

8 Days Golden Triangle Tour & Trips

Code: LCT-BXS-8D - 01

Duration: 8 Days

Attractions: Great Wall, Forbidden City, Terracotta Warriors Museum, Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Shanghai World Financial Center, Yuyuan Garden.

Overview: If there is the first time you ever come to China, this trip suits you well. Visit Beijing, learn about the modern China and feel the pulse of capital city. Visit Xian, go back to thousands ago of China and listen to the voice of history. Visit Shanghai, see how China will be like the near future. During this trip, you will know witness the whole development route of China. Immerse yourselves into the profound cultural atmosphere, feel the interaction between history and modern times.

Highlights

1. Get a close look at the Forbidden City;
2. Walk in Sacred Way of Ming Tombs.
3. Ride a boat on the lake of Summer Palace if you choose;
4. Try China's high-speed train;
5. Know about the Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum on site;
6. Visit the local Cave Dwelling in Xian suburb;
7. Practice Tai Chi under the instruction of a Tai Chi master.
8. Climb the tallest building in Shanghai - World Financial Center and have a bird-eye of Shanghai city;
9. Wander in Shanghai Xin Tian Di and feel the vitality of modern Shanghai.

Itinerary

Day 1:

Upon your arrival in Beijing, your Beijing driver will wear a smile and wait for you upon your arrival. He will transfer you safely to your hotel. You can overcome the jet lag in the rest of the

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day.

Recommended evening activity: Kungfu Show at Red Theater

Day 2: Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City, Jianshan Park, Temple of Heaven

09:00 a.m: Meet your Beijing tour guide and start your China tour.

09:30-10:30 a.m: Visit the **Tian' anmen Square**. It' s a rectangular square with an area of 440,000 sq meters. To some point, the Tian' anmen Square echoes the layout of the Forbidden City. It also displays the major concept of China politics in ancient times- centralism. There were so many historic things took place here , of which the most famous one is the Tian' anmen Incident. Now, it' s just a symbol.

10:45 - 13:00 p.m: Visit the magnificent **Forbidden City**, the largest Imperial Palace in the world. We' ll spend a couple of hours wandering around this amazing example of Imperial architecture and learning about the history of the palace. Surrounded by a long scarlet walls longing 3.5km, UNESCO-listed Forbidden City is the very central power in Ming and Qing Dynasty. This large palace witness the prosperity and the decline of feudalism. From here, you will have a direct experience how royals lived and how they rule.

13:00 - 14:00 p.m: Enjoy a local food in a nice restaurant Beijingers always visit, please pay on moment based on what you have.

14:00 - 15:00 p.m: Visit the **Jingshan Park** and have a bird-eye view of the whole Forbidden City. It was originally an imperial garden in Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties. Nowadays, it's just a public garden for people to take a leisure time.

15:20 - 16:30 p.m: Head for **Temple of Heaven**. Situated in the southeast of central city, the Temple of Heaven was originally constructed in the eighteenth year of Yong Le (1420) in Ming Dynasty for Ming and Qing emperors to conduct annual ceremonies of praying to Heaven for good harvest. It combines the architectural technology of Ming and Qing Dynasties together, which makes it a rare Chinese ancient architecture and the largest sacrifice complex in the world. Charmed by its size, colorful meaning and importance in China's history, the site was classified into the "Directory of World Heritage" by UNESCO in 1998.

17:00 p.m: Finish your day tour and get back to hotel.

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Recommended evening activity: Acrobatic Show at Chaoyang Theater.

Day 3: Mutianyu Great Wall, Ding Mausoleum

07:30 a.m: Greeted by your tour guide in your hotel lobby and commence your day tour.

09:00 - 11:30 p.m: Drive around 1.5 hours to the **Mutianyu section Great Wall** and you will take a rest and lunch at the Subway down the foot of the Mutianyu Wall. This is a one of the most famous and ideal sections of the Great Wall. You will have your choice of taking the cable car or chair lift up the breathtaking wall and spend a leisurely 1 to 2 hours hiking up and down the various sections exploring the Watch Towers and marveling at the construction and beauty of the renown and legendary Wall. You then have the option of an exhilarating toboggan ride back down or simply return the way you came with cable car.

11:30 - 12:30 p.m: Enjoy a typical Beijing lunch nearby the Mutianyu Great Wall (pay on moment).

