



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

JAPAN | VIETNAM| CHINA | INDIA| SRI LANKA | SOUTH AFRICA | TURKEY | THAILAND

2024 & 2025

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CLUB

Australia's Leading Specialist Touring Operator Fully Inclusive Touring | Authentic Experiences | Outstanding Guides

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Step into the enchanting world of Christmas with Wendy Wu Tours, where the magic of the festive season meets the wonders of travel. As carols fill the air, we're thrilled to unwrap our inaugural Christmas brochure, meticulously crafted to gift you the most extraordinary holiday experiences. This season, immerse yourself in a tapestry of destinations pulsating with festive cheer. Picture yourself in Japan, Vietnam, China, India, and Sri Lanka, each offering a unique slice of celebration beneath our Wendy Wu Christmas tree. Indulge in our new, extended journey through China, culminating in an unforgettable New Year's Day atop the iconic Great Wall. Say goodbye to the traditional turkey and savour an authentic Peking Duck feast, a true delight for the senses.

Or, let Japan weave its spell as you spend Christmas Eve amidst the historic charm of Kyoto. Wake up on the 25th to a breathtaking sight—a gossamer layer of snow adorning the iconic Golden Temple, setting the stage for an adventure via the iconic bullet train to Hiroshima and a tranquil Christmas Day dinner cruise on Hiroshima Bay. In India, let Midnight Mass in Agra be your prelude to a sacred visit to the resplendent Taj Mahal on Christmas Day. Meanwhile, Sri Lanka beckons with warm hospitality and balmy climates, offering an array of wonders to explore during December and into the New Year. Why not venture beyond your Christmas comfort zone and join us in new destinations like Turkey and Thailand. And for the first time, witness the wild beauty of South Africa – Wendy

Wu Tours newest destination – for a safari-style Christmas that is certainly an exhilarating departure from traditional sleigh ride scenes.
At Wendy Wu Tours, our promise is to deliver authentic experiences curated by our experienced National Escorts, true connoisseurs of your chosen destination. These passionate guides will immerse you in local customs and cultures, sharing their knowledge and holiday traditions to make your Christmas encounter deeply personal and enriching. So, embrace vibrant customs and ancient traditions in the world's most exceptional locales, creating

treasured memories for a lifetime. Join us on a Wendy Wu tour next Christmas and unwrap the gift of a holiday that transcends borders, time zones, and expectations. Let the joyous



Wendy Wu - Founder, Wendy Wu Tours

countdown begin!

THE WENDY WU TOURS DIFFERENCE

REPUTATION AND EXPERTISE

Celebrating a remarkable 25 years in the industry, Wendy Wu Tours stands tall as one of Australia's foremost tour operators, shaping unforgettable journeys across Asia and beyond since 1998. Amidst the ever-evolving landscape of our world, our commitment remains steadfast: crafting exceptional experiences for every traveller we serve. We fuse iconic 'must-see' landmarks with off-the-beatenpath adventures, curating the ultimate holiday. Our journey has been one of unlocking the treasures hidden in untapped corners of our globe, unveiling the vibrant spirit woven into each local community. Our dedicated team, seasoned explorers of these regions, infuse their extensive travels into every facet of your trip, ensuring a tapestry of authentic experiences. While we cherish our accolades and triumphs, our thirst for discovery and innovation persists. We remain on an unwavering quest to unearth new horizons for our customers to enjoy! Yet, it is the stories of our travellers that fuel our passion—the transformative encounters, the awe-inspiring moments that linger long after the journey ends. It's the reason why our cherished guests return, becoming part of our extended family.

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

Since our inception, providing unparalleled value for money, from start to finish, has been our guiding principle. Our aim is to maximise your experience by incorporating as much value as possible into every aspect of your journey.

