

# Best of Asia---China to Thailand 18 Days

## Daily Itinerary:

### DAY 1 CANADA – BEIJING

Fly overnight to Beijing.

### DAY 2 ARRIVE BEIJING

**(Tour guide will be at Gate B Exit, if you arrive at Terminal 3)**

**(Tour guide will be at Gate 9 Exit, if you arrive at Terminal 2)**

The English-speaking tour guide will be meeting you at the airport/station with “Nexus Holidays” flag or your name board. In case you miss our first pick up point in the exit gate of the greeting hall, please go to our second pick up point: The Nine Dragon Screen. Our tour guide will find you there.

### DAY 3 BEIJING (B/L)

Beijing has served as the capital of five dynasties over a period of 800 years. Today, visit **Tiananmen Square**, the second largest public square in the world, and the **Forbidden City**, the Chinese imperial palace from the Ming to Qing dynasty. Tour the exquisite **Summer Palace**, the largest preserved ancient imperial garden in China, and a former summer resort for Emperors. Then, visit a **Tong Ren Tang** to learn about traditional Chinese medicine, which has existed for thousands of years. Tonight, you can choose to attend an optional large scale dramatic musical, “**The Golden Mask Dynasty**” (\$65).



#### **OPTIONAL PROGRAM: The Golden Mask Dynasty \$65pp**

“The Golden Mask Dynasty” is an original Chinese musical drama which tells a mythical fairy-tale like story of war, royal banquets, and romance. The large-scale production includes more than 200 performances and features Chinese dances, acrobatics, costumes, and lighting and acoustics, representing a soul-stirring and romantic “great love and harmony” legend! Guide, Transfer and Admission included.

### DAY 4 BEIJING (B/L/SD)

Today’s highlight is an excursion to the majestic **Great Wall**, the most famous image of China, and a chance to climb a portion of this 3,700-mile marvel. Visit one of the largest **Jade Exhibitions** in Asia en-route. After lunch, see skilled artisans at work at a **Cloisonné Factory**. Then we will pass by modern exteriors of the Bird’s Nest and Water Cube. Your welcome banquet includes the local delicacy, **Peking Roast Duck**.

### DAY 5 BEIJING – SHANGHAI – SUZHOU (B)

Enjoy the day at leisure or join an optional **Temple of Heaven & Hutong Life tour** with lunch (\$79). Temple of Heaven, inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was visited by the Emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties for annual ceremonies of prayer to Heaven for good harvest. Then take a famous rickshaw Hutong Tour & Local Family Visit, this package also includes a traditional Beijing Zhajiangmian (‘Fried Sause Noodles’) as lunch. Hutongs are traditional alley ways that made up Beijing’s old city planning, take a special rickshaw ride for an immersive tour to get a wonderful glimpse into yesterday’s world, the old way of life and traditional Beijing culture, and see the dramatic changes the city has undergone continue to visit a local family and local market afterwards. In the afternoon, depart for Shanghai, and be transferred to Suzhou upon arrival.

## DAY 6 SUZHOU – WUXI (B/L)

This morning, visit the **Lingering Garden**, one of the classical garden masterpieces on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Suzhou is known as “Venice of the East” as a large part of the city is covered in water. After lunch, you may take an optional cruise along the Grand Canal to view life along China’s golden waterway in its heyday (\$30). Then, visit a **Silk Spinning Mill**, and learn how silk is created from mulberry-munching silkworms to produce the finest thread and cloth. You will be transferred to Wuxi this afternoon.



### OPTIONAL PROGRAM: Grand Canal Cruise \$30pp

The ancient city of Suzhou was the paradise for all merchants owing to the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal. To boat on the ancient Grand Canal is absolutely one of the best ways to appreciate the beauty of typical ancient river towns in south region of Yangtze River. Guide, Transfer and Admission included.

## DAY 7 WUXI – HANGZHOU (B/L)

To start the day, visit a **Fresh Water Pearl Farms**. Then, head to admire the famous **Lingshan Grand Buddha**, with a thousand-year old Buddhism temple nearby. Later, you will travel by coach to Hangzhou, described by Marco Polo as “the most beautiful and magnificent city in the world”. This evening, you can enjoy an optional performance, “**Impression West Lake**”, a masterpiece created by Zhang Yimou, the director of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics Games Opening Ceremony. (\$68).



### OPTIONAL PROGRAM: Impression West Lake \$68pp

This show is one of the Chinese top live-action performances. It is strongly featured by the local culture and unique charm of West Lake in Hangzhou. It is nationwide famous for its dreamlike show and fantastic elegance. It is one of the representatives created by Zhang Yimou who is Chinese most famous movie director and the general director of the opening ceremony of Beijing2008 Olympic Games. Guide, Transfer and Admission included.

