

4 Days Li River and Terraces Tour

Basics

Tour Code: LCT-GY-4D -01

Duration: 4 days

Attractions: Rice Terraces Field, Li River Cruise, Yangshuo Countryside tour, Reed Flute Cave

Overview: It's said that Guilin has the most stunning natural landscapes under heaven. It has attracted thousands of visitors each year with its unique charisma. This trip will take you around the city and its surroundings to explore the most authentic ethnic life. On the first day you will depart for the Longji Terraces Field. In another location it would just be an ordinary rice field, but here it's art. Set against the backdrop of magnificent mountains, the terraces look like colorful sitting dragons. On the second day, you will take the Li River Cruise and enjoy the authentic Guilin views. This day will consume a lot of memory in your camera. The next day, you will find yourself in the picturesque Yangshuo countryside and enjoy the fresh air and clear your mind. Before leaving this place, you will head for the Reed Flute Cave and see the amazing work God has done to finish this tour on a high note.

Highlights

- Experience the local people's lives by visiting the Longji Terraces and see the rice being planted;
- Enjoy a leisure cruise on the Li River and be completely immersed in the breathtaking views of the river banks;
- Stroll in the restful West Street and enjoy a little afternoon time;
- Ride a bike in the Yangshuo country and be away from the hectic urban life;
- Enter the Reed Flute Cave and see the God's amazing work.

Itinerary

Date	Starting Time	Destination
Day 1	07:30 a.m	Longji Terraces
Day 2	09:00 a.m	Li River Cruise, West Street
Day 3	09:00 a.m	Yangshuo Countryside biking, Moon Hill, Dragon Bridge, Bamboo Rafting
Day 4	09:00 a.m	Seven Star Park, Reed Flute Cave, Elephant Trunk Hill.

Day 1: Longji Terraces

07:30: Meet your tour guide and head for the Longji Terraces Rice Fields.

09:30 - 15:00: Enjoy the amazing natural views of the **Longji Terraces** and taste the authentic Zhuang nationality food. Situated about 27 kilometers southeast of Longsheng County, there is a vast region of rice terraces stretching layer upon layer. Known as the Longji Rice Terraces (Dragon Backbone's Rice Terraces), the grandest terraces in China! Construction began in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), and the terraces were only completed in the early Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). It represents the great accomplishment of profound wisdom and the strenuous labor of minority people in Southern China.



Varying scenes put on their display with the passage of four different seasons, as nature displays its grandeur. The terrace presents a picture of chains or ribbons hung on the hillsides in the spring due to the irrigation systems. With the coming of Summer, massive green shadows cast from the heavens, float across the terraces. With the commencement of Autumn, ripened millet bends the stems, giving people hope of harvest. In winter, the whole terrace is covered with white snow like a playful dragon that has been rolling in the snow.



Wandering in the terraces, one can not only enjoy the natural beauty, but also experience the unique culture of ethnic minorities. There are several minorities, including Zhuang, Miao and Yao.

One can visit their wooden buildings, learn their beautiful dances and appreciate their costumes and Longji tea.

17:00: Guilin Hotel drop off at the tour end.

Day 2: Li River Cruise, West Street

09:00: Meet your tour guide and start your Guilin tour.

09:00 - 13:00: The **Li River Cruise** is the highlight of a trip to Guilin. Surrounded by the unusual rock and mountain formations on both sides, the Li River meanders through slowly and peacefully. Picturesque natural views present themselves at every turn interspersed with swimming ducks, napping fisherman, and buffalo blissfully eating grass. You will feel like you have wandered into a fairyland. Note that lunch is included on your cruise and your journey will end in Yangshuo.



14:30 - 17:00: As you disembark the ship, you will wander along **West Street**, a street built in western style. It's a unique cultural symbol in Yangshuo, and makes foreigners feel welcome and at home. As the first western-style street, West Street has been a model for other tourist cities to clone from. Here you will see various kinds of western stores as well as shops selling traditional Chinese decorations like small embroidery pouches, Chinese knots and lucky bags.



17:00: Drop off at your Yangshuo hotel.

Day 3: Yangshuo Countryside biking, Moon Hill, Dragon Bridge, Bamboo Rafting

09:00 - 10:00: After pick-up from your hotel, you will find yourselves in a splendid picture. Brooks gurgle all around and proud, lush trees dance with the wind. Birds are singing and the mountains fade into a water-colour distance. Such a relaxed and picturesque place is best explored with a bike ride along scenic paths. With the guidance of our representative, you can also learn

some facts and history of Yangshuo.

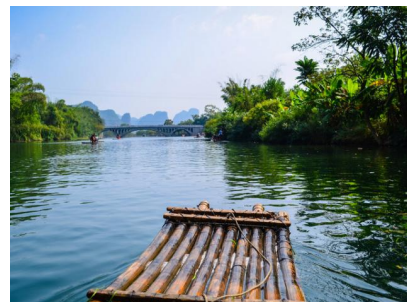
10:20 - 12:00: After biking for about 10 mins, you will encounter a big peak in the shape of moon. This is **Moon Hill**, your next stop. Inside the Moon Hill Cave, there are various stalactite formations like 'Chang'e', 'Jade Bunny', and an Osmanthus tree, all of which resemble the legend of Guanghan Palace on the moon. Following the visiting route, you will find the moon shape changes from a crescent to a full moon just like the real moon!



