

Cruise and Panda by Rail

Small Group Tour

CRUISE AND PANDA BY RAIL

Iconic China with *first-class* rail travel

Unforgettable experiences with China's most iconic animal, the Giant Panda, as well as a relaxing cruise meandering along the Yangtze River, combine on this 15 day tour. With the addition of time in the illustrious capital, Beijing and the historic city of Xian, as well as vibrant Shanghai with the convenience of the efficient bullet trains between destinations make for a holiday of a lifetime.



Locations *you will* be visiting



Beijing, China

Beijing is the capital city of China and is the nation's political and cultural centre.

3 Days



Xian, China

Xian, the eastern starting point of the Silk Road, capital of Shaanxi province and one of China's ...

2 Days



Chengdu, China

Chengdu, home to the Giant Panda, is the capital of Sichuan province

2 Days



The Yangtze River, China

Winding about 3,964 miles, the Yangtze River is the largest in China and the third largest in the world...

3 Days



Shanghai, China

A vibrant financial city where tradition meets innovation

2 Days

Cruise and Panda by Rail

15 day Tour Itinerary

An overview of your trip

DAY 1 Fly to Beijing

Take a scheduled flight from London Heathrow to Beijing, or we can arrange departures from your local airport.

- Transport: Airplane

DAY 2 Arrive Beijing

Upon arrival in Beijing, you will be met by your guide and transferred to your hotel for a three night stay. In the afternoon you will have time to relax or explore the surrounding area, and in the evening your guide will escort you to dinner where you will meet your fellow travellers.

- Meals included: Dinner



DAY 3 Beijing City Tour

The Beijing City Tour starts after breakfast, and visits the Temple of Heaven, where the Ming and Qing emperors prayed for good harvests, and is a tranquil oasis in a bustling city. Then it's on to Tiananmen Square, the world's largest public square, and the Forbidden City which served as the grand imperial palace for centuries. Your final stop of the day is the Hutongs, a network of alleys and traditional dwellings, still inhabited today.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 4 Great Wall

Following breakfast, visit the Great Wall at Mutianyu, a less-busy post along the wall offering breathtaking views. This will be followed by an opportunity for photographs at the Birds Nest Stadium and Water Cube, architectural marvels built for the 2008 Olympics. In the evening, enjoy a sumptuous Peking Duck Dinner, a traditional treat and a culinary must.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 Beijing to Xian

A trip to the Summer Palace, an impressive collection of lakes, gardens, and imperial buildings, followed by a relaxing boat ride on stunning Kunming Lake, get the day off to a great start. After lunch, catch your bullet train to Xian, and check-in for a two night stay.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch
- Transport: Bullet train



DAY 6 **Terracotta Warriors**

Xian is home to the Terracotta Warriors, which is today's main attraction. A stunning collection of 10,000 life size statues made over 2,000 years ago, and only discovered in 1974, are amazing to see. This will be followed, in the afternoon, by a visit to Xian's ancient city wall, which is best explored by bike or on foot. This evening, try a tasty dumpling dinner while enjoying a Tang Dynasty Show, a colourful performance of traditional music and dance.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 7 **Xian to Chengdu**

After breakfast, admire some of the many treasures in the Shaanxi Museum before moving on to the UNESCO-listed Small Wild Goose Pagoda, and the bustling Muslim Quarter to see local life in the community. Finally, you will be transferred to the station to take a bullet train to Chengdu and a two night stay.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch
- Transport: Bullet train

DAY 8 **Chengdu**

Day at leisure to explore Chengdu. Perhaps explore the old town, or relax in the People's Park watching the locals play mahjong or practising Tai Chi.

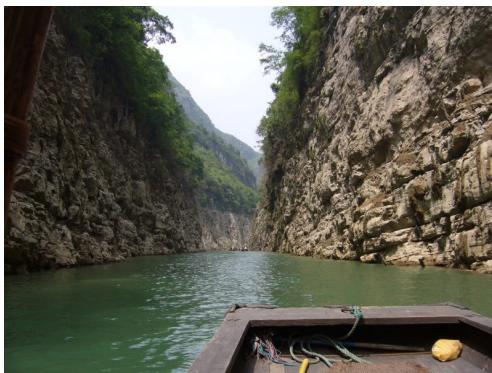
- Meals included: Breakfast



DAY 9 Giant Pandas and Yangtze River Cruise

Today you get to see the endearing Giant Panda's at the Chengdu Panda Breeding and Research Centre, where natural habitats have been created to provide a safe and protected environment for them. Afterwards transfer to the train station for your bullet train to Chongqing. Upon arrival, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant then transfer to the 5* Victoria Cruise.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Transport: Bullet train, Cruise



DAY 10 Yangtze River Cruise

Relax and enjoy the scenic vistas, as your vessel meanders along the Yangtze River. There is plenty to keep you occupied including excursions to Shibaozhai, with its impressive wooden pagoda, known as "The Pearl of the Yangtze". All meals are served on board.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Transport: Cruise

DAY 11 Yangtze River Cruise

Watch the countryside drift by, as you enjoy breakfast on board your vessel. A journey through the tranquil Goddess Stream, marvelling at the soaring limestone cliffs rising sheer from the water, is today's main highlight, before returning to the ship for the rest of the day.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Transport: Cruise



DAY 12 Yangtze River Cruise and to Shanghai

The engineering marvel, Three Gorges Dam, is your final stop before you disembark at Yichang. Here, our guide will escort you to the station for a bullet train to Shanghai, where you will check-in for a three night stay.