- Each meticulously crafted tour encapsulates a comprehensive package: flights, accommodations, all or most meals, immersive tours, entrance fees, seamless transport, and the expertise of our seasoned guides.
- One of our differentiating qualities is that each of our group tours includes the cost of any visas required for Australian passport holders for each region (where required). Our expert team provide advice, coordinate your processing, and safely return your passports.
- Our dedication extends beyond mere logistics; it's about crafting an experience where every moment is cherished. With us, your focus remains on relishing each moment, while we take care of the details, ensuring your holiday is seamless and unforgettable.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES

For over 25 years, we've been trailblazing through Asia and beyond, honing our local expertise to introduce you to authentic experiences teeming with local flavour.

Our pride lies in curating 'experiences we love, ' ensuring each tour is enriched with cultural encounters and rare gems. These experiences are not merely destinations; they're chapters waiting to be unfolded, stories waiting to be told. So, embark on a journey with us, where each day the ordinary gives way to extraordinary moments. Our tours aren't just designed to show you the world, but to make you feel a part of it.

OUTSTANDING GUIDES

Meet our beloved National Escorts—the heart and soul of Wendy Wu Tours. Their boundless knowledge, infectious passion, and personal tales have shaped our sterling reputation. As your guides, they don't just showcase destinations; they embody the spirit of their homelands, enchanting you with captivating stories and local insights.

SAFE AND SECURE

We are ATAS accredited members of the Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), and members of the Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO). We have a wide network of travel agents working with us nationally, so you benefit from local knowledge combined with Australian understanding and support.

TIPPING MADE EASY

Leave tipping worries behind with our streamlined process. We've simplified tipping—no guesswork needed. We'll guide you on the appropriate amounts and timing, and your National Escort will handle the rest. It's that easy!



Christmas & New Year's Highlights

To make sure you celebrate during this magical season, no matter where you choose to travel, we have packed each of our Christmas tours with unique Christmas or New Year celebrations or activities. We've highlighted our favourite ones on each tour page in the 'Special Festive Experiences ' box; but for now here are just a few examples of what you can look forward to...





VIETNAM VISTAS

Begin your Christmas Day in Vietnam by waking up to the breathtaking spectacle of a sunrise over Halong Bay. Sail into Lan Hay Bay and spend the rest of your day indulging in activities like swimming and kayaking.



MAJESTIC MOMENTS

Spend Christmas in the company of Asian elephants at Chiang Mai's Thai Elephant Care Centre in Thailand. This sanctuary warmly welcomes you to share the joy of the season as you meet, feed, and bathe these magnificent creatures.





Welcome the New Year with tranquillity as you unwind in the Guebi hot springs, followed by a scenic stroll along the iconic Great Wall at Jinshanling. End the day with a celebratory champagne toast.



Enjoy a special Christmas Day in Southern India learning about Kathakali dance. Later, meet the dancers before enjoying a performance.

FESTIVE FEAST

Indulge in a festive dinner of some of China's most famous dishes including delicious Peking Duck.

PICTURE-PERFECT

Experience the magic of Christmas morning in Sri Lanka at a picturesque tea plantation, adorned in a handmade silk saree as you learn to harvest tea leaves.



Embark on exhilarating game drives to immerse yourself in the festive spirit of both Christmas and Boxing Day amid the captivating wilderness of South Africa.



ANCIENT WONDERS

Embark on a unique Christmas morning adventure in Turkey with a walking tour of Goreme's ancient churches. Discover the rich history and sacred beauty of these remarkable sites, amid the timeless charm of Cappadocia.





Kyoto's Golden Temple, Kinkakuji

Although not a national holiday in Japan, Christmas is a wonderful time to explore this diverse destination. In the cities you'll find gorgeous illuminations marking the festive period (and of course, no one does it quite like Japan), and the cold, dry weather means the countryside is often blanketed with fresh snow – the white Christmas we all dream of! This tour showcases the bright lights of Tokyo and Osaka, magnificent Mount Fuji and the beautiful Himeji Castle including many immersive experiences such as soba noodle making, origami classes and a Geisha encounter.

