

6 Days Xian & Chengdu Panda Tour

Basics

Tour Code: LCT-XC-6D-01

Duration: 6 Days

Attractions: Terracotta Warriors Museum, City Wall, Bell Tower, Muslim Quarter, Hanyangling Museum, Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Panda Breeding Center, Leshan Giant Buddha

Overview: On this 6 day trip, you will have a chance to visit the cutest animal in the world - the Giant Panda and the world-class archaeological finding - the Terracotta Army and Horses. With your jet lag eased on the first day, you will start your tour by visiting the historic city - Xian and explore its rich history and culture by visiting the City Wall, Bell Tower and Hanyangling Museum. Take a high-speed train to Chengdu, and begin your amazing Panda tour and taste bud-challenging tour. Finally, visit Leshan city near to Chengdu to see the Giant Buddha before head for your next destination.

Highlights

- Get really close to scrutinize the Terracotta Army and Horses.
- Ride a bike (if you choose) on the bumpy City Wall and imagine what it feels to ride a horse there.
- Visit Giant Pandas and take photos with them if you choose.
- Challenge your taste buds with spicy Sichuan cuisine or enjoy a hotpot.
- Enjoy a Tang Dynasty Dinner Show in Xian or Mask Changing Magic in Chengdu.

Itinerary

Date	Starting Time	Destination
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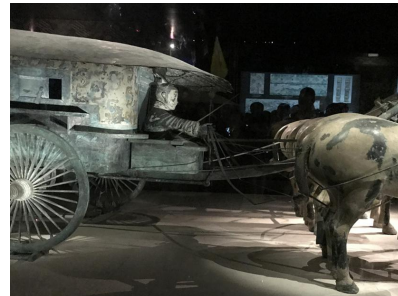
Day 1	Flexible	Arrival in Xian
Day 2	09:00 a.m	Terracotta Warriors Museum, City Wall, Bell Tower, Muslim Quarter
Day 3	09:00 a.m	Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Hanyangling Museum, Xian North - Chengdu by high-speed train (D1943, 16:16- 20:33)
Day 4	09:00 a.m	Panda Breeding Center, Wuhou Memorial Temple, Jinli Street
Day 5	07:30 a.m	Giant Buddha, Huanglongxi Ancient Town
Day 6	Flexible	Chengdu Departure

Day 1: Arrival Xian

Arrive in Xian by air and meet your driver at the baggage area. Transfer to your hotel.

Day 2: Terracotta Warriors Museum, City Wall, Bell Tower, Muslim Quarter

09:00-12:00: Your guide will explain every detail of this museum, its history and other interesting facts. You will be fed with tons of knowledge. Being the most significant excavation of the 20th century, the **Terracotta Army** is a must-see sight for people coming to Xian. You will not only admire the craftsmanship of the different statues and ancient weapons in the three pits, but you will also learn about the motivation and significance of why this mausoleum was so grandly built.



12:30 - 13:30: Savour the most **authentic local lunch** (lunch is for your own account). Xian is one of the famous food cities in China. For lunch, you will be faced with a variety of choices such as a Chinese Hamburger, Baozi (steamed stuffed bun), Spicy soup, Tofu Jelly, Deep - fried dough sticks, Pita Bread Soaked in Mutton Soup, Biang Biang Noodles, Guokui, to name but a few.

14:20 - 15:30 :Heading back to the city center, you will climb on the **Ancient City Wall**. As the most completely preserved city wall in China, the Xian Ancient City Wall has survived over 600

years. It served as a part of the defence system to protect against attack from other countries. The wall is built in a rectangular shape, connected by four big solid gates. There are three ways to explore this grand city wall. The easiest way is to take a golf cart (for your own account), which is comfortable but not very rewarding. You may also take a bike (for your own account), which may be a little bumpy. The last way is to walk slowly and feel the history.



15:40-16:20: Visit the **Bell Tower**. Built in 1380, the Bell Tower is a brick and timber structure used to announce the time. Before the Bell Tower moved, there was a copper bell in the tower named the "Jingyun Bell". Its sound could be heard over several kilometers. No matter whether regarded by the shape, the sound, or the engraving technology, the bell reflects the highest craftsmanship of the metallurgy of the Tang Dynasty. After the Jinglong Bell moved with the Bell Tower, the Jingyun Bell was preserved in the Beilin museum of Xi'an. The big iron Jinglong Bell in the Bell Tower was made in the Ming Dynasty and weighs 2,500 kilograms. It has measured time for the city for more than 400 years.

