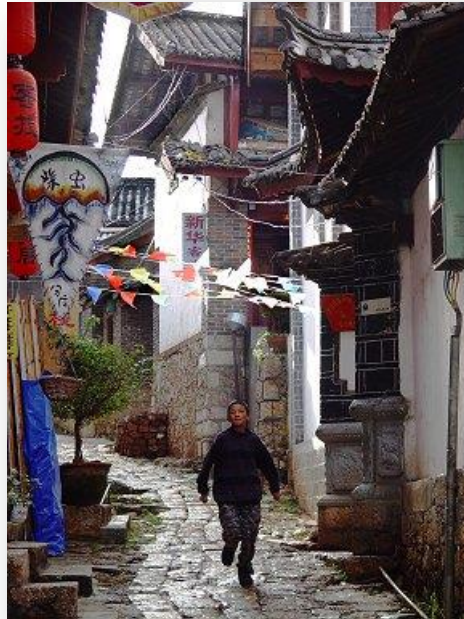


Butterfield & Robinson

SLOW DOWN TO SEE THE WORLD



China A Grand Journey Designed for Travel by Private Jet

Price: According to Jet Charter (or whether you have your own)
Start: Beijing
Finish: Shanghai

Designed by Tyler Dillon

A true world wanderer, B&R Guide turned Private Trip Designer Tyler Dillon amassed a wealth of knowledge in his decade spent traipsing the globe, and now harnesses his expertise and passion in designing immersive adventures.

Your Journey

Poised for super-power-dom, China's time is now; blessed with a booming economy and bursting with more people than any other country on Earth, the favorite joke among the Chinese is that their national bird is the construction crane. In modern Beijing, you can join the world's largest peloton- two million strong, plus, our expert guides- and ride past hutongs, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. China's time is also long, long ago: a remote stretch of the Great Wall will bring the past to the present. Later, ample time to reflect over extended stays at secluded and splendid hotels. Time waits for no one, but in China, it slows down for us.

Arrival in Beijing

On your arrival, we will pick you up from the airport and transfer you to the Raffles hotel. On this first day of your journey we have no plans and will start our adventure the following day.

Days 1 – 2

Beijing

Today we will explore more of Beijing, starting the only way proper, by practicing Kung Fu with a local Kung Fu master legend. After, we head right into Beijing's heart and soul on a guided walk to the Forbidden City (via Tiananmen Square). Passing through the city's Gate of Heavenly Peace, we enter a world once off limits to ordinary people like us. Strolling the expansive halls and courtyards of this magnificent imperial court, we immerse ourselves in dramas past—involving sad young Emperors, crazed concubines, and scheming eunuchs. We have arranged to see this sight in a very particular way, by scavenger hunt (aka Amazing Race style)!! We have left some treasures along the way, and of course no treasure is complete without a treasure map! From here we will stop by a teashop and head up to the Summer Palace, the 3 square km park emperors and dowagers alike used to escape the heat of Beijing. We will have lunch near the park and head back to town past the Bird's Nest and the Olympic village- quite a contrast to ancient architecture! We have also arranged for you to meet some local youth Tennis players on track for the Olympics! Here in China, children go to schools for very specific skills, Tennis School, Basketball school, violin school, you name it! We will also swing by the Olympic diving complex! Tonight's meal is a Beijing classic, the best Beijing duck in the city, it is quite an experience so bring an appetite!

The next morning, we travel by private coach to a restored section of the Great Wall located near the charming hamlet of Mutianyu. Most tourists visit a very crowded part of the Wall at Badaling, but at Mutianyu the scenery is more pristine and impressive. Here the Wall arises atop jagged peaks and commands admiration. It takes about an hour of hiking "up" to get to the Wall, but it's well worth it. We walk along the Wall and observe the northern territory from where the Barbarian enemies

constantly threatened the Middle Kingdom. For lunch, we sit down and admire the view at our very own Great Wall picnic--no one else does this! Also, we have invited some of our local friends to come and teach the art of Tai Chi, no better place to learn than high atop the mountain peaks! We'll make our way back in time to relax at the hotel or explore the local shops before dinner. Beijing's culinary scene is extraordinary – your guide will be pleased to make suggestions!



HOTEL | *Raffles Beijing*

Built in the 1900s, Raffles Beijing Hotel has long stood as an icon of Beijing's historical heritage. The venue of many significant political and cultural events, it has become one of Beijing's distinguished addresses. The hotel epitomizes elegance and exclusivity, as guests luxuriate in 171 beautifully appointed rooms and suites.

Days 3 & 4

Today we fly from northern China to Xi'an. Xi'an was the end, and the beginning, of the Silk Road, so it was a place of bustling commerce and artistic activity. It still maintains a large Muslim population and legacy of cosmopolitan life. We arrive in the early afternoon and will have an incredible view of the city as we pedal on top of its 14 km wall. We'll then make our way to the Han Yang Ling Museum, where 1,400 square feet of underground relics are preserved under glass floors. Thanks to the museum's world leading design technology, we will stand above the pottery figures of government officials, warriors, male and female aides, domestic animals, wooden chariots and horses and weapons. Afterwards we head to dinner—a real treat tonight. We've got reservations at former Chinese President Jiang Zhemín's favorite dumpling restaurant. Here, all varieties and shapes of dumplings are on offer, and endless selections of fillings are served at break-neck speed. Xian is also a great place to fly kites, and the locals will be found doing this in the evenings, as we walk to our Dumpling Palace we will learn a bit about Chinese Kites!

