

# CHINA VACATION

# TT17E



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Xining:** Qinghai Lake, Temple of Tar, Railway, Qinghai Provincial Museum
- Lhasa:** Lake Yamdrok, Norbu Lingka, Potala Palace, Barkhor Street, Tibet Museum, Sera Temple, Jokhang Temple
- Tsetang:** Samye Temple, Yalu Tsangpo River, Yumbu Lushang
- Chongqing:** E'ling Park
- Dazu:** Baoding Grotto
- Yangtze River:** Fengdu (Wanxian), Qutang Gorge, Wu Gorge, Xiling Gorge, Small Three Gorges, the Three Gorges Dam
- Wuhan:** Yellow Crane Tower

## MEALS:

- 43 meals
- 15 breakfasts (B)
- 15 lunches (L)
- 14 dinners (D)

## SPECIAL CUISINES:

- Lhasa:** Tibetan Cuisine
- Chongqing:** Local Cuisine
- Yangtze River:** Captain's Dinner Party

## HOTELS:

- Guangzhou:** White Swan Hotel (Deluxe)
- Xining:** San Want Hotel (Deluxe)
- Tsetang:** Tsetang Hotel (First Class)
- Lhasa:** Xinding Hotel (Deluxe)
- Chongqing:** Hilton Hotel (Deluxe)
- Yangtze River:** Victoria Cruises (Deluxe)
- Wuhan:** Shangri-La Hotel (Deluxe)

\*China Vacation reserves the right to use other same-level hotels if necessary.

\*Please refer to "Information and Booking Conditions" for more details.

## RAILWAY TO TIBET – 17 DAYS

Guangzhou, Xining, Qinghai Lake, Lhasa, Tsetang, Chongqing, Yangtze River, Yichang & Wuhan



**Day 1: Los Angeles → Guangzhou**  
Board your transpacific flight.

**Day 2: En Route →**

**Day 3: Guangzhou 🚆**

In the morning arrive in Guangzhou, the southern gateway to China. Guangzhou was the first Chinese city opened to international trade. Take a city tour and enjoy some leisure time. Stay overnight in Guangzhou. Schedule of city tour is subject to change according to flight schedule. (B/L/D)

**Day 4: Guangzhou → Xining**

Fly to Xining, the capital of Qinghai Province. Upon arrival, a good rest is a must for everyone to adjust to the altitude change. It has been central China's gateway to Tibet since ancient times. It is also the area where the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers originate. You'll see majestic temples and golden altars. Marvel at the jeweled pagodas. Stay two nights in Xining. (B/L/D)

**Day 5: Xining (Qinghai Lake) 🚆**

Today you will enjoy the breath-taking beauty of Qinghai Lake. 2,000 feet above sea level, it is China's largest salt water lake. You will never forget the turquoise blue water, the jade-green pastures and the clear azure sky with Tibetan tents, the black yaks, the yellow blooms, and the colorful Tibetan costumes – what a splendid culture! Continue your journey to the Qinghai Provincial Museum and take a city tour of Xining. Experience the unique flavor of this border city, where many different ethnic, cultural, and religious groups live in peace and harmony. You could see followers of Islam, Lamaism, and Christianity all in this one city, and each brings its distinctive contributions to make your visit truly memorable. (B/L/D)

**Day 6: Xining 🚆 Lhasa (12,050 ft)**

Today, visit the Taer Monastery and take the train from Xi'ning to the Roof of Tibet—Lhasa. Stay overnight on the train. Upon arrival, a good rest is a must for everyone to adjust to the altitude change. (B/L/D)

**Day 7: Lhasa 🚆**

The Qinghai-Tibet Railway is a symbolic project



Tibet Railway, QINGHAI

in China's western region Development Strategy. It will play a significant role in accelerating the social and economic development of Qinghai Province and Tibet Autonomous Region. It is envisaged that the rail link will help build up ethnic solidarity and benefit people of many ethnic groups. The construction of the line was a strategic decision made by the Central Committee of China Government (CPC) and the State Council at the outset of the 21st century. Along the great railway, you can enjoy the wonderful natural scenery. Stay overnight in Lhasa. (B/L/D)

### Day 8: Lhasa 🚗

No other place represents Lhasa better than the grand and imposing buildings of Potala Palace, which is the highlight of today's tour. Built in the 7th century it contains 999 rooms. Formerly the home of the Dalai Lama, it now houses various halls dedicated to the Buddha, Tibetan Scripture and Tibetan history. You can take a group photo here. (B/L/D)

