

UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO
ALUMNI
Presents

BEAUTY & GRANDEUR
OF THE
MIDDLE KINGDOM

– with Yangzi River Cruise –



October 16 - 27, 2009

BEIJING • XIAN • CHONGQING
YANGZI RIVER • YICHANG • SHANGHAI

*A Most
Extraordinary Tour
to China*



FABULOUS DINING

– Savor China's Great Regional Cuisine Traditions –

Over the last decade, the culinary arts of China have been rediscovered in spectacular fashion. We can say without exaggeration that Chinese cuisine is the world's most refined and complex cooking tradition. Our tour itinerary features the finest restaurants in both north and south China, each one renowned for its lovely interior and distinctive culinary style. In our view, fine touring means a feast for the palate as well as for the eyes.



IN BEIJING

DA DONG PEKING DUCK

Peking Duck is a must for our welcome dinner, and Da Dong is recognized as the premier address for this Chinese delicacy. The table fills with countless treats of northern cuisine.

KEN DE ROUGE

Newly designed with contemporary elegance, Ken de Rouge is an instant hit with its fusion cuisine, tree-lined views of the Houhai lakes, and tasteful interior furnishings. The best combination of ambience and delicate taste.



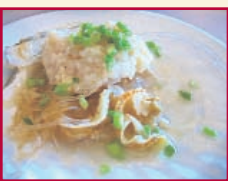
SHANGLINYUAN

With the picturesque Beihai Park as a backdrop, we feast in the tradition of the emperors at Shanglinyuan. This restaurant only opens its doors to the Beijing political and business elite, which makes it an even more sought-after destination for the refined dining experience.

IN XIAN

DEFACHANG DUMPLING RESTAURANT

One of the unexpected gastronomic discoveries for travelers to China is the dumpling delicacies of Xian. Dozens of visually gorgeous dumplings with equally scrumptious fillings have everyone raving.



IN SHANGHAI

DINGXIANG GARDEN RESTAURANT

Nestled in a residence for the concubine Ding Xiang, this restaurant-in-a-mansion is often cited as one of the city's best bets for Shanghai cuisine. Dishes are noted for their elegant presentation and delicate southern flavors.

MORE NOTABLE DINING EXPERIENCES

• Enjoy a lunch of delightful dishes prepared by Chinese in their courtyard home in Beijing's Houhai district. For many travelers, this lunch makes for a most enduring memory of China.



• Our Yangzi River cruise features delicious Hubei-inspired dishes, with a unique blend of innovative and classic culinary taste. Every meal distinguishes itself with a well-balanced array of dishes.



WELCOME TO CHINA

Dear Chicago Alumni and Friends:

I invite you to join the University of Chicago on a fascinating tour to China. As we delve into the Middle Kingdom we'll explore the gamut China has to offer, from China's rich history and cultural traditions, to her hot contemporary art. This ancient land is currently experiencing explosive growth and economic reforms while at the same time striving to preserve its artistic, cultural, and natural treasures. Together we will

explore the diversity of China's regional cultures, from the rural and historic to metropolitan and modern.

We look forward to having you join us on this immersion in Chinese life and culture.

As we go to press we have not yet confirmed our faculty member who will lead this trip.

Please check our Web site, www.alumni.uchicago.edu/study-trips.html, for updates on the faculty leader. Space is limited so we encourage you to make your reservation early.



