

CHINESE *WHISPERS*

TRAVEL INSPIRATION FROM AUSTRALIA'S ASIA SPECIALIST



READER OFFER

YOU & A FRIEND
SAVE MORE!

IMMERSE YOURSELF

A new range of
cultural journeys

DISCOVER the five 'Stans'

PERFECTLY GUIDED

Meet our award-winning
National Escort

INTRODUCING Magical Borneo

HEAD TO HEAD Premium Economy vs Business Class

48 HOURS in Delhi

DELUXE COLLECTION Tour Asia in Style

A MESSAGE FROM WENDY




Welcome to our Spring 2017 issue of Chinese Whispers, filled with inspiring travel articles and the latest news at Wendy Wu Tours.

Now winter is over and we're full steam ahead into spring and summer, many of our customers have been in touch about their 2018 holiday plans – and when we say we've got an array of new, exciting experiences and tours to offer you, we really mean it! With a new immersive touring range, even more Classic Tours and added special features to our Deluxe Collection, there's even more choice than ever before.

Whichever destination is next in your sights, you'll find inspiration on every page; from tips on a first-time visit to new destination Borneo, how to immerse yourself further into Asia and inspired accounts from several of our recent travellers – to name just a few.






As always, I do hope you enjoy reading this issue and look forward to welcoming you on a Wendy Wu Tours adventure very soon.

Best wishes,



Wendy Wu,
Owner & Founder, Wendy Wu Tours

Cover image: Eagle Hunter – As featured in our new *Immerse Yourself* range of tours.

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			DELUXE COLLECTION Page 16 Journey through Asia in style - for the discerning traveller.
			48 HOURS IN DELHI Page 19 Find out how to spend the perfect 48 hours in vibrant Delhi.



LOYALTY DISCOUNTS

FOR A LIMITED TIME SAVE MORE!

+\$100^{PP} TO YOUR LOYALTY DISCOUNT!

2ND TOUR NOW SAVE \$200^{PP}
3RD, 4TH AND 5TH TOUR NOW SAVE \$300^{PP}
6TH OR MORE TOUR NOW SAVE \$400^{PP}

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SHARE WITH A FRIEND AND THEY SAVE \$100^{PP} OFF THEIR FIRST BOOKING!
ONCE THEY BOOK, YOU GET A HAMPER!

Conditions apply - see back cover.



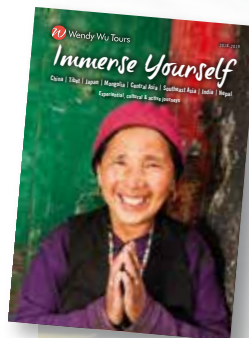
CUSTOMER CORNER
Pages 14-15
Colleen & Trevor Lawry tell us about their journey to China's Yunnan and Sichuan provinces.

Three Pagodas, China

WHAT'S NEW?

OUR EXPERTS BRING YOU THE LATEST NEWS FROM WENDY WU TOURS

NEW TOURING RANGE!



Asia is a land full of adventure, diverse cultures, rich in heritage and epic nature - and so that you can delve head first into it all, we've created our brand new touring range, **Immerse Yourself**. It's all about helping you make the most of these magnificent wonders. Packed with cultural experiences, active adventures, off the beaten track destinations and more flexibility, you'll be able to get under the skin of your chosen destination. Feature tours include:

NEPAL UNCOVERED - our first Nepal only tour
DISCOVER KERALA - a soulful journey through southern India
ANCIENT LANDS OF CENTRAL ASIA - discover the five 'Stans'
TRANS-MONGOLIAN JOURNEY - experience the nomadic heart of Mongolia and an epic rail journey from Beijing

Visit wendywutours.com.au/immerse
Order your **FREE Immerse Yourself** brochure today!



LOOKING FOR
NEW FRONTIERS
TO EXPLORE BUT
LOVE WENDY WU
TOURS?

Ask about our Worldwide
programme.



CURRENT SPECIALS

DON'T MISS OUT! VALID UNTIL 30 NOVEMBER!



EXCLUSIVE BOOK JAPAN. GET A FREE UPGRADE

Book selected 2018 Japan tours and you can enjoy the comfort of Premium Economy with Cathay Pacific Airways for FREE!

Japan has a dynamic culture of the trendy and ultra-modern, contrasted with deep traditions and a reverence for the past. The Japanese people are kind, the cuisine divine, the landscapes second to none, and the culture profoundly rich - so book Japan with Wendy Wu Tours today!



PARTNER FLIES FREE OR SAVE 50% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS

If you and your partner are looking to travel to Asia in 2018, then don't miss out on our Partner Flies FREE option! OR If you're a solo traveller, SAVE 50% off single supplements on a huge range of our best-selling tours.

Explore some of the most beautiful and fascinating destinations in Asia, including China, Tibet, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.



