YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED ON A GREAT ESCAPE TO

CHINA

INCLUDING A YANGZI RIVER CRUISE ON THE M.S. YANGZI EXPLORER

**Dynasties Revealed...Nature Discovered**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 15 to 27, 2019</th>
<th>April 12 to 24, 2019</th>
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Discover China and a land so filled with contrasts that every visit, every destination, every encounter is a chance to be surprised and intrigued. This is a country of seemingly limitless possibilities. The place that invented fireworks and umbrellas, kites and the abacus continues to astound visitors with constant invention and reinvention. Here modernity and tradition intertwine and produce stunning architecture, succulent cuisine, and fascinating cultural expressions from Chinese opera to indigenous handicrafts. Progress and conservation also seek some sort of harmony, particularly when it comes to protecting and fostering future generations of that most adorable icon of China—the giant panda. In this country the span of centuries—indeed millennia—finds expression in wonders big and small, from the Great Wall to unexpected temples in hidden corners and quiet moments of contemplation in placid parks. As for the enormity of 1.3 billion people—such statistics are quickly forgotten in a friendly greeting, in outstanding personal attention, and in the fascinating exchange that occurs between host and visitor every day. China is a land of contrasts, and that is what makes it so alluring.
YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1~FRIDAY~
USA/En Route
Your journey begins as you board your overnight flight to Beijing. (Meals Aloft)

DAY 2~SATURDAY~
BEIJING
Today arrive in Beijing, which was declared the capital city of China in 1057 B.C. Briefly, prior to 1949 in the western world, Beijing was known as Peking and throughout the centuries it has been known by a variety of names – Ji, Zhongdu and Dadu; in 1421, Emperor Chengzu renamed it Beijing. Located in northeast China, it is the second largest populated city behind Shanghai and is recognized by the People’s Republic of China as its political, educational and cultural center. It entertained world-class athletes when it hosted the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Upon arrival, you will be met by your national guide and transferred to your elegant five-star accommodations centrally located in the Wang Fu Jing Shopping District, within walking distance of the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and the new Chang Pu He Park. Its design is a perfect blend of modern fashion elements and traditional oriental charm. Spacious rooms have amenities including LCD TV, marble bathroom, hairdryer, coffee-tea making facilities, mini-bar and complimentary Wi-Fi. There are several restaurants offering authentic Chinese as well as western cuisine and there is an indoor/outdoor roof terrace bar offering dazzling panoramic views of the city and live music. The relaxing spa offers a selection of pampering treatments for the body and soul. Overnight at NEW WORLD BEIJING HOTEL. (Meals Aloft)

DAY 3~SUNDAY~
BEIJING/TIANANMEN SQUARE/FORBIDDEN CITY/TEMPLE OF HEAVEN
Wear comfortable walking shoes today as your tour will cover some of the largest historical areas in the world. (Early risers will have the opportunity to view the guard of honor raise the Five Star Red Flag of China so it may fly high in the sky above Tiananmen Square.) After breakfast, meet with your guide before heading over to Tiananmen Square. Outside China, the Square is best known as the location of the 1989 student demonstration. Built almost
600 years ago, it was renovated in 1651 and enlarged to its current size of 109 acres in 1949, making it the largest urban open-square in the world. Only two fixtures inhabit this space, the 125-feet high granite Monument to the People’s Heroes, China’s largest monument, built in 1952, and the Mao Zedong Memorial Hall where Chairman Mao’s body lies in a crystal coffin surrounded by fresh flowers and grasses.

Tiananmen Square faces the main entrance to the Imperial Palace Grounds, also known as the Forbidden City. Tour these grounds occupied from the Mid-Ming dynasty through the Qing dynasty by 24 emperors. The last emperor of China, Pu Yi, abdicated in 1912 and now the Forbidden City houses a wealth of rare treasures and antiquities. Art abounds throughout on ceilings and walls with numerous galleries displaying bronzes, porcelains, crafts, paintings, calligraphies, jewelry and clocks.

Construction began on The Forbidden City in 1406 and ended 14 years later. Surrounded by a 20-foot deep moat adorned with illuminated fountains and encased behind a 33-foot high wall designed to withstand cannon attack, its 188-acres of grounds are home to 800 buildings comprised of 9,999 rooms. Yellow is the symbol of the royal family and dominates throughout from the glazed roof tiles, palace decorations and the bricks used to pave the grounds. One noticeable deviation from the color scheme is the royal library’s black roof, believed to represent water that would extinguish a fire. Designated a World Heritage Site in 1987, it is the largest collection of preserved ancient wooden structures in the world. Divided into two sections, the Northern Section (Inner Court) was where the emperor would work and live with his family and maid-servants. The Southern Section (Outer Court) was where the emperor exercised his command and rule over the country. The largest wooden structure in China and most magnificent hall is located here – the Hall of Supreme Harmony, where enthronement and wedding ceremonies took place. Within this elaborate complex of buildings, halls, palaces and pavilions, you will find a small oasis of relaxation at the Imperial Garden. The imperial family would come here to unwind along footpaths paved in a mosaic pattern created from small stones that meander among the exquisite beauty of flowers, ancient trees and springs.

