



ZHANGJIAJIE & CHANGSHA

Short Stay | 6 Days | Physical Level 2

Zhangjiajie – Changsha

Discover the best of Zhangjiajie and Changsha on this epic short stay which makes for an exciting addition to any China tour for those seeking to be amazed by striking natural beauty and encounter an array of breathtaking experiences.

- Experience a journey in the world's longest cable car as you glide up Tianmen Mountain
- Marvel at the mesmerising and mysterious landscapes of Zhangjiajie
- Take a thrilling walk along Zhangjiajie's glass skywalks
- Relax on a charming cruise amongst Zhangjiajie's picturesque karst scenery

TOUR MAP



ZHANGJIAJIE & CHANGSHA TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- All accommodation
- Meals as stated – 5 breakfasts (B), 4 lunches (L), 0 dinners (D)
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as stated
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

International flights and visa not included along with personal expenditures e.g., drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.

SHORT STAYS:

Short Stays are designed for those who want some independence and flexibility. They offer the choice to explore local cuisine, leisure time for optional activities or excursions, and travel when it suits you. We offer a range of private Short Stays that allow you to extend your holiday or break up your journey – either gives extra time for exploration and relaxation!

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

The tour is 6 days in duration. Join the tour on Day 1 in Zhangjiajie and end the tour on Day 6 in Changsha. The price includes your arrival/departure airport or railway station transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your flight information to our reservations team.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

We intend to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours, or as dictated by local conditions. In these circumstances, we will endeavour to make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 2:

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights.

'Zhangjiajie and Changsha' is rated as a **physical level 2** tour. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it is more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You will be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

- On several days there will be sightseeing on foot for extended periods of time
- In Zhangjiajie there are periods of walking up and down stone steps and walkways as well as walking across a glass bridge, getting on and off escalators and in and out of cable cars

Of course, our local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

DETAILED ITINERARY**Day 1: Arrive Zhangjiajie**

Meals: None

On arrival in Zhangjiajie Airport or Railway station, you will be met in the arrival hall by your local guide or English-speaking assistant from Wendy Wu Tours and transferred to your hotel for an evening at leisure..

Here you will spend the next three days exploring the mysterious landscapes and remarkable scenery of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, home to over 3,000 striking sandstone pillars amongst the deep valleys, caves and forests.



Early check-in is not included. Additional nights before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.

Destination Information

Zhangjiajie – A scenic area of over 3,000 sandstone pillars, rising from misty folds of subtropical forest and cloaked in vibrant green vegetation, Zhangjiajie's striking beauty is unforgettable.

Day 2: Zhangjiajie

Meals: B, L

Enjoy a full day of exploring Zhangjiajie National Park. Begin at the Yuanjianie Scenic Area, and ride the remarkable Bailong glass elevator, the highest and fastest outdoor elevator in the world. Embedded into the mountain, the elevator soars up the mountain side to a towering height of 326 metres in as little as two minutes! This impressive elevator will transport you to Mihun Stage, where you will enjoy amazing views of the majestic peaks, including the 'First Bridge under the Sun' and Hallelujah Mountain. Continue to Emperor Mountain and visit Helong Park before taking a cable car down.



Walk across the Jinbian Stream before exploring the Ten-Mile Natural Gallery via a picturesque train journey. Later, enjoy a scenic sampan cruise on Lake Baofeng, a turquoise expanse of water amongst picturesque karst scenery.

Sightseeing today will involve around 3-4 hours of walking, including wooden and stone steps.

This evening, there is an optional Fairy Fox Outdoor Music & Dancing Show (time and weather permitting, payable locally), a musical drama of a Chinese tale told against the stage backdrop of the mountains.

Destination Information

Yuanjianie Scenic Area – The area is dotted with stunning limestone karst formations, including natural stone arches and caves, providing ample opportunities for photography and exploration. Wildlife enthusiasts can also encounter a diverse array of flora and fauna, adding to the area's allure as a haven for nature lovers.

Bailong Elevator – Also known as the Hundred Dragons Elevator, this architectural marvel holds an impressive three world records: the largest, highest and fastest sightseeing elevator in the world.

Jinbian Stream – Called Golden Whip Stream after the 380 metre high Golden Whip Rock, Jinbian Stream is famous for its pristine water, lush mountains, steep cliffs and serene valley. Exotic plants and rare animals co-exist, and the valley in which it lies is known as one of the most beautiful valleys in the world.

Ten-Mile Natural Gallery – Ten Mile Natural Gallery is a 5.8 kilometre long valley with picturesque scenery. Peaks on both sides of the valley form natural sculptures.

