



CHINA

14 DAYS TRAIN TOUR IN CHINA -- IN THE HEART OF CHINESE CULTURE

Private tour: Daily departure from Beijing with English speaking local guides (English, German and French speaking provincial guides available on request at surcharge).



ITINERARY:

BEIJING (-/L/D)

DAY 1 Welcome at the airport on your arrival and transfer to town. Visit the Temple of Heaven. Stroll in the ancient street of Liulichang and the traditional and lively quarter of Dazhalan before dinner at local restaurant. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Hotel.

BEIJING (B/L/D)

DAY 2 Breakfast at hotel. Visit the Great Wall (Mutianyu section) and the Ming Tombs. Walk along the Sacred Path. Lunch at local restaurant. Beijing Duck dinner is served in the evening. Overnight at Hotel.

BEIJING - DATONG (B/L/D)

DAY 3 Breakfast at hotel. The morning will be dedicated to a visit to the Forbidden City, also known as the Imperial Museum. Then, ascend Coal Hill from where you will enjoy a beautiful view of Beijing. In the afternoon, visit the Lama and Confucius Temples. In the evening, enjoy a Beijing Opera performance. After the show, transfer to Beijing railway station and depart by night train to Datong (soft sleeper compartment of four passengers). Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight on the train.

DATONG (B/L/D)

DAY 4 Breakfast at hotel. Early arrival in Datong. Excursion to Yungang Caves, which gather one of the most remarkable examples of Buddhist sculptures in China. Visit the Upper and Lower monasteries, founded in the 12th century, and the Huayan Monastery, built in the 10th century. It comprises the biggest Buddhist shrine-hall in China. Stroll around the old town where you will discover the Nine-Dragon Screen, made of glazed tiles. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Hotel.



DATONG - WUTAISHAN (B/L/D)

DAY 5 Breakfast at hotel. Departure by road to Wutaishan, one of the sacred Buddhist mountains. This journey will enable you to see some of the most

fascinating habitats in Northern China: cave dwellings dug into yellow earth cliffs. On the way, stop at Xuankong Temple, which incredibly hangs from sheer cliffs over a canyon. Arrive in Taihuai, at the foot of Wutaishan. Lunch on the way and dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at Friendship Hotel***.

WUTAISHAN (B/L/D)

DAY 6 Breakfast at hotel. Visit some of the most beautiful monasteries and shrines built on the mountain over the centuries. They are devoted to the cult of Wenshu, the Bodhisatva of wisdom. Each one has its own specific features: Nanchan temple with its stunning wooden structure and seventeen painted figurines; Fogang Temple, known as the light of Asian Buddhism; and Xiantong Temple, the most ancient one. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Friendship Hotel***.

WUTAISHAN - PINGYAO (B/L/D)

DAY 7 Breakfast at hotel. Drive to a beautiful road on the plateau of Shanxi province towards Pingyao (350 km). This city, inscribed by UNESCO on the list of World Heritage monuments, is one of the few cities in China to have maintained its city walls. The old town is completely intact and the traveler is taken back to ancient times of the Middle Kingdom. On the way, stop at the Qiao Family residence, a walled mansion with five courtyards constructed by a rich merchant. It now hosts an interesting folk museum. Lunch on the way and dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at a traditional courtyard hotel.



PINGYAO (B/L/D)

DAY 8 Breakfast at hotel. Start the day with the visit of the Wang family residence. Resembling a fortress, both in looks and stature, the building was constructed by a Mandarin for his retirement. Stop at Shuanglin Temple and admire the beautifully painted clay figurines. In the afternoon, wander about the streets, filled with charming atmosphere. Pay particular attention to the wonderful architecture. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at a traditional courtyard hotel.

PINGYAO - TAIYUAN - XIAN (B/L/-)