This afternoon, travel to the southern part of Beijing to see China’s largest existing complex of ancient sacrificial buildings – the Temple of Heaven. Built in 1420 on a central axis, its sparkling white marble buildings and altars cover 667 acres. Emperors would come to the Temple of Heaven to worship and offer sacrifices to Heaven. The principle buildings are the Altar of Prayer for Good Harvests, Imperial Vault of Heaven and Circular Mound Altar. Inside the buildings, you will be astounded at the breathtaking beauty of the intricate and detailed paintings that adorn the walls and pillars. Interesting architectural touches enhance the mysterious atmosphere of the Temple, such as the Three Echo Stones just outside the Imperial Vault. Stand on the first step entering the Vault and speak, you will hear one echo. Stand on the second step and you will hear two echoes! Also, if you and a friend stand at each end of the wall enclosing the Imperial Vault of Heaven, and whisper to each other, the wall will act as a conduit for your voice, just like a telephone.

Overnight at NEW WORLD BEIJING HOTEL. (B)

**DAY 4~MONDAY~**

**BEIJING/GREAT WALL OF MUTIANYU**

This morning arrive at the Great Wall at Mutianyu – where the most scenic section of the wall meanders for over one mile through the northern part of Huairou County just 44 miles northeast of Beijing. Dating back to the mid-6th century, it was built along steep ridges and deep valleys, serving as a barrier from the Jyongguan Pass in the west and the Gubeikou Gateway in the east. The wall is 23-26 feet high and 13-16 feet wide at the top, increasing to 16-20 feet at the bottom and is renowned for
its unique fortifications including 22 blockhouses and watchtowers – the most famous is the castle-like complex of Zheng Bei Tai. It also has front and rear battlements in order to protect soldiers from attack on all sides. You will be enveloped in a myriad of lush green plants and ancient trees during your cable car ride through the mountainous terrain to reach the wall.

Surrounding the Forbidden City are several thousand ancient city alleys, built over 800 years ago beginning in the Yuan dynasty and continuing through the Ming and Qing dynasties. They are called hutongs and each emperor would establish their hutongs based on etiquette and class. The imperial kinsmen and aristocrats occupied hutongs near the Forbidden City, while merchants and other ordinary people were relegated to hutongs farther north and south of the palace. The hutong was designed around a quadrangle building with an inner courtyard. Today, many of the ancient hutongs have been destroyed to make room for modern residential buildings. However, those that still exist will give you an interesting look into the life of a Beijing resident as you tour via pedicab with stops at the Drum Tower and even a kindergarten. A brief stroll through the hutongs concludes with a visit to one of the local families here. Overnight at NEW WORLD BEIJING HOTEL. (B)

**DAY 5~TUESDAY~**

**XIAN**

This morning, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to the eternal city of Xian. Known as Chang’an in previous centuries, it is one of the birthplaces of ancient civilization in the Yellow River Basin area. The capital of the Shaanxi Province in the southern part of the Guanzhong Plain, it is flanked by the Weihe River to the south and the Qinling Mountains to the north. During the past 3,100 years, the emperors of 13 dynasties have ruled from here, and it is one of the four major ancient civilization capitals of the world, the others being Athens, Cairo and Rome.

Upon arrival you’ll be met and begin your sightseeing with a visit to Yangling Museum. The museum opened in 1999 and features recent archeological discoveries from Han dynasty tombs. This small museum represents the culmination of nearly 10 years of excavation work on the area around the tomb of the Han emperor, Jing Di (died 141 B.C.). While the actual imperial tomb of the emperor and chief consort has yet to be opened archeologists have excavated more than 20 “satellite tombs” which have yielded a treasure trove of exquisite funerary pieces. The finest of these pieces are on view and attest to the artistic elegance of the Han period. After centuries of civil unrest and war, the Han ushered in a prolonged period of relative peace and growing prosperity. Art, with court sanction, flourished and took root through the empire. Archeologists have only to look into the catalogue of Han funerary finds to provide evidence of this artistic renaissance.

