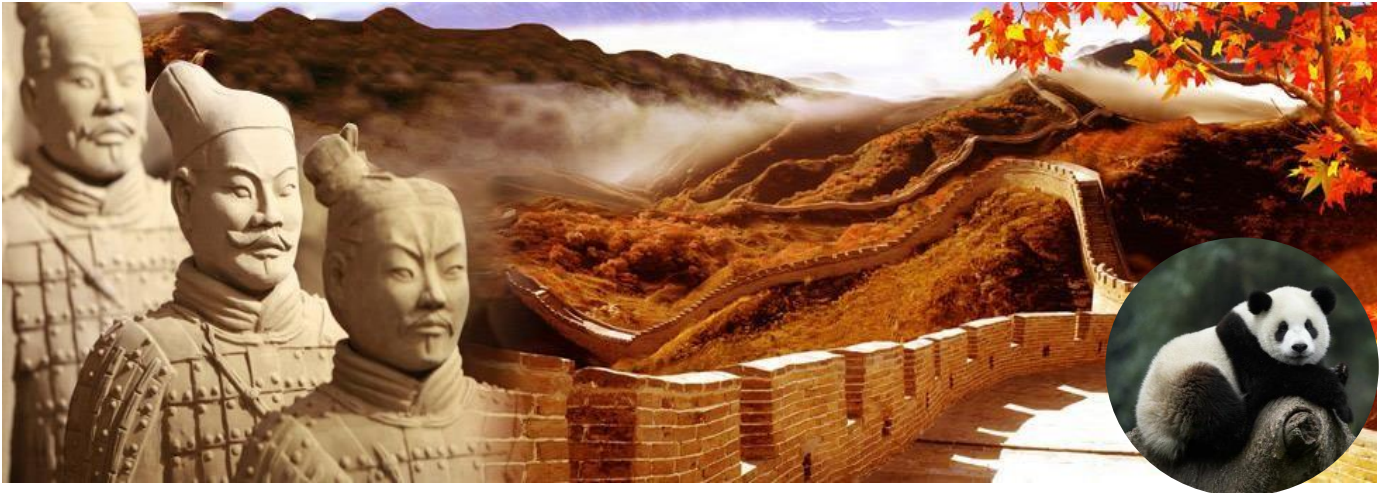


Laguna Niguel Chamber of Commerce's

# China Highlights Trip

Beijing-Xi'an-Suzhou-Tongli -Shanghai 10-Day Tour

## \$2099 May 9–19, 2020



Dreaming of seeing China? Take this fantastic opportunity presented by Laguna Niguel Chamber of Commerce for a 10-day trip to China featuring two World Wonders - **the Great Wall and the Terra-Cotta Warriors**. Explore ancient history and the diversified culture across China's north and south as well as experiencing the glamour of modern China on a trip thoughtfully planned and guided by English-speaking tour guides for first time travelers to China. Treat yourself with this special trip of life time!

Trip price of **\$2099** includes:

- Airfare from LAX to China and back, flights within China, air fuel taxes
- Tour bus service in China
- 4\*and 5\* modern hotels
- All meals except the last day dinner during airport transfer from Shanghai to Beijing.
- Listed tour attraction admission tickets
- English-speaking tour guides

Price is based upon double occupancy. Single occupancy adds \$380 for the entire trip. This trip price is based upon a minimum sign-up of 16 people.

Contact: Laguna Niguel Chamber of Commerce China Trip Co-Chairs:

Lisa Lu [lu@soka.edu](mailto:lu@soka.edu); 949.480.4083; Wendy Harder [wwharder@soka.edu](mailto:wwharder@soka.edu); 949.480.4081

## ITINERARY

**Day01 05/09/2020 Los Angeles/Beijing Arrive at LAX before 10:30PM 05/10/2020 Los Angeles/Beijing Flight No. CA984 (01:40Am/05:20Am + 1Day)**



**Day02 05/11/2020 Beijing (L/D) otel: Taishan Hotel Beijing 5\*or Similar**

- o Arrive in **Beijing** at 5:10 am, meet the tour guide at the exit terminal.
- o **Beijing Panda Zoo** - enjoy watching giant pandas in a beautiful habitat
- o **2008 Olympic Games Site** – drive by the famous Bird’s Nest and Water Cube. After lunch, transfer to the hotel. (check in time 2:00pm).