Sincerely,

J. Timothy Child, AM'95, MBA'05
Executive Director

The University of Chicago Alumni Association



HOTEL LOCATION & HIGHLIGHTS

The key for a successful tour is to choose the best hotel locations. In our view hotels should be located in historic districts where city life is so rich. A few steps outside the lobby, we enter a completely new world. We have selected hotels for the tour with this idea in mind; and below you'll find some of the highlights you may enjoy during free time:

GRAND HOTEL in BEIJING

So much to explore here, including: Tiananmen Gate (you can ascend to the observation deck) • Tiananmen Square and Mao's Mausoleum • lovely Changpuhe Park • shopping on neon-lit Wangfujing Street • Legation District and fine Western dining • new Qianmen culture street with old-time cable cars • National Performing Arts Center and three world-class theaters

SOFITEL HOTEL in XIAN

Explore: Venerable Bell and Drum towers • stone forest of stele tablets • imposing Xian city wall with parkland bordering the moat • shopping in lively market on Luomashi Street

RITZ CARLTON in SHANGHAI

Explore: Huangpu River and Shanghai lovers' lane • colonial Bund and its old cosmopolitanism • audacious Pudong skyscrapers • city life at People's Park • world-class shopping in Shanghai's "glitter world" • special performances at Portman Theater • nightcap in Asia's most fashionable nightclubs and bars



– OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXTENSION – CHENGDE SUMMER PALACE

October 13 – 17, 2009

Come to China three days early and experience the grandeur of the Qing Dynasty Summer Resort at Chengde, a few hours drive from Beijing. The garden complex includes imperial halls, southern-style lake gardens, a hunting preserve, an area of Mongolian yurts, and a



wooded hillside with numerous pavilions. Beyond the palace were built eight Buddhist temples, each one architecturally unique, of which five remain, amazing architectural creations in their own right. Then, join your tour group on its arrival in Beijing.

– OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION –

GUILIN

October 27 – 31, 2009

Extend your travels with this five-day exploration of the sublime scenery in Guilin, Longsheng and the famous Li River. Known for rice terraces cut into precipitous hills since the Yuan Dy-



nasty, Longsheng's beauty is awe-inspiring. Take in the famous spectacular karst limestone for-

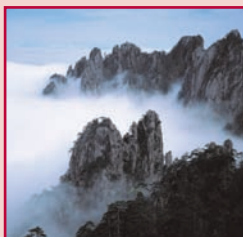
Crescent Moon Hill, and many more. Return to the U.S.A. from Shanghai.

– OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION –

HUANG MOUNTAINS & HUIZHOU CULTURE

October 27 – 31, 2009

This five-day extension focuses on Anhui Province and its idyllic landscape of rice paddies, Ming and Qing Dynasty villages, and old town centers. Discover traditional Anhui life, regional architecture and museums, and the crown jewels of the region, the



Huang Mountains. The beauty of granite precipices towering above the morning valley fog have provided inspiration to Chinese artists for centuries. On foot and by cable car, explore the mountains' gorgeous views. Return to the U.S.A. from Shanghai.



SPECIAL FEATURES

– Tour Highlights & Optional Excursions –

So much is new in China that it's hard to keep up. Our itinerary features all of the traditional centers of culture that everyone wants to see, but we also introduce new cultural venues, events, and activities that most Americans miss. These include:



IN BEIJING

China has one of the hottest contemporary art scenes in the world, and the center of attention is the **798 DASHANZI ART AND CULTURE DISTRICT**. We will have the opportunity to visit new and established artists in their ateliers, view their art, and discover their aesthetic mission. New styles seem to appear every few months, and both Western and Chinese art critics are eager to know what it all means. Join in the excitement as Chinese artists seek to express their country's economic exuberance and contradictions. (Included in tour.)

Visit the spectacular **NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**, the “Big Egg,” in Beijing, designed by French architect Paul Andreu. The newly opened arts center includes three theaters under a single titanium-and-glass dome. The aesthetics here aim at a grandeur seldom seen in the world, and are nevertheless realized with exquisite taste. Attend a performance if available. (Evening performance cost not included.)



One of China's extraordinary museums that only the cognoscenti visit is the **GUANFU CLASSIC ART MUSEUM** in north Beijing. This private museum features antique furniture, classic doors and windows, traditional ceramics and porcelains, and much more. This is one of the few places in the world where one can absorb the elegance and tranquility so prized by Chinese tradition. (Optional excursion, cost included.)