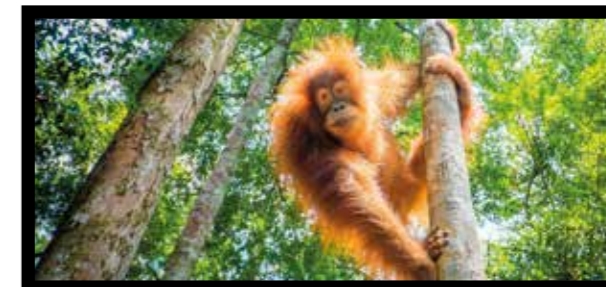
NEW 2018/19 BROCHURES OUT NOW!

October saw the launch of our new collection of brochures; China, Southeast Asia, India, Japan, Immerse Yourself and Deluxe Collection.

Order your **FREE** brochures online today!

NEW Best of Borneo

Always wanted to see orangutans in the wild? Our fully inclusive 15-day Best of Borneo Classic Tour takes you to one of the most biodiverse countries on the planet. The orangutans won't be the only animals you'll see on this incredible itinerary - it's filled with nature and wildlife throughout!



NEW Inspiring India

Let us introduce one of the newest members of our India portfolio, the 14 day Inspiring India Classic Tour - perfect for the first-timer to India. Not only will you journey through the famous Golden Triangle, but a visit to Ranthambore National Park is also included... if you're lucky enough, you'll even spot tigers!



EPIC DREAMS is back!

Long-term followers of Wendy Wu Tours will recall our Epic Dreams tour - a journey across the roof of the world through remote Tibet. In 2003, Wendy Wu Tours was proud to have escorted the first group in the world to venture into this remote region. This incredible tour is back - and we couldn't be more excited!

NEW Flexible Tours

We have classified several of our China and Southeast Asia Immerse Yourself tours as Flexible Tours. The more physically demanding features of these tours are optional, so you can choose between touring activities or free time for independent relaxation and explorations.



For more information visit: www.wendywutours.com.au/new-tours

BOOK YOUR TOUR ONLINE

You can now book many of our group tours on our website!

You can also chat live with one of our consultants on our website so you can ask any questions you may have prior to booking.

Book online - it's as easy as 1,2,3!



SINGAPORE: THE LUXE LIFE

Book selected 2018 Deluxe Collection tours and receive a **FREE DELUXE 3 night stopover** in Singapore, including Gardens by the Bay. Valued at \$730pp twin share.

See pages 16-17 for inspiration. See back cover for conditions and for full details visit:

www.wendywutours.com.au/special-offers





Perfectly Guided

The importance of having a good guide on tour cannot be underestimated. Every day we receive incredible feedback from customers describing how their guides have turned a great tour into something truly memorable.



Recently, one of our guides in China, George Pu, was shortlisted in the prestigious 'Wanderlust Magazine World Guide Awards', where thousands of guides are nominated across the globe. It goes without saying that we are extremely proud of George, so we thought we'd grab five minutes with him in his busy touring schedule...

GEORGE, HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE SHORTLISTED IN THE WORLD GUIDE AWARDS?

I was totally surprised and very happy of course! I am very lucky in that every day as a guide I have the best job in the world.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE IN CHINA TO GUIDE YOUR GUESTS?

Tibet. You will completely get away from the hustle of city life. I feel like I am really in heaven every time I go! The people are so humble and innocent - and so satisfied with whatever they have. The scenery is majestic. It is so clear and blue and it seems like you can even reach the clouds with your hands. Temples and monasteries, painted in red stand in every village. It's so quiet that you are able to hear the beautiful birdsong, the river running through and the bells from the temples miles away.

Was George your guide in China? If so, drop us a line at chinesewhispers@wendywutours.com.au and tell us what you thought!



Potala Palace, Lhasa

Let's leave the final word to one of George's guests:

“ George was absolutely fantastic. He was very kind and caring and looked after our every need. He was very knowledgeable and passionate. We feel very lucky to have had George as our guide as he made our trip that bit more special. ”

ADDITIONAL LOYALTY SAVINGS APPLY!



HEAD TO HEAD

PREMIUM ECONOMY BUSINESS CLASS

PREMIUM ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CLASS
FACE OFF IN A CLASH OF LUXE VS BUCKS



YOUR SEAT

Choose Premium Economy and you're in for a treat! Compared with Economy Class, you get a bit more leg room (on average, economy legroom is around 31 inches whilst premium is around 38 inches), you get a couple of inches more seat width, a better recline and in many cases, some form of leg rest. Many premium cabins also give you a bigger entertainment screen, some swish noise cancelling headphones and maybe even a simple amenity kit with sleep mask and toothbrush.

THE SERVICE

The majority of airlines have a dedicated cabin for their Premium customers, with curtains for added privacy, and usually fit around 40 people. If you happen to be flying a double decker 747, the Premium cabin might even be upstairs, which really does feel extra classy! You may also find your cabin has a couple of dedicated flight attendants, making the inflight service a lot more relaxed and attentive. Other perks that improve

your experience include priority check-in and priority boarding, but this depends on which airline you fly with.

