Wendy Wu Tours.

Celebrating 25 YEARS

SOLO TRAVEL SOLO BUT NEVER ALONE

JAPAN | CHINA | VIETNAM | CAMBODIA | THAILAND | INDIA | SRI LANKA SOUTH KOREA | TAIWAN | CENTRAL ASIA | SOUTH AMERICA

2024

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



CONTENTS

YOUR GUIDE TO SOLO TRAVEL

The Wendy Wu Tours difference	4
Tour style and inclusions	6

CLASSIC TOURS	
Golden Triangle§10 days	12
Vietnam at a Glance	14
Thailand Highlights	16
Discover Japan	18
Majestic Yangtze§14 days	20
Inspiring India	22
Scenic South Korea14 days	24
Highlights of Sri Lanka15 days	26

GO BEYOND TOURS	
Road to Samarkand	
MORE INFORMATION	

Your so	olo travel	questions	answered	46
---------	------------	-----------	----------	----





4-11	
Solo travel, your way	
Cultural encounters	

12-41

Treasures of Taiwan	28
Wonders of China	30
Japan Uncovered § 18 days	32
Angkor to the Bay § 18 days	34
Japan by Rail	36
Magnificent China	38
Ultimate China	40

	42-	45
Ultimate South America	9 days	44

46-47

S Dedicated Solo Departures

WELCOME TO THE SOLO TRAVEL

AND AND AND

Calling all solo travellers! I am delighted to extend a personal invitation for you to embark on an extraordinary journey with Wendy Wu Tours this year.

After 25 years in business, Wendy Wu Tours understands that solo travel comes in many forms. That's why we've made it our mission to cater to every type of solo traveller. Whether you're seeking adventure, relaxation, or cultural immersion, our team is dedicated to ensuring that your journey meets your preferences every step of the way.

We believe that solo travellers deserve the same choice, convenience and affordability as their counterparts. Value your privacy? Great. Our superb single supplement option guarantees the luxury of having a room to yourself. Happy to share with another person? Perfect! We have our Happy to Share option available on most of our tours. Learn more about this on page 8.

For those seeking the ultimate adventure with like-minded people, dedicated solo departures are also available on some of our most popular tours. These customised tours also enjoy extra exclusive benefits designed just for solo travellers.

While browsing, please keep in mind that this brochure features only a selection of tours that cater to solo travellers. I encourage you to visit our website or request dedicated brochures to explore our full range of exciting destinations and itineraries.

Don't wait to embark on the journey of a lifetime. Join me and the Wendy Wu Tours family as we explore the world together.

Wendy Wu – Founder, Wendy Wu Tours



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-beaten-path 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!









OUR TOUR STYLES

Join us for an extraordinary adventure on one of our experience-packed tours. We know every traveller is different, so we've designed a range of touring styles that will allow you to travel your way. Within this brochure, you'll find a selection of our most popular tours. Be sure to visit our website for our complete range of tours or request a brochure for your chosen destination.

On our Classic and Go Beyond tours, as a solo traveller, you have the option to opt for your own room or share with another tour member on most programs (please refer to Q & A for terms & conditions pg46-47). Plus, some tours feature dates exclusively reserved for Dedicated Solo Departures.

Discover more about each tour style and keep an eye out for our Dedicated Solo Departures that will be marked with a "S"



inclusive tour that is also fantastic value! With all your arrangements taken care of you can travel with the utmost ease and confidence, accompanied throughout by one of our industry-leading National Escorts.

EVERYTHING TAKEN CARE OF

With a classic tour, all your arrangements are taken care of - your flights, all accommodation, transfers, meals, touring, evening entertainment, and, in most cases, if required, your visas too! You will be exploring with a maximum of 28 travellers,

ALL YOUR MEALS ARE INCLUDED

While breakfast tends to be a mixture of local eats and familiar dishes from home, you'll enjoy lunch and dinner in local establishments. We include a few 'feature meals' so you get to taste the signature dishes of the region, while the rest of the time, you'll enjoy a delicious range of your destinations' best dishes.

Visa for Australian passport holders

You can be safe in the knowledge that throughout your tour, you'll be in the company of knowledgeable National Escorts. The experience, charisma and talent of these wonderful people are you can push your holiday from fantastic into the realms of truly unforgettable.

EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

Thanks to the extensive expertise of our team, we can make sure you get to see those rarely visited places that will give you a more authentic experience of the culture and region and the chance to meet the friendly local people. Look out for 'Experiences You'll love on every tour page, for a taste of cultural encounters that you will enjoy.

On our Classic tours you have the option of travelling on a single supplement, happy to share if we have another solo traveller available, or on a Dedicated Solo departure on selected tours.

GO BEYOND TOURS



Featuring lesser-known destinations and unique experiences that are tantalisingly off the tourist trail, our flexible and often more active Go Beyond tours are all about helping you to see and experience places that may not have made it onto other travellers' radars. On these tours, you may find yourself away from the comforts of home, but you'll be rewarded with unique culture, interactions with local people and unforgettable sights.

UNDISCOVERED DESTINATIONS

We're proud of the fact that we really know our destinations, allowing us to offer tours that feature excursions to hidden gems and secret corners. If you're knowledge about their homeland with you. Who better looking for a holiday that visits places that you thought were too hard to reach, or maybe haven't even heard of, these are the tours for you!

SMALLER GROUPS

Exploring in smaller and more flexible groups with no more than 18 travellers, we often step off the beaten track and

DEDICATED SOLO DEPARTURES

We have reserved selected departures on some of our most popular Classic tours to Japan, India, China, Vietnam, Cambodia and Sri Lanka exclusively for customers who prefer to share their wonderful holiday experiences with a ready-made group of like-minded solo travellers. We provide a room of your own with no single supplement to pay, while our expert guides take care of you throughout the tour.

You will enjoy the same inclusions as our Classic tours plus the following fabulous benefits:



Flights, guides, transportation & sightseeing

Visa for Australian passport holders

experience the authentic ways of life in the places you're exploring. We make that even easier for you by including cultural visits and local encounters that will put you right in the heart of the destination. In a smaller group you can interact more easily with local communities and discover fascinating cultures so different from our own.

EXPERT GUIDING

Your National Escort and local guides, all born and bred in your destination, are an endless source of information about the local history, heritage and culture. Of course, they are more than willing to share that wealth of help you get to grips with a magical sight, city or region than someone who knows it like the back of their hand?

On our Go Beyond tours you have the option of travelling on a single supplement, or happy to share if we have another solo traveller available.

•	Smaller	group	size	(max.	18)
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- Room of your own throughout trip
- Free Australian airport lounge access (selected airports)
- Complimentary Australian airport transfers (conditions apply)

Dedicated solo departure dates are shaded in purple for your convenience on applicable tours in all of our brochures.

Find out more about our Dedicated Solo Depatures on pages 8 & 9.



Ready to embark on your solo adventure? For almost three decades, thousands of solo travellers have enjoyed unforgettable journeys with Wendy Wu Tours. Our extensive experience has taught us that solo travel is deeply personal, which is why we offer a range of tailored options to suit every individual's preference.

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

Let the world be your oyster with hundreds of escorted trips to choose from in Asia and beyond. From the vibrant streets of China and Japan to the ancient wonders of Egypt and India, there's something for every adventurer's taste. Friendly, knowledgeable regional experts guide you a seamless end to end holiday.

CONNECT AND CREATE MEMORIES

Solo travel isn't just about exploring new horizons-it's about connecting with like-minded individuals and creating unforgettable memories together. Whether bonding over shared experiences, discovering hidden gems, or simply enjoying the camaraderie of fellow adventurers, the journey is just as rewarding as the destination.

WHY CHOOSE SOLO TRAVEL?

Solo travellers often choose group tours for the perfect blend of independence and companionship. With Wendy Wu Tours, you can explore diverse destinations with like-minded individuals while enjoying the freedom to tailor your experiences to your personal preferences. Our experienced guides take care of the logistics, allowing you to immerse yourself in new cultures, discover hidden gems, and forge meaningful connections along the way.

EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST

As one of Australia's most enduring group tour operators, Wendy Wu Tours brings over 25 years of expertise to designing stress-free, fully inclusive holidays. Our commitment to ensuring that solo travel is both affordable and enjoyable means there's an option for everyone, whether you prefer the comfort of your own room, are open to sharing your space, or want an exclusively 'solo' experience with kindred spirits.

Three different ways you can travel solo with us

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Can you picture yourself enjoying the luxury of your own private retreat after a day of adventure? With our Single Supplement option, you can enjoy the comfort of your own room without any additional hassle. Choose from our extensive range of tours and destinations.

HAPPY TO SHARE - AND SAVE

Embrace the joy of being sociable, without the extra cost of travelling solo. Our popular 'Happy to share' option pairs solo travellers of the same gender on most of our Classic Tours and Go Beyond Tours. Note that 'Happy To Share' requests can be received at time of booking with us but will not be confirmed until after your final payment due date.

Our Customer Services Team will make contact at around 60 days before departure to let you know if a share partner has been found thus refunding the single room supplement.

S EXCLUSIVE SOLO DEPARTURES

Exclusive group getaways - for solos only. Our Dedicated Solo Departures provide an opportunity to connect with fellow solo adventurers while exploring captivating destinations around the globe. Enjoy enviable perks such as travelling in a smaller group (maximum of 18 travellers), your own private room throughout the trip, complimentary Australian airport transfers (conditions apply), free Australian airport lounge access at selected airports, and a complimentary cocktail on arrival.

Dedicated Solo Departures

Are you ready to embark on an extraordinary journey with a group of like-minded adventurers? Look no further than our Dedicated Solo Departures. We've handpicked selected departures on some of our most popular Classic style tours exclusively for solo travellers who prefer to share their wonderful holiday experiences with a ready-made group of travellers. Put simply, they are hassle free and the perfect blend of exploration, independence and connection.

Dedicated Solo Departures - Look out for this symbol S

Why choose our Dedicated Solo Departures?



NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Say goodbye to extra charges and hello to the comfort of your own room. Our Dedicated Solo Tours offer the luxury of solo travel without the extra price tag. Whether you're exploring the bustling streets of Tokyo or marvelling at the ancient wonders of Angkor Wat, you can relax knowing that your accommodation is taken care of, affording you comfort and privacy, with no additional fees.

CONNECT WITH LIKE-MINDED SOLO TRAVELLERS

Say goodbye to solo travel woes and hello to instant camaraderie! Our Dedicated Solo Departures bring together solo travellers from around the globe, creating a vibrant community of explorers who share your passion for adventure and discovery. With group sizes limited to 18 tour members, these tours provide the perfect opportunity to interact and form meaningful friendships. Whether you're swapping stories over a traditional meal in Vietnam or embarking on an adventure through India, you'll have plenty of opportunities to bond with your fellow travellers

EXPERIENCE THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Enjoy the freedom and flexibility of solo travel with the added bonus of a supportive group environment. If you're exploring ancient temples in Cambodia, sampling street food in Vietnam, or cruising along the Mekong River, you'll have the opportunity to create unforgettable memories with new friends by your side.

EXPERT GUIDANCE EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

Rest assured that you'll be in good hands with our experienced guides. From navigating cultural nuances to recommending hidden gems off the beaten path, our knowledgeable team is dedicated to ensuring that your solo adventure is as smooth and seamless as possible. Our National Escorts ensure a seamless and inclusive travel experience that is welcoming for everyone. Consider them a built- in friend who knows every destination inside out! With their in-depth knowledge and passion for the destinations, they'll guide you through each leg of your journey, dedicated to making your tour extraordinary.

ENJOY EXTRA PERKS

- Travel in smaller groups (18 max)
- Complimentary Australian airport transfers (conditions apply)
- Complimentary lounge access at selected Australian airports
- Complimentary cocktail on arrival at your destination

SO, WHERE EXACTLY DO OUR DEDICATED SOLO TOURS GO?

A great choice of destinations is just waiting to be explored, including the wonders of Japan, China, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, and beyond. From the vibrant streets of Delhi to the captivating Giant Pandas in the bamboo forests of Chengdu, each destination offers a unique opportunity for exploration and adventure. Contact us today to book your adventure and embark on a memorable journey of a lifetime!



Cultural encounters, every step of the way

EAGLE HUNTING

Eagle hunting in Central Asia is a captivating

tradition that showcases the deep bond between the local berkutchi hunters and their trained golden eagles. This ancient practice, rooted in both sustenance and culture, highlights the enduring connection between humanity and nature.

To make sure you truly immerse yourself in your chosen destination we pack every single one of our tours with authentic cultural experiences. We've highlighted a few of our favourite ones below.



WASHI PAPER MAKING

Learn about this traditional process before getting your hands dirty making 'washi' (Japanese paper) the age-old way for yourself! Enjoy this experience on Discover Japan and Japan Uncovered.



ERA SHOW

The ERA show tells the story of China from humble beginnings to world power, with breathtaking special effects and incredible martial arts in one acrobatic extravaganza!



SEE HOI AN GLOW

Wander the delightful streets of Hoi An's traditional Old Town, with its ochre-coloured buildings, old-world temples and historic merchant houses. At sunset, watch in wonder as Hoi An's world-famous lanterns flicker into life, evoking the feel of a bygone age.



CALL 1300 727 998 OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT



LOCAL CRAFTS

Visit a craft centre in Jaipur to meet with skilled artisans and watch them at work on techniques such as carpet weaving and block printing.

UYUNI SALT FLATS

A visit to the Uyuni Salt Flats, the world's largest salt flats, offers an unforgettable experience. When dry, the salt crust creates vast, hexagonal patterns, while during the rainy season, a thin layer of water turns the flats into a mesmerizing mirror, reflecting the sky above.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Witness sunrise at the Taj Mahal
- ✓ Marvel at Delhi's Jama Masjid
- Spot tigers in Ranthambore
- ✓ See the grandeur of Fatehpur Sikri
- ✓ Wander Jaipur, the 'Pink City'
- Explore magnificent Amber Fort

PRICE INCLUDES

- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Take an exciting rickshaw ride through Asia's largest spice market, in Old Delhi, absorbing the heady scents and colourful sights of some of the world's most exotic powders, leaves, roots and seeds.
- ► Venture into the old alleyways of Jaipur to try your hand at block printing, the practice of hand printing textiles with a carved wooden block, a traditional art of the city.
- ► Learn astronomy the ancient way at Jaipur's fascinating Jantar Mantar, an 18th-century observatory full of old instruments used to measure the distance and positions of celestial objects.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO DELHI

Fly to India's capital, Delhi. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. Meet the group tonight for dinner and start getting to know your fellow travellers.

DAY 2: DISCOVER DELHI

Today, explore this vivacious city! Starting in Old Delhi, embark on a rickshaw ride through the atmospheric streets. You'll dive straight into the narrow, fragrant lanes of Khari Baoli Spice Market to marvel at the array of colourful herbs and spices. Next, stop to visit the immense Jama Masjid, a Mughal masterpiece of a mosque. Cross over into New Delhi to admire the colonial grandeur of India Gate before seeing the UNESCOlisted Outab Minar, a 73-metre, 12th-century minaret.

DAY 3: TRAVEL TO AGRA

Journey to Agra by road and start your explorations at Itmad-ud-Daulah, also known as the 'Baby Taj', an exquisite Mughal mausoleum considered a Taj Mahal prototype. Next, tour the magnificent Agra Fort. This mass of red sandstone sits on the bank of the Yamuna River, and from its ramparts catch a first glimpse of the magical Taj Mahal, just two kilometres downstream.

DAY 4: TAJ MAHAL

Rise early to share an unforgettable experience, sunrise at the Taj Mahal. At dawn, when the crowds are at their thinnest, often swathed in mist and tinged pink by the rising sun, the building looks magical. Then travel to Ranthambore National Park, home of the majestic Bengal tigers, stopping en route at UNESCO World Heritage Site Fatehpur Sikri, the long abandoned 17th-century capital of the Mughal Empire.







DAY 5: TIGERS OF RANTHAMBORE

Explore Ranthambore National Park in search of tigers, taking early morning and afternoon safaris. There are around 50 tigers living amongst the park's undulating landscapes, as well as leopards, nilgai, sloth bears, wild boar, hyena and over 300 species of bird.

DAY 6: TRAVEL TO JAIPUR

Departing Ranthambore, travel by road to Jaipur, the 'Pink City'. On arrival, the rest of the day is free to spend at leisure.