Christmas Eve is spent in historic Kyoto with a traditional tea ceremony and very special dinner. On Christmas Day you may be lucky enough to see a dusting of snow on the iconic Golden Temple, Kinkakuji, before riding the iconic bullet train to Hiroshima where you'll enjoy a scenic Christmas dinner cruise on Hiroshima Bay.





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Feel the rush of Tokyo
- ✓ Admire beautiful Mount Fuji
- ✓ Puzzle over Ryoanji
- ✓ Be captivated by Kyoto
- ✓ Reflect in Hiroshima
- ✓ Explore relaxed Miyajima

- Spend Christmas Eve in charming Kyoto and experience a traditional tea ceremony
- Enjoy Christmas morning at Kinkakuji, Kyoto's Golden Temple
- Dine on a delicious Christmas dinner while cruising Hiroshima Bay





- ✓ Climb Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- ✓ Explore medieval Polonnaruwa
- ✓ Discover Udawattakele Rainforest
- Take a street food tour
- Try your hand at curd making
- ✓ Visit Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery

SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Spend Christmas morning at a beautiful tea plantation plucking leaves while dressed in a handmade silk saree
- Enjoy high tea in the beautiful gardens of the iconic Grand Hotel on Christmas afternoon

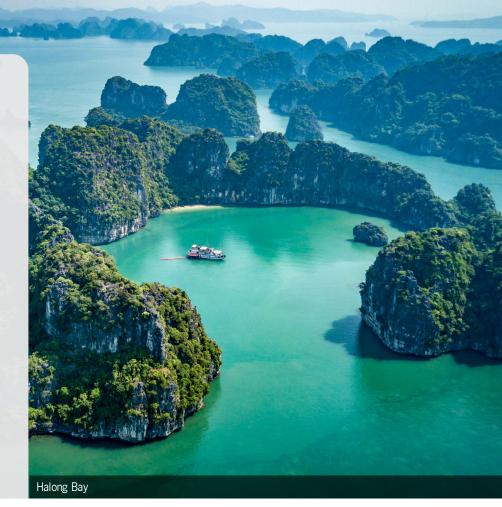
Christmas is widely celebrated in Sri Lanka with festivities beginning at dawn on the 1st December where locals will let off fireworks to mark the start of the season. There is so much happening leading up to Christmas Day, with families gathering, preparation of Christmas cake and mince pies, and decorations hung. The weather is pleasant with warm, sunny days and balmy nights. Witness the many highlights of Sri Lanka on this extra special departure, including the Rock Fortress at Sigiriya, the ruined cities of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura and the UNESCO-listed Dambulla Cave Temple.

Meet the elephants of Udawalawe and spot leopards in Yala National Park with two safari experiences. Spend Christmas in Sri Lanka's gorgeous tea country, Nuwara Eliya with a delicious Christmas Eve dinner. On Christmas Day take part in an exclusive tea plantation experience and enjoy high tea at the iconic Grand Hotel.



CHRISTMAS IN OULLY INCLUSIVE FROM Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth All MEALS A STAR ACCOMMODATION TRANSPORTATION SIGHTSEEING & ENTRANCE FEES VISA FEES FOR AUSTRALIAN

PASSPORT HOLDERS



Despite being a predominantly Buddhist country, the Vietnamese are extremely fond of Christmas. This is a time of great celebration with locals gathering for festivities, beautiful lights and decorations in trees, abundant throughout the cities.

Our Christmas in Vietnam tour, will see you exploring the full length of this spectacular country, from the Mekong Delta in the south all the way up to Hanoi in the north. Along the way, you'll explore the lantern-lit streets of Hoi An and imperial treasures of Hue, as well as the many highlights of Saigon. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are spent cruising the pictureperfect waters of Halong Bay and its lesser-known but equally spectacular twin, Lan Ha Bay. On Christmas Eve enjoy an exclusive drinks reception and Christmas dinner on deck. A magical Christmas Day is spent cruising on tranquil Lan Ha bay before a special drinks reception and delicious dinner.