THE FOOD

You know things are going to be positive when you take your seat on your flight and you're handed a cold glass of champagne to kick things off. Then it's onto the dinner service, something many of us wait for with bated breath...will it be tasty? Hit or miss, isn't it? In Premium, most airlines have upped the ante, serving food on actual real plates with actual real cutlery and may even offer upgraded, more imaginative meal choices - sometimes including a dish from the Business Class menu, and a better choice of wines and spirits for free. You'll probably also have access to all the snacks you can eat - some airlines will deliver them to your seat, whilst others have a little area from which you can help yourself.

Conclusion

Premium Economy offers added comfort on a long-haul flight as well as some of the benefits of Business Class without the hefty price tag, whilst Business Class is simply an all-out indulgence that everyone should try once in their lifetime.

Next time you book, ask about upgrade options.



YOUR SEAT

It lies flat. Need we say more? Well, we suppose there are a couple of other things to mention. Your Business Class seat comes with a lot more privacy, sometimes even housed inside a little pod, complete with lots of extra cubby holes for stowing all of your bits. Some airlines give out complimentary slippers and you'll get an amenity kit complete with high-end miniatures to keep you glowing throughout the flight plus a pillow and duvet for extra comfort. Entertainment screens are significantly bigger and likely to be touchscreen, and the headphones even better at cancelling out noise. And the seat lies flat... did we mention that?

THE SERVICE

Business Class passengers enjoy extra baggage allowance, dedicated check-in desks, priority boarding and priority luggage handling and that's before the flight has even left the ground! Plus, you'll have access to exclusive lounges with complimentary food and drink. On board, Business cabins are small, quiet and private, with their own team of flight attendants to give the most attentive and personal service - they even learn your name. You'll get all those little extras like hot towels, classy magazines and pyjamas to make you feel

completely at home, and of course that welcome glass of champagne that you can just keep refilling and refilling.

THE FOOD

Dining in Business Class has the air of a fine dining restaurant. A menu is delivered to your seat with a range of meals, usually designed by a world-class chef, and wine choices. In some cases you might even be able to order exactly what you fancy before you fly. You'll get a real glass to sip from, silverware and porcelain and may even have your food served by the course, rather than having it all arrive in one go. Outside of meal times, you'll be able to indulge in a range of premium snacks - all you have to do is ask!



INTRODUCING MALAYSIAN BORNEO

Borneo. The world's third largest island, home to 200 different ethnic groups and rainforest that is estimated to be 130 million years old. It is a land so biodiverse that in the last 10 years, 360 new species have been discovered here.

This is an island that has managed to keep that air of mystery that tickles the fancy of even the most rugged explorers. These days though, Borneo isn't all about hacking your way through the jungle, and there certainly aren't tribesmen with blowpipes hidden amongst the trees. Borneo today can be as adventure-filled or easy going as you like.

Here is our introduction to the wonders of this truly magical destination.



SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A great way to fly



Nature & Wildlife

The cheeky orangutans are certainly the stars of the show but Borneo is also home to 222 other species of mammal, more than 600 species of birds, an estimated 15,000 species of flowering plant and 3,000 species of trees! Some of the island is still classed as true wilderness but one of the happy things about Borneo is how accessible its nature is. Ancient rainforest, cathedral-sized caves, rivers and even the peaks of Mt Kinabalu are protected in a series of explorable national parks, which also house Slow Lorises, Sun Bears, Pygmy Elephants and Proboscis Monkeys, to name a few. And it doesn't end on land! The waters around Borneo are some of the world's richest – the snorkelling and diving is incredible.

Cities

Cities given Borneo's incredible nature, you perhaps wouldn't expect to find two lively, cosmopolitan cities in its midst. Kota Kinabalu and Kuching, capitals of the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, both offer an easy-going ambience and act as a gateway to nature. Kota Kinabalu was established by the British North Borneo Chartered Company and is lively and friendly with great food, markets and museums in a seaside location. Riverside Kuching was a trading post of Sarawak's 'White Rajahs' and is wonderfully sophisticated with an exotic mix of cultures as well as much indigenous influence.

Tribal culture

The Dayak people are one of the things that make Borneo so unique as a destination. 'Dayak' is a sub ethnic which covers over 200 native tribal groups - some live deep in the rainforest, some dwell in the hills, and some are at home on the coast. Each of these groups is keeping alive the religions, customs and ways of life of their ancestors - though luckily some, such as headhunting, are no longer practiced! You can explore the Dayak's fascinating heritage in cultural

villages and museums in Kuching and Kota Kinabalu, or even visit some of these once isolated communities to see their traditional dwellings and learn about their culture.

Beaches

Borneo has some spectacular beaches - we're talking crystal clear waters, swaying palms and fine soft sand – heaven! Both Sabah and Sarawak have incredible stretches of coastline, offering many untouched, often secluded beaches. There are plenty of paradisiacal islands too, many of which are uninhabited but for a resort or two. Gaya Island, just 10 minutes off Kota Kinabalu, is the perfect example of this. Part of the Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park, it is covered in virgin forest criss-crossed with hiking trails, surrounded by wildlife-rich waters and has just three resorts and a marine research centre dotted along its coastline.