DAY 7: EXPLORE JAIPUR

The day begins with a photo stop at the Hawa Mahal, the 'Palace of the Winds'. Next, travel out of the city to admire the majestic Amber Fort, the colossal 16th-century yellow and pink sandstone fort just 11 kilometres out of Jaipur. Back in the city, explore the lavish Maharaja's City Palace and the fascinating instruments of Jantar Mantar. Heading deep into the backstreets of the old town, try your hand at traditional artistries at a block printing and carpet weaving workshop.

DAY 8: TRAVEL TO DELHI

Leaving the Pink City, we return by road to Delhi. On arrival, the rest of the day is free to spend as you wish. This evening, the group will sit down together for the last time at a farewell dinner - the perfect time to reflect on recent adventures.

DAYS 9-10: FLY DELHI TO AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



4 days from \$1,210pp twin share

SHIMLA SHORT STAY 4 days from \$980pp twin share

GOA BEACH STAY 5 days from \$850pp twin share

about all of our extensions and stopovers.





PHYSICAL RATING



Enjoy a concise, classic introduction to this beautiful country. Architectural wonders await as you soak up the vibrant sights, sounds and experiences of northern India.





COACH

Contact us or visit our website to learn more

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES			
24 Mar - 02 Apr	\$5,880	03 Nov - 12 Nov	\$5,680
07 Apr - 16 Apr	\$5,680	10 Nov - 19 Nov	\$6,480
06 Oct - 15 Oct	\$6,480	17 Nov - 26 Nov	\$5,880
13 Oct - 22 Oct	\$5,680	01 Dec - 10 Dec	\$5,880

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only (Delhi Delhi) 9 days from \$4,480 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$900

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$60pp (AU\$89pp) is paid locally in India.

VIETNAM AT A GLANCE

12 DAYS FROM \$5,280 FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH ALL MEALS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore fascinating Saigon
- Discover the Cu Chi Tunnels
- Drift along the Mekong Delta
- Be inspired by charming Hoi An
- ✓ Marvel at Hue's Imperial Citadel
- ✓ Wake to a Halong Bay sunrise

PRICE INCLUDES

- 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 10 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees • Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Try your hand at ancient cultivation techniques with members of the local farming community in Tra Que village and enjoy a cooking demonstration of a regional speciality.
- Explore the vibrant streets of Hanoi's Old Quarter by cyclo, stopping off at a café to sample a traditionally-made, local speciality, egg coffee.
- ► Take your seats for 'the Quintessence of Tonkin', a spectacular open-air show on a lake-turned-stage by over 250 performers. Uncover the rich culture and history of Northern Vietnam through music, song, dance and even dragon-boat racing!

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

Dedicated solo departures S Single supplement Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO SAIGON

Fly to Saigon, Vietnam's most evocative and largest city. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture

DAY 2: DISCOVER SAIGON & CU CHI

This morning, contemplate the struggles of guerrilla warfare at the famous Cu Chi Tunnels. Stop for lunch at an organic farm before returning to Saigon for an afternoon city tour. This exuberant city is driving Vietnam forward into the modern world, but it is also a treasure trove of fascinating heritage. See the colonial Notre Dame Cathedral and visit the Central Post Office, the Reunification Palace, and the chilling War Remnants Museum.

DAY 3: MEKONG DELTA

Journey to Ben Tre to take a cruise on the Mekong. Paddle through the maze of palmlined canals and get a glimpse of daily life on the Mekong Delta. Visit a bee farm for a taste of honey tea before enjoying a typical Mekong lunch. Return to Saigon, stopping en route to explore the historic Vinh Trang Pagoda and its beautiful gardens.

DAY 4: JOURNEY TO HOLAN

Fly to Danang and transfer to Hoi An. This afternoon take a walking tour of this charming town – a wonderfully laidback and wilfully traditional place, whose streets are a delight to wander. Visit an old merchant's house, Quan Cong Temple, the elaborate Japanese Bridge and the bustling market. Stop en route to visit Reaching Out, a social enterprise craft workshop, and watch the artisans at work.

DAY 5: TRA QUE VILLAGE

Head out into the countryside to Tra Que, a small farming community that supplies many hotels and restaurants in the area with vegetables and herbs. Here you can enjoy the lush green countryside, stroll through the gardens to see the farmers at work and try your hand at their traditional techniques. Later spend the afternoon at leisure back in Hoi An or at the local beach.

DAY 6: IMPERIAL HUE

Leave Hoi An for Hue, taking a scenic route over the Hai Van Pass. The epitome of Vietnam's dynastic past. Hue is a dignified and scholarly city. Visit the imposing Imperial Citadel and Forbidden Purple City. Once the stronghold of the Nguyen emperors, the citadel's atmosphere still retains the grandeur of its history. Continue to the old Thien Mu Pagoda before taking a cruise on the Perfume River.

DAY 7: ROYAL TOMBS & FLY TO HANOI

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Royal Tomb of Minh Mang, a complex of 40 monuments set in surroundings of gardens and pools. This afternoon, fly to Hanoi, Vietnam's charming capital.

DAY 8: EXPLORE HANOI

Sightseeing today includes a wander through the Ho Chi Minh Quarter, where you'll see Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and the Stilt House set in the gardens of the Presidential Palace. Also visit One Pillar Pagoda and the Confucian Temple of Literature. End the day's explorations with a cyclo tour through the Old Quarter and enjoy a flavourful Vietnamese egg coffee.







DAY 9: HALONG BAY

Board a traditional sailing ship on Halong Bay and cruise out into its tranquil scenery. A UNESCO World Heritage Site and a vision of awe-inspiring beauty, it's easy to see why it is one of Vietnam's most beloved destinations. Enjoy excursions such as kavaking or exploring island caves before returning to the ship for dinner.

DAY 10: HALONG BAY - HANOI

Rise early this morning for a beautiful sunrise over the bay. Return to Hanoi after brunch on deck and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. This evening, experience the Ouintessence of Tonkin show, a spectacular open-air performance celebrating the rich history of northern Vietnam.

DAYS 11-12: FLY HANOI TO AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



SAPA EXTENSION 4 days from \$1,220pp twin share **BANGKOK SHORT STAY**

4 days from \$850pp twin share

SINGAPORE SHORT STAY 3 days from \$500pp twin share

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.





PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Have limited time but still want to experience Vietnam's top sights? With this tour you can tick off the highlights with visits to charming Hoi An, historical Hue, spectacular Halong Bay and much more.



PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share 2024 DATES 27 Mar - 07 Apr \$5.280 09 Oct - 20 Oct \$5.880 01 May - 12 May \$5,280 23 Oct - 03 Nov \$5,880 08 May - 19 May \$5,280 06 Nov - 17 Nov \$5,880 07 Aug - 18 Aug \$5,280 30 Oct - 10 Nov \$5,880 18 Sep - 29 Sep \$5,280 13 Nov - 24 Nov \$5,880 02 Oct - 13 Oct \$5,880 20 Nov - 01 Dec \$5,880 Flight and supplement information Based on departures from Sydney. Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth • Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request Land only (Saigon - Hanoi) 11 days from \$4,180 per person, twin share • Single supplement from \$780 Dedicated solos departure (2025 dates, see website for details) Important note Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers

may be required at an additional cost. Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$70pp (AU\$104pp) is paid locally in Vietnam.

THAILAND HIGHLIGHTS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Marvel at Bangkok's Grand Palace

- ✓ See the bridge of the River Kwai
- Explore historic Ayutthaya
- ✓ Meet Hmong and Yao hill tribes
- ✓ Stroll through Chiang Rai Enjoy a Chiang Mai cooking class

PRICE INCLUDES

- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 11 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation and eco-lodge
- Touring with guides and entrance fees • Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Visit Maeklong Market, famous for being set along a railway line - witness the fascinating bustle of activity by stallholders, moving their wares speedily out of the way as a train passes through!
- ► Venture deep into the northern highlands and spend the night at one with nature at a tribe-run eco-lodge, where you will enjoy a local dinner and a tribal dance performance.
- Spend the day with Asian elephants at an elephant rescue and retirement centre. where you'll meet, feed and help care for the gorgeous residents.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

Single supplement Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO BANGKOK Fly to the vibrant city of Bangkok. Depending

on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 2: DISCOVER BANGKOK

Bangkok is a whirlwind of exotic energy: a sensory extravaganza like few other cities. Neoclassical houses rub shoulders with high-rise skyscrapers and majestic golden temples, while river taxis and ferries throng its busy canals. Today's sightseeing includes Wat Pho, the dazzling Grand Palace and a stroll through Chinatown. Later, take to the Chao Phraya River on a longboat to get an alternative view of the city.

DAY 3: BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER KWAI

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market and the bizarre Maeklong Railway Market before heading out of Bangkok to Kanchanaburi. It was here that many Allied POWs and indentured Asian labourers were forced to build the Thai-Burma Railway during the WWII Japanese occupation of Thailand. Stop at the famous bridge on the River Kwai and visit the Thai-Burmese Railway Museum to learn their stories, then pay your respects at the War Cemetery before checking into your hotel. Spend the night in Kanchanaburi.

DAY 4: EXPLORE KANCHANABURI

Drive to Hellfire Pass and visit the fascinating museum before a short walk through the pass. Step on board an old locomotive to travel along a section of the notorious

Death Railway passing through the Kwai Gorge. Return to Bangkok in the afternoon.

DAY 5: AYUTTHAYA

A sacred city and former royal capital, Ayutthaya today is a crumbled kingdom that has retained its bygone splendour. Explore this impressive archaeological site, touring the principal sights including Bang Pa-In, the former royal summer residence. Return to Bangkok and fly to Chiang Rai, a city in Thailand's northern highlands.

DAY 6: GOLDEN TRIANGLE

Transfer to the area known as the Golden Triangle – the point where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet and notorious for the cultivation of opium that used to take place here. Take a boat ride on the Mekong over the border into Laos and visit Don Sao Island where you can take a leisurely stroll through the local market. Return to Chiang Rai. Explore the night market this evening.









DAY 7: MEET THE YAO TRIBE

Travel to Mae Salong Mountain, an area well known for its tea plantations - you can sample some of the local brew whilst you are here. Enjoy a Yunnanese lunch before meeting the Yao Tribe, taking a walk through an Akha village.

DAY 8: HMONG HILLTRIBE LODGE

Explore the striking Buddhist White Temple before departing Chiang Rai. Heading in the direction of Chiang Mai, you'll travel along a beautiful mountain road with breathtaking views. Entering Chiang Mai province, spend tonight at Hmong Hilltribe Lodge, an ecolodge operated by Hmong villagers. Rooms are built in the traditional tribal style and overlook lush fields and hills. Dinner is followed by a Hmong folklore performance.

DAY 9: DISCOVER CHIANG MAI

Depart Hmong Lodge for Chiang Mai. On the way stop to visit the ancient city of Wiang Kum Kam. Later, take a walking tour of charming Chiang Mai, visiting Wat Chedi Luang and Wat Phra Singh.

DAY 10: ELEPHANT SANCTUARY EXPERIENCE

Spend the morning at an ethical elephant sanctuary and retirement centre, where you can meet, feed and care for these rescued and elderly residents. Enjoy a relaxed rafting trip in Mae Daeng before returning to Chiang Mai.

DAY 11: CHIANG MAI COOKING CLASS

Discover the secrets of traditional Thai cooking with a morning cookery class.

Ascend to Wat Doi Suthep, a temple perched on top of Doi Suthep Mountain. This evening. sit down to a Thai Khantoke dinner, and be entertained by a selection of cultural performances.

AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or

following day.



EXTEND YOUR STAY..

5 days from \$1,550pp twin share CAMBODIA EXTENSION

KUALA LUMPUR CITY STAY 3 days from \$380pp twin share

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



CLASSIC THAILAND

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

A two-week journey from south to north, this tour of Thailand encompasses all the top sights, as well as venturing into less-explored areas to discover pristine nature and local culture with a stay at a beautiful eco-lodge run by a local tribe.

DAYS 12-13: FLY CHIANG MAI TO

LUANG PRABANG EXTENSION

5 days from \$1,480pp twin share

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES

16 Mar - 28 Mar \$5,580 23 Nov - 05 Dec \$5,580 16 Nov - 28 Nov \$5,580 30 Nov - 12 Dec \$5,580

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only (Bangkok Chiang Mai) 12 days from \$4,480 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$600

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$65pp (AU\$97pp) is paid locally in Thailand.

DISCOVER JAPAN



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

✓ Feel the rush of Tokyo

- ✓ Admire majestic Mount Fuji
- ✓ Be charmed by Kyoto
- ✓ Visit Buddhist Koyasan
- See ancient Nara
- Explore the Japanese Alps

PRICE INCLUDES

- 11 breakfasts. 10 lunches & 11 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Learn all about the traditional production of an essential element of Japanese cooking, the fermented sovbean paste 'miso'. at an old wooden miso house.
- Join a dedicated craftsperson in a small workshop to learn all about the delicate and intricate art of gold leaf making, discovering what gold leaf is and how it is used before having a go yourself.
- ► Discover the traditional process of paper making before getting your hands dirty making 'washi' (Japanese paper) the age-old way.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO TOKYO Fly overnight to the dazzling metropolis of Tokyo, Japan's capital city. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 3: TOKYO CITY TOUR

Tokyo is the ultimate 24-hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech frontage and you will find plenty of tranquil backstreets and old temples to explore. Begin at the observation deck of the 634-metre Skytree, the world's tallest tower, before wandering through the old district of Asakusa. Stop to seek out the tranguillity of the ancient Buddhist Sensoji Temple, Tokyo's oldest. Discover Tokyo's historical heritage with a drive past the Imperial Palace Plaza. Later, stroll through the classical landscapes of Hamarikyu Gardens. This evening, take a relaxed dinner cruise on Tokyo Bay for some excellent city vistas.

DAY 4: MOUNT FUJI

Take the super-fast bullet train to Odawara. Enjoy a boat trip on Lake Ashi for spectacular panoramas of this beautiful area before venturing up the Komagatake Ropeway. Next, ascend over 2,400 metres up Mount Fuji to the 5th Station (weather permitting) and take in the breathtaking views over the Fuji Five Lakes area below.

DAY 5: MATSUMOTO CASTLE

Transfer to Matsumoto and explore the formidable 16th century Matsumoto Castle. Stop at a Miso House to learn about the process of making this famous Japanese

seasoning. Travel on to Takayama, nestled high in the mountainous Hida region, also known as the Japanese Alps.

DAY 6: EXPLORE TAKAYAMA

Browse the local handicrafts and fresh produce at the Miyagawa morning market and wander past some of the lovely traditional houses. Visit several of the excellent local museums – including the Festival Floats Museum, Kusakabe Folk Crafts Museum and Takayama Jinya. Enjoy some free time in Kamisannomachi Street and make use of the onsen facilities at your overnight hotel

DAY 7: SHIRAKAWAGO & KANAZAWA

Get a glimpse of rural Japan at the World Heritage Listed village of Shirakawago which is famous for its farmhouses built in the unique gassho-zukuri architectural style. Continue to Gokayama to have a go at washi paper making, then travel to Kanazawa and meander through the beautiful Kenrokuen Garden, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan.

DAY 8: GOLD LEAF MAKING

Begin the day learning the process of making gold leaf. Next, stroll through traditional Higashi Chaya (Eastern Teahouse District), visiting Ochaya Shima - a historical geisha house. Later, journey to Kyoto. Capital for 1,000 years, until 1879, today Kyoto is the legacy of ancient Japan, full of tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens.





DAY 9: EXPLORE KYOTO

Start the day with a visit to Ryoanji, the 'temple of the peaceful dragon' and the famous Kinkakuji, also known as the 'Golden Pavilion'. In the afternoon, head to a restored Japanese wooden town house and try your hand at origami and enjoy the age-old rituals of a tea ceremony with a tea master.

DAY 10: DISCOVER NARA

Visit Fushimi Inari Shrine, remarkable for its 10.000 vermilion torii gates. Continue to Nara, a relaxed and charming town virtually untouched by the rayages of modernity. Another former capital, Nara also has a huge cultural legacy, considered second only to Kyoto. Home to many archetypal pieces of early art and architecture, stroll through Nara Park to Todaiji Temple, meeting the resident sika deer enroute, before exploring Isuien Garden.