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Discover Saigon's fascinating history
- ✓ Be charmed by Hoi An's Old Town
- ✓ Explore Hue's Imperial Citadel
- Cruise Halong Bay for two nights
- ✓ Paddle boats on the Mekong Delta
- ✓ Tour Hanoi by rickshaw

- Enjoy a Christmas Eve dinner Vietnamese style, while sailing the waters of Halong Bay
- Wake up to a stunning sunrise on Lan Ha Bay and spend the day swimming, kayaking and relaxing





- ✓ Marvel at Bangkok's Grand Palace
- ✓ Cross the infamous River Kwai
- Explore historical Ayutthaya
- ✓ Meet minority hill tribes
- Stroll through laidback Chiang Rai
- Master Thai cuisine at a cooking class in Chiang Mai

SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Celebrate Christmas Morning in the company of Asian elephants at Chiang Mai's Thai Elephant Care Centre, a sanctuary for elderly pachyderms where you'll meet, feed, and bathe these magnificent residents
- Savour traditional Thai cuisine at the House by Ginger on Christmas Day

This Christmas, journey through the magic of Thailand. A traditionally Buddhist country, there is no shortage of celebration and cheer no matter the time of year. In Bangkok, explore the Grand Palace, Wat Pho, and Chinatown, then sail the Chao Phraya River on a Long Tail Boat. Venture to Kanchanaburi to witness the historical Bridge over the River Kwai and the Hellfire Pass.

Next, fly to Chiang Rai for a Golden Triangle boat ride to Laos and a visit to Don Sao Island. As Christmas approaches, relax in an eco-lodge nestled in the northern highlands, where you'll experience a magical evening with a local dinner and Hmong Hilltribe folklore. Spend Christmas morning at the Thai Elephant Care Centre in Chiang Mai, fostering memories with these majestic creatures. From exploring Ayutthaya's ancient splendour to marveling at the White Temple in Chiang Rai, join us for an unforgettable holiday adventure!



CHRISTMAS IN CHINA DAYS FROM \$6,200 FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH

ALL MEALS

4 STAR ACCOMMODATION

TRANSPORTATION SIGHTSEEING & ENTRANCE FEES

VISA FEES FOR AUSTRALIAN PASSPORT HOLDERS



Visit pandas at Chengdu's Panda Conservation Centre

Although Christmas isn't widely recognised as a religious holiday in China, you'll still see plenty of illuminations in major cities like Beijing and Leshan and may even pay witness to the new trend in China of gifting friends with elaborately-boxed apples on Christmas Eve. The weather is cool this time of year, particularly in the north where you'll find the Great Wall, which means you may get to experience it surrounded by snow-covered peaks and valleys.

You'll soak up all of China's most famous attractions on this tour; the Terracotta Warriors of Xian, Beijing's Tiananmen Square and Temple of Heaven, the Grand Buddha of Leshan, and the adorable giant pandas of course! And you'll enjoy a Christmas Day like no other – spent on China's iconic Great Wall before swapping traditional turkey for an authentic Peking Duck feast!





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall
- Feast on Peking Duck
- ✓ Explore the Forbidden City
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ See the Grand Buddha at Leshan
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play

- Spend Christmas Day walking the magnificent Great Wall of China
- Indulge in a festive dinner of some of China's most famous dishes including delicious Peking Duck
- ➤ On New Years Eve, visit the famous Panda Conversation Centre to see these charismatic animals and enjoy a local Sichuan dinner





- ✓ See the pandas in Chengdu
- ✓ Visit a local family in Beijing's hutongs
- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall at Jinshanling and Simatai
- ✓ See the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Visit the ancient water town of Gubei
- ✓ See illuminated ice sculptures in Harbin

SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Experience the festive charm of Christmas Day in Shanghai by exploring the Christmas markets
- This evening, see the spectacular skyline onboard a Huangpu River cruise
- Spend New Year's Eve walking the iconic Great Wall at Simatai, the only section accessible at night