IT'S TIME TO...

Immerse Yourself IN ASIA

Have you ever wanted to delve deeper into the local culture and discover the iconic sights from a different perspective? If so, then our newest touring range - Immerse Yourself - is perfectly placed to help you experience a new side of Asia.

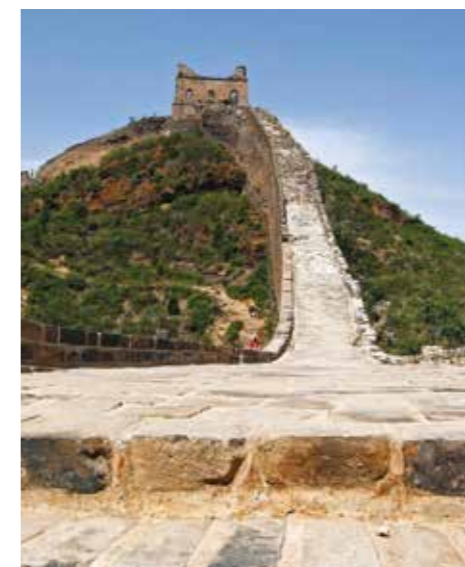
What's more, some of these new tours allow greater freedom to explore on your own...with our expert guidance of course.

ADDITIONAL
LOYALTY
SAVINGS
APPLY!

1 HIKE CHINA'S WILD WALL

We take you to a quieter, more rugged section of the Great Wall from Gibeikou to Jinshanling so you can really soak up the magnificence of this iconic man-made structure. With scenes of forested hills and spectacular mountains in the distance there really is nothing like China's most famous landmark.

JOIN OUR 17 DAY A CHINA ADVENTURE TOUR FROM \$5,980PP



2 EXPLORING HOANG SU PHI, VIETNAM

Spend a couple of days exploring this picturesque less travelled destination. With its epic rice terraces appearing through the mist, learn all about local life when you visit a Red Dao village and be treated to an authentic Tay village lunch before wondering through a vibrant local market.

JOIN OUR 20 DAY VIETNAM & CAMBODIA DISCOVERY TOUR FROM \$4,980PP



TAKE A LOOK AT OUR TOP 5

active, cultural and immersive experiences, all available within our *Immerse Yourself* range...



3 TAIKO DRUMMING, JAPAN

Try your hand at a Taiko drumming class in Tokyo and have a go at playing one of Japan's most iconic instruments. Here you will learn the techniques to sound like an authentic Japanese Taiko drummer.

JOIN OUR 14 DAY TRAILS OF JAPAN TOUR FROM \$9,680PP

5 CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK SAFARI, NEPAL

Through winding vines and soaring trees, see powerful one-horned rhino's, glorious elephants, radiant colourful birds - and hopefully the magnificent Royal Bengal Tiger! This jeep safari will let you see these majestic creatures in their natural habitat.

JOIN OUR 12 DAY NEPAL UNCOVERED TOUR FROM \$4,680PP



4 HANOI STREET EATS, VIETNAM

Treat your taste buds with a trip through the streets of Hanoi and try locally prepared food with a choice of food stalls on every corner. Sit street-side with the locals on tiny chairs and feel the hum of Hanoi. From spicy noodles to freshly cooked meats, Hanoi street food has it covered.

JOIN OUR 19 DAY VIETNAM ADVENTURE TOUR FROM \$4,840PP

ORDER OUR BRAND NEW
IMMERSE YOURSELF BROCHURE
wendywutours.com.au/brochures



DISCOVER THE FIVE 'STANS'

Central Asia is home to fabled cities, market bazaars and striking architecture. It conjures images of mystery, intrigue, and centuries-old traditions. For over 2,000 years, Central Asia was the centre of the east-west trade route known as the Silk Road. Central Asia is the homeland of some of the world's most noted scholars, explorers and conquerors.

The five 'Stans' of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan are some of our less-known destinations; for many they are unknown and unfamiliar.



EXTRAORDINARY... MAGICAL... BREATHTAKING... DIVERSE!

This part of the globe is home to vast grasslands, enchanting deserts, verdant valleys and snow-capped mountains. The scenery varies remarkably from one location to the next. The personality of each of the 'Stans' makes for an extraordinarily epic journey and will satisfy the most curious and adventurous of travellers.

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan is a country with diverse scenery and culture and is the heart of Central Asia. It is also home to iconic architectural wonders in the legendary cities of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva. Its history dates back to ancient times of caravans navigating the Silk Road, and the renowned armies of Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane. Pass countless turquoise domes capping ancient mosques, madrasahs, palaces and more minarets than can be counted. Uzbekistan has a rugged and rocky landscape with deserts, mountains and valleys interspersed with pockets of fertile, green land.

Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan has an abundance of natural and historic attractions. It is home to the "celestial mountains" of the Tian Shan and Pamir ranges, and one of the world's purest alpine lakes, Issyk-Kul. Kyrgyzstan also offers a wealth of cultural encounters from colourful yurts and a thriving carpet making industry.