IN SHANGHAI

Nothing compares with the **CHINESE ACROBATS** for stunning physical skills, colorful pageantry, and marvelous tricks. One reason that the Chinese succeed so well in Olympic gymnastics comes from the legacy of their acrobatic tradition. Conclude your China tour on a high note with an exciting acrobatic performance in Shanghai. (Optional excursion, performance cost not included.)





BEAUTY & GRANDEUR OF THE MIDDLE KINGDOM

– ITINERARY –

October 16-17 • San Francisco or New York – Beijing

Depart San Francisco or New York on a non-stop flight to Beijing. Cross the international dateline and arrive in China the next day. Transfer to the Grand Hotel, located in the heart of Beijing. This evening is a good time to adjust to Beijing life with a stroll to nearby Tiananmen Square or Wangfujing street. (meals aloft)

October 18 • Beijing

After breakfast, we begin our China exploration with a welcome orientation by our tour director. Old and new China beckon outside our hotel and nearby is the imperial architectural axis that runs from Qianmen Gate, to the grand halls of the Forbidden City, to Jingshan Hill. This line demarcates the center of the Chinese universe—which is to say, all things cultural, social, political, and spiritual find their source here. For the next few days we will experience the immense power of the city that radiates from a layout designed years ago in the Ming Dynasty.

We first go to the picturesque Houhai district, where well-preserved courtyard homes and narrow hutong alleys border tree-lined lakes. Tour the district by “pedicab” for a closer and more engaging experience of traditional Chinese life. We enjoy lunch at the homes of local families.

Afterwards, explore the Temple of Heaven, one of the finest creations of the Ming Dynasty. This stunning architecture realizes the great Chinese desire to incarnate heaven in material form, and represents the most advanced principles of mechanics and geometry of the time.

This evening, savor the imperial city’s most famous delicacy, Peking duck, at the renowned Da Dong Restaurant. (B,L,D)

Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) and Dinner (D) are included in the day’s program.

October 19 • Beijing

An optional early-morning walk to Changpuhe Park offers an opportunity to observe local residents practicing taiji and qigong. This

newly constructed park features numerous traditional buildings and pavilions facing onto a variety of Chinese gardens, one of the most successful landscape creations in the country.

Our touring begins today as we enter the gate of the Forbidden City, the abiding symbol of imperial China. Truly one of the great achievements of civilization, its construction employed hundreds of thousands of workers between 1406 and 1420.

Marvel at its expansive architecture, magnificent imperial gar-

dens, and many museums of Chinese antiquities and treasures.

After lunch at Ken de Rouge, visit the beautiful grounds of the Summer Palace. The Palace was built in 1888 for the Empress Dowager Ci Xi, using funds originally intended for the Qing Imperial Navy. Saunter through the exquisite royal gardens and cruise on lovely Kunming Lake. Also walk the Painted Gallery, the longest garden walkway in China, famous for its lake views.

This evening is at leisure with dinner on one’s own. After dinner, you choose may to venture out on your own and attend a performance at the new National Grand Theater, lovingly dubbed the “Big Egg.” Designed by French architect Paul Andreau, the building



took ten years to construct. This complex is built with 25,000 titanium plates and 15,000 glass panels and houses three state-of-the-art theaters. Not unexpectedly, it is the most expensive theater facility ever built in the world. (B,L)

October 20 • Beijing

Today, we visit the Olympic Village to marvel at the new stadiums made famous by the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Herzog & de Meuron designed the

National Stadium - the “Bird’s Nest;” and the firm PTW designed the National Swimming Center- the “Water Cube.”

Next, we

head north from Beijing for the Great Wall of China. Encounter this extraordinary rampart at Mutianyu, a rugged section of the wall that offers easy access by foot or cable car. As is usually the case, the Great Wall presents a visual experience that dramatically exceeds visitors’ expectations. Construction of a few miles of the wall on such jagged peaks seems near miraculous, but the rampart stretches for 3,700 miles and passes through 16 provinces.