### Day 9 Lhasa 🚗

Visit Jokhang Temple and Barkhor Street, both located in the heart of the city. First planned by Princess Wencheng in the Tang Dynasty, Barkhor Street is the oldest street and market in Lhasa. Numerous shops offer all sorts of arts and crafts for the souvenir hunter. Sera Temple attracts worshippers who recite prayers and perform religious rites. It is also here that Lamas used to sit and debate scripture and its meaning. Visit the Lhasa Museum & Norbu Lingka. Stay overnight in Lhasa. (B/L/D)

### Day 10: Lhasa 🚗 Tsetang (10,100 ft)

Your visit to Lake Yamdrok is one of the highlights of the tour. This beautiful lake reflecting snow-capped mountains is unforgettable. Board a coach for a two-hour ride to Tsetang. The road takes you along the Yalu Tsangpo River through rural Tibet. You will visit Yumbu Likhang—Tibet's first monastery. It stands at the top of a hill in the Yalong Valley. Some 32 kings of the Tubo Dynasty resided here. Stay overnight in Tsetang. (B/L/D)

### Day 11: Tsetang 🚗

Take a ferry across the Yalu Tsangpo River to visit Samye Lamasery, which is known for the

footprints of Lotus Buddha and a Buddhist scripture recorded in the Tibetan language. With close connections to the late Dalai Lamas, the temple is reputed to have been a place of rest and refreshment for the Buddha. Stay overnight in Tsetang. (B/L/D)

### Day 12: Tsetang → Chongqing

Take a flight to Chongqing. Take a stroll in the E'ling Park. Tonight's dinner will feature local cuisine. Stay overnight in Chongqing. (B/L/D)

\* Day 13 to 16 is operated by Victoria Cruises. Itinerary arrangements are subject to change due to the Three Gorges Dam Project, the river's condition during flood season, and/or any temporary sailing arrangement announced by the Authorities. China Vacation is not responsible for any such changes.

### Day 13: Chongqing → Dazu 🚗 Cruising along the Yangtze River

This morning you'll take on coach to Dazu and visit the Rock Carvings in Baoding Grotto. While most carvings reflect religious doctrines, some teach Confucianism. Take a drive to Chongqing. You'll board a deluxe cruise to start your Yangtze River journey. Stay three nights on Victoria Cruise. (B/L/D)

### Day 14: Cruising along the Yangtze River 🚗

Start out on a spectacular three-day cruise down the mighty Yangtze River, the third longest in the world. Relax on the deck or in the lounge while you enjoy the beautiful scenery of China's hinterlands. Disembark at Fengdu (City of Ghosts). The lifelike statues of ghost might startle you if you're not careful. Legend has it that the dead come to Fengdu while the devils go to hell. (B/L/D)

### Day 15: Cruising along the Yangtze River 🚗

Today the cruise will sail through Qutang Gorge and Wu Gorge. These misty canyons, with magnificent pagodas atop, have long been a favorite motif of traditional Chinese paintings. The gorges are different in many ways, and each bend of the river reveals a new view, more perilous than the previous. When arriving at Wushan, you will transfer to a motor-boat to see the Three Minor Gorges, returning to the cruise after the trip. The highlight of the evening is the Captain's dinner party. (B/L/D)

### Day 16: Cruising along the Yangtze 🚗 Yichang 🚗 Wuhan

This morning you will first visit the Three Gorges Grand Dam and then continue the cruise to Yichang, a thriving city. Travel by bus to Wuhan. On your way, you will pass Jingzhou, a historic city in central China about which the tour guide will surely regale you with numerous stories. Stay overnight in Wuhan. (B/L/D)

### Day 17: Wuhan → Guangzhou → Los Angeles

Ascend to Yellow Crane Tower for a commanding view of the mighty Yangtze River. Then board your flight to fly back to the USA via Guangzhou. (B/L)

\*Most destinations of this program are located at an altitude of 5,500 ft to 12,050 ft., visitors with high blood pressure, or any respiratory or heart ailment are advised to consult their doctors before application. They are expected to understand the risks that are involved. It would be best if they reconsider their travel plan.

\*You may choose to stay behind in China, Hong Kong, or stop over in other cities in Asia. Hotel and other services are available for an additional charge. Please ask your agent for details.

DEPARTURE DATES & TOUR PRICES(TT17E)				
Year	Departure Date	Return Date	LO/Cruise Prices	Single Room/Cabin
2010				
May	05/19	06/04	\$3,499	\$700/\$500
Jun	06/16	07/02	\$3,499	\$700/\$500
Aug	08/25	09/10	\$3,499	\$700/\$500
Sep	09/08	09/24	\$3,599	\$700/\$500
	09/22	10/08	\$3,599	\$700/\$500
Oct	10/06	10/22	\$3,599	\$700/\$500

\* Land only prices include China domestic air ticket, tax, and fuel charge

\* Children under 11 years of age can share a room with two adult but will not be provided with an extra bed. Their price is 75% of adult price.