2020 27-Feb* 23 Apr 11 Jun 13-Aug 15 Oct
05 Mar 30 Apr 18-Jun** 20 Aug 22-Oct
12 Mar 07 May 25-Jun** 27-Aug 29-Oct
19 Mar 14 May 02-Jul** 03 Sep 05-Nov
26 Mar 21 May 23-Jul 10 Sep 12-Nov
02-Apr* 28 May 30-Jul 17-Sep**
16-Apr* 04-Jun 06-Aug 08-Oct*

*Peak season surcharge: \$300
**School Holiday Surcharge \$400
Single supplement: \$1000

✈️ DEPARTURE OPTIONS

- SYD/MEL/PER: Airfare included
- ADL/BNE: +\$200

⊕ INCLUSIONS

- Intl. economy airfares & taxes with Cathay Pacific
- 14 nights 4-5 star (local rating) hotel accomm.
- 14 breakfasts (B), 8 lunches (L), 5 Dinners (D)
- Xi'an to Beijing flight (operated by a local carrier)
- High-speed train from Beijing to Wuxi
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Selected sightseeing & entrance fees
- English speaking tour guide(s)

⊗ EXCLUSIONS

- Compulsory prepaid tipping: \$120
- Optional programs
- China visa
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

🕒 EXTEND YOUR STAY

- Early Arrival/Stay Behind Fare Difference: fr \$250
- Hotel w/breakfast: China: \$75 twin-share, \$150 single (excludes private transfer: \$120 per way max. 3 ppl). Hong Kong: fr \$85 twin-share, \$170/single (include seat-in-coach transfer)

🚗 HOTEL ACCOMMODATION (or similar)

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|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Xi'an | Titan Times Hotel |
| Beijing | Wyndham Beijing North |
| Wuxi | Days Hotel Baile Wuxi |
| Suzhou | Suzhou QingShan Hotel |
| Hangzhou | Merchant Marco Garden Hotel |
| Shanghai | Howard Johnson Hongqiao Hotel |
| Hong Kong | Harbour Plaza 8 Degrees |

🎪 OPTIONAL PROGRAMS (AUD)

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| Beijing | The Golden Mask Dynasty | \$75 |
| Beijing | Hutong Life Tour | \$70 |
| Beijing | Chinese Kung Fu Show | \$75 |
| Wuxi | Grand Canal Cruise | \$35 |
| Hangzhou | Impression West Lake | \$80 |
| Shanghai | Chinese Acrobatic Show | \$75 |
| Shanghai | Huangpu River Cruise | \$40 |
| Shanghai | Disneyland Package (Forego sightseeing for Day 11) | \$199 |

All prices are per person twin-share in AUD unless otherwise stated and subject to revision without notice. Itineraries, airlines, hotels & ships are subject to availability and change. Hotel locations can be within or outside itinerary cities and may not be centrally located. Double-bedded rooms are not guaranteed. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar quality and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure smooth operations. Passengers must remain with the group at all times. Fees may apply for deviations from the set itinerary. Total length of trip includes time spent in flight and is subject to flight schedule. Final itineraries and flight info may not be available until within 2 weeks before departure. Booking conditions apply, refer to website for latest information. ver30JUL2019



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Once a sleepy fishing village, Hong Kong has developed into one of the premier financial powerhouses of the Far East. It is a city which boldly blends modernity with Chinese heritage and British colonial influence. A safe, well organised, fast paced shopping paradise, it also offers up some unmatched cuisine experiences. Dine on some of the best yum cha and wonton noodle soup in the world, or a taste of more unusual culinary delights such as grass jelly or shredded jellyfish.

Day 12: Shanghai ✈ Hong Kong (B)

Arrive in Hong Kong, the gourmet and shopping paradise of Asia. Transfer to your hotel and enjoy the day at leisure.

Day 13: Hong Kong (B)

Enjoy a half-day seat-in-coach tour of Hong Kong Island visiting **Victoria Peak** for incredible views of the city, **Stanley Market** for shopping and local character, and **Aberdeen Fishing Village**, to see sampans and houseboats framed against the soaring skyscrapers of the city. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 14: Hong Kong (B)

Today is free and easy at your leisure. Track down some famous Hong Kong red roast pork or dumpling noodle soup, photograph the densely built-up cityscape, or just lose yourself in the hustle and bustle of this unique island metropolis. If you are out of ideas, you may choose to join one of our optional activities (at your own expenses):

Ocean Park General Admission with Transfers (\$135):

Opened in 1977, Ocean Park Hong Kong is an educational marine-life theme park aiming to connect people with nature. The park features a diverse variety of marine animals, rollercoaster rides and spectacular shows. OR

Hong Kong Disneyland Admission with One Way Transfer (hotel to Disneyland) (\$155):

Experience the Disney tradition at Hong Kong, but with a special touch of oriental influence suitable for both parents and children alike. OR

Tsing Ma Lantau Monastery Tour with Vegetarian Lunch (\$175):

Lantau Island is Hong Kong's largest outlying island and is well known among locals for its unspoilt mountainous hiking trails, charming fishing village and the world's largest seated outdoor Buddha statue. This tour includes a visit to Ngong Ping, one of Hong Kong's top tourist attractions. Visitors can board a 5.7 km cable car ride up a mountainside gliding past magnificent panoramic views of the South China Sea, Hong Kong Int'l Airport as well as the Buddha statue on the island's highest peaks. Enjoy time at Hong Kong's most important Buddhist complex, Po Lin Monastery followed by a vegetarian lunch. OR

Macau Day Tour with Lunch (\$175):

Dubbed the 'Las Vegas of Asia', Macau is more than just glitzy casinos. Discover the wonders of this once Portuguese colony on a day trip to Macau by return ferry (approx. 1 hr each way). You will be taken on a guided tour visiting some of Macau's main attractions: the Ruins of St Paul Cathedral, A Ma Temple, Barrier Gate, Senado Square, casinos and souvenir stores.

Day 15: Depart Hong Kong (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Hong Kong airport to board your onward flights.

Images: 10. Victoria Harbour 11. Ocean Park, 12. Hong Kong Disneyland, 13. Tsing Ma Lantau Monastery, 14. The Ruins of St Paul Cathedral Macau

Day 16: Arrive Home



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