DAY 11: KOYASAN

The holy mountain of Koyasan is home to a cluster of over 100 monasteries nestled in a valley enclosed by peaks said to resemble a lotus flower. Arguably the most sacred mountain in all of Japan, Koyasan is the heart of Shingon Buddhism and the resting place of Japan's best known Buddhist, known as both Kukai and Kobo Daishi. Wander around Okunoin - a vast cemetery of 200,000 stupas and enjoy the tranquillity and spectacular views as you discover Kongobuji Temple and the Garan Temple Complex. Later, continue to Osaka.

DAY 12: EXPLORE OSAKA

Begin the day exploring Osaka Castle, which is one of Japan's most famous. Next, take a short cruise along the Yodogawa River and stroll through Dotonbori, a restaurant mecca, where you can sample the local delicacies for lunch. The rest of the day is free for you to explore this fascinating city.

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



NAOSHIMA SHORT STAY 4 days from \$2,680pp twin share

HIROSHIMA & MIYAJIMA 3 days from \$1,510pp twin share

SINGAPORE SHORT STAY 3 days from \$500pp twin share

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



DAYS 13-14: FLY OSAKA TO AUSTRALIA

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

See the classic sights of Japan including Tokyo, Mount Fuji and the historic capitals of Kyoto and Nara. Also travel across the Japanese Alps to the cultural centres of Takayama, Shirakawago and Kanazawa.

CLASSIC

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES			
20 Mar - 02 Apr 🍁	sold out	04 May - 17 May	sold out
22 Mar - 04 Apr 🂠	sold out	11 May - 24 May	sold out
24 Mar - 06 Apr 🍁	sold out	18 May - 31 May	sold out
26 Mar - 08 Apr 🂠	sold out	17 Aug - 30 Aug	\$11,490
28 Mar - 10 Apr 🂠	sold out	14 Sep - 27 Sep	sold out
30 Mar - 12 Apr 🂠	sold out	21 Sep - 04 Oct	sold out
31 Mar - 13 Apr 🌸	sold out	05 Oct - 18 Oct	\$11,990
02 Apr - 15 Apr 🌸	sold out	12 Oct - 25 Oct	sold out
04 Apr - 17 Apr 😫	sold out	19 Oct - 01 Nov 🗯	\$13,480
06 Apr - 19 Apr 🍁	sold out	02 Nov - 15 Nov 🖊	sold out
13 Apr - 26 Apr	\$11,990	09 Nov - 22 Nov 🖊	\$11,990
20 Apr - 03 May	\$11,490	16 Nov - 29 Nov 🖊	\$11,990

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available on request
- Land only (Tokyo Osaka) 12 days from \$10,190 per person, twin share
- Single Supplement from \$2,350
- Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Tipping is generally not part of the culture in Japan; however, you may wish to tip your National Escort at your discretion. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Please note: cherry blossoms are weather dependent and it is not guaranteed that they will be in bloom at the time of your arrival.



Discover the sacred mountain of Koyasan

MAJESTIC YANGTZE



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Admire Shanghai's bright lights
- ✓ Cruise the Yangtze River
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall
- Discover ancient Ciaikou

PRICE INCLUDES

- 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches & 12 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation • Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Explore the narrow cobbled lanes of Ciqikou's old town, a district known for its porcelain production during the Ming and Qing dynasties as well as its traditional architecture.
- Cruise through Qutang, Wu and Xiling gorges, otherwise known as the Three Gorges, admiring the magnificent scenery from the comfort of your Yangtze River cruise vessel and learning about its epic history from your onboard expert.
- Step back in time to relive the majesty of the Tang Dynasty, of which Xian was the prosperous and glorious capital, with a colourful spectacular of traditional music and dance

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO SHANGHAI

Fly to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai, also known as the 'Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 2: EXPLORE SHANGHAI

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the classical Yu Garden, a stop in the old town and learning about the age-old silk production process at a silk factory. Later admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund and view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise. The skyscrapers and glimmering lights are a sight to behold, Shanghai is unlike any other city in the world. Tonight, savour some traditional Shanghainese cuisine.

DAY 3: MODERN PUDONG

Spend the morning seeing the sights of the ultramodern Pudong area, also known as the financial district of the city with its skyscraper buildings. Later, fly to Yichang where you will board the Yangtze River cruise vessel.

DAYS 4-6: YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases a massive feat of engineering. But as you cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next three days, take a side trip to the attractive Shennong or Goddess Stream and enjoy various shore excursions.

DAY 7: HISTORIC CIQIKOU

Disembarking the cruise vessel in Chongging. explore old Ciqikou, a district known for its porcelain production during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Ciqikou's narrow streets are perfect for a morning stroll to admire the historical, traditional architecture. Transfer to Chengdu and enjoy a delicious Sichuanese meal for dinner with the option of a performance of Sichuan Opera, famous for its 'face-changing'.

DAY 8: PANDAS

Start your day with a visit to Chengdu's renowned Panda Conservation Center, where you can see and learn about China's cherished pandas in a habitat mirroring their natural surroundings. Explore the museum to gain insights into the reserve's breeding efforts.Later, take a bullet train to the former imperial capital of Xian. This evening a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and a captivating performance of Tang Dynasty dancing awaits.

DAY 9: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Oin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses. Also visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate terracotta warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Watch the skilled production process and even buy a souvenir warrior to take home. Later, take a leisurely stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that





enclose Xian's old town, then join the optional tour to see Xian lit up at night.

DAY 10: LITTLE WILD GOOSE PAGODA

Today, visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and walk through the lively atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Later, board the bullet train to Beijing, China's capital city.

DAY 11: IMPERIAL BEIJING

Head to Tiananmen Square, Beijing's symbolic heart, and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Also soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape, and end the day watching a Chinese acrobatic show.

DAY 12: THE GREAT WALL

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight - the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. Next, visit a jade factory then enjoy the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens. This evening, savour Beijing's bestknown delicacy-Peking duck.

DAYS 13-14: FLY BEIJING TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



LHASA SHORT STAY 4 days from \$1,590pp

HONG KONG GLIMPSES 3 days from \$640pp GARDENS BY THE BAY

4 days from \$730pp



Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.

CLASSIC

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

One of our most popular tours covers the enthralling cities of Shanghai, Xian, Beijing as well as the unforgettable giant pandas of Chengdu. The highlight, though, is a relaxing four-night cruise on the majestic Yangtze River.

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES			
19 Mar - 01 Apr	\$6,580	23 Jul - 05 Aug	\$6,580
02 Apr - 15 Apr	\$6,880	06 Aug - 19 Aug	\$6,580
11 Apr - 24 Apr	\$7,380	03 Sep - 16 Sep	\$6,880
16 Apr - 29 Apr	\$6,880	10 Sep - 23 Sep	\$6,880
30 Apr - 13 May	\$6,580	12 Sep - 25 Sep	\$7,380
07 May - 20 May	\$6,580	17 Sep - 30 Sep	\$6,780
09 May - 22 May	\$7,380	19 Sep - 02 Oct	\$6,780
14 May - 27 May	\$6,580	03 Oct - 16 Oct	\$7,380
21 May - 03 Jun	\$6,880	08 Oct - 21 Oct	\$6,880
04 Jun - 17 Jun	\$6,680	22 Oct - 04 Nov	\$6,580
11 Jun - 24 Jun	\$6,680	07 Nov - 20 Nov	\$6,580
16 Jul - 29 Jul	\$6,580		

Flight and supplement information

 Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth

- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only (Shanghai Beijing) 13 days from \$5,380 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$1,280

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately RMB 700 (AU\$156pp) is paid locally in China



INSPIRING INDIA



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

✓ Tour the spice markets of Delhi

- Marvel at the Taj Mahal
- Spot tigers in Ranthambore Explore holy Pushkar
- See the palaces of Udaipur
- Discover the 'Pink City' Jaipur

PRICE INCLUDES

• 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 12 dinners

• International flights and current taxes

- Domestic transportation • 3 – 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Immerse yourself in local life with a walking tour through Pushkar's bustling market, admiring the enormous range of fresh produce, colourful textiles and interesting souvenirs!
- Visit a workshop hidden in the bustling backstreets of old Jaipur to catch a glimpse of the age-old art of carpetweaving, a fascinating artistry still practised the traditional way.
- > Admire the magical city of Udaipur, full of glorious, romantic architecture, from the perfect vantage point – a boat cruising the waters of Lake Pichola.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





universe.

pace.

DAY 7: UDAIPUR

has to offer.

Bundi

of worship dedicated to the deity believed

Today you depart for Udaipur, known as the

"City of Lakes". Enjoy a delightful lunch stop

in Nathdwara along the way. The rest of the

day is free for you to explore at your own

beginning with a scenic drive around Fateh

culture at the Folk Museum and Mewar Art

City Palace. The day ends with a delightful

cruise on the serene waters of Lake Pichola,

taking in the picturesque views that Udaipur

On your journey to Bundi, take a detour to

inspiring Vijay Stambh. Chittor Fort, one of

a hill, providing a breathtaking view of the

fortress before continuing your travels to

DAY 9: BUNDI TO RANTHAMBORE

Begin your day with a satisfying breakfast

and immerse vourself in the charm of the

town. Explore its intriguing step wells and

uncover the historical wonders of Taragarh

town of Chittorgarh. Marvel at the grandeur

and historical significance of this magnificent

visit the magnificent Chittor Fort and the awe-

the largest forts in India, proudly stands atop

DAY 8: UDAIPUR TO BUNDI

Gallery, followed by a visit to the magnificent

Sagar Lake. Immerse yourself in the rich

Embark on an exploration of Udaipur,

by many Hindus to be the creator of the

DAY 6: PUSHKAR TO UDAIPUR

ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE DELHI

Arrive in Delhi where you will be met and transferred to your hotel, for a two night stay. The rest of the day is at leisure.

DAY 2: DELHI

After breakfast, get ready for a full-day of sightseeing in both Old and New Delhi. Explore the captivating streets of Old Delhi on foot before visiting Khari Baoli Spice Market, and taking a rickshaw ride through the streets. Visit Jama Masiid. Lakshmi Marayan Hindu Temple, with a quick photo at India Gate, before ending the day visiting Humayun's Tomb and the impressive **Quatab Minar.**

DAY 3: DELHI TO JAIPUR

Embark on a scenic drive to Jaipur, with a delicious lunch en route at a local restaurant. On arrival take some time to relax and unwind before dinner.

DAY 4: JAIPUR

After breakfast, stop for a quick view of Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) from the outside, before visiting the magnificent Amber Fort, set atop a hill on the outskirts of Jaipur. Afterwards explore the majestic Maharaja's City Palace, and the fascinating Jantar Mantar Observatory, and try your hand at block printing and carpet weaving with help from the locals.

DAY 5: JAIPUR TO PUSHKAR

Start your day with a journey to Pushkar. where you'll have the opportunity to explore the bustling local markets and marvel at the sacred Brahma Temple, a unique place

OVERNIGHT DELHI (2N+1N) AGRA (1N) JAIPUR (2N) PUSHKAR (1N) RANTHAMBORE (2N) A BUNDI (1N) UDAIPUR (2N) INDIA



Fort. Later, embark on a scenic drive to Ranthambore, where you will check into your hotel and prepare for your wildlife adventure.

DAY 10: RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK

Indulge in morning and afternoon canter safaris within the national park, offering thrilling opportunities to spot the local wildlife. As you venture into the wilderness keep your eyes peeled for glimpses of the magnificent wildlife like leopards, sloth bears, and various bird species.

DAY 11: RANTHAMBORE TO AGRA

Today you journey to Agra, with a captivating stop en route at Fatehpur Sikri, renowned for its splendid Mughal architecture in red sandstone. Explore the Tomb of Chisti and the exquisite Panchal Mahal Palace.



DAY 12: AGRA

Wake with much excitement, as you head to the Taj Mahal, regarded as one of the most beautiful buildings in the world and surrounded by lush green gardens. Visit the Itmad-ud-Daulah, nicknamed the Baby Taj, before continuing to the impressive Agra Fort. Todays journey leads you back to Delhi.

DAYS 13-14: FLY DELHI TO AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



AMRITSAR SHORT STAY 3 days from \$830pp twin share KOVALAM BEACH STAY

GOA BEACH STAY 5 days from \$850pp twin share

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



PHYSICAL RATING

COACH



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Perfect for your first visit to India – see the Taj Mahal at sunrise, search for tigers in Ranthambore and soak up the extravagance of Rajasthan on one extraordinary itinerary.

5 days from \$420pp twin share



PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share					
2024 DATES					
23 Mar - 05 Apr	\$6,280	19 Oct - 01 Nov	\$7,380		
30 Mar - 12 Apr	\$6,280	26 Oct - 08 Nov	\$6,480		
06 Apr - 19 Apr	\$6,280	02 Nov - 15 Nov	\$6,480		
05 Oct - 18 Oct	\$6,280	23 Nov - 06 Dec	\$6,480		
12 Oct - 25 Oct	\$6,280	30 Nov - 13 Dec	\$7,380		
Flight and s	upplem	ent informati	on		
 Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request Land only (Delhi – Delhi) 13 days from \$5,080 per person, twin share Single supplement from \$1,250 					
Dedicated solos	departur	е			
Important note					
Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.					

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$90pp (AU\$134pp) is paid locally in India.

SCENIC SOUTH KOREA

14 DAYS FROM \$10,580 FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH ALL MEALS



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore bustling Seoul
- Enjoy tea tasting in Boseong Discover picturesque Busan
- Take a ride on a cable car
- Visit Mt Seorak National Park
- Spend time in Gyeongju,
- 'the museum without walls'

PRICE INCLUDES

- 11 breakfasts. 10 lunches & 11 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Embark on an informative and unusual adventure to the DMZ. the buffer zone between the Koreas. Your visit will include the DMZ Theatre & Exhibition Hall and the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel and Unification Village.
- > As part of discovering traditional Korean lifestyle at Naganeupseong Fortress Village, you can try your hand at one of Korea's oldest cultural arts - handkerchief dyeing.
- First performed on the Edinburgh Fringe in 1997, the Nanta is a showcase of Korean culture and performance art, presented as a non-verbal show, instead using music and motion and integrating a traditional Korean Samulnori rhythm.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SEOUL

Fly overnight to Seoul, the dazzling capital city of South Korea. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. This evening meet your National Escort and fellow travellers to enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

DAY 3: EXPLORE SEOUL

Amongst the skyscrapers, nightlife districts and colossal shopping malls of Seoul, there is an exceptional amount of culture and tradition, from busy teahouses to magnificent palaces just waiting to be explored. Enjoy a full day of Seoul starting at Gyeongbok Palace to watch the 'Changing of the Guards' ceremony, and then visit the palace itself. Next, attend a Korean cooking class - making traditional Bibimbap and enjoy your own creations for lunch! Also visit the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Jongmyo Royal Shrine and enjoy the panoramic city views at N Seoul Tower. Tonight, watch a non-verbal performance of Nanta - an awardwinning show.

DAY 4: VISIT SOSWAEWON GARDEN Travel out of Seoul to the city and explore

the bamboo forest of Juknokwon. Next, head to Damyang where you'll discover the beauty of Soswaewon. This private garden built in the 16th century in the traditional style features essential elements to bring harmony, such as flowing water, trees and grasses. Continue to Gwangju, where you'll spend some time discovering this artistic hub full of fascinating history.

DAY 5: EXPLORE SEONAMSA TEMPLE

Head to Boseong, considered the best place in Korea to grow tea, and visit a green tea plantation, learning all about its production and enjoying a tasting. Continue to Suncheon for a stop at the 6th century Seonamsa Temple. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the temple complex is also home to a beautiful arched stone bridge. Also visit Naganeupseong Fortress Village for a glimpse at a more traditional Korean lifestyle and a chance to take part in a handkerchief dyeing experience.



OVERNIGHT FLIGHT GANGNEUNG (2N+2N) SOUTH KOREA DAMYANG GWANGIU (1N) SUNCHEON BOSEONG BUSAN (1N)



DAY 6: TRAVEL TO BUSAN

Head to Yeosu and ride the cable car over beautiful scenery and open water to Dolsan Island. Continue to Odongdo Island for more spectacular landscapes and take some time to appreciate the array of wild flowers that flourish here before travelling to the port city of Busan.

DAY 7: DISCOVER BUSAN

The laidback to Seoul's bustle, Busan is a city full of character and traditional features as well as mountains, beaches, temples and exquisite seafood. Start the day at the Jagalchi Fish Market, and then see the city from above at Busan Tower. Also browse the wares at Gukie Market. After lunch, walk over the Oryukdo Skywalk, a glass bridge set on a seaside cliff, soak up the peaceful nature of Dongbaekseom Island, and feel the sand between your toes on Haeundae Beach. Continue by road to Gyeongju.