On our return, visit the 798 Dashanzi Art and Culture District. This renovated factory area is known as the “Soho” of Beijing. More than 80 gallery spaces, as well as artist studios, fashion boutiques, and design ateliers make the Chinese contemporary art scene one of the most exciting in the world. Exhibitions feature an international range of established and emerging artists, providing a concentrated glimpse of the “new art” of China.

Then we stop by the new CCTV Building designed by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas. Two inverted L-shaped towers connect at the top to form an amazing architectural statement.

Tonight, we enjoy a special banquet at the Shanglinyuan Restaurant in lovely Beihai

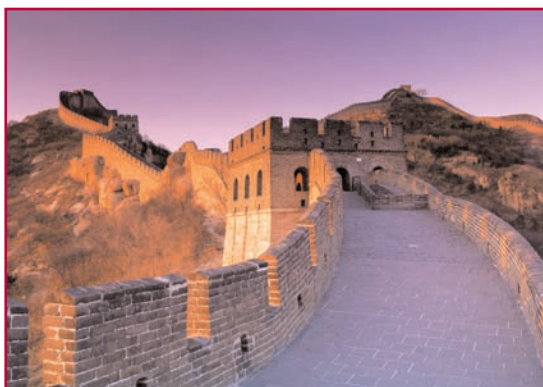
Imperial Garden. (B,L,D)

October 21 • Xian

This morning, fly to the ancient Tang Dynasty capital of Xian, formerly known as Changan. The old capital was located not far from present Xian and was the seat of imperial power for over one thousand years, beginning with the first unification of China in the Qin Dynasty.

We go immediately to see the extraordinary

2,300-year-old terra-cotta warriors in the tomb of China’s first emperor, Qinshihuang. The warriors still stand on the original site where they were discovered by farmers in 1974. The “royal hope” can be intuited in this vast army for



it was intended to defend the emperor in the afterlife.

Then, check in the Sofitel Hotel in downtown Xian.

We’ll have an opportunity to stroll Muslim Street and get a sense of the Islamic past that traces its heritage to the flourishing Silk Road culture of the Tang Dynasty.

Explore the Grand Mosque, first established in the Tang Dynasty. Laid out in quadrants, the mosque uses Chinese architectural design for Islamic purposes. Interestingly, we can see here the powerful tendency of Chinese culture to assimilate all outside forces into its civilization, and the equally grand power of Islam to retain its own identity.

Our day concludes with a dumpling banquet

at Defachang Dumpling restaurant, where we’ll feast on over twenty kinds of Chinese dumplings, a Xian specialty. (B, L,D)

October 22 • Xian – Chongqing

Before transferring to the airport, we make a special stop at the Han Emperor’s Tomb, Yangling Museum, to view the Han archaeological finds recently unearthed. Though not on

as grand a scale as Qinshihuang, the Han emperor sought the same power beyond the tomb.

Then, we make the short flight to





Chongqing. Upon arrival, go directly to General Stilwell's Museum which commemorates the American military leader's efforts in China during WWII.

Following dinner we board the Victoria cruise ship. (B,L,D)

October 23-24 • Yangzi River Cruise

Travel downstream through the spectacular Three Gorges (Qutang, Wu, and Xiling), enjoying the dramatic scenery and beautiful vistas as they appear. Along the way, disembark the ship to enjoy activities offshore. Tour the ghost village of Fengdu and see the breathtaking Lesser Gorge Daninghe. An amazing experience is coming face-to-face with the spectacular Three Gorges Dam at Sandouping. The largest construction site in the world is also China's latest effort to tame the Yangzi River. Our ship will navigate here the new system of locks now in use.