Lake Baofeng – Located up in the mountains, Lake Baofeng is an abundance of fresh water, accompanied by stunning waterfalls.

Day 3: Zhangjiajie

Meals: B, L

Discover the colourful stalagmites and stalactites of the Huanglong Cave, stretching across 120-acres. Then, brace yourself for an exhilarating walk across Zhangjiajie's Glass Bridge, the world's longest and highest glass-bottomed bridge spanning 430-metres over the Grand Canyon.

Sightseeing today will involve around 3-4 hours of walking, including 2 hours of walking at the Huanglong Cave, up and down stone steps.



Destination Information

Huanglong Cave – The Huanglong Cave is a karst cave stretching over 120 acres in area. Inside the cave there are waterfalls, rivers, pools and lakes.

Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon – Located in the Wulingyuan Scenic Area, famed for its breathtaking scenery of towering sandstone pillars, lush forests, and the meandering course of the Li River.

Zhangjiajie Glass Bridge – The world's longest and highest glass-bottomed bridge, spanning 430 metres across the Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon.

Day 4: Zhangjiajie – Changsha

Meals: B, L

Soar up the heights of Tianmen Mountain in the world's longest cable car, a 7-kilometre journey taking approximately 40-minutes, over the 99-bend road 'Avenue to Heaven'. Atop the mountain, marvel at Tianmen Cave, nicknamed 'Heaven's Door', standing proudly at the top of 999 steep steps. Next, take a thrilling walk along a glass skywalk, aptly named the "Walk of Faith" as though you're walking on air. If time permits, you may also walk across the Cliff-Hanging Walkway or Coiled Dragon Cliff.



Return down the mountain by cable car and to Jun Sheng Sandstone painting gallery before boarding your 3.5-hour bullet train to Changsha.

Sightseeing today will involve around 3-4 hours of walking, including wooden and stone steps.

Please note: The 999 step walk up to Tianmen Cave and the glass skywalk is optional. The steps can take around 40 – 60 minutes. Alternatively, there is an escalator on the other side of the mountain leading up to Tianmen Cave. There is also a small platform at the foot of the steps where you can soak up the spectacular views.

Destination Information

Tianmen Mountain – Regarded as the symbol and soul of Zhangjiajie, Tianmen Mountain is a national forest park bursting with natural beauty. The area is home to breathtaking glass skywalks, the 999-step stairway leading to 'Heaven's Door' and the world's longest cable car journey.

Jun Sheng Sandstone – Opened by Li Junsheng, the founder of sandstone painting, this exhibition hall showcases the art form which uses natural materials and seamlessly combines the styles of watercolour, oil painting and traditional Chinese painting methods.

Changsha – Changsha, the capital city of Hunan Province, China, is a vibrant metropolis steeped in history and surrounded by natural beauty. With its modern skyline, historical landmarks like Yuelu Mountain and Orange Isle, and a thriving culinary scene featuring spicy Hunan cuisine, Changsha offers a perfect blend of ancient charm and contemporary allure.

Day 5: Changsha

Meals: B, L

Begin the day by stepping into history at the Yuelu Academy, a hub of learning for centuries, nestled by the scenic Mt. Yuelu. Explore Orange Island, a picturesque island home to the 32-metre statue of Mao Zedong and lush gardens. Later, take a visit to the Hunan Museum, showcasing an expansive collection of art and cultural treasures from the province.

Please note, the Hunan Museum is closed on Monday's.



Destination Information

Yuelu Academy – As one of the four great ancient academies in China, Yuelu Academy has been a center for Confucian studies, attracting scholars and intellectuals throughout history. Today, it serves as a cultural landmark, housing valuable collections, ancient books, and cultural relics that offer a glimpse into China's scholarly traditions and intellectual heritage.

Orange Island – Situated in the heart of Changsha, Orange Island is a picturesque island renowned for its natural beauty and historical significance. This elongated island stretches along the Xiangjiang River, offering panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. Lush greenery, blooming flowers, and serene walking paths make it a popular destination for leisurely strolls and outdoor activities. The island is also home to several cultural landmarks, including the renowned 32-metre statue of Mao Zedong, which stands tall as a tribute to the leader's connection to the region.

Day 6: Depart Changsha

Meals: B

Any time before your flight or train is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to Changsha Airport or Railway station, according to the departure time of your flight or train.

Late check-out is not included. Additional nights before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.



TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS:

Entry visas are required by all visitors to China and Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back in Australia.

For the latest information on visa procedures, processing times and requirements, please kindly refer to our website <https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/>

Please note the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate; Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa.

INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance. We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original.