Continue to the outskirts of the city to for a stroll along the top of its City Wall, which has protected Xian since the Tang dynasty (618-907), built with layers of dirt, lime and glutinous rice extract. It was enlarged to its present size with bricks, four gates, 5,984 arrow-shooting holes and 98 guard towers by the first emperor of the Ming Dynasty, Zhu Yuanzhang, to become one of the largest ancient military defensive systems in the world. Standing 40 feet high and almost nine miles long, this incredible structure has been preserved intact, and includes a deep moat for additional fortification. It is one of most important landmarks of the city.
Afterwards you’ll be transferred to your 5-star accommodations ideally situated within the ancient walls of historic Xian and within walking distance of nightlife, entertainment and shopping. Your luxury hotel incorporates several heritage buildings of historic importance and features 432 elegantly appointed rooms, four restaurants, two bars, fitness center, indoor heated pool, Jacuzzi and sauna.
Overnight at SOFITEL RENMIN SQUARE XIAN HOTEL. (B)

DAY 6~WEDNESDAY~
XIAN
Today begins at “the eighth major miracle of the world” – the Museum of Qin Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses. Witness one of the most significant, on-going archeological excavation sites of the 20th century. Over 8,000 terra cotta soldiers, horses, chariots and weapons have been unearthed throughout this 50-acre complex, with many restored to their original grandeur.
Discovered in 1974 by a group of peasants digging a well, it is actually a tomb created over 2,000 years ago for Emperor Qin Shi Huang, who began designing his mausoleum when he was just 13 years-old. Divided into three sections, pit one houses the largest number of life-size terra cotta soldiers with archeologists expecting to uncover over 6,000 cavalrmen, infantrymen and archers; currently, approximately 204 are on display in battle formation. Pit two is home to approximately 1,000 life-size warriors acting as the flank force. Pit three is the military command center with 68 warriors, a war chariot and four horses. In addition, there are numerous ‘side pits’ that house discoveries including rare birds and animals, stables, the tombs of Emperor Qin Shi Huang’s children and historical relics created from gold, silver, bronze, iron, pottery, jade, shellfish, lacquered wares and silk fabrics.

All of the life-size warriors and horses were made of local clay and weigh from 242 pounds to 660 pounds, with an average height of almost six feet. Their construction was an in-depth, multi-step process, and some experts believe real soldiers served as models, due to the different features each one exhibits. After each statue was finished, the craftsmen inscribed their names on the back of the robe, legs or armor, and over 80 of their names have been discovered.

This afternoon, visit a stunning, yet simple architectural marvel from the Tang Dynasty. The Big Wild Goose Pagoda is a brick creation, constructed without the use of cement or mortar. Originally a five-story structure commissioned by the Buddhist translator and traveler, Xuanzang, to store his collection of Buddhist sutras and figurines, it was increased to 10 stories in the 8th century. Through the ages, warring factions reduced it to its current well-preserved seven stories and you can climb the stairs to the top of this designated National
Key Cultural Relic, for a panoramic view of Xian. This holy place for Buddhists houses artistic treasures from the Tang Dynasty, including walls engraved with statues of Buddha by the renowned, ancient artist, Yan Liben. Soaring high into the sky in front of the temple is a statue of Xuanzang, the Buddhist master, and inside the temple to the east, is the Bell Tower, which houses a 15-ton iron bell molded during the Ming Dynasty. The scenery around the temple and pagoda is composed of waterscape fountains, musical fountains, gardens and paths that add to the tranquil atmosphere of Buddhist trappings and Tang Dynasty culture.

Next, take a walk through Xian’s Muslim Quarter en route to the mosque. The Great Mosque, one of the most interesting sites in a city known for its rich history. While the Buddhist traditions of Chinese culture are well known to most visitors, the influence exerted by Islam is not. Yet, of the religious beliefs within China today, no one can claim the strength of belief that Islam does. Enjoy your evening at leisure.

Overnight at SOFITEL RENMIN SQUARE XIAN HOTEL (B)

DAY 7~THURSDAY~
XIAN/CHONGqing/YANGZI RIVER CRUISE

This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Chongqing, nicknamed the “Capital of the Mist.” Over 2,000 years old, Chongqing is famous for its rich historical and cultural legacies with such sites as Dazu Grottos, Hot Spring Park and Chongqing Museum. It is also fast becoming a city of the future, ambitious to be a powerhouse of industry and commerce. Chongqing is said to be the semi-legendary State of Ba that the Ba people supposedly established during the eleventh century BC. By 316 BC, however, it had been overrun by the State of Qin. The Qin emperor ordered a new city to be constructed, which was called Jiang and Chu Prefecture. Since its founding 3,000 years ago, Chongqing has been called Jiangzhou, Yuzhou, and Gongzhou, before getting its present name nearly 800 years ago. Since the Qin Dynasty (221 BC-206 BC), many dynasties have set up administrative institutions that have endowed the city with brilliant cultures. Perched beside the Yangtze, the "Golden River," Chongqing symbolizes Yangtze River civilizations and is the cradle of Bayu culture. Today, Chongqing is a modern city, China's fourth municipality after Beijing, Shanghai, and Tianjin. Within its borders Chongqing encompasses a wealth of water reserves, mineral resources, dense forests, and abundant flora and fauna. The city is the starting point for the Yangtze River Cruise, which explores the stunning scenery of the Three Gorges.