Tajikistan

Tajikistan is a small but stunning country. Valleys dotted with flowers, soaring mountains and pristine lakes abound. Tajikistan is a photogenic country and the people are hugely hospitable. Dushanbe is the capital, and a short distance away is the ancient fortress in Hissar. Culturally charming and naturally striking, Tajikistan emanates simplicity and remoteness.

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is where the ancient and modern, traditions and innovation intertwine. Kazakhstan is the world's ninth biggest country and most developed of the 'Stans'. The country's capital, Astana, is modern, with futuristic architecture wherever you look. Set against the vivid backdrop of the Tian Shan range, the influence of Russia is most evident in Almaty.

Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan consists of deserts and oases and has a unique historical and cultural significance in the story of the Silk Road. Travellers are seduced by the ruins of ancient cities, the boundless steppes, the Karakum Desert and the mind-blowing Darvaza Crater.

Thoughts from our Tour Leader

Our Central Asia Tour Leader, Joanne Taylor shared that travelling through this region is a once-in a-lifetime experience. Joanne says,

“...the journey is made up of breathtaking scenery, and experiences like learning to make a yurt, eagle hunting, plus more stunning scenery with the likes of Issyk-kul.”

See some of Joanne's amazing tour photos from Central Asia on our Facebook page!



TAKE ME THERE
ANCIENT LANDS OF CENTRAL ASIA
Discover Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan in the footsteps of great explorers.

PRICES FROM **\$12,690 PP** FOR 28 DAYS

To book call **1300 798 118**

ADDITIONAL LOYALTY SAVINGS APPLY!

TAKE ME THERE
ROAD TO SAMARKAND
Journey through deserts and mountain landscapes. Discover Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan's ancient cities, thriving bazaars and a mystical atmosphere.

PRICES FROM **\$9,780 PP** FOR 26 DAYS

To book call **1300 798 118**

ADDITIONAL LOYALTY SAVINGS APPLY!

Darvaza Crater

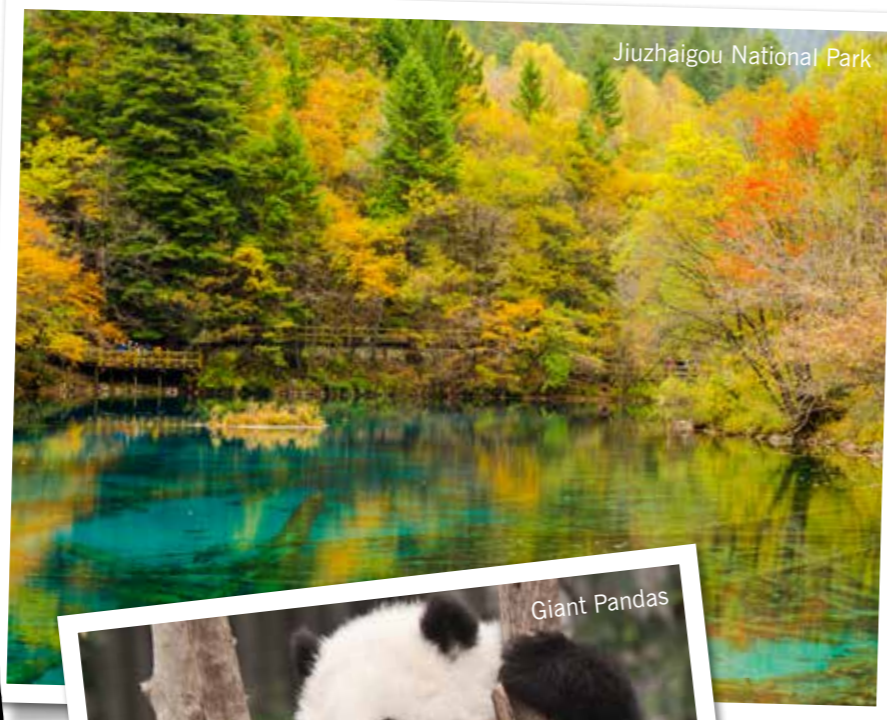
CUSTOMER CORNER

Tell us about your Wendy Wu Tours holiday

Receiving feedback from our customers is something that means a lot to us at Wendy Wu Tours. It means that we can continue to create life-changing trips again and again.

Trevor and Colleen Lawry recently took their second trip to China with Wendy Wu Tours. This time around, they joined our **Yunnan & Sichuan Classic Tour** for a change of scene from the big cities. They shared with us some of their highlights from the trip; one that takes in some of China's most stunning landscapes and unique cultures.

“ We visited many of China's major tourist attractions however, we decided on the Yunnan and Sichuan provinces to see the beautiful scenery China has to offer and to meet the ethnic minority groups who reside there. ”



Jiuzhaigou National Park



Giant Pandas



Stone Forest



Three Pagodas

“ Although we cannot speak the language, the Chinese people were very welcoming. The culture was different to where we had been before. ”

Choosing Yunnan & Sichuan Provinces

In 2015, Trevor and Colleen explored the big cities of China and the iconic sites. When they decided to return, they opted to delve deeper into China's most culturally diverse provinces.