## DAY 8 HANGZHOU – SHANGHAI (B/L)

In the morning, take a boat ride on the **West Lake**, known for its scenic beauty that blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sights. Then experience an oriental tea-tasting at the **Dragon Well Tea Plantation**. After lunch, travel by coach to Shanghai, the vibrant metropolis and commercial Centre of China. Upon arrival, walk along the famous **Bund**, a mile-long stretch along the Huangpu River. Lined by the colonial architectures of European design, this area is the best place to capture the western influences of the old days. At night, you may enjoy a **Huangpu River Night Cruise** and get a glimpse of the dazzling and charming night view of Shanghai(\$50).

### OPTIONAL PROGRAM: Night Cruise on the Huangpu River



Riding a cruise along the Huangpu River, you will take a glimpse of the history and charming night view of the cosmopolitan of Shanghai. On one side of the river, there is the Bund, a landmark of Shanghai. Lining the boulevard of the waterfront are grandiose solid buildings of Western style dating back to the early 19th century. On the other side is the charming image of a new Shanghai. Guide, Transfer and Admission included.

### DAY 9 SHANGHAI (B/L)

Today, visit the **Shanghai Museum** and indulge in ancient Chinese art, furniture and jade. Later, you will visit Shanghai Old City God Temple area, a busy shopping centre where you may find souvenirs and delicious local food. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon. In the evening, you can cap off the day by attending a thrilling optional Chinese acrobatic show - "ERA: The Intersection of Time" (\$65).



### OPTIONAL PROGRAM: ERA: The Intersection of Time \$65pp

A multi-million dollar show, "ERA: The Intersection of Time" is Shanghai's most popular acrobatic show, featuring the gamut of traditional and contemporary Chinese acrobatics from aerial walking, bowl balancing, and trampoline shows to high flying trapeze acts and motorcycle cage stunts. Thematically, ERA takes the combination of China's past and future as its starting point, offering a window into traditional Chinese acrobatics performed according to a modern, contemporary aesthetic. Guide, Transfer and Admission included.

### Day 10 –Shanghai- Bangkok (B)

Transfer to the airport in the morning and board your flight to Bangkok.

Arrive in Bangkok Touch down in Bangkok, Thailand's capital city. Upon arrival, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel.

*Accommodation: Bangkok Ramada Plaza Menam Riverside 4\* or similar.*

### Day 11- Bangkok City Tour (B)

Bangkok radiates modernity with a deep root in Buddhist tradition. After breakfast, explore the city starting with the Reclining Buddha, a signature sight representing Buddhism. Take a stroll by China town, and visit the largest local wholesale flower market at Paklong Talat. In the afternoon, take a boat ride along the Chao Phaya River and Canals by a local speed boat. Visit Wat Arun, the Temple of Dawn, one of Thailand's best known landmarks built in the 17th century by King Taksin. Spend your evening at leisure, or enjoy an optional Thai dinner(US\$45) while watching classical dance at the Silom Village Restaurant.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: Bangkok Ramada Plaza Menam Riverside 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 12- Bangkok (B)**

Enjoy the day at leisure or join our optional Bangkok Day Tour & Boat Ride along the River of the King(US\$60). During this optional tour we visit the Grand Palace and the Emerald Buddha Temple, regarded as the most sacred Buddhist temple in Thailand, the emerald Buddha housed in the temple is a potent religio-political symbol and the palladium of Thai society. You will board on a motor boat to meander through winding waterway along the Chaopraya river and canal on Thonburi side. Lunch will be served at local Thai Restaurant. Explore the city on your own this afternoon, or watch an optional Siam Niramit Light & Sound Show(US\$65), a world class showcase of Thai culture with incredible visual effects, followed by a classic Thai dinner.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: Bangkok Ramada Plaza Menam Riverside 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 13- Bangkok-Kanchanaburi (B)**

This morning, after breakfast, transfer to the city of Kanchanaburi. Along the way, visit the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market with a boat trip along the small canal. You will have some free time to browse through the vendors. Continue the journey to the provincial capital Kanchanaburi. Upon arrival, visit a WWII cemetery site and the bridge at the Kwai River, and ride a mini train over the bridge. Learn about history at the Death Railway Museum at WWII War Memorial.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: River Kwai Village (River Wing Room) 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 14- Kanchanaburi-Ayutthaya (B/L/D)**