13:20 - 15:30 p.m: Visit the **Ding Tombs**. It's a cluster of cemeteries burying 13 Ming emperors, 23 empresses and lots of other imperial members in Ming Dynasty after the capital has been moved to Beijing. Due to its grand architecture and comprehensive system, it boasts itself with high historic and cultural values. Although there are tombs to be see, only a few are accessible for you. Most people come here just to walk in the **Sacred Way**.

17:00 p.m: You will be back to your hotel for rest.

Day 4: Summer Palace, Hutong, Head for Xian

09:00 a.m: Greeted by your Beijing tour guide and begin your last day in Beijing.

09:30 - 11:00 a.m: Visit the **Summer Palace**. As the largest imperial garden in China, the Summer Palace has been a summer resort for royal families. There are huge lakes, bridges, corridors, pavilions, and various kinds of flowers and lots of rooms fully radiating the natural beauty and the grandeur of imperial gardens. With arched bridges and glittering ripples, pretty promenades and flowers in blossom, decorated corridors and ancient doors, and "breezeways" (a kind of hallway that allows the passage of a breeze between structures), all these can bring tourists into an enchanting and ever-changing scenery.

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11:00 - 12:00 p.m: Walk in the tranquil **Hutongs**. In those interlaced Hutongs, one can experience the life of the ancient Beijing people. With bathrooms and public toilets usually being found, shops and vendors selling all kinds of goods that satisfy the local people's daily needs, and people gossiping along the lanes to strengthen their relationship, one can walk through the history and savor the unique culture. Thus, we can say that where there is such a lane, there is a story.

12: 00 - 13:00 p.m: Enjoy a local food in a nice restaurant Beijingers always visit, please pay on moment based on what you have.

14:00 p.m: Drop off at Beijing West Train Station and you will take the high-speed train to Xian.

Your Xian driver will hold a welcome sign with your name on and wait for you upon your arrival. Please find your driver at the Information Desk” (问询台/信息台) . Then, he will take you safely back to your Xian hotel.

Day 5: Terracotta Warriors Museum, Traditional Cave Dwelling, City Wall, Shuyuanmen Street

09:00 a.m: Greeted by your tour guide, your exploration to this great city begins.

09:50 a.m: You will arrive at **Terracotta Warriors Museum**. Your tour guide will take you through every important figures, horses or weapons. By examining the terracotta figures discovered here, you can imagine how Qin soldiers looked like 2000 years ago. From the horse cart and weapons displayed, you will have an idea how these soldiers used to fight. If you look closely enough, you will discover that each figure has different facial expressions, which is very astonishing considering how many figures are there. Then, you will know how great this work must be and why the Terracotta Warriors Museum is regarded as the eighth wonder in the world.

12:30 p.m: Time to hunt for lunch. You will need to cover this fee on spot. Your tour guide will be happy to cater to your needs and find the suitable restaurant for you. Here are some local food you might be interested in: Chinese Hamburger, Baozi (steamed stuffed bun), Spicy soup, Tofu Jelly, Deep - fried dough sticks, Pita Bread Soaked in Mutton Soup, Biang Biang Noodles, Guokui, etc..

13:30p.m: Visit a local family lives in **Traditional Cave Dwelling**. Your tour guide will introduce to you why people like to live here.

14:10 p.m: Depart Terracotta Warriors and get back to the city. It takes about 50 minutes to get

back to City from the Terracotta Warriors museum, during which time you can have a little rest and

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be prepared for the afternoon tour.

15:00p.m: Visit the **Ancient City Wall**, there are two choices available. You can either walk or ride a bike, or even take a golf car (please pay on moment if you want to ride bikes or golf car). This City Wall is the best preserved and most complete wall that has survived through China' s long history. It is about 12 meters high, 12 to 14 meters wide across the top and 15 to 18 meters thick at the bottom. The entire circumference is about 13.7 kilometers. It can take a while if you choose to walk all through.

16:30 p.m: Go to the **Shuyuanmen Cultural Street** and learn about Chinese calligraphy and painting. Its name is originated from the Guanzhong Academy, which was the highest institution of higher learning in the Ming and Qing dynasties in Shaanxi, and now has become a painting and calligraphy center in Xi 'an. There are sound splash-ink works now, and most of the high-quality goods exhibition, both the street stalls selling arrangement, and elegant display of price tag. When wandering in the street, you will have the misconception of walking in the ancient China. Every year a large number of painting and calligraphy masters converge in Xi' an, holding various kinds of exhibition. You might take part in one of them if you are lucky.

17: 00p.m: Your will be dropped off at hotel and your tour comes to an end.