Our following morning is spent visiting Xi'an's pièce-de-résistance: the archaeological site where the Terra Cotta Warriors have been unearthed. Discovered in 1974 by peasants digging a well, the buried army was constructed to protect Emperor Qin in the afterlife. Our local guide leads us through

several pits and buildings that shelter archaeological excavation areas. By all standards, this is a very moving experience. Each soldier is unique, and a true representation of the guards of Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi. The Emperor's actual burial site, about one mile away, has not yet been touched by any archaeologist—and may not be during our lifetime. A glorious mystery isn't it? This afternoon we'll make a unique visit to Xi'an's Muslim quarter where we'll enjoy a traditional tea tasting. Dinner will be a majestic surprise.



HOTEL | *Westin Xi'an*

The Westin is located next to the Big Wild Goose Pagoda park and is a perfect location for moving around a some what crowded city.

Days 5 & 6

Hangzhou

Today we fly to the southwest of Shanghai to Hangzhou. We'll arrive at the breathtaking Four Seasons Hangzhou and venture just west of the aptly named West Lake to Hangzhou's most renowned temple, Lingyin Si, also known as "Soul's Retreat." Home to the largest wooden Buddhist statue in China, its large Laughing Buddha Statue is also not to be missed. There will be time to explore a little of Hangzhou's bustling shopping streets and boutique restaurants before we dine like royalty in one of our favorite spots in China, Lou Wai Lou.

We'll venture out early the following morning to see West Lake at its finest – at sunrise before any of the locals or tourists make their visits. Recently named a UNESCO World Heritage Site, West Lake has been a muse for poets and painters for centuries and a source of inspiration for domestic garden designers and others from Japan and Korea. We'll enjoy a short pedal or walk around the lake before a picnic lunch amongst the fragrant trees and lotus blossoms. We'll then make our way to a privately guided tour of the National Tea Museum followed by a very special tea ceremony just for us. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel's Jin Sha, where local specialties like fried shrimp with Longjing tea leaves are served.



HOTEL | *Four Seasons Hangzhou*

Set on West Lake, this property is the perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of urban China, and central to exploring the tea fields and ancient feel of Hangzhou. With the Four Seasons staff helping make it feel more like home, it will provide a restful couple of days before we head to modern Hong Kong!

Days 7 -9

Shanghai

This morning, we'll venture out on an early morning exploration of some of the parks near the hotel to witness Tai Chi and ballroom dancing with some of the masters of the craft. Then we will head south to China's newest cosmopolitan niche, via the new high speed train: Shanghai, the heart of the world's fastest-growing economy. Shanghai boasts an amazing skyline that is changing and growing almost daily. Domestic and foreign architects are creating cutting-edge designs, while new restaurants, hotels, art galleries and boutiques open daily. Shanghai is at the epi-centre of China's seismic cultural and economic shift. It is exhilarating, vibrant and, in the true sense of the word, awesome. This afternoon we have a special cooking lesson set up. Shanghai is known for its food and we need to learn a few tricks of the trade!

The next morning, we head off to explore the history of Shanghai on foot with an excellent local guide, who will lead you through the French Concession as well as the Jewish Quarter. Lunch is in a local noodle shop, followed by a walk through Yu Garden. In Shanghai, we will aim to finish tours and other events by mid-afternoon and leave you time to do (or not do) your own thing. Tonight's meal is at the swish T8 in the revamped area of Shanghai that's similar to Boston Harbor: full of boutiques, bars and glitzy restaurants. "Le tout Shanghai" hangs out there and T8 has long retained its position as one of the "in" spots.

Our last day is spent exploring the city.



HOTEL | *Peninsula Shanghai*

Synonymous with the centre of Shanghai, the "bund" is a Hindi word that means levee, or edge, and this is the edge of the mighty middle kingdom. Looking across to the Pudong region, the new skyscrapers, it provides the best view in town and the best place from which to explore this international city.

Day 10

Farewells

After breakfast the next day, we pack up and head out, saying goodbye to this strange and fascinating land.

The Details

Price from: US\$16,595 per person (based on 3 people if you provide your own jet)
Alternative Jet Charter pricing available upon request

Start: Beijing
Finish: Shanghai

LEVEL OF ACTIVITY

This trip is rated Easygoing

THE HOTELS

Beijing: Raffles/ Deluxe Suite
Xi'an: Westin/ Executive Suite
Hangzhou: Grand Premier
Shanghai: Peninsula/ Deluxe River Suite

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All hotel accommodation
- Meals as indicated
- Services of guide(s) and support van
- Use of a customized bicycle and helmet
- Use of two lightweight, telescoping walking sticks
- Detailed maps, route suggestions and water bottle
- All special events and private tours
- All transportation from rendezvous to drop-off
- All baggage transportation
- All gratuities for baggage, porters and hotel service

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Cancellation insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuity for your B&R guide(s)

Please note that your final itinerary may vary slightly from this one as we continuously research and develop each trip, customizing your experience to match your interests and tastes. Inclement weather—though we'd like to think there won't be any—may also necessitate minor alterations. ©2013 Butterfield & Robinson Inc.