Depart Kanchanaburi for the historic city of Ayutthaya, the second Siamese capital after Sukhothai for over 400 years, once the largest city in Southeast Asia. Start the city tour by visiting the Ayutthaya Historical Park in the city centre, a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. The remains, characterized by the reliquary towers and gigantic monasteries, give an idea of its glorious past, envision the grandeur and splendor that once was the Kingdom of Ayutthaya as you walk through the ancient town. After lunch, continue to the Chai Wattanaram Temple, built by King Prasat Thong, a commoner who overthrew the previous king and took his throne. Here, you can enjoy the peaceful and tranquil surroundings of Siam before dinner.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: River Kwai Village (River Wing Room) 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 15- Ayuthaya-Pattaya (B)**

Transfer to Pattaya after breakfast. Start your morning with a visit to the illustrious Bang Pa-In Royal Palace, a lakeside complex used as a summer dwelling by the Siamese royalty and their consorts, created by King Prasat Thong in 1632. Continue to drive to Pattaya. Stop by a Gem Gallery en route, visit a Theme Park- Dark Ride into a spectacular show of the glittering world of gems.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: Jomtien Garden Hotel & Resort 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 16 -Pattaya (B)**

After breakfast at the resort, enjoy a day of leisure. You may also join an optional day cruise to the idyllic beaches of Koh Larn, or Coral Island(\$55), relax on the white sand and enjoy a seafood lunch there. This former sleepy fishing village boats translucent blue waters, brimming with an abundance of coral and marine life.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: Jomtien Garden Hotel & Resort 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 17-Pattaya-Bangkok (B)**

Have a restful morning at leisure and check out of the resort at 12.00. Transfer to Bangkok in the afternoon, visit the province Chachoengsao en route in south-central Thailand, east of Bangkok. It is an agricultural hub centered on the Bang Pakong River, which runs the length of the province. The main town, also called Chachoengsao, sits on the river's edge. It's known for the stately Wat Sothon Wararam Worawihan temple, which has an important Buddha image, making the temple is one of the most famous in Thailand. Then drive back to Bangkok.

*Meals: Breakfast.*

*Accommodation: Bangkok Ramada Plaza Menam Riverside 4\* or similar.*

### **Day 18- Depart Thailand**

Free day at leisure. Then transfer to Bangkok airport to board your flight home.

### **Optional Programs**

- Day3 Beijing "The Golden Mask Dynasty" (CAD\$65/RMB340)
- Day5 Beijing "Hutong Life Tour with lunch" (CAD\$79/RMB420)
- Day6 Suzhou "Grand Canal Cruise" (CAD\$30/RMB160)
- Day7 Hangzhou "Impression West Lake" (CAD\$90/RMB4350)
- Day 8 Shanghai "ERA Show-The Intersection of Time" (CAD\$65/RMB340)
- Day 9 Shanghai "Huangpu River Night Cruise" (CAD\$50/RMB250)
- Day11 Thai Dinner & Classical Dances at Silom Village  
(CAD\$60/US\$45 Pre-book)
- Day12 Bangkok Tour with Boat Ride & Lunch  
(CAD\$80/US\$60 Pre-book)
- Day12 Siam Nearmitr Light & Sound Show with Dinner  
(CAD85/US\$65 min 4pax)
- Day15 Pattaya at Night-Seafood Dinner & Cabaret Show  
(CAD80/US\$60 min 4pax)
- Day16 Cora Island Cruise with Seafood  
(CAD\$75/US\$55 Pre-book)

### **Price Guide**

- Prices are per person based on twin share accommodation
- Single Supplement: \$879
- Add on airfare from other cities:  
Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria \$300,  
Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Halifax, St. John \$400,  
Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec city \$300
- Tour prices are subject to change without prior notice. Please check with your travel agent or our website for the latest information

### **Price Includes**

- International airfare from Toronto/Vancouver in economy class and taxes.
- Arrival and departure transfers
- 4-5 Star hotel accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the programs
- All transportation in the destination
- Entrance fees to scenic attractions as indicated
- English-speaking tour guide(s)

### **Price Does Not Include**

- Visa fees
- Insurance of any kind
- Gratuities \$100CAD/day/person for China tour portion (pre-pay)  
Thailand portion (Suggested USD \$10/day/person)
- Personal expenditure such as laundry service

## **Hotel Accommodation**

**Beijing: Ramada Beijing North**

**Suzhou: Pan Pacific Suzhou Hotel**

**Wuxi: Swiss-Belhotel Liyuan Wuxi**

**Hangzhou: Grand Metropark Hotel Hangzhou**

**Shanghai: Holiday Inn Shanghai Jinxiu**

**Bangkok Ramada Plaza Menam Riverside 4\* or similar**

**River Kwai Village (River Wing Room) 4\* or similar**

**Jomtien Garden Hotel & Resort 4\* or similar**

## **2017 Departure Dates:**

**MAR 10**

**MAR 24**

**APR 13**

**MAY 05**

**SEP 15**

**OCT 06**

**OCT 19**

**NOV 03**

**NOV 10**