



桂林中青旅国际旅游有限公司特色旅游部

China Expedition Tours, A Division of CYTS International Tours Co., Ltd. Guilin

Fantastic Biking Tour of South China

<http://www.chinaexpeditiontours.com/china-tours/fantastic-biking-tour-of-south-china.html>

Tour Code: CET-BK04

Length: 22 days and 21 nights

Cities Visited/Stayed: (Hong Kong), Guilin, Kunming, Dali, Lijiang, Tiger Leaping Gorge, Shangri-la, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shanghai

Highlight Attractions: Li River, Yangshuo, Terraced Rice Paddies at Longji, The Stone Forest, Dali Ancient Town, Jade Dragon Snow Mountain (Yulong Xue Shan), The Ancient Town of Lijiang, Tiger Leaping Gorge, Songzanlin Monastery, West Lake, Yu Yuan Garden, The Bund

Experience & Features: Biking in Dali, Hiking in Tiger Leaping Gorge, Biking in Shangri-la, Tibetan Family Visit, Biking in Yangshuo, Local Market in Longsheng, Biking around the West Lake, Biking in Suzhou

This fantastic biking tour takes you to visit picturesque South China. Our tour starts from Guilin. Ride a bike to explore beautiful scenic spots in Guilin, and you experience a cruise on the world-wide famous Li River through stunning karst landscapes in Guilin. Enjoy a leisurely walk at the West Street and a memorable biking trip to Yangshuo Banyan tree. Then fly to Kunming. Enjoy spectacular scenery on the way to the Stone forest, be marvel at the ancient town in Dali and Lijiang. The Jade Dragon Snow-capped Mountain and herds of yaks and sheep on the beautiful grasslands will make you hesitate to leave. The two-day long trekking in the Tiger Leaping Gorge will be a little bit adventurous, but the sense of achievements you have eventually will make you forget your sore legs. The water village in Suzhou, the graceful West Lake in Hangzhou will surely leave you a deep impression. The largest city of China-Shanghai will amaze you by its modern atmosphere and traditional culture and art. If you are an environmentalist or support low carbon living, please join this cycling tour to start your fantastic China tour with us.

Itinerary

Day 1: Hong Kong-Guilin

Take a flight from Hong Kong to Guilin. Upon your arrival, CET guide will meet you at the airport, and transfer you to the hotel. The rest of the day will be on your own for you to relax and prepare for the next day.

Stay overnight in Guilin.

Meals:

Day 2: Guilin-Yangshuo

This morning we will embark the ship to start one of the highlights of your China tour, **[Li River cruise]**. Cruising downstream with a pleasant breeze greeting, you can sit on cushion comfortably or enjoy the open-air viewing platform. Bring lots of film or memory card with large capacity because you are able to capture the dramatic landscapes that Chinese artists have been painting for thousands of years. Lunch will be served onboard. Enjoy the Li River picturesque scenery to **Yangshuo**. Disembark and walk to the West Street, which has received countless foreigners from all over the world and reputed as "Global Village". Today, on the 600 meters long street, there are more than 300 cafes, restaurants, hotels art crafts and tourist stores, foreign language clubs, internet centers and Kungfu schools. This afternoon you will be free at leisure, you can enjoy a coffee time at the West Street, or walk around the small Yangshuo town.

Stay overnight in Yangshuo.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 3: Yangshuo

After breakfast, following a local guide, we will have **[a bike tour to the big Banyan Tree and the Moon Hill]**. Enjoy spectacular views on the way. Those continuous mountain peaks along the way will take you into a fairly landscape. This evening we highly suggest you to watch a realistic performance-"**Impression--Sanjie Liu**", the first new concept minority cultural show which takes the advantages of the live landscape as its stage background. It will realize your nostalgic dream of lights on fishing boats and experience the distinctive interests of life at the Li River.

Stay overnight in Yangshuo.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 4: Yangshuo-Guilin

This morning we will drive back to Guilin to spend the day in Guilin discovering its shining scenic spots that make the city unique and especially beautiful. The first one must be the symbol of Guilin, **[Elephant Trunk Hill]** which is standing in the Li River and looks like an elephant drinking water from the river. Followed will be the **[Reed Flute Cave]**, one of the most spectacular caves displaying karst geographical formation in various shapes. After the visit, we will continue to the nearby **[South China Sea Pearl Museum]**, where we

can learn some knowledge of pearls and have the chance to buy real sea pearl at competitive prices. After dinner, we suggest that you take a cruise in the city's central area on a water system, which will absolutely give you a deep impression of Guilin.