Recommended evening activity: Xian Food tour / Tang Dynasty Dinner Show

Day 6: Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Muslim Quarter, Bell Tower, Hanyangling Museum, Xian - Shanghai by air

09:00 p.m: Get ready to be picked up by your smiley tour guide.

09:20 - 11:30a.m: Your morning tour will start with a visit to **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**. It's locate inside the Da Ci En temple. It was built in Tang Dynasty to store all the Buddhism sutra and Buddhism figures that Xuan Zang has brought back from India. It's the biggest and also the earliest square pagoda that has been built. Now, it has been remodeled and enlarged like a large park. In the sunny days, local people usually come here and relax themselves. If you come here at night, you will see local people dancing, singing, children running, fountain show performing, and various small stalls setting up for local snacks.

12:00 - 14:00 p.m: Wander in **Muslim Quarter**. As a block famous for its various food, although the
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Muslim Quarter is regarded as a tourism spot for the tourists coming from other places, the locals considered it as the place for snacks and entertainment. Especially in summer, you can find tons of local people having snacks and amusing themselves there. In fact, all the “Huifang” area is filled with restaurants, various Muslim food stalls, in which you can find the widely-praised old shops. Enjoy a local lunch here.

14:00 - 14:40 p.m: Visit the symbol of Xian city - **Bell Tower (Or Drum Tower)**. In ancient times, the bell and the drum were used to strike time in the morning and at dusk because people didn't have clocks or watches, so there is a saying ‘Morning Bell and Dusk Drum’ in Chinese. The two towers are the name card of Xi'an, as they are the best preserved all around China.

15:30 - 17:00 p.m: Start your day tour with the only underground museum in China - **Hanyangling Museum**, also called Jingdi's Tomb. It is located near the airport about 30km north of Xian City. This is a burial sight for Emperor Jingdi and his wife Empress Wangzhi. This tomb could be dated back to 2,100 years ago. You will see some of the funeral goods such as pottery figurines dated back to Han Dynasty, Luoqing Stone that was used for measurement, and all kinds of stela inscribed with words.

17:30 p.m: Drop off at Xian Xianyang International Airport. You will fly to Shanghai. Your Shanghai driver will be waiting for you when you arrive at SHA airport. Then, you will be transferred to your Shanghai hotel.

Day 7: Zhujiajiao Water Town, Yuyuan Garden, Shanghai World Financial Center, the Bund

09:00 a.m: Meet your Shanghai guide in your hotel lobby and start your Shanghai tour.

09:50-12:00 p.m: Visit **Zhujiajiao Water Town**. As the best preserved water town in Shanghai, Zhujiajiao has a history of 1700 years. Also, it's the nearest water town in Shanghai. Unique old bridges across bubbling streams, small rivers shaded by willow trees, and houses with courtyards attached all transport people who have been living amidst the bustle and hustle of the modern big city to a brand-new world full of antiquity, leisure and tranquility. Boat riding fee is not included.

12:00-13:00p.m: Enjoy a typical Shanghai lunch in a nice local restaurant, please pay on spot.

13:40- 15:00 p.m: Visit **Yuyuan Garden**. Dating back to 400 years ago, Yuyuan Garden was a private garden. It was built as most of the classic Jiangnan gardens. You will see Yu Linglong - a
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unique stone listed as one of the 3 famous stones in Jiangnan. The other two refers to Guan Yunfeng in Liu Garden of Suzhou and Zhou Yunfeng in Zhusu Garden of Hangzhou. Our guide will also brief you about the local gourmet you will come into.

15:20- 16:00 p.m: Our guide will take you to “climb” the **Shanghai World Financial Center**. With the height of 492m, Shanghai World Financial Center is ranked as the 3rd tallest tower in the world. You will view all city standing on the tower.

16:20-17:00 p.m: Visit the **Bund**. Located at the west bank of Huangpu River in Shanghai, the Bund was originally a pathway for boatmen and hard laborers; while nowadays, the Bund becomes the most characteristic view and the most recognized symbol in the city with rich cultural connotations for hundreds of years. For the Europeans, it was like the Wall Street in the east, where prosperous trading was proceeded and massive fortunes were made and lost. In the opposite side of the Bund, it faces other marks of Shanghai City - Oriental Pearl TV Tower and Jinmao Tower. Therefore, it is a must in your tour in Shanghai.

17:00p.m: Drop back to your hotel for rest.

Recommended evening activity: Acrobatic Show

Day 8:

3 hours before your flight, your Shanghai driver will pick you up and drop you off at the airport.

