



"See World Differently"

Family & Fun Program

CN3 - Biking at Backcountry in China---11days



Detailed Day – by-Day Itinerary

Day 1: Beijing

After arriving at the airport by Air Canada (AC29), you will be picked up by the local Beijing guide and transferred to the hotel. In the evening, the guide will meet you at the hotel and go to one of Beijing's popular local restaurants for a Beijing Duck Dinner.

Overnight at Guxiang#3 hotel

Meal: D

Day 2: Beijing

After breakfast, the guide will pick you up and transfer you to **Tiananmen Square**. From there, you will walk through the **Forbidden City** from South to North. After leaving the Imperial Palace we will rent some **bikes** and explore the **Hutongs** (the traditional Beijing resident areas) on China's most traditional means of transport. After a pleasant ride through the Hutongs, we will stop at a typical Beijing family's courtyard to enjoy a **homemade lunch** in an absolutely authentic atmosphere.

After lunch, we will go on by bike and visit **Lhama Tibetan Temple**. On the way home we can stop at the Houhai lakes for a short break to enjoy a drink in one of the countless bars.

After returning the bikes we will head back to the hotel.

In the evening the guide will take you to a modern and trendy Chinese restaurant.

Overnight at Guxiang#3 hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 3: Beijing

To avoid the crowds which visit the Great Wall at Badaling, we will take you today to a different Great Wall section for an **approximately 4-5 hour hike**. This section of the



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Great Wall (especially the first part) is not overrun by tourists, in addition it's an insider tip, as most Chinese photographers know this Great Wall section as a photographer's paradise. Today, we will have a late lunch and you will enjoy a delicious BBQ trout. After returning in the early evening, we will take you for a typical Beijing Dinner.

After an early dinner, our guide will take families to watch an Acrobatic show at a local theater. **(Optional program)**

Overnight at Guxiang#3 hotel
Meals: B, L, D

Day 4: Beijing to Xi'an

After breakfast we transfer to the **Summer Palace** and start the day with a classic **TaiChi lesson** in the park. Later, we transfer to the **Heavens Temple** and have lunch in the area. In the afternoon we visit Liulichang, where you can enjoy a traditional **tea ceremony** and also buy the classic Chinese roll paintings.

After a local dinner, we transfer to the train station where you take the night train to Xian.

Overnight on Train
Meals: B, L, D

Day 5: Xi'an

Today upon arrival, we will have a western breakfast in the hotel. After checking in at the hotel, we head off to the **Terracotta Army** which was created to guard the tomb of Qin Shihuang, the first emperor to unite China. One of the most remarkable archaeological discoveries of all times, the Terracotta Army is designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We leisurely admire this vast array of soldiers. After lunch, we visit the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** one of the most famous pagodas in China. This provides us an opportunity to reflect on how the location of Xi'an, at the eastern end of the Silk Road, made it a flourishing center of Buddhist development in ancient China. Tonight we will have dinner at a **vegetarian restaurant**.

Overnight in Bell and Drum Hotel in Xi'an
Meals: B, L, D

Day 6: Xi'an

In the morning, we visit the **Shaanxi History Museum**, spending two hours studying the treasures from more than 1,000 years ago that have been unearthed in Xi'an, the ancient capital of China. After a lunch of the traditional noodles, for which Xi'an is famous, we visit the **Great Mosque**



and walk around the Muslim quarter. There we find a way of life that derives as much from the ancient cultures of Central Asia as it does from China. For over 1,300 years, Muslims have been an integral part of the colorful daily life of Xi'an. As sunset approaches, we **bike along the Ming Dynasty City Walls** that still encircle the old city and then continue our exploration of Xi'an cuisine at a local restaurant for dinner. After enjoying a distinctively Xi'an dinner, featuring lamb at the Lao Sun Jia Restaurant which has been in operation for many decades, we mingle with local people, visit shops that remain open until late in the evening or watch a Tang dynasty dancing show. **(Optional program)**

Overnight in Bell and Drum Hotel in Xi'an
Meals: B, L, D

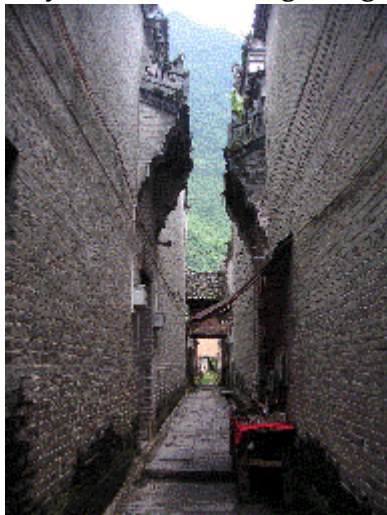
Day 7: Xi'an to Guilin

We take morning flight and arrive in Guilin today in the afternoon. After checking in to the hotel, we drive 45 minutes to **Dayu ancient town**. In this ancient town, we can visit their **bamboo basket making workshop**, ancient style Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) shop as well as the alehouse. If we are lucky, we may explore their market day.