"We visited many of China's major tourist attractions however, we decided on the Yunnan and Sichuan provinces to see the beautiful scenery China has to offer and to meet the ethnic minority groups who reside there."

Yunnan claims a bounty of natural wonders, including cavernous gorges, lofty karst formations and snow-capped mountains. Yunnan Province, home to 25 ethnic minorities, is also a place to experience the unique cultures of China's ethnic minority groups.

The Culture of Yunnan Province

Travellers are sure to encounter the colourful, unique, and centuries-old culture in Yunnan Province. The most prominent groups are the Yi, Bai, Dai, and the Naxi. Their culture and history are so valuable, UNESCO recognises them as part of the World Cultural Heritage.

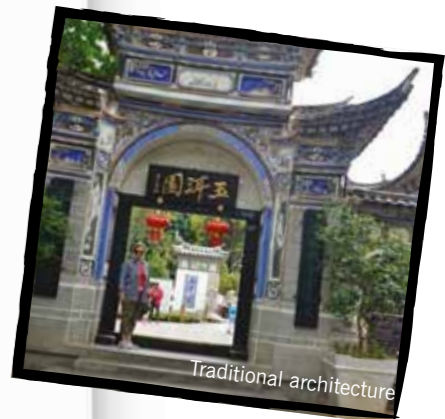
"The culture was different to where we had been before," recounts Trevor. The towns of Yunnan Province are well-preserved with ancient buildings and cobblestone streets; each of them oozing tradition. You may see a local slurping their food loudly as this is a sign of enjoyment! Staring is simply a sign of curiosity in Yunnan Province (and much of China).

Nine Villages Valley

The Nine Villages Valley, also known as Jiuzhaigou National Park in Sichuan Province is unlike any other place in China. Wendy Wu herself calls this area "one of the crown jewels of China", while Trevor describes it as "breathtaking to say the least." This beautiful national park is a combination of mountains, forests, lakes, valleys and waterfalls and there are nine Tibetan villages located here (hence the English name).

Recommendations!

The Lawry's advice to anyone planning to travel to Yunnan and Sichuan provinces is, "Don't miss out on visiting Dali. What a vibrant township!" Dali is famous for its beautiful natural landscapes and the well preserved Bai minority customs and culture. Here you can also see the Three Pagodas and Erhai Lake.



Traditional architecture



Colourful Minority Groups

ADDITIONAL
LOYALTY
SAVINGS
APPLY!

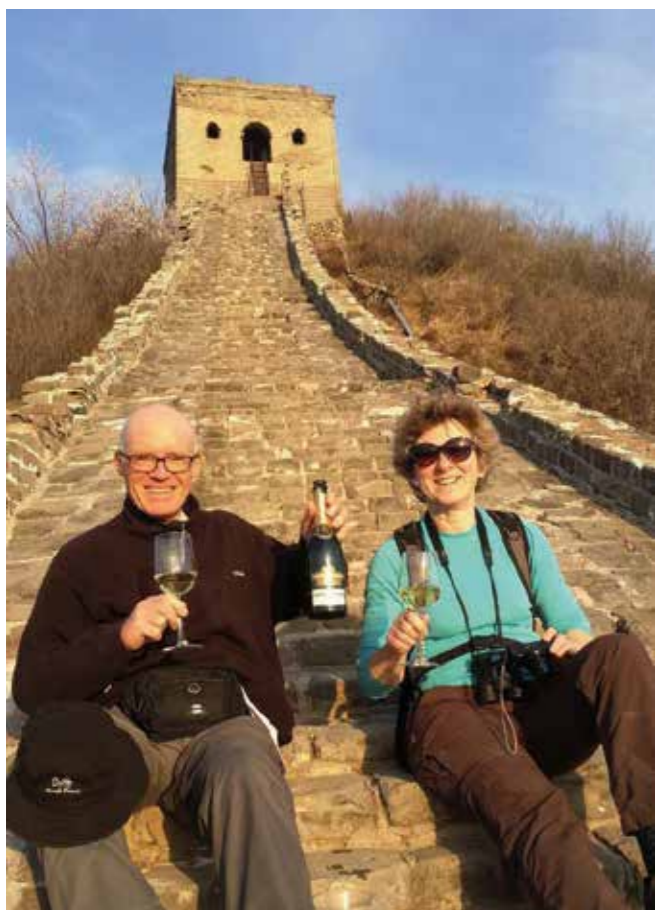
TAKE ME THERE

YUNNAN & SICHUAN

As two of the most fascinating, diverse and colourful provinces in China, Yunnan and Sichuan are a utopia of wonders.

PRICES FROM **\$6,180pp** FOR 17 DAYS

To book call **1300 798 118**



DELUXE COLLECTION

For our full range of tours, order your brochure now at wendywutours.com.au/brochures

EXPERIENCE THE EXTRAORDINARY

At Wendy Wu Tours, we believe everyone deserves a taste of the finer things in life. As the Asia travel specialists, nobody knows this region like us, which is why our team have scoured the continent to bring you the very best deluxe experiences, all meticulously designed to create a collection of truly memorable once-in-a-lifetime holiday experiences.

