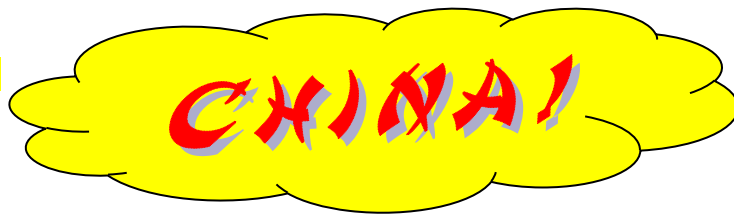


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17 DAY AMERICAN AVIATORS VIP TOUR TO CHINA

MARCH 15TH - MARCH 31ST, 2017

12TH Annual **VIP Exclusive** BY TRAVELAIRE

17 Days - ALL 5-Star - \$3399* pp - * details on reverse

Visiting Cities: Beijing, Wuhan, Yichang, Chongqing, Chengdu, Guilin, Yangshuo, Xi'an, Suzhou, and Shanghai - with Yangtze River Cruise on new 5-star ship with all private balconies thru the Three Gorges (w. 3 shore excursions included).

Departure City: San Francisco on Air China (See Item #1 on the FAQ page of the web site for connection cities and pricing).

MAR 15 [WED] - San Francisco / BEIJING (2 meals are served aboard the flight to China)

Board Air China wide-body B 747-800 jumbo jet for China. **Cross the International Date Line and lose a day.**

MAR 16 [THU] - ARRIVE BEIJING

Upon arrival in the capital of China, meet your national guides at the airport and transfer to the **5-star Wanda Realm Hotel** or similar: <http://wanda-realm-beijing.hotel-rr.com/index.htm?l=ggj>.

MAR 17 [FRI] - BEIJING (AB, L, D)

Visit **Tiananmen Square** and **Forbidden City**, the residence of emperors for more than 500 years. In the afternoon visit **Summer Palace**, a summer resort for Empress Dowager Ci Xi. Visit **Jade** or **Cloisonné** factory.

MAR 18 [SAT] - BEIJING (AB, L, D)

Depart at 7 AM after breakfast. The highlights for today start with a **crowd-free early** visit to the **Great Wall**, a symbol of Chinese ancient civilization. Then visit the **Aviation Museum**, largest one in Asia, where you will wander around various types of old airplanes and fighters. The **Director of Beijing Aviation Association** will greet your tour with a ceremony of exchanging presents and his representatives will host you around this special museum. Lunch will be at a special shopping venue. Drive by Olympic National Stadium "**Bird's Nest**" & **Water Cube** and enjoy a **Beijing Duck Dinner** in the evening.

MAR 19 [SUN] - BEIJING / WUHAN / YICHANG / CRUISE (AB, L, D)

Fly to Wuhan (at junction of Yangtze & Han Rivers). Visit the **Hubei Provincial Museum**. After lunch, board a coach for a pleasant ride through lovely countryside to **Yichang** where we will board the **5-star newest Yangtze No. 2 cruise ship** or similar **which is approved by National Tourism Administration of China** and enjoy dinner on board. For ship information, visit: www.ccotc.com/cruise.do?method=queryCruiseById&id=27&menu=0.

MAR 20 [MON] - YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE (B, L, D)

Our ship departs at 7 AM. Onboard activities include all kinds of lectures presented by your river guides. Take a shore excursion around 9 AM to the world famous **Yangtze River Dam construction exhibition site** before **passing through all 5 locks of the world's largest**, recently completed **Three Gorges Dam** - the largest water conservancy project ever undertaken by man. Sail through the first and longest of the Three Gorges - **Xiling Gorge**. Ship will dock for the night when we arrive at the town of Wushan. **Enjoy a Welcome cocktail party hosted by the captain** in the evening.

MAR 21 [TUE] - YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE (B, L, D)

This morning we will board a smaller ship to transport us to small "peapod" boats for a trip up the **Shennong Stream** (pulled by "Trackers") OR up the **Daning River** through the **Three Lesser Gorges** - both are stunning areas of dramatic hillsides, caves and lush bamboo groves. Our cruise will then continue on through second of the Three Gorges - **Wu Gorge** followed by the last and shortest of the Three Gorges - **Qutang Gorge**.

MAR 22 [WED] - YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE (B, L, D)

Today we continue to cruise upstream to visit the ancient city of **Fengdu ("Ghost City")** where a new residential area for relocated residents is located. We will also explore a local farmer's market and a kindergarten; or visit **Wanxian** for a shore excursion to the local town to see similar sights before returning to the ship for a **farewell banquet** in the evening.

MAR 23 [THU] - CHONGQING / CHENGDU (B, L)

Our cruise concludes as we arrive in Chongqing. Disembark by 7:30 AM for a City tour to visit the **Gen. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell Museum** and nearby **Flying Tigers Museum**. Take **high-speed express train to Chengdu** before noon and enjoy a rare opportunity to visit the **Giant Panda Breeding Research Center** to witness the conservation efforts being made to save this endangered species and enjoy the antics of the baby Pandas. The center is the largest Giant Panda reserve in the world. Check into the new **5-star Crowne Plaza Chengdu West Hotel** or similar. Dinner on your own.

www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/chengdu/ctucp/hoteldetail.

