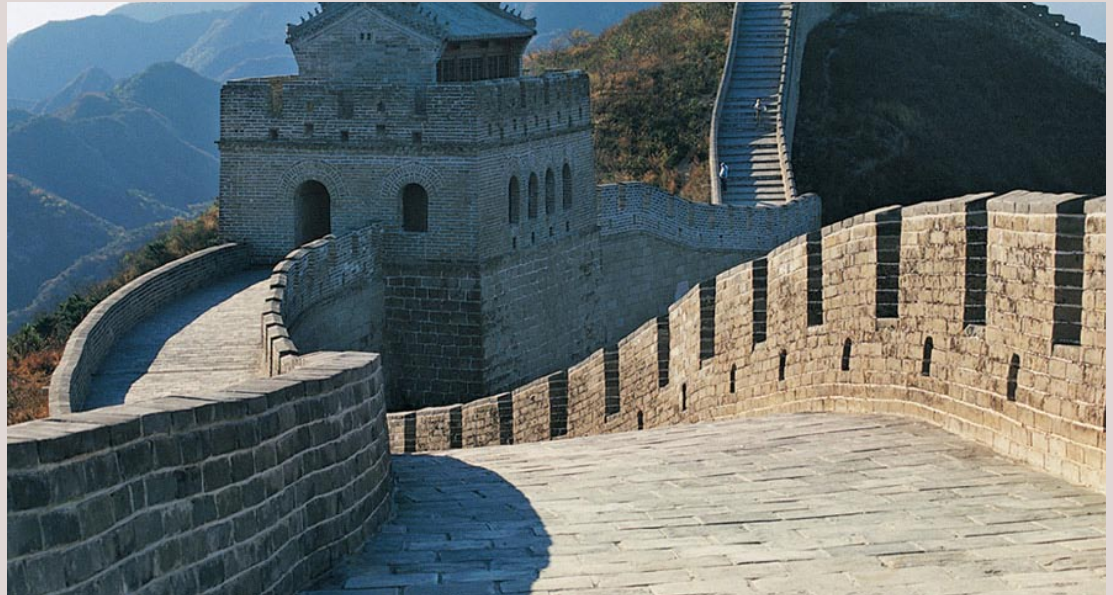


China

Home to some of the world's greatest man-made and natural wonders, China remains as mysterious today as it was centuries ago.

China appears as a different world rather than simply another country. Its location, separated from its neighbours by the Himalayas and the Siberian steppe, provided one of the world's oldest civilisations. Considering the enormity of the area, it's not surprising that there's also a variable climate. Beijing has cold, dry winters and hot summers, which can be wet and very humid. Guilin has a cool winter, pleasant spring and autumn and long, hot, wet summers. Shanghai can be wet and overcast for most of the year with cool winters and hot summers.



China Weather

| Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Avg Rainfall (mm) | 23 | 48 | 67 | 162 | 317 | 376 | 324 | 391 | 300 | 145 | 35 | 27 |
| Avg Temperature (C) | 19 | 19 | 21 | 25 | 29 | 30 | 32 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 24 | 21 |
| Irish Avg Rainfall (mm) | 67 | 55 | 51 | 45 | 60 | 57 | 70 | 74 | 72 | 70 | 67 | 74 |
| Irish Avg Temperature (C) | 4 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 9 | 6 | 4 |

Capitol Hotel Beijing



Rating:

Located in the central shopping and downtown area, the Capitol Hotel is a 10-minute walk from Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and Wangfujing shopping district. Nearby are also many other historical attractions, such as Temple of Heaven, Jingshan Park, Museum of Chinese History. It is also a close neighbour to Ministries like Ministry of Commerce, Association of friendship with Foreign Countries, Municipal Government of Beijing.

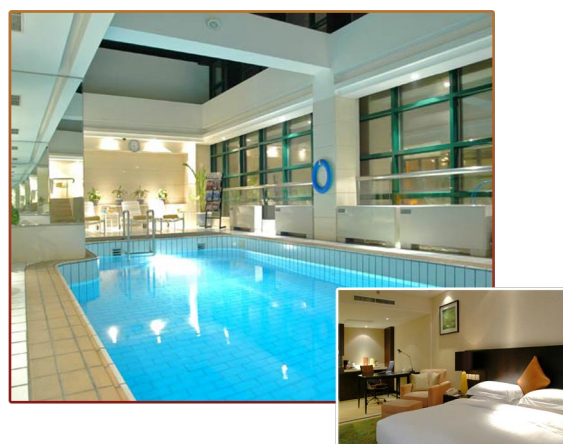
Facilities: Pool, tour desk, fitness centre, nightclub, sauna, hair salon, room service, coffee shop, laundry, 8 restaurants and 3 bars.

Accommodation: 322 rooms, air-conditioning, telephone, in-room safe, hairdryer, tea/coffee making facilities, minibar, bathrobe and flat screen satellite TV.

Prices From (per person sharing)

3 nights **€906** extra night €66
includes flights, transfers & accommodation

Crowne Plaza Beijing Resort



Rating:

Located on Wangfujing Avenue, just a 10 minutes stroll from the inspiring Forbidden City. You are at the heart of the city's prime shopping and cultural district, with easy access to International business centres, such as Oriental Plaza, Financial Street and CBD as well as historical landmarks.

Facilities: Pool, tour desk, fitness centre, sauna, beauty salon, room service, coffee shop, business centre, 2 restaurants and bars.

Accommodation: 387 rooms, air-conditioning, telephone, in-room safe, hairdryer, tea/coffee making facilities, minibar, bathrobe and cable satellite TV.