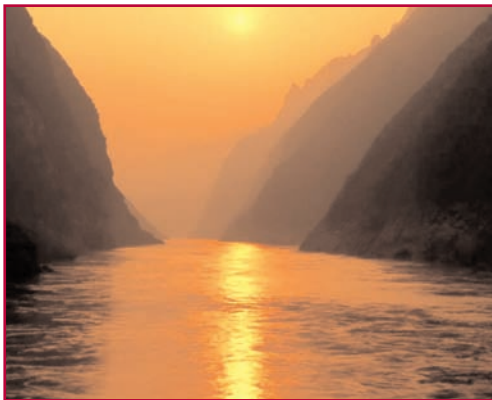
The unending panorama of river scenery makes this one of the great voyages of Asia. It also gives a sense of how the Yangzi River deeply informs the Chinese mind, as does the Mississippi River for Americans. Enjoy numerous cultural presentations and entertainment activities throughout the journey.

(Both days: B,L,D)

October 25 • Yichang – Shanghai

In Yichang, disembark after lunch. Then, fly to Shanghai and transfer to the Ritz Carlton hotel, located in the heart of the city.

What strikes everyone about Shanghai is its vitality. Nothing restrains Shanghai in its immense ambition to achieve world-class status; and in only a few short years it



has surpassed Hong Kong as the leading Chinese city. Our time here will be spent absorbing this special energy, a worldly cosmopolitanism for the up-and-coming Chinese empire.

The evening is free for exploration and dinner is on one's own. You may choose to visit Xintiandi—a stylish restaurant and shopping district designed by MIT architect Ben Wood. Filled with restaurants, clubs, and fashion boutiques, Xintiandi exudes artistic sophistication and is widely imitated throughout China today for chic redevelopment projects. Enjoy lunch on one's own here.

(B,L)

October 26 • Shanghai

This morning, we divert ourselves among the wonderful collections of the Shanghai Museum, including its world-class displays of Chinese bronzes, jade, pottery, ceramics, furniture, paintings, and calligraphy.

After lunch, go to Yuyuan Gardens, which is designed in six unique parts, making the garden seem much larger than it really is. We find one of the best Ming rockeries here, and wending the zigzag bridge to Huxinting Teahouse is a delight.

In the evening, we bring our journey to a memorable close with a farewell banquet at Dingxiang Garden Restaurant, famous for Shanghai cuisine. (B,D)

October 27 • Shanghai – San Francisco or New York

After breakfast, international group air travelers transfer to Shanghai airport for our flight home via Beijing. Arrive in San Francisco or New York on the same day.

(B, meals aloft)

– TOUR COST –

Main Tour, Land Only, Per Person, Double Occupancy	\$4,690
Single Supplement	\$1,690
Chengde Extension	\$ 990
Single Supplement	\$ 490
Guilin Extension	\$1,890
Single Supplement	\$ 890
Huang Mountains Extension	\$1,790
Single Supplement	\$ 790

Roundtrip International Air on *Air China* SFO or JFK/Beijing • Shanghai via Beijing/SFO or JFK
Coach Class & Business Class: *Airfare to be determined please call for cost*

Main Tour Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations in centrally located, first-class hotels • Double occupancy accommodations on the Victoria cruise ship • All meals, except two dinners and one lunch, at fine Chinese restaurants specializing in regional cuisines or in private homes • All air and ground transportation within China except for non-group international flights • All sightseeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in the itinerary • All transfers and portage except for non-group international flights • Chinese airport taxes • English-speaking Chinese national and local tour guides • Gratuities to guides and drivers • Preparatory material

Not Included: • Domestic U.S.A. and international airfare • Airport transfers for non-group international flights • Visa processing • Excess baggage charges • Travel insurance • Two dinners and one lunch • Gratuities to the national tour director • Items of a personal nature

For more information contact University of Chicago Alumni Study Trips at 773-702-2160
(toll-free 800-955-0065) or via e-mail at alumni-ed@uchicago.edu.