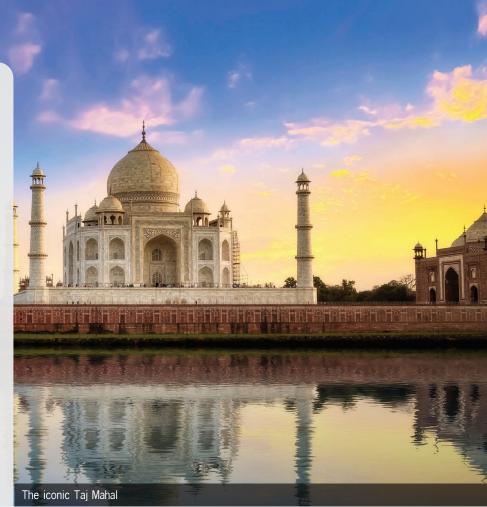
Join us for an enchanting Winter Wonderland journey through China. Starting in Shanghai, the city's glittering skyline will set the stage for a truly memorable Christmas celebration. Start with the festive magic as you stroll through Christmas markets, visit Yu Gardens, Old Town and take a scenic Huangpu River Cruise.

Later explore the ancient wonders of Xian and see the iconic pandas at the Chengdu Panda Conservation Centre. Visit a real-life winter wonderland at the Harbin Ice Festival, one of the oldest and largest ice festivals in the world. Ring in the New Year with a magical visit to the Great Wall, exploring the Simatai section by night and toasting with champagne. Traverse the remote Jinshanling section on New Year's Day, making memories against the backdrop of this ancient marvel. From the Terracotta Warriors to the Forbidden City, indulge in the rich tapestry of China's history and cuisine.



CHRISTMAS





December is one of the finest months to visit India with temperatures warm, minimal rainfall and low humidity – the perfect conditions for exploring! Uncover the iconic sights of India's Golden Triangle on this tour, as well as delightful Udaipur and Ranthambore National Park where you'll go in search of Bengal tigers!

After attending Midnight Mass in Agra on Christmas Eve, you'll awake on Christmas Day to explore India's most famous monument, the magnificent Taj Mahal. Enjoy a delicious Christmas feast, then you will be taken to a rooftop restaurant where you will sip on champagne accompanied by amazing views of the Taj Mahal at sunset. You'll even be treated to a fantastic musical show telling the story of Emperor Shahjahan and his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal (for whom the Taj Mahal was built) – a true Bollywood experience!





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Immerse yourself in Delhi
- ✓ Spot tigers in Ranthambore
- ✓ Marvel at the Taj Mahal
- Experience a ceremony on the Ghats of Pushkar sarovar
- ✓ Visit a vintage car museum
- ✓ Discover the step wells of Bundi

- Explore the iconic Taj Mahal on Christmas morning
- On Christmas night, enjoy unparalleled views from a rooftop as you watch the sunset over the Taj Mahal, champagne in hand
- ► Your magical Christmas night is complete with a spectacular performance of 'Mohabbat the Taj'





- Enjoy a rickshaw ride in the French Quarter of Pondicherry
- Witness the Arti Ceremony at the Shri Minakshi Temple
- ✓ Watch a performance of Kerala's traditional art form by Kalaripayattu practitioners
- Enjoy a tea tasting session at a tea plantation in Munnar
- Take a cruise on the Kerala backwaters on your private houseboat

SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Dressed in local attire, attend Christmas mass at St Francis Church
- Enjoy a Christmas Day lunch and Kathakali dance performance

Embark on the enchanting "Christmas in Kerala" tour, immersing yourself in the cultural richness and lush landscapes of southern India. Kerala, a cultural melting pot, provides the perfect backdrop for a captivating Christmas experience. Begin in Chennai, exploring historic sites such as Fort St George and Kapaleeswarar Temple, then venture to Pondicherry for a rickshaw ride in the French quarter and enjoy moments of serenity at Sri Aurobindo Ashram.

