



Day 1: Fly To China

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Beijing.

Day 2: Beijing

Arrive in Beijing: Welcome to Beijing, capital of China. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to explore the city on your own. This evening, enjoy dinner with your group.

Day 3: Beijing

Sightseeing tour of Beijing: First, you'll explore the tiered pagodas on the magical garden grounds of the Summer Palace. Cross nearby Kunming Lake on your dragon boat ride (seasonal) before participating in a Tai chi lesson. Tai chi is studied around the world as a means of achieving tranquility.

Forbidden City: Cross a moat and protective wall on your way into the Forbidden City, whose grandeur was once accessible only to the emperor.

Tiananmen Square: Stand in Tiananmen Square, the world's largest public square and a site of frequent political protests. Images of the 1989 protests, which led to the death of hundreds of Chinese citizens, still hold a somber place in popular consciousness.

Peking Duck dinner: Share a regional specialty with your tour group at a delicious Peking Duck dinner, complete with traditional side dishes.

Day 4: Great Wall | Beijing

Great Wall of China: No trip to China would be complete without an excursion to the Great Wall of China. Construction began in the 3rd century B.C. to defend the Chinese Empire against the invading Mongols. Today, the Great Wall extends for more than 3,000 miles—perhaps only a tenth of its former length.

Tea ceremony: Experience the timeless flavors and age-old tradition of a local tea ceremony.

☉ **The Legend of Kung Fu show:** This popular show is sure to impress with its combination of ornate costumes, vibrant set design and gravity-defying kung fu moves.

Day 5: Beijing

Temple of Heaven Park: See Tiantan, or Temple of Heaven Park, a huge outdoor complex adorned with Ming and Qing relics.

Rickshaw tour of hutongs: A hutong is an ancient city alley or lane. Explore Beijing's labyrinthine network of hutongs by rickshaw.

Dinner with a local family: Get an authentic taste of local tradition as you spend time and enjoy a meal with a local family.

Day 6: Beijing | Xi'an

Fly to Xi'an: Transfer to the airport for your flight to Xi'an (pronounced Shi-ahn), one of China's most extraordinary cities. Xi'an was once the largest city in the world and the capital of 11 dynasties over the centuries.

Bike ride on the ancient City Wall: The massive wall surrounding Xi'an is one of the oldest in China. Enjoy a journey through the city's impressive history as you take it by bike.

Dinner: This evening, enjoy dinner in Xi'an.

Day 7: Xi'an

Sightseeing tour of Xi'an: Visit the life-size sculptures known as the Terracotta Warriors, which were created to protect the tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi, founder of the Qin Dynasty. Of the 6,000 models, no two are alike.

Free time: In the afternoon enjoy some free time exploring the city, like a walk through the magnificent Bell and Drum Tower to discover the wonder of Xi'an's historical Muslim Street filled with beautiful mosques.

☉ **Tang Dynasty show and dinner:** Experience the splendor of the Tang Dynasty as you enjoy famous Cantonese cuisine.

Day 8: Xi'an

Shaanxi Provincial Museum: See artifacts from the Han and Tang Dynasties at the Shaanxi Provincial Museum.

Dumpling class: Participate in a cooking class to learn how to make dumplings, one of China's most popular dishes. Afterward, enjoy free time in Xi'an.

Day 9: Xi'an | Shanghai

Fly to Shanghai: This morning, fly to Shanghai, a nexus point of ancient customs and modern technology.

Shanghai World Financial Center: Ascend to the top of the Shanghai World Financial Center. At a height of 1,555 feet, the observation deck offers spectacular views of the city.

Dinner: This evening, enjoy dinner with your group in Shanghai.

Acrobatics show: Witness a thrilling display of traditional Chinese acrobatics by talented performers during today's show.

Day 10: Shanghai

Sightseeing tour of Shanghai: Your tour of Shanghai begins with a visit to the Jade Buddha Temple. Continue on to the glorious Yu Yuan Garden, a showplace of classical Chinese landscaping dating back to 1537. After, spend time exploring the Bund, a waterfront promenade, on your own.

Dinner: This evening, enjoy dinner with your group in Shanghai.

Day 11: Shanghai

University visit: Visit a local university in Shanghai and learn about the similarities and differences between China's higher education system and ours.

Shanghai Museum: This afternoon, take an excursion to one of China's most renowned art museums, which houses over 120,000 pieces. After, spend time exploring Tianzifang, a district known for its boutique shops and restaurants.

Day 12: Depart for home

☉ 3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Day 12: Hong Kong

Fly to Hong Kong: Travel to Hong Kong and delight in the city's gleaming skyline and beautiful harbor vistas.

Travel to Kowloon: Journey to Kowloon, home to the Avenue of Stars. Here you'll enjoy A Symphony of Lights, a truly awesome light and music performance. After the show, you'll return to Hong Kong Island aboard the Star Ferry and ride the subway back to your hotel.

Day 13: Hong Kong

Sightseeing tour of Hong Kong: You'll visit Repulse Bay, site of Hong Kong's most popular beach, and Aberdeen, known for its floating restaurants. Then, peruse the traditional open-air Stanley Market before taking the Peak Tram up to Victoria Peak for a breathtaking view of the city and harbor.

Dim sum tasting: Enjoy traditional dim sum and the chance to try an amazingly diverse range of Chinese culinary specialties.

Day 14: Hong Kong

Free time: The treasures beneath the city's gleaming skyline are yours to explore today.

☉ **Lantau Island:** Venture via ferry to the largest of Hong Kong's islands.

Day 15: Depart for home

For the most recent itinerary and a full list of everything included in your program, visit efcst.com/chia