Prices From (per person sharing)

3 nights **€1191** extra night €161
includes flights, transfers & accommodation

Holiday Inn Vista Shanghai



Rating:

Conveniently situated only 10 minutes away from the city centre, just 20 minutes' drive from Hong Qiao Airport, 55 minutes from Pudong International Airport and 10 minutes from Shanghai Railway Station, making the hotel an ideal base for business, sightseeing and shopping.

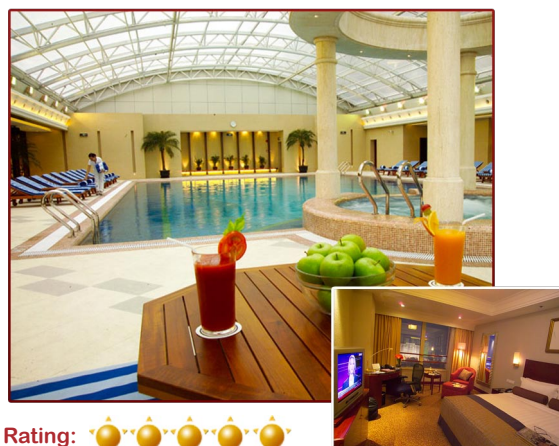
Facilities: Pool, tour desk, fitness centre, golf virtual reality simulator, room service, coffee shop, laundry, restaurant and bar.

Accommodation: 294 rooms, air-conditioning, IDD telephone, in-room safe, hairdryer, tea/coffee making facilities, minibar, "rainforest shower" and cable satellite TV.

Prices From (per person sharing)

3 nights **€1201** extra night €132
includes flights, transfers & accommodation

Radisson New World Shanghai



Rating:

Located opposite People's Park and right above the People's Park subway station. The hotel offers direct underground access to the subway via a shopping centre that is accessible from the hotel lobby. The shopping centre houses Madame Tussauds wax museum, a 2 storey SEGA World fun and games venue, a movie cinema complex, and an ice skating rink. With its unique glass dome atop the hotel, the Radisson is an icon of the Shanghai city skyline.

Facilities: Pool, tour desk, fitness centre, health spa centre, room service, coffee shop, laundry, 5 restaurants, bar, Epicure on 45 the revolving restaurant and Sky Dome bar on the 47th floor.

Accommodation: 520 rooms, air-conditioning, telephone, in-room safe, iron, hairdryer, tea/coffee making facilities, minibar, high speed broadband internet and satellite TV.

Prices From (per person sharing)

3 nights **€1309** extra night €168
includes flights, transfers & accommodation

Touring in China



Day 1 Arrive Beijing

Upon arrival into Beijing, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel with the rest of the day free.

Day 2 - 4 Beijing (B/L)

Visit Tiananmen Square which is located in the centre of the city. Your next stop will be the 600-year-old Forbidden City, visit the beautiful Summer Palace. Travel to the north suburb to see the Ming Tombs area. In the afternoon visit the highlight of your trip - the Great Wall that was built to ward off invasion of the Mongolians and Manchurians. Take the relaxing Hutong tour to get a glimpse of local's people daily life. Visit the Temple of Heaven whose construction was laid out quite specially and are masterpieces of the Ming Dynasty, and do some shopping at either the Hongqiao Market or Silk Alley. Enjoy China's No. 1 specialty - the Peking Duck Dinner in the evening.

Day 5 - 6 Beijing - Xian (B/L)

Transfer to airport for morning flight to Xian. Upon arrival into this starting point of the Silk Road. Enjoy a city tour including a visit to the Historical Museum that is one of the best in the country and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda that was initially built in the 7th century to house Buddhist scriptures brought back from India and now symbol of the city.

Day 7 Xian - Chongqing - Yangtze River Cruise (B/L)

Take a morning flight to Chongqing - the most important city in China's southwest region. Enjoy a city tour in the afternoon, visit the Eling Park where you can get a panoramic view of the city, the Zoo, and the Great Hall which symbolizes the city. You will be transferred to the pier where you will board one of the ships of Victoria Cruises which departs Chongqing at 9pm.

Day 8 - 9 Yangtze River Cruise (B/L/D)

You will sail through the Qutang Gorge, the first of the three Yangtze gorges that is only 8km long but known for its magnificence. Then the ship docks at Wushan for an excursion to the Lesser Three Gorges that is narrower, but more dramatic. Continue through Wu Gorge that is famous for its deep valley and quiet beauty. The Xiling Gorge, the longest of the 3 and composed of many scenic spots. Then it is quite an experience to watch the ship go through the 5-deck ship-lock that normally takes more than 3 hours. Join in the Farewell Banquet in the evening.



Day 10 Yichang - Shanghai (B)

This morning you will visit the magnificent Three Gorges Dam site. American engineers selected the current site in 1930, and the dam completion is now scheduled for 2008. While the dam will create the world's largest reservoir and has promised benefits such as flood and drought control, it will on the other hand relocate over 1.5 million people; submerge 13 cities as well as 570,000 acres of cultivated land. You will then be met at around noon and transferred to the airport for your flight to Shanghai.

Day 11 - 12 Shanghai (B/L)

Your full day tour will start with the Historical Display Museum, which tells the city's past in a vivid way. The next stop is the Oriental TV Tower on top of which you can get a nice view of the Bund. Further on, visit the old city bazaar and Yu Garden that is located in a crowded living area. In the evening visit the Xintiandi which is frequented by both local and foreign tourists.

Day 13 Depart Shanghai (B)

You will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

Prices From (per person sharing)

€3296

Includes:

- 4* hotel accommodation with daily breakfast
- Flight Beijing / Xian / Chongqing & Yichang / Shanghai at Economy Class
- Vicotor Cruise (Chongqing to Yichang - downstream)
- all shore excursion
- Tour and meals as above
- English speaking local guide
- International Flights

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner