

Urban Pulse

Beijing · Xi'an · Chengdu · Chongqing ·
Shanghai — 13 Days

£4,195 pp

2 Travellers
Per person
based on twin share

£3,395 pp

3 Travellers
Per person
perfect family trip

£2,995 pp

4 Travellers
Per person
best group value

This journey offers a comprehensive exploration of China, moving from the imperial grandeur of Beijing to the ancient capital of Xi'an, through the cultural richness of Chengdu and the dramatic landscapes of Chongqing, before concluding in the global metropolis of Shanghai.

Begin in Beijing, where imperial palaces and monumental architecture reveal the foundations of Chinese civilisation. Continue to Xi'an, the historic gateway of the Silk Road. Experience the relaxed lifestyle of Chengdu, explore the striking mountain city of Chongqing, and end in Shanghai, where history and modernity meet.

Key Experiences

- Explore the Forbidden City and the Great Wall
- Discover Xi'an, the ancient capital and starting point of the Silk Road
- Visit the Terracotta Army, one of the world's most remarkable archaeological sites
- Experience Chengdu's relaxed lifestyle and see giant pandas up close
- Explore Chongqing, a dramatic mountain city shaped by rivers and terrain
- Enjoy Shanghai's skyline, where historic waterfront meets futuristic architecture

This route combines imperial history, ancient empires, regional culture and modern urban life, offering a panoramic understanding of China.



Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1 — Departure from the UK

Fly from the UK to Beijing: Begin your journey with an international flight to China.

Overnight on board: Travel east and rest during the flight.

Day 2 — Arrive in Beijing : Temple of Heaven & City Life

Arrive in Beijing and transfer to your hotel: Meet your private guide and settle into the city.

Visit the Temple of Heaven: Explore the historic site where emperors once prayed for good harvests.

Explore Wangfujing Street: Experience a lively mix of traditional food stalls and modern shops.

Day 3— Imperial Beijing: Forbidden City & Summer Palace

Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City: Walk through the historic political centre of imperial China.

Explore the Summer Palace: Discover a vast garden landscape set around Kunming Lake.

Walk through Nanluoguxiang: Experience traditional hutong life with cafés and local culture.

Day 4 — The Great Wall & Olympic Park

Mutianyu Great Wall: Walk along one of the best-preserved sections with panoramic mountain views.

Visit the Olympic Park: Explore the modern complex built for the 2008 Games, including the Bird's Nest Stadium.

Return to the city: Transfer back after a full day of sightseeing.

Day 5 – Beijing to Xi’an by High-Speed Train

Take the high-speed train to Xi’an: Travel from the capital to one of China’s most historic cities.
Visit the Ancient City Wall: Walk along one of the best-preserved city walls in China.
Settle into Xi’an: Enjoy time at leisure after arrival.

Day 6 – Xi’an: Terracotta Warriors & Ancient City

Visit the Terracotta Army: Discover the world-famous underground army of China’s first emperor.
Explore the Ancient City Wall: Experience panoramic views of the old and new city.
Cultural immersion: Learn about the Qin Dynasty and early imperial China.

Day 7 – Xi’an to Chengdu

Take the high-speed train to Chengdu: Travel to Sichuan’s cultural capital.
Visit People’s Park: Experience local life, tea culture and a relaxed atmosphere.
Leisure time: Enjoy Chengdu’s laid-back lifestyle.

Day 8 – Chengdu Pandas & Culture

Visit the Panda Breeding Centre: Observe China’s most iconic animal up close.
Explore Jinli Street: Discover traditional Sichuan architecture and local street food.
Cultural experience: Enjoy the atmosphere of historic Chengdu.

Day 9 – Chengdu to Chongqing

Take the high-speed train to Chongqing: Travel to China’s dramatic mountain city.
Visit Hongya Cave: Explore a multi-level complex with iconic river views.
Evening exploration: Experience Chongqing’s illuminated skyline.

Day 10 – Discover Chongqing

Visit Liziba Monorail: See the train pass through a residential building.
Explore Ciqikou Ancient Town: Walk through historic streets, teahouses and shops.
City experience: Enjoy the unique layered landscape and river views.

Day 11 – Chongqing to Shanghai

Fly to Shanghai: Travel to China’s most dynamic metropolis.
Visit The Bund: Walk along the historic waterfront.
City introduction: Experience the contrast between old Shanghai and modern Pudong.

Day 12 – Shanghai Exploration

Visit Yuyuan Garden: Discover classical Chinese garden design.
Explore City God Temple area: Experience traditional markets and culture.
Walk along Nanjing Road: Enjoy one of the world’s busiest shopping streets.

Day 13 – Departure

Transfer to the airport: Travel for your return flight to the UK.
Fly back home



What's Included



Private Guide

English-speaking guide and private driver throughout the journey



4★ Hotels

Carefully selected 4-star hotels



High-Speed Rail

Standard class high-speed train tickets between cities



Entrance Tickets

All listed attraction entrance tickets included



Meals Included

Breakfast + Lunches throughout the trip



24/7 Support

Round-the-clock assistance from our bilingual team