ACCOMMODATION:

Hotels are generally rated as four-star standard if a 'Superior' option is selected and five-star standard if a 'Deluxe' option is selected, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and China. All hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Hotel check-in is generally from 2pm and check-out is by 10am. Due to environmental regulations, not all hotels in China provide toiletries in the rooms. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide. 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.

DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA:

Though parts of China match the west in modernity and technological advances, it is important to remember that China is still a developing country and as such, many aspects of tourism in China do not have the solid infrastructure and safety standards as seen here in the west.

EATING IN CHINA:

Chinese cuisine is one of the most influential, diverse and flavoursome culinary styles in the world with a legacy stretching back thousands of years. Often, you will find that the local Chinese style is very different from what you are used to at home. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout China. Dishes served in restaurants on our tours are varied. Some will be vegetable-based with meat mixed in, and a few will be meat-based. Traditionally, Chinese people cook with a lot of vegetables because meat used to be hard to come by.

Dishes often come pre-seasoned with soy sauce or other sauces. Our restaurants are well aware of the western palate – there are plenty of non-spiced options. Most meals are served with plain rice on the side which is intended as an accompaniment to your meal. Unlike the western world, Chinese people do not normally pre-heat their plates and food can be presented at a variety of temperatures, which is a typical Chinese way of doing things.

Your Local Guide will do their utmost to cater for any special requests such as gluten free or vegetarian meals, however, people on restricted diets should expect complications. Although most Asian countries are now quite developed, only quite recently have they started to widely accept Western guests. Western food requirements are quite far removed from Asian food requirements, and even medical reasons can be quite difficult to explain. While our ground partners will do everything they can to cater for a wide range of dietary requirements on tour, we ask kindly for your patience and understanding that they cannot always be delivered to the standard you will be used to at home. It is recommended that passengers with food intolerances bring snacks or additional food items with them, especially when travelling further from major cities as not all dietary requests will be met due to the limited foods available. Please read your travel guide which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in China. We recommend that when it comes to Chinese food, you stay open minded, try to be adventurous and always have a go with the chopsticks!

PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ALLERGIES AND/OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AT TIME OF BOOKING.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

To give you more flexibility and choice when travelling on our Short Stays, we have allowed time for various evenings at leisure so that you can explore the many culinary delights that China has to offer. Your private guide will be happy to provide you with advice about good places to eat and assist in the booking of transportation to get you there (at your own expense). Alternatively, you can use this time to enjoy the facilities of your hotel.

TRANSPORT:

Trains: On this tour, you will take a high-speed “bullet” train journey. You will travel in first-class soft seats with air conditioning. For train journeys you must ensure that you pack liquids, aerosols and gels/lotions in your hand luggage as per recent regulations. Passengers are not allowed to carry any aerosols over 100ml. Passengers are also not allowed to carry flammable gases or liquids including styling gel, compressed air or insecticides; any explosives, magnetised material, knives (including Swiss Army knives), scissors or sharp items (medication is fine). Bag checks are conducted randomly and any of these items may be confiscated before boarding the train (in hand luggage or main luggage). The National Escort will inform you of specific details prior to boarding.

High-Speed Train Facilities: The first-class seats are in a 2 x 2 seating configuration. Each carriage has a western style toilet. Most seats will have a foldable tray table and power socket for charging your electronic devices. There are dining carts on board if you wish to purchase your own additional food.

Cars: Private cars with air conditioning are used on our private tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. The size of the vehicle will vary between cities and dependant on the number of travellers. All vehicles have space for one suitcase and one hand luggage per person. Roads in China have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road – not just 1-2 kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only. There may be sections of road where the surface is bumpy, but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

SOUVENIRS:

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs; so, in each city, we will visit a workshop or factory which demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places which hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

CHINESE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:

If you are travelling within the below Chinese Public Holidays, please note that celebrations last for several days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open but may be crowded. Chinese New Year is on 29th January 2025 and 17th February 2026. Golden Week public holidays fall annually between 1st – 3rd May and 1st – 7th October.

TIPPING:

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and China is no exception. For Private Tours, tipping is at your own discretion, and we recommend the following amounts paid in the equivalent local currency.

- Tour Guide: US\$8-10 per person, per day
- Drivers: US\$3-5 per person, per day
- Hotel Maid & Porterage: US\$1-2 per use
- Restaurants (with no added service charge to the bill): 10-15% per meal

LUGGAGE:

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of 5kg. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. In general, we recommend packing only as much as you can lift as you will need to carry your own luggage on and off the train. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive an email with your confirmation invoice, along with a link to our website where you can find your visa information (if applicable) and other important information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

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