16:20-17:00: Stroll in **Muslim Quarter**. It's pretty obvious from the name that this is where many Muslim people reside. It is comprised of several commercial streets that are crowded with people all year round. There are stands and booths alongside the street, mingled with shops and stores, which made the streets extremely busy. The most common transportation form is the Tuk-tuk, a small and flexible vehicle that can transport 3-4 people at most. Many people come here for the authentic local food. We suggest you have a try.

17:00: Finish your day tour and return to your hotel.

Day 3: Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Hanyangling Museum, Xian North - Chengdu by high-speed train (D1943, 16:16- 20:33)

09:00: Meet your Xian guide and set off for the day tour. It's suggested that you pack all your luggage and bring it with you for the day trip.

09:20- 11:30: Visit the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**. This is a

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Tang Dynasty Buddhist temple dating back 1,300 years, also named Da Ci'en Temple. The Tang Dynasty's famous monk - Xuan Zang was here working on the translation of the Buddhist Scriptures that he brought back from India. He was responsible for the spread of Buddhism. You will get to learn historical facts and enjoy interesting stories here. You will also enjoy the Fountain Show, in the biggest fountain square in Asia. At night, this place together with the Datang City nearby is decorated with a variety of lights and many local people like to visit then.

11:30 - 12:30: Enjoy lunch in a nice local restaurant before your afternoon trip (lunch is for your own account).

13:10 - 14:50: Visit the **Hanyangling Museum**, also called Jingdi's Tomb. This is a burial site for Emperor Jingdi and his wife Empress Wangzhi. This tomb could be dated back 2,100 years. It is the only underground museum in China. Emperor Jingdi was a great Emperor back then. Much influenced by the concept of Wuwei (non-interference), he reformed the national tax, engaged in diplomacy with neighboring countries, and changed the punishment of criminals. People admired him.



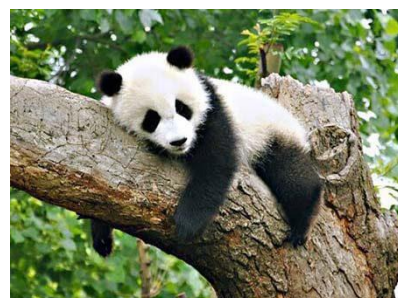
In his mausoleum, you will hardly find anything martial like in Qin Shi Huang's mausoleum, just some day-to-day artefacts and terracotta figurines ranging from servants to cavalry. These figures were originally decorated with colors and clothes, but all have faded with time.

15:20: Transfer to the Xian North Railway Station for the high-speed train to Chengdu. Your Chengdu driver will be ready at the Chengdu East Train Station at 20:33. You will be dropped off at your Chengdu hotel.

Day 4: Panda Breeding Center, Wuhou Memorial Temple, Jinli Street

09:00: Greeted by your Chengdu guide, you will set out to explore this amazing city.

09:30 - 12:00: Visit the **Panda Breeding Center**. Visiting the Pandas (a "National Treasure of China") is a must-see activity when visiting Chengdu. Situated on the Futou



Mountain 10 km away from the city center, the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding is a huge replica of a natural habitat created for the preservation and breeding of pandas to prevent their extinction. Founded in 1987, the Chengdu Panda Base has rescued many wild pandas and helped over 100 other kinds of wild animals survive, including the red panda, the white stork, the white swan, the black swan, the mandarin duck, the *Grus nigricollis*. Besides the rare animals, the base is also abundant in rare-bred plants. You will enjoy observing the pandas' behaviour.

12:00 - 13:00: Find a local restaurant to enjoy authentic Sichuan cuisine (lunch is for your own account). We all know that Sichuan cuisine is world famous, now it's time to try the real dishes.

13:30 - 15:00: Visit the **Wuhou Memorial Temple**. As the "Shrine of the Three Kingdoms", the Wuhou Memorial Temple is mainly composed of three sightseeing parts, the Cultural Relics Area, the Garden and Jinli Street. In the Cultural Relics Area, visitors can appreciate Du Fu's couplets (a great poet in the Tang Dynasty), exquisite carvings, sophisticated stone inscriptions, calligraphy works and paintings, as well as the rooms Zhuge Liang lived in and statues of famous people in Three Kingdoms Period.