DAY 8: EXPLORE GYEONGJU

A city of cultural and historical relics, Gyeongju is called 'the museum without walls'. Capital of the Silla Kingdom for over 1,000 years, the city is home to a staggering number of tombs, temples, statues and ruins, some of which you'll explore today. Begin at the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Bulguksa Temple, considered the pinnacle of Silla architecture, and Seokguram Grotto. After lunch, visit Gyeongju National Museum, explore Tumuli Park, a collection of royal tombs, and take a stroll at Anapji Pond.

DAY 9: VISIT NAKSANSA TEMPLE Travel to Sokcho stopping en route to explore the 1,300-year history of the Naksansa Temple, a seven-storey stone building

DAY 10: EXPLORE MOUNT SEORAK Mount Seorak National Park is a spectacularly scenic area of high, cloudy peaks, craggy bluffs and fragrant pine forest. Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve as a habitat for many rare species of plants and animals, it is one of South Korea's most dramatic natural treasures. Take the cable to the mountaintop and then hike to Gwongeumseong Fortress. After lunch, take a hike along the beautiful valley floor as well as an optional visit to the temple.

DAY 11: RETURN TO SEOUL

Transfer to Gangneung and board the train bound for Seoul. On arrival, after lunch, there will be free time for those who wish to shop or further explore Seoul at leisure.

DAY 12: VISIT THE DMZ

Created as a buffer zone between North Korea and South Korea at the end of the Korean War, the DMZ is part of the most heavily militarised border in the world. An early start is needed today as tickets to the DMZ are limited*. Explore the DMZ Theatre & Exhibition Hall, walk along the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, visit Dora Observatory & Station and see the Bridge of Freedom. Return to Seoul to explore Gwangjang Market. *While every effort will be made to get the tickets,

should this not be possible, you will instead take a ride on the DMZ gondola and visit the Odusan Unification Observatory.

Explore the grounds of Seonamsa Temple

MT SEORAK (2N)

• GYEONGJU (2N)



complex overlooking the East Sea.

CLASSIC SOUTH KOREA

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

With its complex history, skyscrapers and centuries-old temples, this tour has something for everyone – from bustling cities and stunning countryside to UNESCO World Heritage Listed national forests. It is a tour full of contrast.

PRICES & DEPARTURES

Prices are per person, twin share

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01 Apr - 14 Apr 🍁	\$10,780	14 Oct - 27 Oct 🐱 \$10,780
08 Apr - 21 Apr	\$10,780	21 Oct - 03 Nov 💌 \$10,780
20 May - 02 Jun	\$10,580	04 Nov - 17 Nov \$\$10,780

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney. Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available on request
- Land only (Seoul Seoul) 12 days from \$9,480 per person, twin share
- Single Supplement from \$2,200

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$50 per person (AU\$72) is paid locally in South Korea

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

DAYS 13-14: FLY SEOUL TO AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL**

During the months of March and April, we may include a stop at the delightful Jinhae Cherry Blossom Festival on day 6. This annual event is Korea's biggest spring festival and gives you the chance to wander among the spectacular pink blossom, where there are 340,000 cherry trees!

**Please note that the cherry blossoms are weather dependent and it is not guaranteed that they will be in bloom at the time of your visit.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SRI LANKA



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Climb Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- Explore ancient Sinhalese ruins
- ✓ Discover the delights of Colombo
- ✓ Visit Kandy's sacred temple
- ✓ Spot elephants while on safari ✓ See Galle's historic fort

PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees • Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Tour the wonderful conservation project at Kosgoda, where a specialist turtle hatchery works tirelessly to protect Sri Lanka's native sea turtle species, and meet its residents.
- ▶ In the island's cultural capital, Kandy, enjoy a fun and fascinating cultural performance of traditional Sri Lankan music and dance.
- In the cooler climates of Sri Lanka's Central Highlands, tour a tea factory and plantation to learn all about the cultivation and production of the refreshing tea grown in the area.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

Dedicated solo departures Single supplement Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO COLOMBO

Fly to Colombo. On arrival you will be met by your expert tour guide and transferred to your hotel in the coastal town of Negombo, a short drive from Colombo.

DAY 2: EXPLORE SIGIRIYA

This morning, travel to Sigiriya, home to the 5th-century UNESCO World Heritagelisted Rock Fortress, 'Lion Rock'. Built by King Kassapa as the centre of his shortlived kingdom, pass between a pair of colossal lion's paws and climb to the top for panoramic views. Explore the surrounding gardens as well as admiring the worldrenowned Heavenly Maidens frescoes.

DAY 3: DISCOVER POLONNARUWA

Visit the ancient kingdom of Polonnaruwa, another UNESCO World Heritage-listed site. The capital of Sri Lanka from the 11th to the 12th-century, it is a well-preserved city of stupas, frescoes and statues. This afternoon, embark on an adventurous jeep safari on Minneriya National Park. Look out for large herds of elephants, sloth bear, leopards and much more wonderful wildlife.

DAY 4: ANURADHAPURA

Drive to celebrated Anuradhapura. The city's greatest treasures are its dagobas; domes enshrining sacred relics. The most notable is the Ruwanwelisava Dagoba, dating back to the 2nd-century BC, which you will visit today along with the Thuparamava, said to contain the collarbone of Buddha. Discover the city's most renowned relic, the 2,250-year-old sacred Bo Tree. Emperor Asoka's daughter brought to Anuradhapura a branch of this

tree, under which Buddha is said to have gained enlightenment.

DAY 5: DAMBULLA ROCK TEMPLE After breakfast, travel to visit Dambulla

Rock Temple. Dating back to the 1st-century BC, the temple is made up of five cave sanctuaries where you'll find some of Sri Lanka's most important Buddha images. Visit a spice garden in Matale where you can see cinnamon, cardamom, pepper creepers and other spice trees growing and watch a cooking demonstration. Continue through majestic hill country to the city of Kandy, Sri Lanka's cultural hub.

DAY 6: CULTURAL KANDY

This morning, visit the Peradeniva Roval Botanical Gardens. Later, visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, one of the most revered Buddhist sites in the world. Stolen at Buddha's funeral, the tooth was smuggled into Sri Lanka hidden in the hair of a princess who fled from India. Explore the remains of the Royal Palace, now a museum. This evening, you will watch a colourful cultural dance performance.

DAY 7: NUWARA ELIYA

Board a train that will take you through the tea plantation-covered hills to Nuwara Eliya on one of the world's most picturesque rail journeys. The rest of the day is at leisure.

DAY 8: TEA PLANTATION

This morning you visit a tea plantation learning how tea is graded. Later this afternoon enjoy a city tour taking in the race course, Hill Club Hotel, Gregory Lake and Sita Amman Kovil.







Search for leopards in Yala National Park

DAY 9: UDAWALAWE

Travel to the Elephant Transit Home located near Udawalawe National Park, where abandoned baby elephants are cared for before they are released into the park. Continue to Yala, Sri Lanka's premiere national park.

DAY 10: YALA NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy morning and afternoon jeep safaris around the park. It is home to elephants, deer and many other mammal species, but most famous for its leopards, whose population density here is among the highest in the world.

DAY 11: DRIVE TO HIKKADUWA

Drive to the Hummanaya Blow Hole, the second largest of its kind in the world. After lunch, continue to Dikwella Wewurukannala Temple, dominated by an image of a seated Buddha that is over 48 metres high. Stop along the way at Weligama where you may see the unique stilt fishermen, an old tradition practised by around 500 fishing families in the region.

DAY 12: OLD GALLE

Explore the enchanting city of Galle, Sri Lanka's finest colonial treasure. See the lighthouse, the old town and the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Dutch Fort, before wandering charming streets lined with colonial villas, museums, cafes and antique shons

DAY 13: KOSGODA TURTLE HATCHERY

Travel to Colombo, stopping at Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery. The hatchery is home to Sri Lanka's pioneering sea turtle conservation project, established in 1981 to protect the local turtle population.

DAY 14: EXPLORE COLOMBO

Embark on a city tour of Colombo this morning. Explore the Fort district, the historic centre of the city. Wander through Pettah Market. Visit the Dutch Church of Wolvendaal, dating back to 1749, Kelaniya Buddhist Temple, a major pilgrimage site for Buddhist devotees, and Colombo's finest museums. The rest of the day is at leisure. Late evening transfer to the airport for your flight.

Fly back to Australia, arriving home the

same dav.



BENTOTA EXTENSION 4 days from \$660pp

4 days from \$730pp

MALDIVES 5 days from \$2,200pp

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

An introduction to the beautiful country of Sri Lanka, travel from the rich heritage of the Cultural Triangle through the wilds of Yala National Park to the colonial seaside beauty of Galle.



DAY 15: FLY COLOMBO TO AUSTRALIA

GARDENS BY THE BAY - SINGAPORE



Visit the Temple of the Tooth in Kand

TREASURES **OF TAIWAN**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore bustling Taipei
- ✓ Unwind at Sun Moon Lake
- ✓ Visit the Foguangshan Monastery
- Relax on the beach at Kenting
- Discover the Taroko Gorge
- Journey on the high-speed rail

PRICE INCLUDES

- 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches & 12 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Relax and unwind in the warm, mineralrich volcanic waters of Taitung - you'll have plenty of time to make the most of them as your hotel has hot spring pools for you to enjoy!
- ► Visit the unique spectacle of Foguangshan, Taiwan's largest monastery and explore the Buddha Museum, the fascinating 'Buddha Land' with its 36-metre Buddha and enjoy a delicious vegetarian lunch in the monastery's dining room.
- Make a stop at the Kavalan Whisky Distillery, one of Taiwan's most famous, where you can learn all about the process of creating Taiwanese whisky.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR Single supplement

Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO TAIPEI

Fly overnight to Taipei, Taiwan's buzzing capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. This evening meet with your National Escort and fellow travellers to enjoy dinner at a nearby, local restaurant.

DAY 3: A DAY IN TAIPEI

Nestled in a basin surrounded by mountains, Taipei is a laidback and vibrant city that, as well as being packed with the upmarket and ultramodern, is a bastion of Taiwan's wonderfully rich heritage. Begin your explorations at the National Palace Museum, home to the world's largest and finest collection of Chinese art and artefacts, and the Martyrs' Shrine. This afternoon, visit CKS Memorial Hall, Longshan Temple and ascend the world-famous Taipei 101 to see the city from above.





DAY 4: SCENIC SUN MOON LAKE

Depart Taipei to journey towards the heart of

the island to what is arguably Taiwan's most

scenic spot - Sun Moon Lake. Visit the Wen

cruise around the lake for picture perfect

views of the area's beautiful landscapes.

You'll also visit the Holy Monk Shrine. Cien

Pagoda and the aboriginal village of Tehua.

Begin today with a visit to a famous tea

farm to discover all about the process of

will also be some time at leisure, with the

option of biking on trails around Sun Moon

Lake, listed as one of the 10 most beautiful

tea growth and production before taking the

cable car to Formosan Cultural Village. There

DAY 5: TEA PLANTATION

places to cycle in the world.

Wu Temple before embarking on a motorboat

Relax in Taitung's hot springs

OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TAIPEI (2N+1N) OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TAROKO (2N) SUN MOON LAKE (2N) TAIWAN a TAINAN (1N) CHIHPEN (1N) KAOHSIUNG (1N) KENTING (2N)





DAY 6: DISCOVER TAINAN

Depart Sun Moon Lake and travel to Tainan. Taiwan's oldest city and capital until 1887 when Taipei took over, Tainan was originally established as a trading port by the Dutch East India Company. It is renowned for its preservation of traditions and rich folk culture, and you'll start exploring at the Chihkan Tower and Confucius Temple. In the afternoon, wander the old streets of the Anping district and view the sunset from Anping Harbour.

DAY 7: EXPLORE KAOHSIUNG

Head south to the port city of Kaohsiung where you'll admire the Dragon & Tiger Tower and the Spring & Autumn Pavilion before paying a visit to Taiwan's largest monastery, Foguanshan. Lunch here will be a vegetarian feast, before you stroll over to the main shrine, the Buddhist Museum and Great Buddha Land, where you'll find a 36-metre Buddha watching over a garden of many smaller Buddhas. Finally, see the Martyrs' Shrine at Shoushan.

DAY 8: VISIT KENTING NATIONAL PARK

Travel over to the beach resort of Kenting, gateway to the beautiful Kenting National Park. Consisting of a range of landscapes low mountains, rolling hills, cliffs and deserts, all fringed by excellent beaches and helped along by a balmy tropical climate, Kenting is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna.

DAY 9: DISCOVER SHEDING NATURE PARK

Spend the morning amongst the rock formations and lush greenery of Sheding Nature Park with a pause to take in the ocean

views at Oluanpi Lighthouse. The rest of the day is at leisure.

DAY 10: OCEAN DRIVE TO CHIHPEN

Depart Kenting and drive along the beautiful east coast to Taitung, admiring the ocean views throughout the journey. Continue to Chihpen, famous for its hot springs. On arrival, your afternoon will be free to relax and bathe in the thermal waters at your hotel. Tonight's dinner will be accompanied by a performance of traditional music and dance.

DAY 11: HEAD TO TAROKO

Travel northwards to Hualien, the gateway to the magnificent Taroko National Park. En route there will be a series of stops including Donghe, where you may spot wild monkeys, and the scenic Cisingtan Lake, where you can head out on an optional bike ride on the lakeshore.

DAY 12: EXPLORE TAROKO NATIONAL PARK

Encompassing sea cliffs, soaring peaks and a famously picturesque gorge, Taroko National Park is home to a huge diversity of features and habitats, and shelters a great range of plant and animal species. Today your visits will include the Gorge Gateway, the Eternal Spring Shrine and Swallow Grotto, and you can enjoy a leisurely walk through the beautiful landscapes.

DAY 13: RETURN TO TAIPEI Take a photo stop at Cingshuei Cliff for beautiful views and visit the Kavalan Whisky Distillery, where a few tastings will be in order. Return to Taipei via Yilan, and then enjoy a farewell dinner, the perfect

Explore the dramatic Taroko Gorge

CLASSIC

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Explore the cities of Taipei and Tainan, where ancient and modern sit side by side, and lose yourself in the natural beauty of Sun Moon Lake and Taroko National Park. Magical Taiwan has so much to offer!



PRICES & DEPARTURES

Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES

13 Apr - 27 Apr \$7,590 14 Sep - 28 Sep \$7,590 11 May - 25 May \$7,590 12 Oct - 26 Oct \$7,590

- Flight and supplement information
- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available on request
- Land only (Taipei Taipei) 13 days from \$6,590 per person, twin share
- Single Supplement from \$2,100

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$40 per person (AU\$58) is paid locally in Taiwan

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

opportunity to reflect on your adventures with your fellow passengers.

DAYS 14-15: FLY TAIPEI TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.

WONDERS **OF CHINA**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Stay in rural Yangshuo
- Cruise the Yangtze River
- ✓ Admire Shanghai's bright lights

PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches & 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees • Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Venture into Beijing's atmospheric old neighbourhoods, the hutongs, exploring the narrow alleyways, passing traditional courtyard houses and getting a glimpse of the residents' day to day life.
- Cruise through Qutang, Wu and Xiling gorges, otherwise known as the Three Gorges, admiring the magnificent scenery from the comfort of your Yangtze River cruise vessel and learning about its epic history from your onboard expert.
- Zoom across China aboard a superfast bullet train, on what is the world's longest high-speed railway network, travelling at up to 350 kilometres an hour in comfort.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO BEIJING

Fly to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 2: IMPERIAL BEIJING

This morning, head to Beijing's symbolic heart, Tiananmen Square, and stroll into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. A monument to dynasties past, enter through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, into a complex of a thousand rooms and many imperial treasures. Take a leisurely stroll through the narrow alleys of the warren-like hutongs and learn more about living in this traditional area. Later, soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. This evening, sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

DAY 3: THE GREAT WALL

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight, the Great Wall, which stretches over 4,000 miles from the Shanhaiguan Pass on the east coast to the Gobi Desert in the west. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. You will then visit a jade factory to learn more about this precious stone - there is also the opportunity to buy handcrafted pieces. Jade is revered throughout China, it is said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Enjoy the afternoon strolling through the idyllic gardens of the Summer Palace and admire the traditional Chinese landscapes and exquisite architecture.