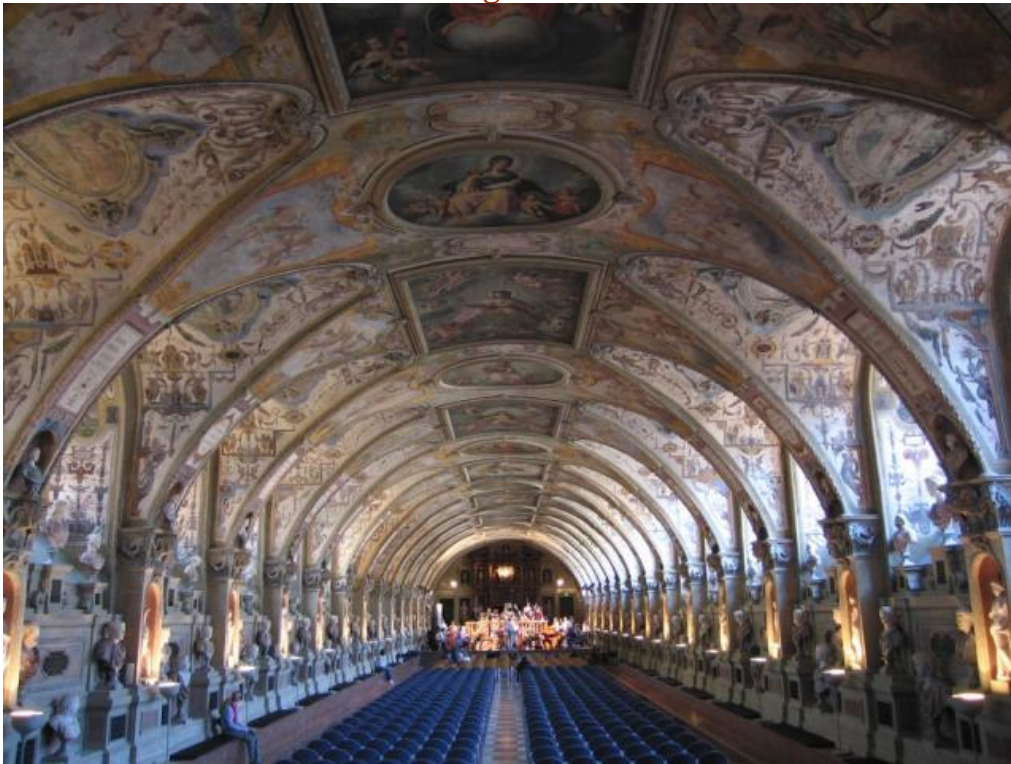
DAY 9 Breakfast at hotel. Depart on a two-hour journey to Taiyuan. En route, stop at Zhenguo Temple. Built entirely of wood during the Song dynasty, the temple is worth a visit because of the unique structure of its roof. On arrival in Taiyuan, discover Jinci Temple, mostly known for its 42 graceful clay statues, dating back to the Song dynasty. The statues represent servants surrounding a lady said to be the mother of a Prince of the Zhou dynasty. Board the overnight train to Xian (four-berth soft sleeper compartment). Lunch at local restaurant. Dinner at clients' account on the train. Overnight on the train.

XIAN (B/L/D)

DAY 10 Arrive in Xian early in the morning. After breakfast at your hotel, depart for an excursion to the site of the First Emperor's famous terra cotta army. Visit the History Museum, which houses numerous archeological discoveries made in the Xian area, including many gold and silver objects discovered in a crypt built during the Tang dynasty. Stop at the Big Goose Pagoda. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Hotel.

XIAN - LUOYANG (B/L/D)

DAY 11 Breakfast at hotel. In the morning visit the Grand Mosque, built in the style of 7th century China, and enjoy a walk around the neighborhood. Transfer to the railway station and board the train to Luoyang. You will be welcomed by guide on arrival in the evening. Transfer to your hotel for accommodation. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Hotel.



LUOYANG - ZHENGZHOU - SHANGHAI (B/L/-)

DAY 12 Breakfast at hotel. Morning depart to the Longmen Caves on the outskirts of Luoyang. The site, one of three famous art grottoes in China, consists of a succession of small niches, the most ancient of which dates back to the North Wei dynasty. This is a fascinating outdoor museum of Buddhist sculptural

art. On the way to Zhengzhou, stop in Gongyi to visit the spectacular fortress mansion of a rich 19th-century merchant nicknamed Kang the Millionaire. In the evening, board the night train in Zhengzhou (four-berth soft sleeper compartments) to Shanghai. Lunch on the way. Dinner at clients' account on the train. Overnight on the train.

SHANGHAI (B/L/D)

DAY 13 Arrive in Shanghai in the morning. Transfer to your hotel and breakfast, then visit Shanghai's old town and sample its bustling atmosphere. Visit Mandarin Yu garden, created in the 16th century. In the afternoon, visit Shanghai Museum to discover the beautiful collections of bronze, porcelain, sculptures and calligraphy. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants. Overnight at Hotel.

SHANGHAI - DEPARTURE (B/-/-)

DAY 14 Breakfast at hotel. Time at your leisure until departure transfer to the airport.

Our tour prices are inclusive of accommodation in twin shared room, meals as specified in the program (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner), transfers and tours with English speaking local guides, all entrance fees, train fares, room taxes and baggage handling.

Note: Small deviations in the tour program are sometimes necessary, depending on weather, road conditions, flight schedules and room availability.



This tour is just an example we can customized it for you