15:20- 16:30: Stroll along the old **Jinli** street. It is said that Jinli was one of the oldest and most commercially-featured streets in the Western Shu Kingdom. It was famous nationwide in the Qin and Han Dynasties and the Three Kingdoms Period. As part of Wuhou Street, Jinli street incorporated the cultural legacies of the Qin and Han Dynasties and Three Kingdoms Period, enriched itself with old folk customs of the western Sichuan people and then absorbed elements of the Ming and Qing Dynasties' style. It's a great opportunity for you to learn about the old Sichuan people's way of life by enjoying a cup of tea in the tea house, watching some Sichuan Opera in the theater, tasting traditional snacks and appreciating some beautiful art works.



17:00: Return to your Chengdu hotel.

Day 5: Giant Buddha, Huanglongxi Ancient Town

07:30: Be prepared for an early start to visit the Giant Buddha.

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09:30 - 11:00: Visit the **Giant Buddha** in Leshan city. It's located at the river outlet of the Min River, Qingyi River and Dadu River, over 160km north of

Chengdu city. Built on a cliff on the Xixia Peak of the Lingyun Mountain, the Giant Buddha is the largest stone-carved Buddha in the world with a height of 71 meters

There are two ways to admire this giant Buddha. The ordinary way is to enter the site and come down to the foot



of the Buddha. The other way is to take a cruise and observe it from a distance, which provides better views.

11:00 - 12:00: Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant nearby the Giant Buddha (for your own account).

13:30 - 15:30: Visit the **Huanglongxi Ancient Town**. Named after Huanglong River that runs through it, the Huanglongxi Ancient Town has a history of

1,700 years. Most of its buildings date back to the Qing Dynasty and feature cobbled streets, wooden buildings, tranquil tea houses, tall old trees and temples. Coming here will make anybody calm and peaceful and that is why it attracts many producers to shoot movies here.



16:30: Transfer back to your Chengdu hotel.

Day 6: Departure Chengdu

Chengdu hotel pick up 3 hours prior to your flight and airport drop-off.

What's Important:

What's included:

- Air-conditioned vehicles with experienced driver.
- Licensed Chinese- English bilingual speaking tour guide.
- Entrance fee for sights mentioned, including the Giant Buddha cruise.
- Bottled water.

Second class train tickets between Xian and Chengdu.

What's not included:

Meals

Personal expenses or private entertainment items at the sights.

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

Accommodation.

What to take: smile and a relaxed enthusiastic attitude.

Good to know:

1. We recommend you take the Giant Buddha cruise which will reward you with better views.
2. If you are interested in holding pandas, or the panda keeping program, please advise in advance so we can arrange this for you.
3. As our customer, your time is very valuable to us. We will never take you to any factories or shops for shopping.
4. For lunch, we will take you to a nice local restaurant, where you can enjoy the local food at a fair price. Please inform us about your food preferences in case you have any allergies.
5. 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 at the standard rate of 100 RMB per hour.
6. The tour we provide you is based on days, not the hours. A regular day tour will last 8-9 hours. In case you only need our service for between 6 hours to 8 hours in one day, we will consider it a day tour.
7. Please be aware that your itinerary can be changed at anytime. Whenever you want to adjust it, we will help you with that.
8. What we provide are high-quality private tours, you will only be with your families or friends. There are no other people joining your tour.
9. Wheelchairs are available, please advise prior to your trip in case you need any.

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10. During your visit to the Terracotta Warriors Museum, you may encounter some local people following you to sell souvenirs, just ignore them.

FAQ

1. Can you arrange a cooking class for us?

Re: Yes, we can arrange one for you.

2. What kind of car will I have?

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

3. 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 will be couriered to your Xian hotel before you need them.

4. 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 to go to the train station or airport to buy tickets.

If you wish to 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.

5. 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.

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

Re: The working time for the tour guide and driver is 8-9 hours. If you have finished your tour early, our tour guide can certainly help you until you get to dinner. Otherwise, you will need to pay extra for their overtime work.