**Day03 05/12/2020 Beijing (B/L/SD) Hotel: Taishan Hotel Beijing 5\*or similar**

- o **Temple of Heaven** - historical wooden land mark built 600 year ago without nails. Emperors held annual ceremonies praying to the God of heaven and earth.
- o **Summer Palace** - the former Imperial Summer Resort during the Qing Dynasty.
- o **Tiananmen Square & the Forbidden City**, a UNESCO site – Palace built in 1402 AD for emperors in the Ming & Qing Dynasties.



- o **Tongrentang** – Chinese Traditional Medicine & Herb Center. Learn from a Chinese traditional medical doctor about the thousand year old theory and technique of pulse-reading diagnosis and the function of herbs to benefit health.
- o **Roasted Peking Duck Banquet** served with a variety of dishes

**Day04 05/13/2020 Beijing (B/L/D) Hotel: Taishan Hotel Beijing 5\*or Similar**



- o **Jade Factory and Museum** - see the world’s finest jade sculpture and amazing products of Jade. Jade symbolizes prosperity and peace. Shopping opportunity.
- o **The Great Wall of China** at Juyong Pass, one of the eight World Wonders, zig-zagging nearly 3000 miles from East to West along mountain ridges. The Great Wall started in 221 BC in the Qin Dynasty and was completed in 1644 AD in the Ming Dynasty. It is the only manmade object on earth visible by naked eyes from outer space. Climb the stairs to see a few message towers or simply relax and enjoy the view at the foot of the mountain.
- o **The Pearl Factory** - an amazing showcase of China’s fresh water pearl jewelry design and pearl powder cosmetics and skin care. Shopping opportunity.

**Day05 05/14/2020 Beijing –Xi'an (B/L/D) Hotel: Ramada Bell Tower Hotel Xi'an or Similar 4\***

**CA1223 (12:20pm departure/2:30pm arrival)**



o **Shaanxi Provincial Museum** displays 370,000 artifacts from prehistoric times to about 1840 AD. Explore 5000 years of civilization in China. The architectural style of the museum is modeled after the Tang Dynasty of over a thousand years ago. This is a wonderful way to get a preview of the ancient capital of Xian and Chinese history before you visit the Terra Cotta Warriors historical site tomorrow.

**Day06 05/15/2020 Xi'an (B/L/SD) Hotel: Ramada Bell Tower Hotel Xi'an or Similar 4\***



o **Terracotta Warriors** Emperor Qin Shihuang became the first emperor after conquering six other states in 221 BC. He built himself a massive tomb 20 years before his death. Buried under ground were over 8,000 terracotta soldiers and 800 horses and chariots to guard his resting place. 2000 years later, a local farmer discovered the buried warrior site in 1982 in Xian. This discovery stunned the world and has become one of the 8th World Wonders.



o **Small Wild Goose Pagoda** - This is an original Buddhist temple built in the Tang Dynasty over 1000 years ago. It's a landmark of Xian and an historical museum.

o **The Muslim Quarter** is famous because it was the starting point of the Silk Road trade route. It is a fascinating place with exotic food and Muslim culture.



o **Tang Dynasty Music and Dance Show** following a **Dumpling Banquet** concludes your tour in Xian – originally named Chang An in the Tang Dynasty 618-907 AD, the glorious and prosperous period during which Marco Polo, merchants, and scholars from all over the world came here to learn.

**Day07 05/16/2020 Xi'an/Shanghai/Shuzhou (B/D) Hotel: Royal Tulip Suzhou Hotel 4\*or Similar CA1215(12:20pm departure/2:30pm arrival - snack on plane)**



Bus ride to **Suzhou** from Shanghai today. Upon arrival, enjoy sightseeing in the **Grand Canal**. Suzhou is known as the “Venice of the East”. This charming town is famous as the center of China’s Silk Weaving industry.

**Day08 05/17/2020 Suzhou/Tongli Water Town/Suzhou (B/L/D) Hotel: Royal Tulip Suzhou Hotel 4\*or Similar**



- o **Lingering Garden** - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy this world famous classic garden. Linger around the elegant pavilions, bridges and beautifully paved paths.
- o **The Silk Factory** - See the fascinating process of making silk from the cocoons of the silk worm. Shopping opportunity.
- o **Tongli Water Town** This charming water town has a history of over 1000 years by the South Yangtze River. It has preserved the original architectural and life style.

**Day09 05/18/2020 Suzhou/Shanghai (B/L/D) Hotel: Holiday Inn Shanghai Hongqiao Hotel or Similar 4\***



- o **Shanghai Museum** – enjoy a grand view of rich Chinese history, art and culture.
- o **Huangpu River Bund**, a famous waterfront, landmark of Shanghai displaying the Western influence in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century with European architectural style on one side of the river while the magnificent modern Shanghai rises on the other side.
- o **Nanjing Street** – window shop at this must see fascinating walking commercial street.

