



"See World Differently"

Extension or Pre Tour Program

CN14 - South of the Clouds – Yunnan – 8 Days

Detailed Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1: Kunming to Dali



You will arrive in Dali via Kunming in the morning. Upon arrival, we drive to the **Old Town of Dali and check into the hotel**. Dali is situated between the Cangshan Mountain on the West and the Erhai Lake to the East. This was once the ancient capital of the Nanzhao Kingdom as well as an important trading town on the Southern Silk Road. After taking a short break, you drive to visit some families in **Xizhou** and **Zhou Cheng Village**, which are good at making cheese and batik crafts. The traditional architecture in Xizhou is also interesting to explore. In the evening you will stroll amongst the shops and old houses of

Dali, stopping for a cup of tea in one of the old teahouses.

Overnight: Jim's Tibetan Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 2: Dali- Shuanglang Village

This morning, you will take a cable car up **Mt. Cangshan** to enjoy the spectacular view and crisp air. After lunch, we take a boat ride on the **Erhai Lake** to the eastern side of the lake, where we will disembark to explore the local Bai village. We overnight in a local fishing village –**Shuanglang** village beside the lake. Tonight we will stay in the guesthouse of Shuanglang village.

Overnight: Shuanglang guesthouse

Meals: B, L, D

Day 3: Dali - Shaxi Market - Lijiang



This morning, we take the old road to Lijiang via **Shaxi township**, a market town that was once a bustling trade station on the Southern Silk Road that linked China and Tibet with Southeast Asia and on to Europe. Because of its historical importance as the only surviving example of a Southern Silk



"See World Differently"

Road trade center, the World Monuments Fund has listed Shaxi as one of the 100 most endangered sites in the world. At Shaxi you will visit an intact ancient theater, guesthouses where merchants enroute to the Tibet High Plateau stayed, a temple precinct and the town's ancient protective gates. Every Friday morning, people nearby gather here. You are very lucky if you come by that time when you can experience a real local bustling market. By late afternoon, you will arrive in **Lijiang** or "Beautiful River", a name given by Kublai Khan in 1254, and check into a Naxi courtyard hotel.

Overnight: Zen Garden

Meals: B, L, D

Day 4: Lijiang



Once past the Waterwheel at the entrance of Lijiang's Old Town, you will find yourself transported into a world of narrow cobblestone streets bordering canals of crystal clear freshly melted snow, unchanged since the Ming Dynasty when the town was founded. The canals are lined with weeping willows and decorative arched bridges linking one alley to the next. Enter the **Black Dragon Pool Park** and photograph Jade Dragon Snow Mountain rising majestically behind the peaceful lake. Next to the park, spend time at the **Museum of Naxi Culture**. Afterwards share a local farmer's meal in Baihua Village, and then take an a one hour hike through meadows and woodlands beneath **Jade Dragon Snow Mountain**, seeing

seasonal wild flowers. If you miss the famous Shaxi Market, it's ok, our guide will take you to Zhongyi **local market** here where you can find all the local specialties.

Overnight: Zen Garden

Meals: B, L, D

Day 5: Lijiang to Zhongdian via Tiger Leaping Gorge

Depart from Lijiang early in the morning heading North past the multiple peaks of the Jade Dragon Snow Range. Fifteen minutes out of town lies an airstrip from the World War II days of "Flying the Hump". For the first hour out of Lijiang, you will be driving through Lisu County and then into the land of the Yi people where the horses roam freely, young men herd goats and wildflowers line the roadside. You will visit Longtan Naxi village where local life has remained unchanged for centuries. Scenery is magnificent as the road runs through the Lijiang valley filled with wheat fields and drying haystacks, and one of the world's deepest gorges: the **Tiger Leaping Gorge**, with 34 rapids of the Yangtze River, called the Jinsha in this area. Upon arrival in Zhongdian



"See World Differently"

District, you will have entered the Tibetan cultural area and a landscape of barley fields and yaks scattered in the valleys.

Overnight: Songzanlin Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 6: Zhongdian



This morning visit the **Songzanlin Monastery**, one of the largest Tibetan monasteries in Yunnan. The snow covered peaks, combined with the chanting and incense from the Tibetan monasteries, bring to life the "Shangri-La" described in Hilton's Lost Horizon. We'll join morning prayers with the monks and in the monastery, and afterwards explore the local market and town.

In the afternoon, we drive for 1 hour in the morning to **Nixi Village** where we

learn how to make pottery and we can also join a potter's family for lunch, then drive back to town. After dinner, we join the Tibetan dancing in the Old Town of Zhongdian.

Overnight: Songzanlin Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 7: Zhongdian - Day Hike to Mt. Tianchi for Wild Flowers

This morning, we drive through misty fog in the village, which dissipates as the morning progresses. After breakfast, we set off for a village of **Tianchi Mountain**. Today's hike is an easy hike about four hours, or a riding tour can be arranged. A picnic lunch will be arranged, we can see lots of wild flowers on the way. On the way back to town, we will drop in on one **Tibetan family** and have a cup of yak tea.

Overnight: Songzanlin Hotel

Meals: B, L, D

Day 8: Zhongdian to Kunming

Early this morning, we catch our flight to Kunming and then catch an international flight back home. Service ends.

Meals: B



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Quotation for Program (Base on 2pax)

2008

Land Prices (CAD)

Dates	13-20April,08	07-14Sep,08	9-16Nov,08	
	20-27April,08	21-28Sep, 08	16-23Nov,08	
Land cost:	From 1,720	From 1,720	From 1,620	
Single supplement	620	620	610	

Flights

Call for international air.

Call 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
- 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

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