Upon arrival transfer to the pier to board your deluxe M.S. Yangzi Explorer Cruise Ship and settle into your comfortable cabin to begin your memorable cruise downstream. Carrying no more than 124 guests with a crew of 130, Yangzi Explorer boasts the highest ship staff-to-guest ratio on the river. Her staterooms set a new standard in spaciousness and elegance; all feature a mini bar, bathrobes and slippers, telephone, private safety box, television, hair dryer, and a private balcony to gaze at the passing Yangtze River landscapes. The ship will set sail on its downstream course trough the Three Gorges region. The total length of this cruise is 402 miles and is considered by most Chinese to represent the single most scenic area in all of China. Dining onboard is a delight with a team of internationally trained chefs delivering innovative a la carte menus featuring the finest of Chinese and continental cuisine served with complimentary house wines and other refreshments at
lunch and dinner. Enjoy the exhilarating shore excursions that highlight the beauty and heritage of the area while relaxing on board the only international deluxe ship sailing the Yangzi today.

Tonight, you are invited to watch a documentary film of the Three Gorges Dam Project showing in Tang Theater. Overnight aboard the M.S. YANGZI EXPLORER. (B,D)

**DAY 8~FRIDAY~**

**YANGZI RIVER CRUISE: FENGDU**

Start of your morning with a traditional Chinese exercise and work up an appetite for the buffet breakfast. Learn from the ship’s certified Taichi master and experience the soothing art form in the outdoor Observation Deck area or inside the Tang Theater.

Following lunch disembark and head to Fengdu, a charming river village noted for its elaborate temples and bustling market. Mingle with the locals and gain a deeper understanding of the history and culture as you walk the streets of one of China’s most remote communities. Back on the Explorer you may participate in several sessions teaching various forms of Chinese art and cuisine.

Tonight meet the Yangzi Explorer's Captain and crew at the Captain's reception. Overnight aboard the M.S. YANGZI EXPLORER. (B,L,D)

**DAY 9~SATURDAY~**

**YANGZI RIVER CRUISE: QUATANG GORGE/WU GORGE/CRUISING SHENNONG STREAM/XILING GORGE**

Early this morning your ship will enter Qutang Gorge through the majestic Kui Men two imposing cliffs, which resemble a towering door into some otherworldly destination. It is the shortest, narrowest and rockiest of the three gorges. Qutang Gorge is abundant with historical relics and cultural heritage and is home to one of the earliest human cultures ever discovered in Asia. Here one can see the original site of the famous Fenbi Wall, the ruins of ancient cliff roads and the Mengliang Steps before the expected high water levels caused by the Three Gorges Project forces the government to move them to higher ground.

Continue passing through wondrous Wu Gorge, home of the twelve peaks of the Wu Mountains, experience a meandering landscape of dazzling peaks and rocks, forming a whimsical gallery of natural beauty. The cliff faces rise so sharply that legend relates that the “sun rarely penetrates the river”. Along the Wu Gorge, there are twelve peaks on each bank. These are the most prominent aspects of the scenery of Wu Gorge. Many legends relate to the twelve peaks. Among the twelve, the Goddess Peak is the highest and most notable. As it is the first peak to welcome the sun's glow and says farewell to its afterglow, it is also called Wangxia Peak (Looking at the Sunglow peak). There are some popular legends relating to it that are worth knowing.
Disembark from the ship at Badong and transfer to a local longboat poled by Tujia boatmen. Immerse yourself in unrivaled crystalline waters, rich forest and towering rock formations and catch a glimpse at several species of endangered flora and fauna including the elusive Golden Hair Monkey and many varieties of medicinal plants.

Starting from Xiangxi (Fragrant Stream) Kou of Zigui County in the west and ending at Nanjin Pass in the east, Xiling Gorge, zigzagging about 49 miles, is the longest gorge among the three gorges of the Yangtze River. Because of numerous reefs and odd-shaped stones existing in rapid shoals, the gorge is also well known for its danger. Besides the natural landscape, some historic landmarks including the Huangling Temple and Three Travelers’ Cave (Sanyou Dong) are also worth visiting. Scenery along the Xiling Gorge is spectacular.