7. Who travels with Lilysun China Tours?

Re: Lilysun China Tours has hosted a lot of foreigners, mostly English-speaking ones. The majority of them are from the United States, some are British, Australian, Finnish, Indian, Singaporean, etc. We are honored to serve people who appreciate the profound history of China, open to various customs and food, willing to explore exotic regions and can spare time to adventure. The first-time visitors are most welcome. That's how we build up our brand. However, our former customers keep coming back to us, that's how we keep our brand strong.

8. What kind of tour can we offer?

Re: Lilysun China Tours offers private tours only for now. Given the fact that Lilysun China Tours has been operating as a private tour agency for decades, it does what it's good at. All your tours are just for your small group, whether just 1 person or a big group of 100. Your tour guide and driver will both be assigned specially for you. No one else will join you.

Meanwhile, Lilysun China Tours can offer private tours all over China. Even though you might not see certain cities on the website, we can arrange. All you have to do is ask.

9. Do you offer children-friendly tours?

Re: Yes, that's one place where we shine. Based on your children's age and interests, we can customize the itinerary. From a more general perspective, we can provide car booster for babies under 2. Meals will be recommended catering to children. The tour will be relaxing and educational.

10. Why should I choose a private tour when a group tour is so economically-efficient?

Re: Sure, group tours or seat-in-coach tours are cheap, but their service quality can be very unsatisfying. When you choose a private tour, you choose high-standard service. You can actually

control your travel. Your tour guide can be a friend who makes suggestions for you. It's almost like a self-guided tour, except you have your personal tour guide and driver.

We can't say that all private tours don't take you to shopping places, but Lily(sun?) China Tours doesn't for sure. Group tours, mostly, will definitely take customers to shops or factories for shopping, where commission will be made.

11. How to plan my China travel with you?

Re: It's pretty easy to reach us. You can contact us via phone number/ email/ wechat/ viber/ Whatsapp. No matter which way you first contact us, Lilysun China Tours will reply to you via email. Here are some steps for email booking.

I: You need to tell us: who you are, where you want to go, arrival and departure dates, how many people you have, what you want to see, which hotel you wish to stay at, etc.

II: One of our tour consultants will come up with an itinerary that suits you, including a quotation and send it over;

III: You check the itinerary and email again with more questions and concerns, which our tour consultant will address very promptly.

IV: You are satisfied with the arrangements. Our tour consultant will inform you to submit a certain amount as a deposit to secure the booking.

V: You send the deposit and the tour is confirmed. Our tour consultant will provide you with a confirmation letter containing all your information.

VI: You check the confirmation and fill in what's missing.

VII: Our tour representative hosts you in person and you enjoy the trip.

VIII: When you get home, our tour consultant will write and ask for some feedback. Then, we will improve ourselves based on your experience.

12. When does the tour end each day?

Re: About 17:00.

13. When do we get picked up from our hotel?

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Re: Usually, we pick up our customers at 9:00 for the tour. If you prefer an earlier time to beat the crowds or a later time, our driver and guide can always cater to your needs.

In case you need to catch a train or flight, we will pick you up according to your time schedule.

14. Do you provide tour guides that speak languages other than English?

Re: Sure, we can provide the most commonly-used language speaking tour guides, like English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, Italian, etc. Please inform your language preference beforehand.

15. Is it worth hiring a tour guide traveling in China?

Re: It's totally worth it. China is a country with long history and rich culture, you'd be lost if you were travelling on your own for the first few times. With a local tour guide, you will be immersed into the native culture and gain a comprehensive understanding of it. You won't be overwhelmed and not know what is in front you.

16. How do I tip my guide?

Re: You may know that we don't tip people in China. Indeed, tipping is not a compulsory thing here, but our tour guide and driver would expect you to. They would see it as recognition of their hard work and a good job. There is no specific amount that you need to tip. It depends on you.

17. What do I do if I have some free time, but I am unwilling to stay at the hotel?

Re: If you want to explore on your own, please prepare yourselves with a map, your hotel's business card and your tour guide's phone number. Just ask your guide whenever you have a problem.

18. Does our tour guide accompany us at each sight?

Re: Of course, your tour guides will escort you to all the sights arranged. They will enter the sights and introduce you to all the stories and facts.