

Explore...



Join us in an exciting 14-day tour to the ancient capitals of China, created especially for the food and gourmet enthusiast and adventure traveler. The Culinary Tour package is a combination of education, leisure travel and cultural experience personally designed by Chef Yan.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Local market tours to study exotic & traditional ingredients
- Culinary classes with food, tea and wine pairings taught by Chinese Master Chefs
- Meals (lunch and dinner) include dishes of regional cuisine
- Sightseeing, cultural shows and arts/craft exhibitions
- Tai chi exercise, spa treatments, shopping, excursions to Hong Kong and more!

CITIES:

- Beijing
- Xian
- Chengdu (Sichuan)
- Hong Kong

DAY 1:

Departure from San Francisco to Beijing

DAY 2: Beijing

Arrive in Beijing. Dinner at a Beijing-style Hot Pot restaurant. Experience LanHe Hua (Hou Hai) nightlife.

DAY 3: Beijing

Begin the day with a visit to Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace. Take a leisure boat ride on Lake Kunming. Head to the largest Beijing Liulifang antiques street. Lunch & noodle making class or demo in the afternoon. Attend a welcome banquet featuring the famous Peking duck along with a master chefs cooking demo.

DAY 4: Beijing

Morning visit to the Great Wall and the Sacred Ming Tombs. Lunch at a local restaurant near the Great Wall area. Stroll through the modern Olympic venues on the way back to the city. Enjoy a spectacular Imperial Banquet in the evening.

DAY 5: Beijing

Begin the day with a visit to the Temple of Heaven and a traditional arts and crafts center at Baigongfang Workshop and store. Stroll through the Hutong district, the old Beijing neighborhood, and experience a Hutong tricycle ride; visit the Drum and Bell Towers. Have lunch with a local family in their home. Dinner at a Mongolian restaurant and an evening performance.

DAY 6: Xian

Early morning flight from Beijing to Xian; arrive Xian in the late morning. See the old City Wall and visit the Bell Tower. Cooking demo followed by the famous dumpling banquet, which includes over 100 varieties of dumplings. End the day at the Muslim Quarters inside the ancient walls of Xian.

DAY 7: Xian

Pay a morning visit to the Museum of the Qin Terra Cotta Warriors and a farmer's printing village/store. Enjoy the spectacular Tang Dynasty performance and dinner. The Tang Dynasty Song and Dance Troupe performs Chang'an music and dances that originated in the Tang Dynasty, more than a thousand years ago.

DAY 8: Chengdu

Early morning flight from Xian to Chengdu; arrive Chengdu in the late morning. Tour the old Chengdu shopping district – Jinliyitiaojie, where you can try local Sichuan snacks and street food, visit a Sichuan-style tea and herbal shop, and see many local handicrafts. Visit Wuhouzi Temple, one of the oldest temples in Chengdu. Lunch at a Sichuan-style tea and herbal hot pot restaurant. Try traditional Sichuan cuisine at dinner and watch a Sichuan opera performance and unique tea show as you dine.

DAY 9: Leshan/Chengdu

A day trip to the Research Centre and Panda Reserve located in the Befengxia Nature Reserve. It's one of the world's largest panda research and breeding centers. You will get a chance to play and take pictures with these national treasures. Quick lunch before visiting the Leshan Giant Buddha, the largest carved stone Buddha in the world, built during the Tang Dynasty. A well-known Buddhist sanctuary, the mountain once had more than 100 monasteries, most of them built during the Eastern Han Dynasty (ca 100 AD). Dine at a tofu restaurant where you can taste over 100 different tofu dishes.

DAY 10: Chengdu

Join the local people as they do their morning tai chi exercise in a traditional bamboo garden. Visit a local spice wholesale market. Lunch at a Sichuan Hot Pot restaurant and afterwards, visit a famous ancient temple. Enjoy shopping in Chengdu before dinner at a traditional Sichuan restaurant.

DAY 11: Chengdu

A day trip to visit Sanxingdui Museum at Yangguanchun. There is a historical linkage between Jinsha and Sanxingdui, where you will see ancient Chinese bronze ware and the ancient Shu culture. Experience the new style of Sichuan cuisine for dinner.

DAY 12: Hong Kong

Morning departure from Chengdu to Hong Kong. Arrive Hong Kong around noon. Hong Kong city tour: Cat Street, Lankwaifong, Hudaxian Temple, the Peak (at night). Farewell dinner at Lei Yue Mun seafood district. This fishing village has been over 150 years of history. It began as a restaurant district and gradually developed into a well-known seafood dining area.

DAY 13: Hong Kong

Morning tour to Aberdeen seafood wholesale market. Shopping at Stanley Market. Late morning dim sum demo class followed by a dim sum lunch and tea. Remainder of the afternoon and evening are free.

DAY 14:

The morning is free before catching an afternoon flight back to SFO. Arrive SFO (same day).