What's Important:

What's included:

Air-conditioned vehicles with experienced driver.

Licensed Chinese- English bilingual speaking tour guide.

Entrance fee for sites mentioned, including cable car up and tobaggon down the Great Wall.

Bottled water.

2nd class train tickets between Beijing and Xian.

Economic class air tickets between Xian and Shanghai.

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What's not included:

Meals

Personal expenses or private entertainment items in sites.

Tips or gratuities for guide and driver if we did a good job(recommended)

Accommodations

What to take: smile and a relaxing heart.

Good to know:

1. As our customer, your time is very valuable to us. We will never take you to any factories or the shops for shopping.
2. For lunch, we will take you to a nice local restaurant, where you can enjoy the local food with a fair price. Please inform us about your food preferences in case you have any allergies.
3. A regular day tour will last 8-9 hours. If you want a tour with a duration exceeding the working period of our tour guide and driver, we need to charge you for your extra hours with the standard of 100 RMB per hour.
4. The tour we provide you are based on days, not the hours. A regular day tour will last 8-9 hours. In case you only need our service for over 6 hours yet less than 8 hours in one day, we will consider it a day tour.
5. Please be aware that your itinerary is changeable anytime. Whenever you want to adjust it, we will help you with that.
6. What we provide are high-quality private tours, you will be only with your families or friends. There are no other people joining your tour.
7. Wheelchairs are accessible, please advise prior to your trip in case you need any.
8. Please advise in advance in case you want to enjoy the Acrobatic show or Kungfu Show.
9. Please advise prior to your trip if you want to do some activities such as painting, calligraphy, exercising Tai Chi, watching opera, paper cutting, etc..
10. Please advise in advance if you want to take high-speed train to Shanghai from Xian instead.

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FAQ

1. How long do I stay at Forbidden City?

Re: You will stay there about 2.5 hours.

2. How do I get on to the Great Wall?

Re: You can take the carlift up and down the great wall, which is already included in the quote.

3. What kind of car will I have?

Re: It depends on your group size. For group size of 1-2 people, you will be offered with a sedan car. For group size of 3-4 people, you will enjoy a van with 7-seat. While 14-17-seat van will be in service if there are 5-8 of you. When your tour group size is larger, 33-seat coach or bigger will be offered.

4. Can you help me booking the train tickets?

Re: Sure, we can help you to book all the train tickets or flight tickets. This is one of our service features. After booking the tickets, your paper train tickets would be expressed to your Beijing hotel before you can use.

5. How can I book internal train tickets online?

Re: There are several ways to book train tickets or flight tickets on your own.

The traditional way would be get to the train station or airport to buy tickets on spot.

If you book online, the official booking system 12306.com is unavailable for foreigners right now.

You can try Ctrip.com. This website can help you book train tickets and air tickets.

6. Can I confirm this is a private tour?

Re: Yes, this is a private tour just for your group. No other people will join you.

7. Can the tour guide accompany us to have dinner and help us order?

Re: The working time for the tour guide and driver are 8-9 hours. If you finished your tour rather

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early, our tour guide can certainly help you until you get to dinner. Otherwise, you will need to pay extra for their overtime work.

8. Can you help to reserve seats for Roast Duck?

Re: Sure, no problem, you just need to tell us what time and where you' d like to have dinner.

9. While touring places during the day, what is the costumery rule on paying tour guides/drivers lunch and dinner? I know in China group of people eat in a family style, meaning everyone order a dish eating together, then someone pay for the total cost. In the US though it is go-dutch style, that is everyone order their own dish and pay separately. We want to act according to the custom over there.

Re: You don't have to worry about guide and driver's lunch and dinner. They will eat and pay on their own. You may invite them to eat with you together and pay for them. But there is no restriction on that.

10. Will you be our guide in Xi' an?

Re: I can't promise you that as I usually arrange and monitor everything and let other people guide you. No worries, I'll arranged a top-rated tour guide for you in Xian.

11. Would we have different tour guides in Beijing and Shanghai ?

Re: Yes, Beijing and Shanghai tour guide will be a different person. I'll inform you all the tour guides' information a few days before your trip.

Cancellation policy:

No less than 2 weeks, you will lose your deposit;

Within 7 days - 13 days, loss of 50% of your payment or just the deposit.

Within 6 days, loss of full payment or just the deposit.

Please bear in mind that your deposit is still available for your next trip with us. You may also offer

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this deposit to someone else as their tour deposit with us.

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