MAR 24 [FRI]- CHENGDU/ GUILIN (AB, L D)

Take morning flight to Guilin. After lunch, we will explore the beautiful **Reed Flute Caves**. Residents of this area were able to hide in the many caves during the bombings in WW II and this was among those used extensively. Then visit a **Tea plantation and factory**. Check into the best **5-star Lijiang Waterfall Hotel** located in the heart of the city, or similar. www.lijiangwaterfallhotel.com/.

MAR 25 [SAT] - GUILIN / YANGSHUO / GUILIN (AB, L, D)

After breakfast, depart at 9:30 AM via coach to visit **Old Yangtang Airport** south of Guilin with special government permit which is the site of the **Flying Tiger Guilin Heritage Park and Museum** which just opened on our March 2015 tour. This old airport site was once used by Flying Tigers during World War II (1941-45). Outside the Command Cave used by Gen. Claire Chennault, view the stone tablet set up by Mrs. Claire Chennault with her inscription engraved on it. We will also have a **very special DEDICATION CEREMONY** in honor of the C47 “**Buzz Buggy**” which arrived from Australia over the “**HUMP**” on 19 NOV 2016 to remain on permanent display there (many US and Chinese government officials will also be attending this event). Afterwards, spend much of the day exploring the park, museum and cave. In the evening attend the **VIP banquet** in our hotel hosted by the **Municipal Government of Guilin** and the city **Tourism Administration** along with other local officials from the **Provincial and Municipal governments** in honor of our **VIP delegation**. Observe the **Ceremony of Artifacts Presentation** to the **Flying Tiger Guilin Heritage Park Museum** by the American **Flying Tiger Historical Organization**. **TV and News media interviews will focus all day on these events.**

MAR 26 [SUN] - GUILIN / XIAN (AB, L,)

Spend the morning aboard a scenic **Li River cruise** passing picturesque farms and fishing villages with its thousands of limestone outcroppings, ending in charming **Yangshuo**. Guilin, with its unique conical mountains, has been the inspiration for generations of silk scroll painters. Fly to Xi'an in the afternoon and check in to the **5-star Grand Noble Hotel** or similar: www.gnhotel.com/xian_index.php?Locale=en-us. Dinner on your own.

MAR 27 [MON] - XI'AN (AB, L, D)

After breakfast, depart at 9:30 AM for the famous **Qin Terra-Cotta Warriors Museum**, one of the Eighth Wonders of the World, which is the burial site of an incredible army of 8,000 lifelike clay soldiers. After lunch, visit the **Ancient City Wall**, the only city wall remaining fully intact in all of China – followed by a visit to the **Art and Handicraft Factory**. Enjoy the evening **Dumpling Banquet** and the famous **Tang Dynasty Culture Show**.

MAR 28 [TUE] - XI'AN / SHANGHAI (AB, L, D)

After breakfast, take noon flight to Shanghai (onboard lunch). Major sightseeing of city includes **Old Town Shanghai** and **YuYuan Garden**. After dinner, enjoy **Acrobatic Show**. Check into the **5-star Four Points by Sheraton - Shanghai**, Daning or similar - www.starwoodhotels.com/fourpoints/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1986

MAR 29 [WED] - SHANGHAI / SHUZHOU / SHANGHAI (AB, L)

After breakfast, take deluxe coach to **Suzhou**, silk capital of the world and the Venice of China. Upon arrival, visit the **Master of the Nets Garden** and the **Silk Factory**. After lunch, cruise on the famous **Grand Canal**. Then visit the **Embroidery Institute** before your coach ride back to Shanghai and dinner on your own.

MAR 30 [THU] - SHANGHAI (AB)

Enjoy your leisure day in Shanghai for shopping and/or more touring. Optional tours will be available and will be presented to you by our local operator the day before. Lunch & dinner are on your own on this free day of many choices.

MAR 31 [FRI] - SHANGHAI / BEIJING /SFO (AB) (2 meals are served aboard the flight home)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport around noon and take **Air China** flight to Beijing for a seamless connection to your non-stop international flight back to San Francisco, CA, **arriving also on March 31st** (gain back the day lost on the flight to China as you cross back over the International Dateline).



Price: \$3399 per person (based on double occupancy) ****Single Supplement: \$958 per person** (call for details) **

**** Price Includes:**

- Roundtrip International PLUS all China domestic air tickets (all jet airliner flights);
- Hotel and Ship accommodations, meals, transfers, admissions & sightseeing listed above;
- English-speaking guides;
- **Special VIP banquet plus Museum/Park Ceremony** - plus shows listed above

**** Price Excludes:**

[current estimates as of 2/19/17]

- U.S.& China Int'l departure airport taxes [\$456.50] + San Francisco P.F.C. fee [\$4.50]
- China domestic airport taxes [\$175] (all with fuel surcharges added).....\$ 636.00
- China visa fee – handled for you by us and our tour operator.....\$ 160.00
- OPTIONAL Travel Safe Group Insurance (\$200 pp for most -- or provide your own?)..... [?]
- Tips and personal expenses (will vary by individual).....[?]

NOTE: All prices and estimates are subject to change without prior notice until final payment

[see the FAQ page on website for details re: expenses to expect beyond tour price tips and travel insurance.]



CONTACT TRAVEL AIRE (CST #2070111-40) FOR COMPLETE DETAILS

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