We will have our first night's dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Guilin Bravo Hotel
Meals: L, D

Day 8: Guilin to Longsheng to Guilin



Today we depart Guilin by bus and drive for 2.5 hours, to **Longsheng** where we will start our biking. There, we will visit a man-made wonder - the terraced rice fields, carved into the hillside over hundreds of years by the local Zhuang and Yao people. The rice fields, when filled with water, resemble dragon's scales, hence the mountain's name - Dragon's Back. From there, we bike (18 km, 1.5 hours) along the mountain road to a mountain trail that traverses terraced slopes and bamboo forests and connects several **Zhuang and Yao minority villages**. We will have either a picnic lunch or dine at a local farmer's house. After lunch, we will have two hours of moderate hiking. The solitude and calm in the forests are overwhelming, and at times the only sounds we hear come from a babbling brook or chirping bird. We will return to Guilin in the evening.

Overnight: Guilin Bravo Hotel



"See World Differently"

Meals: B, L, D

Day 9: Guilin to Yangshuo: Li River Cruise and Fish Village Exploring

We start our day with a 3-hour **boat ride** down the **Li River**, which is considered by many as the most beautiful river in China. Cruising along, it feels as if we are idling along a corridor of landscape paintings—limestone pinnacles are sprinkled amidst terraced rice fields and picturesque villages. After lunch on the boat, we disembark the cruise boat in **Xingping**, an ancient town where locals have been living along the historic main street for many generations. We visit the old houses and a rice noodle factory in Xingping before driving along the old Chinese "Pony Express Road" to the town of **Fuli**. Fuli is a small town of 4,000 people, yet boasts a history of over 1,000 years. A quarter of Fuli's residents earn their income from making traditional painted fans and umbrellas. We walk along the ancient narrow stone street and visit the local market, farms, rice wine factory and a fan craft shop. In the late afternoon we drive to **Yangshuo**, where we will check into our hotel and have dinner.

Overnight: Yangshuo Mountain Retreat or Yangshuo Paradise Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 10: Yangshuo

We start our morning **cycling** outing by heading towards **Aishan village** via an old country road to Yongcun village. We pass picturesque hamlets tucked among subtropical plants and stretched between rice paddies. As we ride, we approach the famous Moon Hill rising out of the distance. We reach the summit of **Moon Hill** after climbing 819 steps and we are rewarded with a bird's-eye-view of the surrounding hills and the "Moon" which used to be the underground river canal. We return to Yangshuo for lunch then spend the afternoon further exploring the countryside by bike. Riding through these serene villages, we can stop to chat with local farmers. We may have the chance to take part in a **bamboo rafting**.

After dinner in the evening, we have an optional program of watching **private cormorant fishing**. The cormorant is a type of bird, and in Guilin and Yangshuo they have traditionally been trained to catch fish for their fishermen. A cormorant can live to be 10 years and starts to be trained when just 6 months.

Overnight: Yangshuo Mountain Retreat or Yangshuo Paradise Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 11: Yangshuo to Guilin to Home

This morning, we depart Yangshuo by bus and drive for 1.5 hours to Guilin to catch our flights back home. Trip ends.

Meals: B

Quotation for Group Departure: Land Cost base on 4-20pax:

2008	Land Prices (CAD)		
Dates	Adults	Teens 12-17	Children Under 12
28June-08July, 08	2,313	2,210	2,110
12July-22July, 08	2,313	2,210	2,110
13Sep-23Sep, 08	2,313	2,210	2,110
20Sep-30Sep, 08	2,313	2,210	2,110
Single Supplement	590	590	590

Flights

Call for international air.

Call your tour expert for tailor-made your private journey

Triple Discount

Additional discount of \$200 applies for children under 12 sharing a triple with two adults.

The discount is for the child only.

Price includes:

- Domestic economy flights and airport taxes.
- Land transfers for whole trip (Including train ride from Beijing to Xi'an on soft sleeping bed)
- All accommodations on a twin-sharing basis, at the hotels specified in the itinerary where available
- All admissions and activity expenses as noted on itinerary
- Meals, drinking water, and soft drinks during meals as program indicates
- All programs as per itinerary
- Private tour guide and driver
- Tour leader service along the whole trip once group size is bigger than 8pax

Price excludes:

- Discretionary gratuities for drivers, local guides, and staff
- Expenses of personal nature, e.g. mini-bar, laundry, telecommunications, alcoholic beverages etc.
- Travel insurance

- Excursions not included in the itinerary
- International flights and airport taxes
- GST