Tonight enjoy a proper Chinese banquet feast and participate by dressing up along with the crew. Overnight aboard the M.S. YANGZI EXPLORER. (B,L,D)

**DAY 10~SUNDAY~**

**YICHANG/SHANGHAI**

Arrive at the Three Gorges Dam Project, one of the largest construction projects ever undertaken in the world. The dam will be the largest in the world, generating 18,200 megawatts of hydroelectricity (almost 50% more than the world’s current largest dam, the Itaipu Dam in Brazil and Paraguay). The Three Gorges Project will forever change the face of the Yangtze River as we know today. Possessing comprehensive utilization benefits mainly for flood control, power generation and navigation improvement. It will be a vital important and backbone project in the harnessing and developing of the Yangtze River.

Disembark this afternoon and transfer to the airport for your flight to Shanghai, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Shanghai is a bustling, prosperous city of 18 million residents, and the largest economic and trade center in China. Originally a seaside fishing village, it is now a multi-cultural metropolis with modern and traditional Chinese features co-existing side-by-side.

Your home for the next three nights is the Fairmont Peace Hotel, conveniently located at the famous Bund promenade and the unrivaled shopping area on Nanjing Road. It is a luxurious Art-Deco masterpiece brilliantly reinvented for the 21st century where old fashioned glamour sparkles with new luster. While keeping with the traditions intact, such as the opulence of the signature Chinese restaurant, Dragon Phoenix and the esteemed Jazz Bar, Shanghai’s premier destination for jazz, the legendary hotel’s new contemporary spirit is felt in the elegant Cathay Room and Terrace with spectacular views of Pudong, the refined Jasmine Lounge as well as the Parisian style Victor’s Café. The hotel has an awarding-winning spa, fitness center and swimming pool. Comfortable rooms offer amenities including WiFi access, 37-inch plasma television, in-room safe, mini-bar, coffee/tea-making facilities and hairdryer.

Overnight at FAIRMONT PEACE HOTEL SHANGHAI. (B)
DAY 11 ~ MONDAY ~

SHANGHAI

Find peace and health this morning while enjoying the beauty of Yuyuan Garden. Over 400 years-old, the present-day garden occupies five acres exquisitely designed in the renowned Suzhou garden-style with more than 40 scenic areas to feast your eyes upon, including pavilions, halls, stones and streams. The most elaborate is The Grand Rockery, designed to emulate a 550-foot mountain, including peaks, cliffs, caves and gorges. Keeping the garden safe is the Dragon Wall, a white wall decorated with a dragon’s head and paved with scale-like tiles. Weapons and coins made by the Society of Little Swords are exhibited at the Hall of Heralding Spring, and rare rosewood pieces dating back to the Ming Dynasty furnish the Hall of Jade Magnificence.

This afternoon, enjoy a tour of the French Concession, the district ceded to the French following the Sino-British Opium War in 1842. Many of Shanghai’s most beautiful residences were created in the French Concession when Shanghai was known as the “Venice of the East” – which today exemplify Shanghai’s exotic blend of old and new, of east and west. Recall the days of old as you admire the historic houses on either side of charming tree-lined streets.

Next proceed to the river promenade for a stroll along the west bank of the Huangpu River. The Bund (derived from an Anglo-Indian name meaning quay or embankment) is an ideal location to admire the historic banks and trading houses which parallel the river. These colonial style buildings grew in conjunction with the cargo and freighters that would arrive here in the late 19th century and early 20th century.

This evening, enjoy a dazzling display of spectacular agility as you attend a Chinese Acrobatic Show including round trip transfers. Overnight at FAIRMONT PEACE HOTEL SHANGHAI. (B)

DAY 12 ~ TUESDAY ~

SHANGHAI

Depart your hotel this morning for an excursion to charming Zhujiajiao (approximately 45 minute drive). A walking tour of the town will take you through many exhibition halls that introduce the traditions and customs of life south of the Yangzi River.

With natural scenery of little bridges spanning bubbling streams, the ancient river town of Zhujiajiao is built on top of crisscrossing waterways flowing from Dianshan Lake. The town, occupying an area of 47 square kilometers, has a simple and elegant Ming and Qing Dynasty architecture that is quintessentially southern Chinese. Nine long streets run along
the rivers and a thousand buildings flank both sides. The quiet streets, paved with stone slabs, secluded alleyways and arched stone bridges all express the beauty of the water, said to be the soul of the town.

This afternoon, enjoy a tour of the Shanghai Museum to view the eleven galleries and three exhibition halls of ancient Chinese art. The Shanghai Museum is located in the center of the city in People’s Square. A specialty of the museum is its ancient ceramics collection, consisting of over 500 pieces of artwork from various dynasties, including painted and gray pottery from the Neolithic age, primitive celadon from the Shang, Zhou and Warring States, mature celadon from the East Han Dynasty, tri-colored glazed pottery from the Tang Dynasty, and blue, white and black glazed porcelain from the Song, Jin and Liao Dynasties.

Continue to the amazing Urban Planning Museum and I-max movie that contains an incredibly accurate model of the city in a couple of decades, complete with every tiny little detail and every single building. The model is huge and incredible. See the informative film “Contemporary Shanghai” which provides participants with an “orientation” on the city – its layout, population, development, etc. A visit to this museum is an in depth introduction to Shanghai helpful to both first-time and repeat visitors to the city – with its rapid rate of development Shanghai is a city that is in constant flux.

Overnight at FAIRMONT PEACE HOTEL SHANGHAI. (B)

**DAY 13 ~ WEDNESDAY ~**

**SHANGHAI/EN ROUTE**

Today bid farewell to this mysterious land and its mist covered mountains, ancient structures and incredible culture, as you board your flight home. (B, Meals Aloft)
YOUR YANGZI RIVER VESSEL ~ M/S YANGZI EXPLORER

Yangzi Explorer takes cruising to a new level of comfort for the discerning travelers and offers the ultimate in luxury when cruising the Yangzi River. Carrying just 124 passengers, Yangzi Explorer offers the finest and most personalized service of any ship sailing in the river. With other cruise ships accommodating well over 300 passengers the Yangzi Explorer is the market leader by offering such an intimate cruising experience. International standards of services, delivered by the highest ratio of staff to guests, ensure that every level of comfort is catered for during the cruise.

- 1 Celestial & 1 Imperial Suite (1183 ft²)
- 1 Jade & 1 Mandarin Suite (871 ft²)
- 20 Suites (420 ft²)
- 38 Deluxe cabins (333 ft²)
- International restaurant - Dynasty Palace
- Duplex theatre with bar - Tang Theater
- Viewing Lounge with Bar - Explorer Bar
- Function rooms - Peony & Lotus
- Spa and Sauna - Dragonfly SPA
- Souvenir and Gift Shops - Fanghua Jewelry, Art Gallery & Collectors Den
- Library
- Gym
- Beauty Salon
- Clinic
- Business Centre with internet access
- Elevator
- Laundry service
- 24-hour room service
- Non-smoking policy
INCLUSIONS:

- Superior or best available accommodations throughout as indicated, or similar.
- Flights within China: Beijing/Xian/Chongqing; Yichang/Shanghai.
- Breakfast daily at city hotels.
- All meals on Yangzi River cruise beginning with dinner on night of embarkation and ending with breakfast on morning of disembarkation.
- Sightseeing as indicated in itinerary via private air-conditioned vehicle with English speaking guide.
- Yangzi River cruise based on Xiling Deck-third deck.
- Complimentary bottled water in touring vehicles.
- All applicable hotel/lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- All park and places of interest entry fees.
- Complimentary baggage tags.

EXCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip air transportation between the USA and China (are quoted separately).
- U.S. and foreign airport taxes.
- Passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visas. Visas are required for China.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Meals and beverages, other than specified.
- Gratuities to national and local guides, drivers and other conveyance attendants.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal and baggage insurance.
- Cost for anything not specifically mentioned in the listing above.
- Optional travel insurance.

Please Note The Itinerary Sequence Is Correct At The Time Of Writing, But Is Subject To Change.

CLASSIC ESCAPES CONSERVATION FUND

In keeping with our mission to provide exciting, educational, and fun-filled experiences that nurture and directly support the diverse wildlife and cultures we visit around the world, Classic Escapes has established the Classic Escapes Conservation Fund to ensure that a percentage of all profits go to support conservation and wildlife researchers performing their critical work in the field. Project support has included environmental education efforts in India and Bhutan, wild dog and cheetah conservation in Botswana, Kenya and Namibia, and global Earth Day education via school internet programs. By traveling with Classic Escapes, you are supporting travel as a tool for building the mutual respect, awareness and understanding that are vital to preserving this planet for future generations.
YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

INCLUDING: BEIJING, XIAN, YANGZI RIVER CRUISE & SHANGHAI.

DATES & COSTS: (PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ARE INDICATIVE & SUBJECT TO CHANGE). SHOULD YOU REQUIRE A DIFFERENT DEPARTURE DATE, CONTACT CLASSIC ESCAPES.

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**Costs:** Per person, based on double occupancy including flights within China

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<td>$5,295 Per Person</td>
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If you require assistance for airfare, contact Classic Escapes at 800-627-1244

If 10 or more travelers in your party, the 11th person is complimentary

*Singles are assigned on a first come/first serve basis.
**Classic Escapes can assist with international airfare upon request. All international airfares are subject to change and based on minimum number of travelers. Taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change until ticketed.*
Conditions of Travel:

Registration

How to Book: Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown below, to: to Classic Escapes, 58-25 Queens Blvd, Woodside, NY 11377 OR scan and email to ge@classicescapes.com OR fax to 718-204-4726. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive an electronic confirmation and invoice from us.

Payments

Deposit: A deposit of $1,000 per person must be submitted at the time of booking. Deposits may be paid by check or charged to American Express, MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

Final Payment: Final payment is due 95 days before departure – you will receive a final invoice via email.

Rates: Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates and other factors and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

Not Included: Cost of passport and visa fees, and service charges for obtaining visa fees; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; laundry and other items of a personal nature; optional travel insurance policy; cost for anything not specifically included in listing above.

Single Supplement: The quoted rate is valid for the first two single rooms booked and on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than two single rooms are needed, an additional supplement will apply. Single accommodations are not guaranteed, but will be provided at additional cost if available (see reservation form for cost.) The single room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

Gratuities and Taxes: Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, and entrance fees to all points of interest as outlined in the itinerary are included. U.S. and foreign airport taxes are included in air costs. Tips to camp staff and drivers and naturalist are NOT included.

Cancellations, Deviations & Changes

Travel Insurance: We recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance can provide financial reimbursement should the unexpected occur.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to 95 days prior to departure, less $300 handling fee, plus $250 non-refundable deposit given to overseas suppliers.
- 94-85 days prior to departure, deposit is forfeited.
- 84 to 75 days prior to departure, less 75% of tour cost.
- Less than 75 days prior to departure, we will NOT refund any payments made.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

Change Fees: Once you reserve your tour, changes are possible subject to availability of air or land space at the time of request. Should there be any change fees imposed by airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to availability of any space, this cost will be invoiced to you.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: We would be happy to make additional travel plans for you, including specially arranged pre- or post-tour extensions different than those that may be offered in conjunction with this tour. A service charge of $150 per person (over and above the cost of the services required) will be assessed.

DOCUMENTS

PASSPORT & VISAS: The onus is upon the guest to ensure that passports and visas are valid for the countries visited and for the applicable time period, as outlined by the U.S. Department of State (travel.state.gov) or by the passport holder’s country. Classic Escapes, their staff and their agents cannot be held liable for any visas, etc. not held by the guests, nor for the cost of obtaining visas.

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION: Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, we will email pre-departure information to you. This contains all the information you need to prepare for your tour, including the complete itinerary, packing checklist, required documents, etc.

FINAL DOCUMENTS: Final documents and tickets will be emailed to you approximately two weeks prior to departure, provided all monies have been paid in full.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRANSPORTATION: International airline reservations can be provided upon request.

AIRLINE SEATING: All planes are non-smoking. We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however requested seats cannot be guaranteed. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Boarding passes will only be issued at the airport on the day of departure. You may inquire about seat changes during check in, based on availability and is at the sole discretion of airport staff.

FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE: You may obtain frequent flyer mileage on your flights. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit.

TRANSFERS: Roundtrip airport transfers are included in the tour.

TRIP DETAILS

ACCOMMODATIONS: You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning and/or fans. All rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at time of writing, but on rare occasions may be substituted for a different property of comparable quality.

MEALS: All meals as specified in the itinerary. Please notify us if you have special dietary needs or requests, and we will do our best to accommodate.

INOCULATIONS: When it comes to vaccination and disease prevention, we suggest that travelers first review information provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/travel) and then review those details with their personal physicians.

WATER: It is always advisable to drink bottled and/or filtered water when traveling overseas. Safe drinking water will be provided to travelers free of charge in the vehicles and during meals.

BAGGAGE: On average, international flights from the USA allow two pieces of checked luggage, each not exceeding 50 pounds; however we always recommend that you check your airline’s policy just before departure, as luggage limitations are always subject to change. Despite this weight allowance, we always suggest guests travel light.
**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Neither Classic Escapes (the Company) nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest’s booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or film taken on the tour by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

**CHANGES TO SCHEDULES:** Although every effort is made to adhere to schedules it should be borne in mind that the Company reserves the right and in fact is obliged to occasionally change routes and hotels as dictated by changing conditions.