**Day10 05/19/2020 Shanghai - Beijing CA1884 (04:40Pm/07:05Pm) ; Beijing - Los Angeles CA983 (departure09:00pm/ 06:00pm arrival) (B/L) Dinner on the airplane Beijing-LAX**

- o **The Cheng Huang Temple - Old Town of Shanghai and Yu Garden** -The temple is surrounded by a large bazaar that offers an overwhelming variety of cultural activities, tea houses, arts and craft shops and food and snacks. Wonderful shopping opportunities.

After lunch, take the tour bus to the airport for a flight to Beijing, then transfer at Beijing Int'l Airport for your homebound flight.

# Four Steps to China!

## Step 1 - Sign up & Deposit

Make a **deposit of \$200 now to secure a place** with a check payable to the Laguna Niguel Chamber of Commerce, *Attn: Dianne Smith, 30111 Crown Valley Parkway, Suite A, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677. Phone: 949.363.0136.* This deposit is refundable up to 30 days before the trip if you must cancel. Contacts: **Dianne Smith: (949) 363-0136; LNCC China Committee co-chairs Lisa Lu [lu@soka.edu](mailto:lu@soka.edu) (949) 480-4083 or Wendy Harder at [wwharder@soka.edu](mailto:wwharder@soka.edu).**

## Step 2 - Check your passport

**Be sure** it doesn't expire within six months after **May 09, 2020**. Apply for a new passport if you need to – allow 8-10 weeks. Make sure that the **name on the traveler's passport and all other documents matches the traveler's registration name**. Once the air ticket has been issued, there will be an extra charge for a traveler's name correction.

## Step 3 – Final Payment due by March 01, 2020

**Send the remaining tour fee of \$1899 by March 1, 2020** (double occupancy, or add \$380 for a single room) to **Star River International** with a memo: LN Chamber China Tour. Mail your check together with a **copy of the first page of your passport** showing your full name to: Gao Jun, Star River International Travel Inc., **15375 Barranca Parkway, Suite K-101 Irvine, CA 92618**. Star River contact info: 626-228-6318; [starriverusa@gmail.com](mailto:starriverusa@gmail.com)

## Step 4 – Tour Meetings

**Friday, January 17, 2020 at Noon: China Trip Information Meeting** 30111 Crown Valley Parkway, Suite A, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677. Phone: 949.363.0136.

**Friday, March 13, 2020 at Noon: VISA APPLICATION MEETING\*** to help you submit your visa application, 30111 Crown Valley Parkway, Suite A, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677. Phone: 949.363.0136.

You must bring to this meeting:

- 1) Original Passport and One 2x2" passport photo
- 2) Completed visa application form (to be provided by email) by typing and print it out. Handwriting NOT accepted. If you don't have an email address, or have difficulty typing, contact us for help.
- 5) Copy of the **1<sup>st</sup> page of your passport** and **copy of your driver's license front and back**
- 6) Visa fee for **Southern California** residents \$185 (\$140 for Chinese Consulate, \$45 for service fee), check only payable to Star River Holidays Int'l (\*\*For non-CA residents or Northern CA residents, see below.)
- 7) Copy of all hotel confirmations (this will be prepared by the tour company )
- 8) Copy of Flight Itinerary (this will be prepared by the tour company)

**\*We will also organize optional Super Shuttle Van Pools** to and from LAX at this meeting. Sign up, name a volunteer to reserve a shuttle. If you cannot come to the meeting, you may ask someone else to sign up the shuttle van pool for you.

**\*\* If you carry another state ID or driver's license or you live in Northern CA**, you will need to submit your visa application in a designated Chinese Consulate Office in your visa zone. You may submit by yourself or hire a AAA tour agent on your behalf, or ask your family or friend nearby to submit it for you. Be sure to contact us first because you will need air ticket itinerary and hotel confirmations for your visa application. Contact Lisa Lu [lu@soka.edu](mailto:lu@soka.edu) ; 949.480.4083

**Friday, March 27 at Noon: PASSPORT AND AIR TICKET DISTRIBUTION MEETING**, 30111 Crown Valley Parkway, Suite A, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677 to receive passport back with approved visa inside; air e-tickets, luggage and name tags and final Q&A. Now you are ready to pack for China!

# The Star River Holidays Tour Company Rules & Instructions:

## Reservation, Cancellation, and Payment rules and conditions:

1. Please include a copy of your passport when sending the payment required by Air China. Travelers must pay a \$200 dollars deposit, and the rest of the outstanding travel fare must be paid 60 days prior to departure.
  2. Please provide the traveler's passport name for air ticketing. Once the ticket has been issued, each flight ticket will be charged \$300 dollars if corrections of the traveler's name or departure date are needed.
4. Tours cancellation fees:
- 60 days or more before departure: \$500 dollars
  - 45-59 days before departure: 70% of the total package fare - 7-45 days before departure: 90% of the total package fare
- 100% of tour fare will be the fine for no show on the departure date or within 6-3 days before to departure. Besides the cancellation fees above, travelers will also have to pay for penalties and process fees charged by the airline if the flight tickets have already been issued. The company is not responsible, and will not give out refunds, if a traveler decides to withdraw from a tour due to any reason: including: sickness, family emergencies, or simply does not want to participate and attend the rest of the events.

**Visa information:** Passports must be valid for more than 6 months from the date of the departure. It is the travelers' responsibility to arrange their schedule and acquire proper documents for their destined country; no refunds are available if the traveler fails to attend the tour due to invalid documents. Star River International Travel will not return visa application fees, if travelers decide to let us do the application process and do not participate in the tour.

## Tour Fare includes:

**International and domestic airfares; all accommodations 4\* & 5\*; sightseeing and meals mentioned in the itinerary; tour bus service to tour sites and airports; English speaking guides.**

Two adults will be residing in one bedroom with two queen-size beds. If a traveler wants to stay in a single room by him or herself, please notify the agent during the registration and pay additional fee. The company reserves the rights to exchange hotels, within the same price level, without notice. Under unforeseen situations, such as weather, flight, schedule, and safety issues, the team leader will change the travel plans accordingly; there will be no refunds for the unused parts.

## Tour Fare excludes:

All personal expenses, such as visa application fees, tipping (about \$10 per day per person), passport process fees, phone calls, laundry, drinks, postages, insurance, overweight baggage, and other activities outside of the tour package. The fare does not include tips for the tour guide, driver, and other service staff. In addition, it does not include the transportation from the traveler's residence to the airport, and government or airport taxes. Under the conditions of special circumstances, unforeseen cases, diseases, injuries, traffic, boycott, weather, political and government actions, war, etc. that would cause extra spending during the tour, Star River International Travel will not be responsible.

## Rules and conditions for Chinese tours:

The company has the right to cancel the scheduled tour if there are less than 16 participants, and will return the tour fare.

All travelers must arrive on time to the airport. For domestic flights please check in 3 hours before the airplane takes off, and for international flights check in 4 hours before the scheduled flight. For all international returns, please verify your tickets 72 hours prior to the scheduled flight. The company will not be responsible for the passengers' personal belongings, including: handbags and checked baggage, if damaged, delayed, or lost during the flight. For international flights, each passenger is allowed two checked luggage; each bag may weigh no more than 50 pounds and be no bigger than 62 inches; hand bags cannot be bigger than 45 inches. For Chinese tour routes, passengers are allowed to bring bags up to 44 and 20x20x20 inches.

Our tour guides are willing and eager to help you to shop for goods during the tour; however, if there is a need for exchange or return of the products it is between the customer (traveler) and the sellers. We are not responsible for any customer service on the good that the traveler has bought.

Currency: there are places to exchange foreign currency at the airport, hotels, and banks. Currency and traveler's checks can be exchanged to Chinese RMB, but credit cards can only be used in limited places. We suggest travelers bring both American dollars and traveler's checks for their convenience.

Electronic devices: Hong Kong and China's electrical system operate at 220 V; please bring your own voltage converter and adpoter if you wish to use electronic devices that use the 110 V used in the U.S.

Customs: Chinese Customs allow you to bring up to 400 cigarettes, 2 bottles of alcohol, and U.S dollars. Please fill out the necessary forms for customs inspection and keep it until you come back to the U.S. Please do not bring any restricted items.

For any unforeseen situation, such as traffic, road conditions, accidents, mechanical problems, authority of law, public enemies, strikes, riots or any other natural circumstances beyond our control, Star River International Travel reserves the right to change the itinerary and tour fare without prior notice.

All tour participants should strictly abide by the laws and regulations promulgated by the government of the visiting country, including but not limited to the Immigration and Customs laws. Star River International Travel will not be responsible for the act of any tour participant.

**Tips for tour:** \$10 each day divided between tour guide and driver. THIS IS REQUIRED AND NOT OPTIONAL - IT IS THE WAY THE TOUR GUIDES ARE PAID.