DAY 4: TANG DYNASTY DANCING

Board the bullet train to Xian, the ancient former capital. Take a walking tour of the narrow and winding streets of the lively Muslim Quarter and gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road. In the evening, enjoy a dumpling feast and Tang Dynasty dancing show.

DAY 5: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses. Also visit the workshop to see where the warriors are intricately recreated in the style of their ancient counterparts and stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.







DAY 6: BOARD YOUR CRUISE Fly to Yichang where you will board your Yangtze River cruise vessel.

DAYS 7-9: YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

A man-made marvel, the Three Gorges Dam showcases a massive feat of engineering. But as you cruise upstream nature takes over, revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery. Over the next three days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another, take a side trip to the attractive Shennong or Goddess Stream and enjoy various shore excursions.

DAY 10: CHONGQING PANDA HOUSE

Disembark from the cruise vessel and visit the Panda House in Chongging. Later, board the bullet train to Guilin.

DAY 11: LI RIVER CRUISE

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming town of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

DAY 12: YANGSHUO

Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location, surrounded by landscapes of emerald-green paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside before returning to Guilin by road. Explore the impressive Reed Flute Cave and visit the South China Pearl Factory before stopping for a photo opportunity on the banks of the Li River to meet a cormorant fisherman.



DAY 13: HUANGPU RIVER CRUISE

Take a walk around the picturesque Ronghu and Shanhu Lake and admire the Sun and Moon pagodas. Fly to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. This evening, view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise.

DAY 14: DISCOVER SHANGHAI

Visit the charming Yu Garden, the old town and a silk factory and admire the colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening, enjoy some tasty traditional

DAYS 15-16: FLY SHANGHAI TO

Shanghainese cuisine.

AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or

CLASSIC

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

This hugely popular tour journeys through some of China's most iconic sights from Beijing's Great Wall, Xian's warriors, and picturesque Guilin to the mighty Yangtze River. Expect a busy but fun-filled tour.

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES			
25 Mar - 09 Apr	\$6,980	02 Sep - 17 Sep	\$7,280
01 Apr - 16 Apr	\$7,580	09 Sep - 24 Sep	\$7,580
08 Apr - 23 Apr	\$7,880	16 Sep - 01 Oct	\$7,580
15 Apr - 30 Apr	\$7,680	21 Sep - 06 Oct	\$7,580
06 May - 21 May	\$7,680	07 Oct - 22 Oct	\$7,580
13 May - 28 May	\$7,780	14 Oct - 29 Oct	\$7,380
18 May - 02 Jun	\$8,380	19 Oct - 03 Nov	\$8,380
20 May - 04 Jun	\$7,780	21 Oct - 05 Nov	\$7,680
10 Jun - 25 Jun	\$7,380	02 Nov - 17 Nov	\$7,680
15 Jul - 30 Jul	\$7,580	04 Nov - 19 Nov	\$7,680
12 Aug - 27 Aug	\$7,580		

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney,
- Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth • Departures from other cities and flight
- upgrades available upon request • Land only (Beijing – Shanghai) 15 days
- from \$5,780 per person, twin share Single supplement from \$1,300

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately RMB 810 (AU\$180pp) is paid locally in China

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

EXTEND YOUR STAY.



HONG KONG GLIMPSES 3 days from \$640pp

SINGAPORE SHORT STAY 3 days from \$500pp

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.

JAPAN UNCOVERED



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover historic Kyoto & Nara
- ✓ Reflect in Hiroshima & Miyajima
- ✓ Admire beautiful Mount Fuji
- ✓ See the snow monkeys
- ✓ Feel the rush of Tokyo & Osaka
- 🗸 Explore Kanazawa & Takayama

PRICE INCLUDES

landscapes.

- 15 breakfasts, 14 lunches & 15 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

One of Japan's most famous condiments.

cuisine. Learn about its cultivation

on a traditional farm and admire the

art museum. Itchiku single-handedly

revived the traditional and beautiful

Arguably the world's most famous

technique of 'tsujigahana'.

Crossing for yourself.

wasabi is an essential element in Japanese

Admire the elaborately dyed silk creations

of artist Kubota Itchiku at his eponymous

pedestrian crossing, seen in many a film

and television show, witness the organised

chaos and bright lights of Tokyo's Shibuya

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

ngle supplement

Happy to share

Dedicated solo departures

DAY 3: DISCOVER NARA

Spend the morning in Nara, the small, historyfilled city that was Japan's first capital. Stroll through Nara Park to Todaiji Temple and admire the traditional Isuien Garden. Return to Osaka and visit the impressive Osaka Castle before cruising along the Yodogawa River.

DAY 4: HIMEJI CASTLE

route to explore the magnificent 17th century Himeji Castle and the neighbouring Kokoen, a traditional-style garden.

DAY 5: EXPLORE HIROSHIMA

Hiroshima is a vibrant, forward-thinking city that is a pleasure to explore. Reflect on the city's tragic past at the Peace Memorial Park and Museum paying homage to the victims of the 1945 atomic bomb. Next, take the ferry to the holy island of Miyajima to visit the Itsukushima Shrine and enjoy some time at leisure

DAY 6: BULLET TRAIN TO KYOTO

Start the day with a journey by bullet train to Kyoto. Capital for 1,000 years, this enchanting city is the epitome of traditional Japan. Visit Ryoanji Temple, home to Japan's most famous Zen garden and Kinkakuji Temple, also known as 'Golden Pavilion'.



ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO OSAKA Fly overnight to the lively, fast-paced city of Osaka! Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is at leisure to start soaking up the local culture.

Depart Osaka for Hiroshima, stopping en

DAY 7: JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY

Enjoy one of Kyoto's most delightful spots, Kiyomizu, a 17th century Buddhist temple, before experiencing the age-old rituals of a traditional tea ceremony with a tea master. After lunch, visit Fushimi Inari Shrine, renowned for its 10,000 vermilion torii gates.

DAY 8: TRAVEL TO KANAZAWA

Travel by road to Kanazawa. Meander through Kenrokuen, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, before viewing the excellent art collection of the Kanazawa 21st century Museum of Contemporary Art.

DAY 9: WASHI PAPER MAKING

Visit the Nomura Samurai House and Garden before departing Kanazawa. Stop in Gokayama for lunch and a hands-on washi paper making workshop. Continue to Shirakawago, where you will explore the 300-year-old Gassho-style Wada House, before continuing to Takayama.

DAY 10: EXPLORE TAKAYAMA

Browse the local handicrafts and fresh produce at the Miyagawa morning market and wander past some of the lovely traditional houses. Also visit several of the excellent local museums, including the Festival Floats Museum, Kusakabe Folk Crafts Museum and Takayama Jinya followed by a stroll down Kamisannomachi Street. Enjoy the onsen facilities at your overnight hotel.





DAY 11: TRAVEL TO NAGANO

Travel to Matsumoto and explore the formidable 16th century Matsumoto Castle. Visit a miso house and learn about this famous Japanese seasoning. Also spend some time at a wasabi farm to learn about its cultivation before continuing to Nagano.

DAY 12: SNOW MONKEYS

Travel deeper into the Japanese Alps where you may see the Japanese macaques (snow monkeys) bathe and play in their hot spring pool at the Jigokudani Monkey Park. Continue to Zenkoji, one of Japan's most prolific Buddhist temples.

DAY 13: MOUNT FUJI

Travel to the Fuji Five Lakes area and ascend by road to the 5th Station (weather permitting). Also visit the Itchiku Kubota Art Museum to view the elaborate dyed silk creations of artist Kubota Itchiku. Stay overnight in Mishima or nearby and enjoy the public onsen facilities.

DAY 14: EXPLORE HAKONE

Begin the day with a cruise on the peaceful waters of Lake Ashi. Next, soar high on the Hakone Ropeway over the hilltops to the volcanic Owakudani Valley and discover the dramatic natural hot springs of Mount Hakone. Later, proceed to Tokyo.

DAY 15: DISCOVER TOKYO

A dazzling, high-tech metropolis, Japan's capital has wonderfully traditional roots. Start your explorations at the Imperial Palace East Garden, visit Meiji Shrine and stop by the famous Shibuya Crossing.

DAY 16: MORE TOKYO

Stroll the vibrant Asakusa district and soak up the ambiance of Sensoji, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple. Ascend to the observation deck of the 634-metre Skytree and enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. The afternoon is free until the evening, when you will board a traditional yakata boat for a dinner cruise.

DAYS 17-18: FLY TOKYO TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Our most comprehensive tour of Japan includes all the classic sights and key cultural activities. Featuring modern cities, historical sights and beautiful landscapes it ensures you'll get the most from this fascinating land.

COACH	BOAT	TRAIN	

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES					
15 Mar - 01 Apr 🜸	sold out	10 Apr - 27 Apr	sold out	10 Oct - 27 Oct 🗯	sold out
16 Mar - 02 Apr 🌸	\$13,690	11 Apr - 28 Apr	sold out	12 Oct - 29 Oct 🗯	\$13,690
17 Mar - 03 Apr 🌸	sold out	12 Apr - 29 Apr	sold out	13 Oct - 30 Oct 🗯	sold out
18 Mar - 04 Apr 🍁	sold out	13 Apr - 30 Apr	sold out	14 Oct - 31 Oct 🗯	\$13,690
19 Mar - 05 Apr 🍁	\$13,690	14 Apr - 01 May	sold out	15 Oct - 01 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
20 Mar - 06 Apr 🍁	\$13,690	03 May - 20 May*	sold out	16 Oct - 02 Nov 🛸	sold out
21 Mar - 07 Apr 🍁	\$13,690	04 May - 21 May*	sold out	17 Oct - 03 Nov 🗯	\$13,690
22 Mar - 08 Apr 🌸	\$13,690	05 May - 22 May*	sold out	18 Oct - 04 Nov 🖊	\$13,690
23 Mar - 09 Apr 🍁	sold out	06 May - 23 May*	sold out	19 Oct - 05 Nov 🖊	sold out
24 Mar - 10 Apr 🍁	sold out	07 May - 24 May*	sold out	21 Oct - 07 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
25 Mar - 11 Apr 🍁	sold out	08 May - 25 May*	sold out	22 Oct - 08 Nov 🗯	sold out
26 Mar - 12 Apr 🌸	sold out	09 May - 26 May*	\$13,290	23 Oct - 09 Nov 🗯	\$13,690
27 Mar - 13 Apr 🔹	sold out	16 Jun - 03 Jul*	\$12,990	24 Oct - 10 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
28 Mar - 14 Apr 🌸	\$13,690	06 Aug - 23 Aug	\$13,290	25 Oct - 11 Nov 🖊	sold out
29 Mar - 15 Apr 🔹	\$13,690	02 Sep - 19 Sep*	\$13,290	26 Oct - 12 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
30 Mar - 16 Apr 🍁	\$13,690	03 Sep - 20 Sep*	\$13,690	27 Oct - 13 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
31 Mar - 17 Apr 🍁	sold out	04 Sep - 21 Sep*	\$13,690	28 Oct - 14 Nov 🛸	\$13,690
01 Apr - 18 Apr 🌸	sold out	05 Sep - 22 Sep*	\$13,690	29 Oct - 15 Nov 🛸	\$14,880
02 Apr - 19 Apr 💠	\$13,690	06 Sep - 23 Sep*	sold out	31 Oct - 17 Nov 🕊	sold out
03 Apr - 20 Apr 🌸	\$13,690	07 Sep - 24 Sep	sold out	01 Nov - 18 Nov 🕊	\$13,690
04 Apr - 21 Apr 🌸	sold out	14 Sep - 01 Oct	sold out	05 Nov - 22 Nov 🕊	\$13,690
05 Apr - 22 Apr 💠	sold out	21 Sep - 08 Oct	sold out	09 Nov - 26 Nov 🕊	\$13,690
06 Apr - 23 Apr 💠	\$13,690	28 Sep - 15 Oct	sold out	10 Nov - 27 Nov 🖊	\$13,690
07 Apr - 24 Apr 💠	sold out	01 Oct - 18 Oct	sold out	12 Nov - 29 Nov 🖊	\$13,690
08 Apr - 25 Apr 💠	sold out	04 Oct - 21 Oct	sold out	14 Nov - 01 Dec 🗯	\$13,690
09 Apr - 26 Apr	sold out	07 Oct - 24 Oct	sold out		

Flight and supplement information

Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth

- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available on request
- Land only (Osaka Tokyo) 16 days from \$11,690 per person, twin share
- Single Supplement from \$2,800

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Tipping is generally not part of the culture in Japan; however, you may wish to tip your National Escort at your discretion. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Please note: cherry blossoms are weather dependent and it is not guaranteed that they will be in bloom at the time of your arrival.

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

SEE SUMO WRESTLING

On some May and September departures*, there is an extra special addition to day 15: a sumo tournament. Many of Japan's most ancient traditions are preserved in the sport, and the rituals involved in its performance are as fascinating to watch as the wrestling itself. Subject to availability.

ANGKOR TO THE BAY



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Be inspired by the Angkor temples
- See the local life in Tonle Sap
- Visit captivating Phnom Penh
- Learn about farming in Hoi An
- ✓ Marvel at Hue's Imperial Citadel
- Stroll Hanoi's atmospheric alleyways
- Cruise the magical Halong Bay

PRICE INCLUDES

- 15 breakfasts, 14 lunches, 15 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Cruise to bustling Kampong Kleng, an offthe-beaten-track floating village on Tonle Sap Lake, where you'll get an authentic look at unique local life.
- > Try your hand at ancient cultivation techniques with members of the local farming community in Tra Que village and enjoy a cooking demonstration of a regional speciality.
- ► Take your seats for 'the Quintessence of Tonkin', a spectacular open-air show that perfectly showcases the rich history of Vietnam's northern river delta through talented dancers, musicians and artists.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SIEM REAP Fly overnight to Siem Reap. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 3: TONLE SAP LAKE

Visit Beng Mealea, a mysterious temple overrun by the jungle. Enjoy a cruise on Tonle Sap Lake, seeing the floating houses here and learning about the way of life in these lake communities. This evening, sit down to dinner and an Apsara dance show.

DAY 4: EXPLORE ANGKOR

The seat of the Khmer Empire between the 9th and 15th centuries, the Angkor complex includes over 1,000 temples. Enter the walled city of Angkor Thom and head to its heart to see the enigmatic Bayon, followed by the atmospheric Ta Prohm. This afternoon is dedicated to the indescribable Angkor Wat. Later, take a leisurely boat ride on the moat of Angkor Thom and view hidden elements of the ancient Khmer water systems.



DAY 5: DISCOVER PHNOM PENH

Fly to Phnom Penh. a city of airy boulevards and colonial villas. Visit the magnificent Royal Palace, the official residence of the King, and the Silver Pagoda in its grounds.

DAY 6: FLY TO SAIGON

Visit the emotive Tuol Sleng Museum, housed in the former notorious S21 prison used by the Khmer Rouge regime. Stop at the city's namesake temple, Wat Phnom, before a short 1-hour flight to Saigon in South Vietnam.

DAY 7: CU CHI TUNNELS

Get to grips with the struggles of guerrilla warfare at the astonishing Cu Chi Tunnels, used by the Viet Cong during the war. Return to the city and gain further insights at the Reunification Palace and the chilling War Remnants Museum

DAY 8: MEKONG DELTA CRUISE

Pop down to Ben Tre to take a cruise on the mighty Mekong. This area is known as the 'Rice Basket of Vietnam', the rich and fertile lands producing huge amounts of rice, coconuts, vegetables and tropical fruits.

DAY 9: FLY TO HOI AN

The exuberant city of Saigon is driving Vietnam forward into the modern world, but is also a treasure trove of fascinating heritage. Discover its architectural gems, including the Notre-Dame Cathedral, Central Post Office and Thien Hau Pagoda. Later, fly to Hoi An, a UNESCO-listed town renowned for its historic atmosphere and high-quality tailors.





DAY 10: TRA QUE VILLAGE

Drive out into the countryside to the small farming community of Tra Que. Here you can enjoy the lush green countryside and try your hand at age-old farming techniques before taking part in a cooking demonstration, learning the art of a local dish. After lunch take a walking tour of Hoi An, to see the elaborate Japanese Bridge, a Chinese temple and the bustling market. With its swaying lanterns, bobbing gondolas and cheery yellow houses, the Old Town is a delight to wander.