DELUXE HOTELS

Nothing shouts luxury like five-star, which is why every hotel in our Deluxe Collection is hand-picked for its five-star qualities, factors such as its location and its facilities. Nothing is left out when it comes to ensuring you have the perfect, sumptuous surroundings to relax at the end of an exciting day's touring.

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Experience Asia on your Deluxe Collection tour - do something so impressive that you will remember it forever! Our Deluxe Collection is full of unforgettable moments. Whether its visiting the Terracotta Warriors in China and meeting the people who discovered them or ascending The Bitexco Tower in Vietnam for cocktails and panoramic sunset views over Saigon or even an exclusive dinner in Mehrangarh Fort, India.

VIP SERVICE ALL THE WAY

We've taken care of everything on our Deluxe Collection tours, so you don't have to. We'll make sure your luggage is delivered right to your hotel room as well as arranging your chauffeur transfers to and from the airport (within 60km). When it comes to your tour guide, you can be assured of that same VIP service. From the moment you start your tour until the time it ends, your guide will be taking care of your every need. Your experience is our utmost concern which is why you'll find that nothing on your Deluxe Collection holiday is short of remarkable.

FREE 3 NIGHT STOPOVER IN SINGAPORE

Book selected 2018 Deluxe Collection tours and receive a **FREE 3 night deluxe stopover in Singapore**, including entry to Gardens by the Bay. Valued at \$730pp twin share.

See back cover for conditions. Inclusions: A free 3-night stopover on Bed & Breakfast in Grand Park Orchard Hotel, return seat in coach airport/hotel transfers, half-day seat in coach tour plus entrance to two conservatories at Gardens by the Bay.

GARDENS BY THE BAY

VISIT GARDENS BY THE BAY FOR FREE WHEN BOOKING SELECTED DELUXE COLLECTION TOURS

Singapore's award-winning Gardens by the Bay, is filled with nature's wonders from every continent except Antarctica. Explore diverse plant life displayed in spectacular cooled conservatories. Outside, marvel at the Supertrees - towering vertical gardens and the surrounding outdoor gardens. Let mother nature inspire you with more than 500,000 plants from over 2,200 species!



OCBC Skyway & the Supertrees

Suspended 22m above ground, between the vertical gardens of the Supertrees, the OCBC Skyway comes alive twice each evening with the Garden Rhapsody - a free light and sound show.

During the day the Supertrees are clad in bright coloured bromeliads and provide a stunning foreground to the neighbouring Singapore skyline.



Cloud Forest

Explore the highlands among orchids, pitcher plants and ferns, featuring one of the World's tallest indoor waterfalls at 35m as well as seven discovery zones:

- Lost World
- Cloud Walk
- Treetop Walk
- Crystal Mountain
- Earth Check
- +5 Degrees
- Secret Garden



Flower Dome

The Flower Dome replicates the cool and dry Mediterranean climate, featuring nine gardens from five continents including:

- Baobabs and Bottle Trees
- Succulent Garden
- Australian Garden
- South African Garden
- South American Garden
- Californian Garden
- Mediterranean Garden
- Olive Grove
- Changing Flower Field Display



TAKE ME THERE

GARDENS BY THE BAY STOPOVER

Explore the awe-inspiring Gardens by the Bay and other uniquely Singaporean attractions.

PRICES FROM **\$630pp** FOR 4 DAYS

To book call **1300 798 118**

CUSTOMER CORNER TAILOR-MADE HOLIDAYS & PRIVATE TOURS

Geoff Cowles OAM



Geoff and Charyl at Tra Que Village

Mr & Mrs Cowles recently embarked on a Tailor-Made Private Tour of Vietnam with Wendy Wu Tours. They shared with us why they chose to travel on a Private Tour and some of the wonderful encounters they had along the way.

Why did you book a tailor-made trip, rather than an escorted group tour?

The prospect of travelling in a car with a private driver and private guide for our exclusive use and the personalised service this entailed appealed to us. Having a one-on-one guide meant we could stay as long as we liked at locations and learn more from our guides.

We also enjoyed free time on our own and that we could independently decide what we wanted to do with that time. We found that we met other travellers along the way, so going on a private tour is still very rewarding people-meeting wise.

What were the highlights?

There were so many to choose from! However two memorable moments were the visit to Tra Que village just outside of Hoi An and the trip to Mai Chau, which we added as an extension to the Vietnam at a Glance Private Tour.

Tell us more about Tra Que.

We thoroughly enjoyed our experience at Tra Que Vegetable Village. It was great to walk through the farm seeing row upon row of carefully tendered vegetable and herb crops growing; the rows set out in orderly precision. It made for a tremendous rural landscape, ever-so-green with the workers tending the fields wearing their nón lá (leaf hats). We gained an appreciation of the special organic techniques they use to grow the vegetables and herbs.