**REFUNDS:** While the Company uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there shall be no claim of any nature whatsoever against the Company for a refund either in the whole or part, if any accommodation or excursion is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found. If the guest is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary, then there are no refunds due.

**AIRLINE CLAUSE:** The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers’ tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

**DELAYS:** We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule. If one of our drivers is unable to take a trip due to illness, etc. we reserve the right to substitute with another driver. This agreement is made subject to and shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the country in which the trip takes place. Classic Escapes act merely as an agent for the operating companies. To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of printing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

**CONSENT:** The payment of the deposit OR any other partial payment for a reservation on a trip constitutes consent by all guests covered by that payment to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained in this brochure whether the guest has signed the booking form or not. The terms, under which you agree to take this trip, cannot be changed or amended except in writing signed by an authorized director of the Company.

**INSURANCE:** It is a condition of booking, that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest’s dependents or traveling companions.

Please visit the website to enroll – [http://www.travelguard.com/classicescapes/](http://www.travelguard.com/classicescapes/). For any questions you may have on insurance, contact Travel Guard at 1-866-385-4839 and refer to ARC #71298.

**INCLUDED EMERGENCY EVACUATION COVERAGE:** For the convenience of our travelers, Classic Escapes provides a complimentary Medical Insurance Plan during this trip through Travel Guard Group, Inc. This includes:
- Emergency evacuation insurance up to $100,000.
- Up to $25,000 medical expense and up to $500 dental expense coverage subject to the terms and limitations of the insurance policy.
- 24-hour worldwide travel and medical assistance.

Please click here to view complete coverage of details.
Enclosed is my deposit for $ ______________ ($1,000 Per Person) to hold __________ place(s) on a Journey of Discovery to China departing on:

- [ ] March 15 to 27, 2019
- [ ] April 12 to 24, 2019
- [ ] May 17 to 29, 2019
- [ ] August 30 to September 11, 2019
- [ ] September 27 to October 9, 2019
- [ ] November 1 to 13, 2019

See Journey At A Glance page for costs.

Please make check payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES and mail to 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside, NY 11377

OR

Charge deposit to: [ ] MasterCard  [ ] Visa  [ ] American Express  [ ] Discover

(Credit Card Authorization form needs to be completed and returned to Classic Escapes via email to ge@classicescapes.com or fax to 718-204-4726)

Final payment due date is: 95 Days before departure – you will receive a final invoice via email.

1) NAME (As appears on passport): [ ] Mr.  [ ] Mrs.  [ ] Ms. ________________________________

2) NAME (As appears on passport): [ ] Mr.  [ ] Mrs.  [ ] Ms. ________________________________

STREET ADDRESS: ________________________________

CITY: ______________________________________________________________________STATE: _________________ ZIP: _______________

PHONES: HOME: (          ) ________________________OFFICE: (          ) ___________________________ MOBILE: (          )

E-MAIL ADDRESS: ___________________________________________________________FAX: (          )

I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.

The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: [ ] ONE  [ ] TWO Beds (Make one selection only)

I am sharing with __________________________________________(form sent separately)

I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost as indicated on Journey At A Glance page.

I/We will make own air arrangements and will provide you with an itinerary before trip departure.

Airline Seating Preference [ ] Aisle  [ ] Window  Frequent Flier # ________________________________

**We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however this is only a request and NOT guaranteed, as some seating assignments may be airport check-in only. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Also note that even if we do obtain your preferred seat, it is not guaranteed that the seat will be provided during check-in as there might be equipment changes that nullify our selection.

I/We strongly recommend that you obtain travel insurance.

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of December 18, 2018, and are subject to change. See cancellation penalties applicable as outlined on Conditions of Travel. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANINED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).

SIGNATURE: __________________________________________________________________________ DATE: __________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________________________________________________________ DATE: __________________________

CLASSIC ESCAPES INC.
58-25 Queens Blvd.
Woodside, NY 11377
ge@classicescapes.com

(We recommend that you keep a copy of your selections as noted above for your future reference)
CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.

I authorize (Classic Escapes Inc.) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

__________________________________________
Name appearing on credit card

__________________________       _______________________
Card number                  Expiration date

__________________________
Card Verification Number*     Card Type

__________________________
Billing address of credit card

__________________________
Amount of transaction

__________________________
Services rendered/Items purchased

__________________________
Phone number

__________________________________________
Signature                                 Date

*How To Locate Your Card Verification Number:
(Visa, MasterCard, Discover: Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3-digit number which follows the credit card number. American Express: Enter the 4-digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I’m making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of December 18, 2018, and are subject to change. Cancellations are subject to fees as outlines in Conditions of Travel and are only effective on receipt of written notification.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver’s license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these copies.