- Meals included: Breakfast
- Transport: Cruise, Bullet train



DAY 13 Shanghai City Tour

An enjoyable breakfast at your hotel is followed by today's Shanghai City Tour. Starting at the exquisite Yu Yuan Gardens, a horticulturalists dream, and continuing to the remarkable statues housed at the Jade Buddha Temple. The many exhibits at the Shanghai Museum, is followed by a walk along the promenade at the Bund, and later, from the top of the Shanghai World Financial Centre, you can enjoy a breathtaking bird's eye view of the city.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 14 Zhujiajiao

Zhujiajiao, today's destination, is an ancient water town known as the 'Pearl Stream'. Here you can see Ming and Qing Dynasty bridges, ancient buildings and the Ma Family Garden before returning to Shanghai.

- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 15 Fly to UK

Transfer to the airport after breakfast, for your return flight back to the UK.

- Meals included: Breakfast
- Transport: Airplane

Optional Extras - Cultural Experiences

There is some free time in your itinerary for you to explore on your own, or treat yourself to an excursion. Use the links below to create a to-do list, or, if you'd prefer us to book you onto one of these or any other excursions, please let us know when booking your tour.



CHINA

China: Night
Cruise on the
Huangpu



CHINA

China: Kung Fu Show in Beijing

A dynamic kung-fu show in Beijing

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)

CHINA

China: Volunteering at the Dujiangyan Panda Base

Enjoy a morning helping the staff with the pandas, at their base in Chengdu

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)

River in Shanghai

Marvel at Shanghai's twinkling lights on a night cruise

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)

CHINA

China: Acrobatic Show in Shanghai

Watch a magical acrobatic show in Shanghai

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)

YOUR HOLIDAY DETAILS

Departures and Prices 2020 / 21

Depart	Return	Days	Price from	Availability	Reservation
19/03/2020	02/04/2020	15	£2,898	Spaces available	>
02/04/2020	16/04/2020	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>
09/04/2020	23/04/2020	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>
07/05/2020	21/05/2020	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>
14/05/2020	28/05/2020	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>
04/06/2020	18/06/2020	15	£2,898	Spaces available	>
23/07/2020	06/08/2020	15	£3,398	Spaces available	>
06/08/2020	20/08/2020	15	£3,398	Spaces available	>
03/09/2020	17/09/2020	15	£3,198	Spaces available	>
10/09/2020	24/09/2020	15	£3,198	Spaces available	>
17/09/2020	01/10/2020	15	£3,198	Spaces available	>
08/10/2020	22/10/2020	15	£3,298	Spaces available	>
15/10/2020	29/10/2020	15	£3,298	Spaces available	>
22/10/2020	05/11/2020	15	£3,298	Spaces available	>
18/03/2021	01/04/2021	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>
01/04/2021	15/04/2021	15	£3,098	Spaces available	>
08/04/2021	22/04/2021	15	£3,098	Spaces available	>
06/05/2021	20/05/2021	15	£3,098	Spaces available	>
13/05/2021	27/05/2021	15	£3,098	Spaces available	>
03/06/2021	17/06/2021	15	£2,998	Spaces available	>

Single supplement from £578

Land only from £2,198

(without international flights)

Prices and products are subject to availability at the time of booking.

The deposit for these arrangements is £300 per person. Balance is due 12 weeks before departure.

This tour itinerary is also available as a Private Tour. Please ask for more details.

China: Cruise and Panda by Rail

price from **£2,898**

[Make an enquiry >](#)

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- International flights in economy class
- Bullet trains in first class,
- 4★ accommodation on twin share basis
- Transfers
- English speaking guides
- Meals as specified
- Entrance fees to the sites listed
- Airport taxes
- Local tips: RMB 500 (approx £58) per person
- Yangtze ruise tips: RMB150 (approx £18) per person
- Personal spending
- Travel insurance
- China visa and fees

TOUR MAP



Extend your holiday with a stopover



STOPOVERS • BEACH

Phuket Stopover

4 DAY TOUR FROM £385

Phuket is the ideal place to relax before or after a tour of Asia

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)



STOPOVERS • CITY

Kuala Lumpur Stopover

3 DAY TOUR FROM £165

The perfect city extension to any tour

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)



STOPOVERS • BEACH

Dubai Stopover

4 DAY TOUR FROM £350

Dubai, the ultimate stopover destination for shopping and relaxation

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)



STOPOVERS • TAILOR MADE • CITY

Bangkok Stopover

3 DAY TOUR FROM £295

A colourful city with a vibrant culture and delicious food

[VIEW THIS PACKAGE >](#)

We're here to listen to your needs so if you need to chat, then why not email us or pick up the phone, *we will be happy to help.*

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