12:00 - 13:00: Have lunch at a Yangshuo restaurant.

13:20 - 14:20: Your next big sight would be the Yulong River. In contrast to the long and big Li River, the Yulong River is smaller, but still with distinct features. Firstly, you will walk on the **Dragon Bridge**. Built in the Ming Dynasty, this bridge has a history of 600 years. The whole bridge is 36 m long, 4.2m wide and 9m high. It is inscribed with various patterns and looks very grand.

14:30 - 16:30 p.m: Lastly, you will rent a **bamboo raft** and drift on the Yulong River like a local person. Don't worry, your local guide will help you to rent a raft and there will be local farmer to help manoeuvre it along.



17:00: Return to Yangshuo hotel.

Day 4: Seven Star Park, Reed Flute Cave, Elephant Trunk Hill.

09:00: Greeted by your tour guide at your hotel lobby, you will set off on your last day.

09:20-12:00: The first and the very highlight is the **Reed Flute Cave**. This name is derived from the fact that reeds which are good for making flutes, grow near the cave. Entering the Reed Flute Cave area, you will see the luxuriant flowers and trees immediately. On the left, there is a pond surrounded by restaurants, shops, tea houses, pavilions and bridges. Inside the cave, you will be intoxicated by the various stalactites, stalagmites and columns. Under the shower of different lights, all



formations are varied and bizarre.

12:00 - 13:00: Lunch for your own arrangement under the recommendation of our tour guide.

13:20 - 15:00: After lunch, you will leave for **Seven Star Park**. Just like the other sights in Guilin, it is also famous for its natural landscapes. With the guidance of your tour guide, you will stroll through the grand, yet not-so-tall Mt. Seven Star, the ancient Yuehua Bridge, and the spectacular cave. Meanwhile, you will see the diligent Guilin citizens exercising in the park. Some are singing, some are dancing, some are playing and others are practicing, Their



singing and laughing will make you feel happy and excited to maybe join in with their activities.

15:20 - 16:40: Your last sight in Guilin will be **Elephant Trunk Hill**. From the name, you can guess what you will be looking at. As the city symbol, Elephant Trunk Hill is the typical representation to Guilin mountains and water. Entering the sight, you will see stone carvings of elephants. As you keep moving a hill looking like an elephant trunk will be revealed. From the hill, you can admire all the rivers and views right in front of you including small Love Island and Standing Tower as well as drifting rafts waiting for guests and sea eagles poised to catch fish.

17:00: Transfer back to hotel. Your Guilin and Yangshuo 4-day tour draws to a conclusion.

What's Important:

What's included:

- Air-conditioned vehicles with experienced driver.
- Licensed Chinese- English bilingual speaking tour guide.
- Entrance fee for sights mentioned.
- Bottled water.

What's not included:

Meals except lunch on the Li River Cruise

Personal expenses or private entertainment items at 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. As our customer, your time is very valuable to us. We will never take you to any factories or shops for shopping.
2. 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.
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 at the standard rate of 100 RMB per hour.
4. 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.
5. Please be aware that your itinerary can be changed at anytime. Whenever you want to adjust it, we will help you with that.
6. 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.
7. Wheelchairs are available, please advise prior to your trip in case you need any.
8. Please advise in advance in case you want to enjoy the Impression Liusanjie Show.
9. Please take medicine in case you are seasick on Li River Cruise.
10. Please have some cash on hand as some small stores can't take credit cards.

11. The accommodation conditions in Guilin are quite different to more developed regions. Some

Tel: +86 18629295068

Email: lilychinatours@hotmail.com; service@lilysunchinatours.com

star-level hotels are pretty old, so we suggest you try the newly-established hotels.

12. There is a huge difference in hotel prices between peak season and low season. Do not regard the low-season price as the usual price.
13. Book your hotel in advance. Do not follow people who provide accommodation nearby the entrance of the train station or airport.
14. If you do the Li River Cruise on big boat, your lunch will be included.

FAQ

1. When is the best time to visit Guilin?

Re: The best time to visit Guilin is April - October. As a city known for scenery, Guilin is world famous for its picturesque river and mountains. In April, the Longji Terraces will appear extremely appealing, just like a beautiful painting. In May and June, Guilin and its surroundings get a lot of rain, making it ideal to ride boats or bamboo rafts on the Li River and Yulong Rivers. While around the Mid-Autumn festival, the Elephant's Trunk Hill will be a splendid sight under the moon.

2. What should we take beside some basics?

Re: Please bring a hat that can also function like an umbrella as Guangxi Province can be rainy and foggy most times. Even when you travel in Summer, please bring a thin coat with you.

3. Is there anything we should prepare for the Reed Flute Cave?

Re: You are advised to bring a flashlight when you will visit some caves.

4. What kind of cruise we will take on Li River?

Re: There are two kinds of boats on the Li River. Most people will choose an official Cruise, which is safer and the tour time is longer. The cruise will last about 4 hours. We will arrange 4-star big cruise for you. Don't worry.

Some people may choose a small boat that only takes an hour. These trips are illegally offered on private boats owned by locals.