Witness the awe-inspiring Basilica of Lady of Good Health in Velankanni and explore the vibrant markets of Madurai, marvelling at the Meenakshi Temple and the ancient art of Kalaripayattu martial arts. Cruise Lake Periyar, take in the magical landscapes of Munnar's tea plantations, and celebrate Christmas with an Oriental Orthodox Mass in Kochi. Immerse yourself in festive traditions, don traditional attire, and enjoy a special Christmas Day lunch. Experience a Kathakali dance performance in Kochi and conclude your journey with a serene backwaters cruise in Kerala.



CHRISTMAS IN SOUTH AFRICA





Greater Kruger National Park

Immerse yourself in the enchanting landscapes of this diverse country. Experience the festive spirit reverberating through Johannesburg's vibrant cityscape before venturing to the awe-inspiring Panorama Route, where the Graskop gorge lift unveils lush forests and cascading waterfalls. The heart of the journey unfolds in the Greater Kruger National Park, offering a three-night safari to encounter the Big Five in their natural habitat. Celebrate Christmas Eve African style with a traditional boma dinner under the stars and a drumming class.

Travel along the scenic Garden Route, visiting Tsitsikamma National Park, Cango Caves, ostrich farm in Oudtshoorn and savour The Featherbed Eco experience in Knysna. Conclude your South African adventure in Cape Town, featuring a Winelands tour and an exclusive New Year's Eve dinner by the waterfront to welcome the New year in style. Bid farewell with a memorable dinner at Gold Restaurant, complete with a djembe drumming experience.





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a thrilling ride in the glassfronted elevator that descends into the Graskop Gorge
- Seek out the Big Five on a 3-night stay in Greater Kruger Park
- Enjoy a sensory journey through the Cape Winelands
- ✓ Get up close to the penguins on Boulder's Beach

- Immerse yourself in an African-style Christmas Eve. Indulge in the rich local flavours with a traditional boma dinner under the stars, and afterward, partake in a rhythmic drumming class
- Spend Christmas & Boxing Days on exciting game drives
- Bring in the New Year at a restaurant on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront





- ✓ Visit Istanbul's iconic landmarks
- ✓ Pay your respects at Gallipoli
- Explore ancient Ephesus
- ✓ Witness the Whirling Dervishes
- ✓ Taste Cappadocian home cuisine
- ✓ See Cappadocia in her winter glory!

SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Spend Christmas Eve in Cappadocia marveling at the Whirling Dervishes in the beautiful setting of Saruhan Caravanseria
- Experience Christmas morning with a walking tour of Goreme's ancient churches which are among some of the very earliest Christian churches in the world
- Enjoy a Turkish-style Christmas dinner

Get lost in rich history and culture this holiday season with our "Christmas in Turkey" tour. History lovers will marvel at the treasure trove of ancient artefacts. Begin your adventure in Istanbul, exploring iconic landmarks such as the Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, and Hagia Sophia, pay your respects at Gallipoli, marvel at ancient Ephesus, and visit the traditional rock dwellings in Cappadocia. Enjoy a Christmas morning stroll through the ancient churches of Goreme, adorned with some of the oldest intact frescos in the world.

Be spellbound by the magic of Cappadocia, cozying up to Cappadocian home cuisine. Christmas Eve features a Whirling Dervishes performance. Christmas morning offers a walking tour of Goreme's ancient churches, while the evening showcases breathtaking views from Uchisar. Join us for a journey like no other, exploring the heart of Turkey!



TOP REASONS TO CHOOSE WENDY WU TOURS

- Comprehensive range of Classic Tours, Go Beyond Tours, Dedicated Solo Departures and a dedicated Special Groups department
- Expert National Escorts and Local Guides
- · Exciting journeys to must-see destinations
- · Quality hotels and comfortable transportation



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