DAY 11: HAI VAN PASS & HUE

Drive to Hue, travelling over the scenic Hai Van Pass. Once the stronghold of the Nguyen Emperors, Hue exudes imperial grandeur at every turn. Visit the picturesque Thien Mu Pagoda and cruise along the Perfume River.

DAY 12: HUE

Visit Hue's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the Imperial Citadel and Forbidden City, along with the Royal Tomb of Minh Mang. Stop at a beautiful old 'maison' that has been transformed into a Truc Chi bamboo paper workshop and learn all about this art.

DAY 13: HANOI CYCLO

Fly to Hanoi this morning. This afternoon take a thrilling cyclo ride through the Old Quarter and enjoy a flavourful Vietnamese coffee at a café overlooking Hoan Kiem Lake.

DAYS 14-15: HALONG BAY

Spend two days aboard a comfortable cruise boat sailing amongst magnificent karst peaks

DAY 16: EXPLORE HANOI Discover Hanoi's history and the story of President Ho Chi Minh on a walking tour. See his Mausoleum in Ba Dinh Square, and admire the Presidential Palace. Explore its peaceful grounds and visit the Humble House on Stilts, where he lived during his rule. Finally, visit

northern Vietnam

evening's farewell dinner. DAYS 17-18: FLY HANOI TO AUSTRALIA Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.

EXTEND YOUR STAY



GARDENS BY THE BAY 4 days from \$730pp twin share HANOI & NINH BINH

SAPA EXTENSION 4 days from \$1,220pp twin share

Contact us or visit our website to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Our most popular Indochina tour takes you on a journey of discovery, from the breathtaking temples of Angkor and the Mekong Delta through to the natural grandeur of Halong Bay, experiencing all manner of delights en route.



on the tranquil green waters of Halong Bay. Spend the night on the boat before returning to Hanoi and attending the Quintessence of Tonkin show, a spectacular open-air performance celebrating the rich history of

the beautiful Temple of Literature before this

5 days from \$1,450pp twin share



PRICES & DEPARTURES

rices are per person, twill shale						
2024 DATES						
16 Mar - 02 Apr	\$7,580	05 Oct - 22 Oct	\$8,480			
23 Mar - 09 Apr	\$7,580	12 Oct - 29 Oct	\$7,580			
27 Apr - 14 May	\$7,580	19 Oct - 05 Nov	\$7,580			
11 May - 28 May	\$7,580	26 Oct - 12 Nov	\$7,580			
27 Jul - 13 Aug	\$7,580	02 Nov - 19 Nov	\$7,580			
10 Aug - 27 Aug	\$7,580	09 Nov - 26 Nov	\$7,580			
14 Sep - 01 Oct	\$7,580	16 Nov - 03 Dec	\$7,580			
28 Sep - 15 Oct	\$8,480	23 Nov - 10 Dec	\$8,480			

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only (Siem Reap Hanoi) 16 days from \$6,480 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$1,050

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$105pp (AU\$157pp) is paid locally in Cambodia.

JAPAN BY RAIL



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

✓ Reflect in Nagasaki & Hiroshima

- ✓ Admire Kyoto's temples
- ✓ See the snow monkeys
- ✓ Explore bustling Tokyo
- ✓ Discover Sendai & Hakodate
- Spend time in Sapporo

PRICE INCLUDES

- 19 breakfasts, 18 lunches & 19 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Under the guidance of a skilled instructor, try your hand at making momiji manju (maple leaf bean buns), Miyajima's most famous confectionary for over a hundred years.
- Learn about the role of the masu sake cup in Japan's culture before stepping into the studio to make your very own cup with an original design, which you can then take home as a souvenir!
- Discover the history and etiquette of making and appreciating sushi with a hands-on lesson before sitting down with your instructing chef to enjoy Japan's most famous cuisine. It's the taking part that counts!

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





Journey through Japan by rail

ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO FUKUOKA Fly overnight to the charming city of

Fukuoka, the gateway to the island of Kyushu. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 3: EXPLORE NAGASAKI Begin the day by travelling on the limited express train to Nagasaki. Upon arrival, enjoy a stroll through the Glover Garden, an openair museum that exhibits mansions attributed to the Scottish merchant who contributed to the modernisation of Japan. Also, visit the Oura Catholic Church and Atomic Bomb Museum before returning to Fukuoka.

DAY 4: MIYAJIMA ISLAND

Board the bullet train to Hiroshima, located on Japan's largest island, Honshu. Upon arrival in Hiroshima, take the ferry across the Seto Inland Sea to the holy island of Miyajima. Here, visit the Itsukushima Shrine and enjoy a momiji manju cooking experience. Later, return to Hiroshima.

DAY 5: HIROSHIMA HIGHLIGHTS

Spend the day in Hiroshima starting with a visit to the Peace Memorial Park and Museum where you will have the opportunity to pay homage to the victims of the 1945 atomic bomb. Enjoy okonomiyaki for lunch before ascending Orizuru Tower to view the city from above, followed by a stroll through the historical Shukkeien Garden.

DAY 6: ADMIRE HIMEJI CASTLE

Depart Hiroshima by bullet train, stopping at Himeji to visit the magnificent Himeji Castle, followed by a walk through traditional Kokoen garden. Continue by limited express to Osaka.

DAY 7: OSAKA & NARA DAY TRIP

Begin the day with a visit to the Umeda Sky Building followed by a lunch at the famous Dontonburi district. Later, head to Nara and explore Todaiji Temple which houses the impressive Daibutsu, a 15-metre-tall bronze statue of Buddha. Enjoy an ink making and calligraphy class before returning to Osaka.

DAY 8: KYOTO'S TEMPLES

Journey by road to Kyoto. Capital for 1,000 years, this enchanting city is the epitome of traditional Japan. Upon arrival, stroll through the Arashiyama bamboo forest and admire the towering thickets. Also visit Ryoanji Temple, home to Japan's best-known Zen garden and the famous 'Golden Pavilion' Kinkakuii Temple.

DAY 9: TEA CEREMONY & FAN PAINTING

The day begins with a visit to Kivomizu-dera temple in Kyoto. Next, immerse yourself in the culture and enjoy the age-old rituals of a sacred tea ceremony, Zen mediation, and try your hand at fan painting. Also explore Gion - Kyoto's famous geisha district. Enjoy public onsen facilities.

DAY 10: EXPLORE KANAZAWA

Take the limited express train to Kanazawa and upon arrival, meander your way through Kenrokuen, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan. Also visit the Nomura Samurai House and Kunani Pottery Factory.







DAY 11: SHIRAKAWAGO VILLAGE

Travel by road to Takayama stopping en route at Inami for a sake wooden cup making experience and sake tasting. Next, continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Listed village of Shirakawago to get a glimpse of rural Japan. Continue to Takayama.

DAY 12: DISCOVER TAKAYAMA

Spend the morning at the Miyagawa market. Also visit the Takayama Floats Museum and Takayama Jinya. Enjoy the onsen facilities at your overnight hotel.

DAY 13: SNOW MONKEYS

Travel to Matsumoto and spend time at the Daio Wasabi Farm to see the plantations and learn about its cultivation. Continue to the town of Yudanaka and head to Jigokudani Yaen-Koen. Walk through a picturesque forested valley to the hot pools where you may see the famous Japanese macaques (snow monkeys) bathe and play before returning to Matsumoto.

DAY 14: MATSUMOTO CASTLE

Begin the day with a visit to the magnificent 16th century Matsumoto Castle, also known as 'Crow Castle', due to its intense black exterior. Next, head to a miso house and learn about the process of making this famous Japanese seasoning. Also visit the former post town of Naraijuku. Continue to Suwa and enjoy the onsen facilities at your hotel.

DAY 15: MOUNT FUJI

Travel to Hakone and ascend 2,400 metres to the 5th Station (weather permitting). Also, enjoy a peaceful cruise on Lake Ashi before taking to the skies on the Komagatake Ropeway. Next, continue to Tokyo by road.

DAY 16: TOUR TOKYO Begin the day with a stroll through Hamarikyu Gardens. Next, take part in a sushi making class, and enjoy your own creations for lunch! Later, soak up the atmosphere at Sensoji temple, browse the stalls on Nakamise shopping street and drive-by the Imperial Palace Plaza.

DAY 17: EVEN MORE TOKYO

Begin the day at the Tokyo Metropolitan Building and ascend to the observation deck for breathtaking views over the sprawling city. Next, soak up the atmosphere at the peaceful Meiji Jingu Shrine and drive-by the worldfamous Shibuya crossing. End the day with a relaxing cruise on the waters of Tokyo Bay, and enjoy dinner onboard a yakata from where you will have the perfect vantage point to admire the supercharged lights of the city.

DAY 18: SIP WHISKY IN SENDAI

As the tour journeys to northern Honshu, board the bullet train to Sendai, the largest city in Tohoku. Transfer to Matsushima and eniov a relaxing cruise on Matsushima Bay. Also, visit Zuiganji Temple and the famous Nikka Whisky factory in Sendai.

DAY 19: EXPLORE HAKODATE

Say goodbye to Honshu Island as you board the bullet train to Hakodate located on Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island. Visit the Goryokaku Tower, a star shaped fortress, followed by some time at leisure. This evening, journey on the Mt Hakodate Ropeway and enjoy the fabulous views of the city below. Enjoy the onsen facilities at your hotel.

CLASSIC

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

An all-encompassing journey through Japan, travelling mainly by bullet train and taking in the highlights of all three main islands: Kyushu, Honshu and Hokkaido. Experience ancient traditions and modern Japan's unique charm.

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share							
2024 DATES	2024 DATES						
17 Mar - 07 Apr 🌸	sold out	02 Oct - 23 Oct		\$15,890			
20 Mar - 10 Apr 🌸	sold out	06 Oct - 27 Oct	*	\$15,890			
24 Mar - 14 Apr 🌸	sold out	09 Oct - 30 Oct	۶	sold out			
27 Mar - 17 Apr 🌸	sold out	13 Oct - 03 Nov	*	\$15,890			
31 Mar - 21 Apr 🌸	sold out	16 Oct - 06 Nov	*	\$15,890			
03 Apr - 24 Apr 💠	sold out	20 Oct - 10 Nov	*	sold out			
07 Apr - 28 Apr 🍁	sold out	23 Oct - 13 Nov	*	sold out			
10 Apr - 01 May	sold out	27 Oct - 17 Nov	*	\$15,890			
08 May - 29 May	sold out	30 Oct - 20 Nov	*	sold out			
15 May - 05 Jun	sold out	03 Nov - 24 Nov	*	\$15,890			
12 Jun - 03 Jul	\$14,990	06 Nov - 27 Nov	*	\$15,890			
11 Sep - 02 Oct	sold out	10 Nov - 01 Dec	*	\$15,890			
18 Sep - 09 Oct	\$15,890						

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available on request
- Land only (Fukuoka Sapporo) 20 days from \$13,690 per person, twin share
- Single Supplement from \$2,990

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Tipping is generally not part of the culture in Japan; however, you may wish to tip your National Escort at your discretion. Depending on airline schedules. you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Please note: cherry blossoms are weather dependent and it is not guaranteed that they will be in bloom at the time of your arrival.

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

DAY 20: SAPPORO SIGHTSEEING

Board the bullet train for the very last time to Sapporo. Head to the Clock Tower and Odori Park and in the evening, stop by the Sapporo Beer Museum and enjoy a tasting or two, followed by a farewell dinner.

DAYS 21-22: FLY SAPPORO TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.

MAGNIFICENT CHINA



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play
- Stay in rural Yangshuo
- Cruise the Yangtze River
- ✓ Stroll old gardens in Suzhou

PRICE INCLUDES

- 20 breakfasts, 19 lunches & 20 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees • Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- > At the heart of a huge tea-producing region and once a stop on the Tea Horse Road, drinking tea is an essential element of life in Chengdu. Visit a traditional tea house to experience the history, customs and the perfect brew.
- Discover the captivating charm of Suzhou as you glide through its tranquil waterways, enjoying a boat ride along the storied Grand Canal, where the essence of the city's rich history and vibrant culture comes to life
- Spend an evening exploring China's long and fascinating history in a breathtaking show of martial arts, acrobatics and stunning special effects - the fantastic ERA Show at the Shanghai Circus World.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO BEIJING

Fly to Beijing, China's historic capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

DAY 2: IMPERIAL BEIJING

This morning, head to Beijing's symbolic heart, Tiananmen Square and stroll into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City to discover a complex full of imperial riches. Take a leisurely stroll through the narrow alleys of the warren-like hutongs and learn more about living in this traditional area. This evening, sit down to a traditional dinner of Peking duck.

DAY 3: THE GREAT WALL

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Stretching thousands of miles from the Yellow Sea to the Gobi Desert, a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that surrounds it. Visit a jade factory then spend the afternoon at the idyllic Summer Palace, wandering through traditional Chinese gardens and seeing the exquisite architecture.

DAY 4: TEMPLE OF HEAVEN

Spend the morning soaking up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. Later, take the bullet train to Xian. the ancient former capital.

DAY 5: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever

since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses. Also visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Workshop to see where the warriors are intricately recreated. Tonight, feast on traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and watch a Tang Dynasty dance show.

DAY 6: ANCIENT CITY WALL

Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda and take a stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town. Later this afternoon, explore the narrow streets of the atmospheric Muslim Ouarter, which are lined with Islamic food stalls. Here, you will gain an insight into the city's fascinating culture and significance as the start of the Silk Road.

DAY 7: BULLET TRAIN TO CHENGDU

Board the bullet train to Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province. Tonight, there is an option to see a performance of Sichuan Opera, famous for its 'face-changing'.

DAY 8: CHENGDU GIANT PANDAS

Visit Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre to see and learn about China's celebrated bears up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. A look around the informative museum gives an overview of the reserve's breeding programme. Later, stroll through the vibrant People's Park with a stop at Matchmaker's Corner, where parents search for worthy suitors for their children. Also stop at a traditional tea house and wander through the Wide and Narrow Alleys. Tonight, dine on delicious Sichuanese food.







DAY 9: BOARD YOUR CRUISE

Board the bullet train to Yichang to board your Yangtze River cruise vessel, where you will stay for the next four nights.

DAYS 10-12: YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Visit The Three Gorges Dam which showcases a massive feat of engineering. As you cruise upstream, nature takes over revealing some of the world's most dramatic scenery including the Three Gorges themselves. Over the next few days prepare for one breathtaking panorama after another. Enjoy a side trip to the attractive Shennong or Goddess Stream, as well as various shore excursions.

DAY 13: BULLET TRAIN TO GUILIN Disembark in Chongging and then board the

bullet train to the beautiful city of Guilin.

DAY 14: LI RIVER CRUISE

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to the charming town of Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen.

DAY 15: YANGSHUO

Yangshuo sits in an exquisite rural location. surrounded by landscapes of emerald-green paddy fields and dramatic limestone karsts. Spend the morning exploring the countryside and stop on the banks of the Li River for a photo opportunity with a cormorant fisherman. This afternoon is at leisure where you can choose from the many optional activities available including cycling, bamboo rafting and hiking.

Fly to the exuberant and cosmopolitan city of Shanghai, also known as the 'Paris of the East'. Later, spend some time in the city's Xintiandi area, a vibrant entertainment district made up of traditional 19th-century Shikumen architecture. DAY 18: HISTORIC SUZHOU

Travel to Suzhou. Suzhou is renowned for its gardens - visit one of its finest, the Humble Administrator's Garden, Cruise the Grand Canal before returning to Shanghai for a dinner of Shanghainese cuisine.

DAYS 19-20: EXPLORE SHANGHAI

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide. Visit the Shanghai Museum, People's Square and admire the architecture on the Bund. Later, view the city from the Huangpu River on a cruise. The next day visit a silk factory, the classical Yu Garden and stop in the old town before exploring futuristic Pudong. Tonight, enjoy the ERA acrobatic show.

DAY 16: DISCOVER GUILIN

Travel back to Guilin and eniov a walk around Ronghu Lake and Shanhu Lake to admire the Sun and Moon pagodas - two towering examples of traditional Chinese-Buddhist architecture. Discover the colourful stalagmites and stalactites of Reed Flute Cave and continue to the South China Pearl Factory to see the fascinating 1,700-year history of pearling in the South China Sea with displays and demonstrations.