For questions on logistics or registration, contact China Advocates
toll-free at 888-333-2585 or locally at 415-346-4505

– RESERVATION FORM –
University of Chicago

BEAUTY & GRANDEUR OF THE MIDDLE KINGDOM

October 16 – 27, 2009

Enclosed is a deposit for \$ _____ (\$700 per person) to hold _____ place(s).

Please make checks payable to “China Advocates.” Final payment is due by July 18, 2009.

Name (1) _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Name (2) _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone : Day _____ Evening _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Main Tour Chengde Ext. Guilin Ext. Huang Mountains Ext.

I/We would like you to arrange international air. SFO JFK

Coach Class Business Class I/We will arrange my/our own international air.

I desire single accommodations. I need assistance in securing a roommate.*

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be secured for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement fee(s). Non-Smoker Smoker

I/We understand that, by signing below, I/we acknowledge that China Advocates’ Responsibilities and Conditions section of this flyer has been read and accepted.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Credit Card info: Visa MasterCard (For deposit only, balance must be paid by check.)

Credit Card number: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Code (3 digits on back): _____

Please mail Reservation Form, with deposit, payable to:

CHINA ADVOCATES

2098 PINE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115

TEL: 888.333.2585 FAX: 415.346.0411 WWW.CHINA-ADVOCATES.COM

TRAVEL IN CHINA

China's tourism industry has improved dramatically over the last decade. However, air and land transportation and other facilities may not always meet international standards. In addition, your hosts want to show you as much of their country as possible, so the schedule will be demanding with moderate physical activity. Travel in China requires good physical condition and health (special needs must be arranged for in advance and may result in additional costs), a spirit of adventure, a flexible attitude, and a sense of humor. The itinerary is subject to change and modification. Every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, but alterations may still occur. Participants should be aware that no refunds will be made as a result of unforeseen changes, modifications, or delays.

MEALS

China offers a wide variety of dining experiences and this program will take advantage of a broad range of Chinese food including Shanghai, Hunan, Sichuan, Canton, and Imperial regional cuisines. Special diets are not possible, except to the extent one picks and chooses from the many dishes served.

CONDITIONS

Reservations: Bookings are subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in these sections. A contract has been entered into as soon as your booking is received and accepted. To confirm the reservation, a deposit of \$700 per person is required.

Group Air: Group air is for a minimum of 10 passengers flying out and back together. With less than 10 passengers, the price will be adjusted based on what the current airfare is and will be purchased on an individual ticketing basis. Please note that for any additional and individual air bookings, all sales are final with no exchanges or refunds.

Cancellations: Tour cancellations must be made in writing to China Advocates, Inc., as soon as possible. Cancellation penalties based on the date of receipt of written notice are as follows: **91 or more days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of \$400 per person is retained; 90-46 days prior to departure, \$1,500 per person; 45-31 days prior to departure, \$2,500 per person; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

Cancellation penalties for air upgrades, additional hotel nights, hotel and cruise ship room upgrades, tour extensions, and any special arrangements, are as follows: **50-31 days prior to departure, 25% of cost; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

Responsibilities: China Advocates, Inc. and the University of Chicago travel program act only as agents for the various carriers for which tickets are provided and assumes no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor vehicle or other conveyance which may be used either wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passenger. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by a reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, hotel service or restaurant, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions

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warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members for the tours. In such instances, full or equitable amounts will be refunded. Refunds for unused carrier tickets may be only in accordance with the regulations of the carrier. CST 2064278-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of San Francisco, California.

Documentation: To obtain a Chinese visa, a passport is required that is valid for at least six months beyond the duration of the tour.

Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available. You will receive travel insurance information once you are confirmed on the program.

Itinerary is subject to modification.

Prices are current as of January 2009 and are subject to change without notice.



AIR CHINA

Our air carrier for this tour is Air China whose 747-400 fleet matches its excellent service and devotion to the safety of its passengers.