What great fun it was to become a farmer for a fleeting moment – helping to prepare the soil, add seaweed, plant the seedlings and water the plants with watering yokes on one's shoulders. We could never match the expertise of the actual farmers as we fumbled our way through the various processes; however it was great fun!

Another great experience was the cooking class at the house after the tour of the farms. We met all the family members and we tried our hand at making an omelette and spring rolls. Our lunch was divine!

Tell us about your experience in Mai Chau.

Mai Chau is up in the mountains 160km west of Hanoi. We stayed at the Mai Chau Lodge for two nights, our favourite accommodation during our trip.

There are ethnic minority villages nearby which guests can either visit by bicycle, electric car or walking. We chose to walk and we visited about three villages that display a different type of architecture to what we are accustomed to and the villagers sell local products, colourful dresses and shirts which make very good inexpensive souvenirs. On the way to the villages there is a wonderful mountain backdrop and rice paddies aplenty.

A stand-out for us was the visit further up in the mountains to Hang Kia, a village of the Hmong people, one of Vietnam's 54 ethnic minorities, where we were welcomed into one of the villager's homes to take tea.

Would you recommend Wendy Wu Tours to others?

We would most certainly recommend Wendy Wu Tours to others, especially if they are looking to do a Tailor-Made tour. We experienced wonderful service from our guides and drivers, and the booking process was efficient, informative and thorough.



Light hike up to Hang Kia

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48 HOURS IN... DELHI

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HERE'S HOW TO SPEND THE PERFECT 48 HOURS...

Day One

MORNING

Make your way into the heart of Old Delhi by tuk-tuk and stop at Khari Baoli, the largest wholesale spice market in Asia. Take in the beautiful colours and heady fragrances before heading on foot through the maze of streets to Chandni Chowk, a main thoroughfare, shopping street and the home of many atmospheric old bazaars. Exploring this area is like taking a step back to the Delhi of old.

Continue on down Chandni Chowk until you stumble on the colossal Red Fort. Although much of it isn't accessible to the public, you can still wander through some of the complex's inner palaces and gardens within the walls. It is considered the pinnacle of Mughal architecture after all! Next find your way to Jama Masjid. India's largest mosque, it is beautifully constructed from white marble and red sandstone, and you can climb a minaret if you fancy. Stop at Karim's, an Old Delhi culinary institution for lunch.

AFTERNOON

Travel down to south Delhi to explore the UNESCO World Heritage Qutub complex. Featuring the Qutub Minar, a magnificent 73-metre minaret completed in 1220, the whole area is scattered with over 400 old monuments from tombs and mosques to a stepwell and palaces.

Once you've soaked up some history, it's time to get trendy in the quirky neighbourhood of Hauz Khas, an area of chic shops, galleries and cafes and at the heart of India's creative scene. The afternoon can quite easily turn into evening here – there are a good range of restaurants and bars to enjoy!

Day Two

MORNING

Start the day with a wander through the lovely Lodi Gardens, a peaceful, landscaped park that is dotted with the crumbling 15th century tombs and temples of Sayyid and Lodi rulers. It's a great place to people watch as many Delhiites use the park to exercise, relax and meet friends.

Continue to UNESCO World Heritage Humayun's Tomb, the tomb of a Mughal Emperor built in 1570. Constructed from red sandstone, it is not only beautiful, but a significant architectural piece that is pivotal in the development of Mughal architecture that led to the Taj Mahal.

Next, cross over into New Delhi, built by the British when they moved the seat of power of British India from Calcutta to Delhi. Start at India Gate and potter up the Rajpath to the grandiose Rashtrapati Bhavan, today the residence of India's president. Close by is the National Museum – pop in to view the treasures, which range from 5,000-year-old figurines to modern art.

AFTERNOON

Check-out Connaught Place, a lively hub of New Delhi, full of shops, restaurants and bars. Sit down for a late lunch, snack or refreshing drink, before taking some time to wander through the shops and soak up the atmosphere. From here, head to the Khan Market area to continue the shopping and dining (there are cafes, restaurants, bakeries and street-food) in one of Delhi's chicest locations.

EVENING

Capture the essence of the British Raj with a G&T or two at the exquisite 1911 Bar at The Imperial Hotel, just south of Connaught Place.



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Deluxe Collection Free Singapore Stopover Conditions: Valid for sale until 20 December 2017, unless sold out prior. Free deluxe Singapore stopover is available from selected Australian cities and is on flight inclusive Deluxe Collection tours flying with Singapore Airlines. Valid for new bookings only. Stopover is available in either direction, permitted once only and is available in listed hotel or similar. Subject to availability of airline, special economy class fare and specific airfare class. Surcharges apply once airfare is sold out. Pre-flight seat allocation is not available. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer except Loyalty Discount. Airline fuel surcharge (where applicable) included, and subject to change. Surcharges apply for after-hours transfers. Due to airline connections; extra nights' accommodation may be required at additional expense. Visit wendywutours.com.au for full details.

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