DAY 17: FLY TO SHANGHAI

CLASSIC

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

From the Great Wall and Terracotta Warriors, to cruising on the Yangtze and the breathtaking Li River, this tour encompasses China's most magnificent sights as well as spending a little extra time in its most exciting cities.

PRICES & DEPARTURES Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES			
15 Mar - 05 Apr	\$8,480	19 Jul - 09 Aug	\$8,480
05 Apr - 26 Apr	\$9,480	06 Sep - 27 Sep	\$8,480
12 Apr - 03 May	\$8,680	20 Sep - 11 Oct	\$8,680
19 Apr - 10 May	\$8,680	04 Oct - 25 Oct	\$8,680
10 May - 31 May	\$8,680	11 Oct - 01 Nov	\$8,680
17 May - 07 Jun	\$8,680	25 Oct - 15 Nov	\$9,480
24 May - 14 Jun	\$8,480	01 Nov - 22 Nov	\$7,880
07 Jun - 28 Jun	\$8,480		

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only (Beijing Shanghai) 21 days from \$6,680 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$1.780

Dedicated solos departure

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately RMB 1,055 (AU\$234pp) is paid locally in China

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

DAYS 21-22: FLY SHANGHAI TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.



Visit a traditional tea house in Chengdu

ULTIMATE CHINA

27 DAYS FROM PERSON \$10,680 FULLY INCLUSIVE FROM SyDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH ALL MEALS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall
- Gaze at the Terracotta Warriors
- ✓ Visit the Stone Forest
- Explore Dali and Zhongdian
- ✓ Stay in mystical Lhasa
- Cruise the Yangtze River

PRICE INCLUDES

- 25 breakfasts, 24 lunches & 25 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- Venture to a Tibetan village in the highlands of Yunnan province to meet the local community, visit a traditional family home and experience the intriguing blend of the Tibetan and Chinese way of life.
- Painted during the Ming Dynasty (1368 to 1644) the incredible Baisha Frescoes tell fascinating stories of the daily life, religion and politics of their time and have retained their bright colours and vivid patterns.
- Cruise on the crystal-clear, tranquil waters of Erhai Lake, admiring the views over the Cang Mountains and sailing past its multiple islands, many replete with colourful temples.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR





ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO BEIJING Fly to Beijing, China's historic capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is

DAY 2: IMPERIAL BEIJING

DAY 3: THE GREAT WALL

yours to start soaking up the local culture.

This morning, head to Beijing's symbolic

heart, Tiananmen Square and stroll into the

Later, soak up the harmonious ambience of

the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a

bustling urban landscape. In the evening,

This morning is dedicated to China's most

this incredible structure is the best way to

iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on

appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic

scenery that it crosses. Stop by a jade factory

evening, enjoy a delicious feast of traditional

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s,

the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor.

Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever

enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and

horses. Also visit the workshop to see where

the warriors are intricately recreated in the

lunch, stroll along the beautifully preserved

14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's

old town.

style of their ancient counterparts. After

since. Spend the morning viewing the

then explore the idyllic Summer Palace.

DAY 4: BULLET TRAIN TO XIAN

Shui Jiao dumplings followed by a

Take the bullet train to Xian and in the

performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

DAY 5: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

enjoy a traditional Peking duck dinner.

sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City.

DAY 6: BULLET TRAIN TO CHENGDU

Visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. Next, board the bullet train to Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province. Take a stroll through People's Park to see Matchmaker's Corner, where parents search for suitable partners for their children. Tonight, dine on local Sichuan cuisine.

DAY 7: GIANT PANDAS

Begin the day with a visit to Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Centre. Later, fly to the city of Lhasa, the heart and soul of Tibet. The rest of day is at leisure to help acclimatise to the altitude.

DAY 8: THE BARKHOR CIRCUIT

Lhasa is a modern, fast-growing city, but among the narrow, old, atmospheric streets you will feel a million miles from the modern world. Wander around the Barkhor Circuit with traditionally-dressed locals and explore the Jokhang Temple, the sacred centre of Tibetan Buddhism. There will also be a visit to Sera Monastery, a renowned seat of Buddhist learning, and a local Tibetan arts and crafts shop.

DAY 9: POTALA PALACE

The Potala Palace is an architectural wonder towering over the city from its seat on Marpo Ri (Red Mountain). The Potala, the former winter palace of the Dalai Lama, houses thousands of rooms filled with old treasures from intricate shrines to beautiful frescoes. This afternoon, explore Norbulingka, the former summer residence of the Dalai Lama.

DAY 10: FLY TO ZHONGDIAN

Fly to the monastery town of Zhongdian, also known as Shangri-La.

Maximum altitude **BEIIING** reached at Lhasa CHINA XIAN (2N) Ø CHENGDU (1N) YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE (3N) YICHANG 🔍 HASA (3N) 🦨 CHONGOING ZHONGDIAN (2N) LIIIANG (2N) e GUII IN DALI (2N) 0.0 -@-KUNMING (2N) YANGSHUO (2N)





DAY 11: TIBETAN ZHONGDIAN Begin the day with a visit to a Tibetan style village where you will learn about the villagers' way of life. Also visit Dafo Temple, explore the spectacular Songzanlin Monastery and end the day with a tour of the old town.

DAY 12: TIGER LEAPING GORGE

Journey to Lijiang, en route visiting the 3,000-metre-deep Tiger Leaping Gorge. With its backdrop of snow-capped mountains, it is one of China's most extraordinary sights.

DAY 13: JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN

A magnificent mountain, the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain comprises several peaks, the tallest of which soars 5,500 metres. Taking a cable car, explore one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. On the way back to Lijiang, visit Baisha old town to view its spectacular Ming Dynasty frescoes and Baisha village, a settlement of the Naxi minority people.

DAY 14: SHAXI VILLAGE

Explore the temples and cobblestone streets of Shaxi village before driving to Dali, a charming town that offers a peek at bygone China.

DAY 15: ENCHANTING DALI

Today, explore the village of Xizhou to browse its local market, visit the Yan family home and watch a tie-dying demonstration and wander through Dali's ancient quarter. Also enjoy a relaxing cruise on Erhai Lake.

DAY 16: THREE PAGODAS

Discover the magnificent Three Pagodas then board the bullet train to Kunming, capital of Yunnann Province.



DAY 17: THE STONE FOREST

Meander through the formations of the UNESCO-listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand tree-like in a fascinating illusion of woodland. This evening, dine on the local dish, Across the Bridge

DAY 18: BULLET TRAIN TO GUILIN Board the bullet train to Guilin.

DAY 19: LI RIVER CRUISE

Noodles

markets

bamboo rafting.

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to charming Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen. This afternoon you can spend some time browsing Yangshuo's vibrant

DAY 20: YANGSHUO COUNTRYSIDE

Begin with a relaxing and invigorating session of Tai Chi, taking a class with a master. Explore the countryside and stop on the banks of the Li River for a photo opportunity with a cormorant fisherman. Enjoy time at leisure or choose one of the many optional activities available including cycling or

DAY 21: REED FLUTE CAVE

Drive back to Guilin, stopping at a pearl factory and the Reed Flute Cave to see the colourful stalagmites and stalactites. Later, take the bullet train to Chongqing and board your Yangtze River cruise vessel.

PRICES & DEPARTURES

PHYSICAL RATING

Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES

07 May - 02 Jun **\$10,680** 03 Sep - 29 Sep **\$10,680** 21 May - 16 Jun **\$10,680** 08 Oct - 03 Nov **\$10,680**

CLASSIC

IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

This really is the ultimate tour for those

who want to experience China and Tibet

in depth! From modern cities and ancient

history to rural villages and spectacular

landscapes, this is the tour to discover

all of China's highlights in just one visit.

- Flight and supplement information • Based on departures from Sydney,
- Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth • Departures from other cities and flight
- upgrades available upon request • Land only (Beijing – Shanghai) 26 days from
- \$9,480 per person, twin share
- Single supplement from \$2,080

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately RMB 1,365 (AU\$303pp) is paid locally in China.

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

DAYS 22-24: YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Over the next three days, enjoy various side trips and shore excursions including the Three Gorges Dam. Disembark and transfer to Yichang for your flight to Shanghai.

DAY 25: EXPLORE SHANGHAI

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the traditional Yu Garden, a silk factory and a stop in the old town. Also admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund. This evening view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise. Dinner tonight will be traditional Shanghainese cuisine.

DAYS 26-27: FLY SHANGHAI TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the same or following day.

ROAD TO SAMARKAND

23 DAYS FROM \$15,580 **INCLUSIVE FROM** SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH ALL MEALS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Uncover the beauty of Samarkand
- Learn about silk production
- Discover holy Bukhara
- Meet nomads in Kyrgyzstan
- Lose yourself in vibrant bazaars
- ✓ Watch traditional eagle hunting

PRICE INCLUDES

- 20 breakfasts, 19 lunches, 20 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3-4 star accommodation, plus guesthouse
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► One of Central Asia's most iconic experiences, witness the skill and majesty of golden eagle hunting – an age-old Kyrgyz practice – in the spectacular setting of Kyrgyzstan's highlands.
- Take to the tranquil, vivid-blue waters of Issyk Kul, the world's second largest alpine lake, enjoying a relaxing cruise as you admire the spectacular views of the rugged Ala-Too Mountains.
- ► In Kochkor, visit a wonderful local cooperative where women are trained in traditional Kyrgyz handicrafts and given space to show and sell their work, allowing them to earn a wage and keep old traditions alive.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

Single supplement Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAYS 1-2: FLY TO BISHKEK

Fly overnight to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's capital and cultural hub. Once you have checked in, the rest of the day is for you to relax before dinner

DAY 3: ALA ARCHA NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast embark on a city tour to see Ala-Too Squire, the White House and Oak Park. Continue to Ala Archa National Park for a leisurely hike through its picturesque scenery of rugged peaks and dramatic gorges. Rest of day at leisure in Bishkek.

DAY 4: LAKE ISSYK KUL

Visit the magnificent 12th-century Burana Tower before departing for Cholpon-Ata. Set on the shores of Lake Issyk Kul, visit the astonishing collection of 8th-century petroglyphs etched into glacial stone nearby. Later, take a cruise on the beautiful lake itself, admiring its spectacular alpine-esque surroundings.

DAY 5: DRIVE TO KARAKOL

Drive to Karakol, stopping at Semenov Gorge for a gentle hike, and Kyrchyn Jailoo ethnic village en route. This afternoon visit the Przhevalsky Museum, dedicated to the Russian explorer, and visit the striking Holy Trinity Orthodox Church and the Chinese Mosaue.

DAY 6: JETI-ORGUZ GORGE

Rise early to immerse yourself in the hustle and bustle of Karakol's Sunday morning animal market. In the afternoon, travel to the Jeti-Oguz Gorge for a walk through the canyon of red sandstone. Visit an Irdyk village

and enjoy a home-cooked dinner with a local Dugan family.

DAY 7: EAGLE HUNTING

Depart Karakol early and travel to Skazka Canyon, also known as Fairy Tale Canyon, due to its unusual shapes and colors. Travel further to the village of Bokonbayevo to watch an eagle hunting demonstration, a millenniaold Kyrgyz tradition practised with majestic golden eagles. Continue to Naryn, where you will stay the night.

DAY 8: JOURNEY TO TASH RABAT

Pass through dramatic mountain and valley landscapes to reach Tash Rabat, a small stone caravanserai that was of great significance at the height of the Silk Road. Enjoy the peaceful valley said to contain some of the finest landscapes in Kyrgyzstan before returning to Naryn.

DAY 9: KOCHKOR

Transfer to Kochkor, the centre of Kyrgyz felt handicrafts. Visit a traditional 'shyrdak' (wool carpet) workshop and a co-op that provides training for local women in traditional handicrafts. In the evening you will travel to a guesthouse near Chong-Kemin National Park.

DAY 10: CHONG KEMIN NATIONAL PARK

Travel from Kochkor to Chong Kemin, a quiet valley with small villages surrounded by magnificent mountains. Enjoy a walk in the foothills before travelling to Bishkek airport for vour flight to Tashkent.

DAY 11: TASHKENT

Explore Tashkent's sights, including the Barak Khana Seminary, Kukeldash Madrassahs,

Maximum altitude reached at Tash Rabat KAZAKHSTAN BISHKEK OVERNIGHT FLIGHT **UZBEKISTAN** (2N + 1N) 🛐 Ð CHONG KEMIN (1N) KHIVA (2N) Ľ A SAMARKAND BUKHARA (3N) (4N) KYRGYZSTAN



Tila Shaikh Mosque and their archives. Browse the wares of Chorsu bazaar before experiencing a ceramic workshop.

DAY 12: GOLDEN CITY OF SAMARKAND

Travel to the legendary city of Samarkand where you will enjoy a tour of Registan Square, the Ulug-Bek and Tillya-Kori madrasah. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring at your leisure.

DAY 13: SAMARKAND

Explore Gur Emir, the magnificent mausoleum of conqueror Tamerlane, the chief Friday Mosque Bibi-Khanum and the Siab Bazaar and Shahi Zinda Necropolis. Later in the afternoon see Mausoleum of the Prophet Daniel.

DAY 14: KONIGIL VILLAGE

Visit Ulugbek's observatory, constructed by Ulugbek (grandson of the great Tamerlane) in 1428-1429. Later see the ancient settlement of Afrosiab. Continue to Konigil Village to visit a papermaking workshop. In the afternoon return to Samarkand and remainder of the day at leisure.

DAY 15: SHAKHRISABZ

Travel to Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of the Tamerlane. Explore the city, visiting sites such as the remnants of Ak-Sarai Palace, Dorus Tilavat cemetery and Kok-Gumbas Mosque, Return to Samarkand this afternoon.

DAY 16: BUKHARA

Journey to Bukhara. En route, visit Gijduvan, a centre of famous handmade ceramics. Here you will see the fascinating process of making these ceramics. Arrive in the holy city of Bukhara, a treasure trove of history and

atmosphere. DAY 17: BUKHARA

Today explore the fabulous Bukhara including Lyab-i Hauz ensemble, Madrassah Nadir Devanbegi, Magoki Attari Mosques, Poi Kalan Minaret and Mosque. After lunch you will visit the Ark of Bukhara, Bolo Hauz Mosque and the Mausoleum of Ismail Samani.

DAY 18: BUKHARA

This morning visit Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa, the Emir's summer palace, a 20th-century confection of a building. Continue to the Bahauddin Nagshbandi Mausoleum of a famous Sufi spiritual leader of the region. Return to Bukhara and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 19: KHIVA

This morning you will set out for Khiva, a journey that will take you across Kyzyl Kum Desert and a stop at Amudarya River. The route runs 480 kilometres through the stark beauty of the desert, the scenery changing from sparse saksaul trees to the lush riverbanks of the Amudarya.

DAY 20: WALLED CITY OF ITCHAN KALA

Explore ancient Khiva, discovering the sights of the UNESCO World Heritage inner-walled city of Itchan Kala including the mighty Kunya Ark and the turguoise tiled Islom-Khodja. Wander through the fascinating Madrassah Rakhimkhon, a beacon of religious, astronomic, geographic and mathematical







magnificent architecture. Take this afternoon to begin your explorations and soak up the

GO BEYOND KYRGYZSTAN & UZBEKISTAN

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Follow the famous Silk Road through Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan! This tour will take you off-the-beaten-track to mingle with nomads in traditional yurt camps, to stroll through vibrant bazaars and discover timeless, ornately-decorated cities.

PRICES & DEPARTURES

Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES

07 May - 29 May \$15,580 01 Oct - 23 Oct \$15,580 10 Sep - 02 Oct \$15,580

Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only from \$12,780pp (Bishkek -Tashkent)
- Single supplement from \$1,780

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$150 (AU\$224pp) is paid locally.

See website for full list of 2025

studies, and see the 19th-century Tash Hauli Palace, decorated in blue fine china tiles.

DAY 21: FLY TO TASHKENT

Transfer to Urgench to fly to Tashkent. Upon arrival visit the Museum of Applied Arts as well as the Mustakilik Square and the famous Tashkent Metro. With it's marble and granite decorations the Metro feels like an underground palace.

DAYS 22-23: FLY TASHKENT TO AUSTRALIA

Fly to Australia, arriving home the following day.



ULTIMATE SOUTH AMERICA



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

🗸 Marvel at Machu Picchu

- Explore the salt flats of Uyuni
- ✓ Join gauchos in the pampas
- ✓ See the incredible Iguazu Falls Enjoy Maipu Valley winelands
- ✓ Ascend Sugarloaf Mountain

PRICE INCLUDES

• 26 breakfasts (B), 14 lunches (L), 11 dinners (D)

International flights and current taxes

- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders

► EXPERIENCES YOU'LL LOVE

- ► Explore Mendoza, Argentina's spectacular wine region, where you can enjoy huge skies, gorgeous mountain views, endless vineyards and, of course, plenty of local wine, including local speciality, malbec.
- Spend the night on an island surrounded by the waters of the mighty Lake Titicaca. Embrace the local traditions that have triumphed here for millennia and enjoy the slower pace of life.
- ► After exploring the haunting landscapes of Bolivia's Salar de Uyuni, spend the night in a salt hotel right on the edge of the salt flats with uninterrupted views of the incredible other-worldly topography before you.

SOLO TRAVEL OPTIONS ON THIS TOUR

Single supplement Happy to share



ITINERARY

DAY 1: FLY TO LIMA

Fly to Lima, Peru's historic capital. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel, in time for tonight's delicious, Peruvianstyle welcome dinner. (D)

DAY 2: LIMA CITY TOUR

This morning, embark on an informative tour of Lima, formerly known as the 'City of Kings'. Begin your exploration with the fascinating Huaca Pucllana, an ancient pyramid built by a pre-Incan civilisation known as the Lima culture. Later wander through the streets of Lima's UNESCO World Heritage-listed historic centre with its striking colonial architecture. (B)

DAY 3: SACRED VALLEY

Fly to Cusco before transferring to the famous Sacred Valley of the Incas, home to hillside citadels and striking foothills. Stop at a small, scenic town hidden in the Peruvian Andes to learn about the intricacies of traditional iconography, from a local family. After the tour, you'll be transferred to your hotel in Sacred Valley. (B,L)

DAY 4: TRAIN TO MACHU PICCHU

Spend the morning exploring the charming town of Pisac. Here you'll visit the vibrant markets where locals sell their wares. Afterwards continue to Huilloc, to meet the local Quechua community and take part in their collective tasks including working in the fields and making clothing. After, sit down to a well-earned traditional Andean lunch with a local family. Continue to Ollantaytambo to explore the old fortress. Later this afternoon board the Vistadome train and begin your epic rail journey to Machu Picchu. Overnight in Aguas Calientes. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: MACHU PICCHU

Ascend to Machu Picchu and spend some time exploring these extraordinary ruins. Abandoned by the Inca in the 16th century, the citadel lay undiscovered until Hiram Bingham stumbled upon its vegetation-covered remains in 1911. This afternoon board your train back to Poroy before transferring to Cusco. (B)

DAY 6: DISCOVER CUSCO

Modern Cusco, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a fascinating combination of Incan and colonial heritage. Your explorations will include visits to the Plaza de Armas and the Convent of Santo Domingo, both built on the foundations of significant Incan sites. Then, visit the ruins of Sacsayhuaman, an old Incan fortress overlooking the city, with fine examples of Incan stonework. (B)

DAY 7: TRAIN TO PUNO

This morning, board your train to Puno. Travel through the spectacular Peruvian highlands in comfort and style. Your train encompasses four dining cars, a bar car and an observation car. Enjoy a gourmet lunch, prepared with delicious Andean ingredients. Once in Puno, enjoy the evening at leisure. (B,L)

DAY 8: LAKE TITICACA

Leave Puno and head to Copacabana, Bolivia. Board a hydrofoil cruise to Sun Island, believed to be the birthplace of the Inca Empire, and visit the Inca Garden. Continue to Moon Island and see Inak Uyu, the Sun Virgin's Temple. Then travel to Hautajata, where you'll meet vicunas, llamas and alpacas. Spend the night at an observatory where you can admire the constellations of the Southern Hemisphere. (B.L.D)

DAY 9: TRAVEL TO LA PAZ

This morning you will journey to La Paz, travelling through the majestic peaks of the Andes. On reaching the city, delve into its history with a half-day tour, that includes



venturing to Moon Valley, an extraordinary clay formation that resembles the lunar surface. The day concludes with a cable car ride on the teleferico, offering a bird's-eye view of the sprawling city of La Paz. (B)

DAY 10: SALAR DE UYUNI

Transfer to the airport and fly to the beautiful Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flat. Enjoy a picnic lunch out on the salt flats before spending the night in a salt hotel. (B | D)

DAY 11: EXPLORE SALAR DE UYUNI

Today will be spent exploring the Salar De Uyuni. Weather permitting, we will pay a visit to the fascinating Coquesa Mummies - human archaeological remains that have been preserved in a cave close to the Tunupa Volcano. This is a perfect spot to appreciate the immensity of the salt flats. (B,L,D)

DAY 12: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Today you bid farewell to Bolivia as you cross the border travelling to San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. (B,L)

DAY 13: ATACAMA DESERT

This morning, you'll explore the Salar de Atacama, the driest non-polar desert on earth, before visiting the quaint desert village of Tocoano. Later today you'll experience some of San Pedro's most famous landscapes on a sunset drive out to the Moon Valley. (B,L)

DAY 14: EL TATIO

Rise early today to visit the spectacular El Tatio Geysers, set within a ring of volcanoes. Later this evening prepare to be in awe of the universe! The Atacama has some of the world's darkest skies making it perfect for a stargazing tour, which you'll enjoy with a glass of local wine. (B)

DAY 15: EXPLORE SANTIAGO

This morning transfer back to Calama for your flight to Chile's capital city, Santiago. Embark on a tour of Santiago and experience the city's eclectic contrasts. Stroll around the Plaza de Armas, home to the 18th-century cathedral and 19th-century Post Office. Visit Cerro Hill and take in the panoramic views of the city below. (B,D)

DAY 16: VALPARAISO Travel to the coast to visit the bohemian port town of Valparaiso. Designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Valparaiso is unique, charming and a little bit roguish. Home to some of the best street art in Latin America, Valparaiso's magnetism simply needs to be experienced first-hand. (B,L)

DAY 17: ACROSS THE ANDES

Fly over the breathtaking Andes Mountains, getting a a spectacular view of this colossal range, as you pass over the border to Argentina, landing in the lively city of Mendoza. (B)

DAY 18: MENDOZA It is Mendoza's pace of life and joie de vivre

the wine! Take a walking tour before an afternoon at leisure. (B.D)

DAY 19: MAIPU VALLEY

Head to the Maipu Valley, the heart of Argentina's most important and oldest wine region. Visit some of the prominent wineries and taste fine wines, including Argentina's most famous red, Malbec, over a delicious lunch. (B,L)

DAY 20: BUENOS AIRES

Board your morning flight to Buenos Aires, Argentina's flamboyant capital. (B)

DAY 21: EXPLORE BUENOS AIRES

Explore the vibrant districts of La Boca, San Telmo and Recoleta on a city tour. Later, immerse yourself in a guintessential Argentine pastime, the tango! This evening, feast on traditional Argentine food while losing yourself in a passionate tango show. (B.L.D)

DAY 22: THE PAMPAS

known as the pampas, on a traditional estancia (ranch). Here you'll learn all about gaucho life. After a delicious asado lunch, enjoy a fun folklore show. (B,L)

DAY 23: IGUAZU FALLS

Fly north to see the incredible Iguazu Falls, a huge waterfall that straddles the border between Argentina and Brazil. (B,D)

that keeps visitors coming back. That, and

Spend the day on the vast, fertile grasslands

GO BEYOND PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE, ARGENTINA & BRAZIL

PHYSICAL RATING



IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

The ultimate South American adventure, this all-encompassing journey will take you from the iconic Machu Picchu and the salt flats of Bolivia to Chile's Atacama Desert to the vineyards of Argentina and the incredible Iguazu Falls.

PRICES & DEPARTURES

Prices are per person, twin share

2024 DATES

06 May - 03 Jun \$24,580 19 Aug - 16 Sep \$24,580 08 Jul - 05 Aug \$24,580 30 Sep - 28 Oct \$24,580 Flight and supplement information

- Based on departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Departures from other cities and flight upgrades available upon request
- Land only from \$21,880pp (Lima Rio de laneiro)
- Single room from \$4,800

Important note

Prices include airline fuel surcharge and taxes. Correct as of 1 August 2023, subject to change. Depending on airline schedules, you may depart and/or arrive on Day 2. Extra nights' accommodation (pre or post tour) or stopovers may be required at an additional cost.

Customary tipping amount of approximately US\$300 (AU\$448pp) is paid locally.

See website for full list of 2025 departure dates or call 1300 727 998

DAY 24: MEET THE MBORORÉ ALDEA PEOPLE

Today, visit the Argentinian side of Iguazu and experience the thundering roar of these powerful falls. Later you'll meet the native Mbororé Aldea people – learn about this intriguing culture as the community members share fascinating tales of their ancestors, rituals, myths and legends. (B,L,D)

DAY 25: FLY TO RIO DE JANEIRO

This morning cross into Brazil for a panoramic view of the falls. This afternoon, hop on a plane to Rio de Janeiro and arrive in time to watch the sunset on Copacabana Beach. (B)

DAY 26: EXPLORE RIO

Today begins at the foot of Corcovado mountain - travel to the peak by cog railway to the spot where the iconic Christ the Redeemer watches over the city. After lunch, take part in a city tour before ascending the distinctive Sugarloaf Mountain by cable car – enjoy the fantastic views of the city below. (B,L,D)

DAYS 27-29: DEPART RIO

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your flight home, arriving two days later. (B)

Your questions answered

A selection of our most frequently asked questions.

BEFORE YOU TRAVEL



Q. How soon after making our booking will we receive confirmation? **A.** Once we have received your deposit we

will send your confirmation documents.

Q. Do you send us information about the destinations we will visit?

A. It is essential that you read the relevant Tour Dossier before booking, which you can find on **wendywutours.com.au** or we can arrange for one to be sent to you. If there are any particular challenges such as the length of time spent on your feet, journey times or accommodation standards, they will be explained in these concise trip notes. Two weeks before you travel, you will receive a detailed day-by-day itinerary, a travel guide and phrasebook as well as a suggested packing list with your final documents.

Q. Will I know which hotels I will be staying in before I go?

A. Hotel details will be sent with your final documents. Note that these may be subject to change. Hotels generally range from 3-4 stars. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to

ensure that standards meet your needs. If you require an early check-in or late checkout for your arrival and departure days, please contact us.

Q. How do I get my visa?

A. The cost of your visa is nearly always included in the price of your tour (Australian passport). Simply send us your passport, completed visa application form and passport size photos 75 days before departure, along with final payment and we aim to have them sent back to you with your final documentation two weeks prior to departure. If you require your passport back earlier, please let us know so that we can arrange for an express visa service at an additional charge. Passports or visa application forms received six weeks or less before departure will automatically incur an express visa fee. Wendy Wu Tours does not accept responsibility for lost or undelivered items. Personal collection or courier services are available on request Please note that visa regulations can change at any time, therefore please refer to our website for up-to-date information. Please note that visa regulations can change at any time, therefore please refer to our website for up-to-date information

Q. Do I need travel insurance?

A. We strongly recommend that you are adequately covered by insurance for the duration of your travel arrangements. We recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit.

Q. What vaccinations do I need?

A. Vaccination requirements often change, therefore for up-to-date information please seek your doctor's advice. You may also need to comply with local requirements to undertake COVID-19 tests or be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 with a vaccine approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Q. What size are your tour groups?

A. The group size on our Classic tours is on average around 21 passengers, with a maximum group size of 28. On our Go Beyond tours and exclusive Solo Departures the average group size is around 14 and the maximum is 18. You may meet other tour groups travelling concurrently. On our group tours we operate a seat-and-a-half policy, allowing you to travel in greater comfort.

Q. Do you run guaranteed departures?

A. Group tours are guaranteed to run subject to a minimum of 8 passengers. A National Escort will accompany each group of 10 or more. We will endeavour to run groups of a smaller size if viable to do so.

Q. How fit do I need to be?

A. Our Group Tours are graded on each page to reflect the level of fitness required. The specific reasons for a particular grading for each tour are clearly described in the Tour Dossiers which you can find on our website. Please contact us if you require any advice

Q. What does escorted touring mean?

A. Every group tour with 10 or more passengers will be accompanied by a National Escort from when you arrive, to when you depart. On multi-country tours, different National Escorts are used in each country. In the unlikely event that your group is less than 10 you will be accompanied by local guides in each location. Our optional extensions are not accompanied by a National Escort; however you will have the benefit of our knowledgeable local guides. Transfers and flights to and from optional extension destinations are not escorted. Private tours are not accompanied by a National Escort, but will be accompanied by knowledgeable local guides in each location.



Q. Are meals included?

A. All meals (excluding beverages) are included in our group tours except where stated. On our Go Beyond tours, meals in remote areas may be simple or repetitive. Meals on our Classic group tours start with dinner on the normal day of arrival and finish with breakfast on the normal day of departure. Any additional meals will be at your own expense and no refund will be made for any meals missed. You will sample a range of local cuisine with occasional western meals, and meals are usually taken at local restaurants.

Q. Will I be travelling with passengers from other countries?

A. Our passengers generally enjoy the mixture of Australian, British and New Zealand clients on tour. Occasionally we are joined by English- speaking passengers from other countries.

Q. What is the average age on your aroup tours?

A. The average age range is 40-65. Younger and older passengers travel with us too.

Q. What is a Single Supplement?

A. This is a cost which guarantees your own room for the duration of the tour.

Q. As a single traveller, will I have to pay a single supplement?

A. We offer two ways to avoid paying a single supplement. The first is to book onto one of our Dedicated Solo Departures, which are reserved exclusively for solo travellers and have single occupancy of a double room built into the tour price (along with other features like free airport transfers, free access to an airport lounge in SYD. BNE. MEL. ADL & PER and a drinks reception on arrival). The second is to choose our 'Happy to Share' option, which may enable you to share a twin room

with another solo customers of the same gender who also requests 'Happy to Share'. thus avoiding the need to pay single room supplements. Note that 'Happy to Share' requests can be received when you make your booking with us but will not be confirmed until after your final payment due date. Our Customer Services Team will make contact around 60 days before departure to let you know if a share partner has been found thus refunding the single room supplement. If a share partner is found, the Single Supplement will be removed from your booking and refunded. If a share partner is not found, the Single Supplement will remain and is payable with your final balance in line with our normal booking conditions. Alternatively a private room of your own is available on any of our tours at an extra cost. Please check the tour pages or our website for details.

Q. How do I know which tour is a solo departure?

A. We have reserved selected departures on some of our most popular tours exclusively for customers who prefer to share their wonderful holiday experiences with a readymade group of like-minded solo travellers. Please check the purple shading on dates for these departures.

Q. What extra benefits do I receive on a dedicated solo departures?

A. Our dedicated solo departures feature our renowned inclusions such as return airfares and taxes, accommodation, meals, sightseeing and entrance fees, transportation and visa fees for Australian passports. Our exclusive solo departures also enjoy complimentary airport transfers from your home to the airport (within a 50km radius), a lounge pass at selected Australian airports (SYD, MEL, BNE, ADL & PER) and an arrival drink at your destination.

WHILE ON TOUR

Q. Do I have my own room (or am I sharing with another solo traveler)?

A. The dedicated solo departure guarantees you your own room.

Q. What if I live outside the 50km complimentary radius. Can you still book me a transfer?

A. Yes, we can enquire about the transfer from your location. Additional charges may apply. Complimentary airport transfers apply to Dedicated Solo Departures. T&C's apply.

Q. How many Solo travellers do you have on tour?

A. Every departure is unique however generally approx 20% of tour numbers tend to be booked by solo passengers. However there are no guarantees. If you are looking for a tour that is guaranteed to have solo travellers please look out for tours marked with this icon.



S Dedicated solo departures

Q. If I have my own room, can I request a king bed

A. While we can request the configuration of the room i.e TWN. SGL or DBL, regrettably we are unable to request size of the individual bedding.

Q. If I have paid a single supplement, do i receive my own cabin on a rail tour?

A. The majority of our rail journey's are completed during the day. However Tibetan Railroad and China: The Big One do have an overnight train component and in this instance a private cabin is not guaranteed, instead 4 berth share cabins are utilised.

Q. Can friends join these tours?

A. Sure can! We often have two friends travelling together join our solo tours yet prefer the comfort of their own room to return to at the end of each day.

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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