Stay overnight in Guilin.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 5: Guilin-Longsheng

Today we go to Longji, to the minority area which is famous for the magnificent terraced rice paddies, the **[Longji Terraces]**. On the way, you may have a chance to take some wonderful pictures of minority people wearing exquisite costumes. Located southeast of Longsheng, the rice terraces are built into the hillsides which look like great chains or ribbons as they wind from the foot to the top of the hill. This ingenious construction makes best use of the scarce arable land and water resources in the mountainous area. Later this afternoon we will go to visit **[Huangluo Red Yao minority village]**. Women there all keep their hair to a length of more than one meter. You will be marvel at their characteristic red costumes and beauty.

Stay overnight in Longsheng.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 6: Longsheng-Guilin

Early this morning we will drive to the Longsheng town, you can see daily life of local people by visiting the local market to have interesting discovery. Then we will drive to Guilin city. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to the hotel, enjoy a leisure afternoon.

Stay overnight in Guilin.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 7: Guilin-Kunming

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, this morning will be on your own to ride a bicycle around this small and lovely city. We will take a flight to Kunming after lunch. Upon arrival, our guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel. The rest of the day will be free at leisure.

Stay overnight in Kunming.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 8: Kunming

Today let's go to the **[Green Lake Park]**. It is one of the most picturesque parks in downtown Kunming. All year round the park is venue of one sort of exhibition or another, and with its snug seclusion it is frequented by local residents who come here for few hours of leisure. One can almost feel the freshness from the air. Lots of red-beaked gulls migrate here from Siberia to spend their winter and Kunming residents flock to the Cuihu Park to feed red-beaked gulls. There are tens of thousands of gulls which have descended upon the lake. Then we will go to the **[Yuantong Temple]** at the foot of the Luofeng Hill in the northern part of the city. Yuantong Temple is grandeur, unique. Its brilliant appearance, grand building complex and tranquil surroundings have intoxicated generations of poets, painters who written poems, brushed scrolls about it. Yuantong temple is very popular among tourists and pilgrimages alike. Later, we will drive back to the hotel.

Stay overnight in Kunming.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 9: Kunming-Dali

Kunming is a city known as "City of Spring" due to the fact that it is covered all the year round with the rich verdure of trees and plants. Besides it is also well known for its beautiful and peculiar, breathtaking and unique natural landscape. After breakfast we will drive to the **[Stone forest]**. Due to a process of weathering and erosion for thousands of years, nature has created an art gallery of stone sculpture here. This typical karst physiognomy takes the form of a forest of stone pillars and boulders. It is as if the countless stone shapes have sprung from the ground, assuming different shapes as if vying to surpass each other in grandeur and sublime beauty. Later this afternoon we will drive to Kunming Train Station to catch an overnight train to Dali after dinner.

Stay overnight on train.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 10: Dali

You will be met by your guide at Dali Train Station when you arrive, and will be transferred to hotel in the Old Town. The rest time in the morning will be on your own. After lunch, we will set out to visit a typical sight of Dali-the **[Three Pagoda Temple by bike]**. Implying from its name, Three Pagodas are made of three ancient independent pagodas forming a symmetrical triangle. This is unique in China. Enjoy **[a cycling in Xizhou]**. It was an important gateway to the Silk Road in Southwest China, and also served as a seat of government and a major military barracks for Yunnan Province in ancient times. By seeing some parts of the

city wall and the tower remained, we can still explore the mystery belonging to the history. The city layout was uniform, with five main streets from south to north and eight main streets from east to west, while marketplaces were neatly arranged within the city, which has remained unchanged to this date. Traditional Bai ethnic minority folk houses can be seen everywhere, which give us a different feeling from any other Chinese city.

Stay overnight in Dali Old Town.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 11: Dali-Lijiang

Today we will depart for Lijiang by private car, van or bus after lunch. It is roughly a 3.5hours drive. The beautiful scenery on the way will surely impress you so much, and we may stop on the way for you to relax and take some photos. You will arrive in Lijiang before dinner time.

Stay overnight in Lijiang.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 12: Lijiang

Lijiang is an ancient town with unique architectural styles and people there still hold on their original way of living. This morning we will have chance to appreciate the beauty of **[Jade Dragon Snow-capped Mountain]**. With skyscraping snow-capped peaks and its imposing body, it reflects in the interlaced rivers flowing under the old town, composing a fabulous picture. Viewed from afar, the snow-capped range resembles a silver dragon with snow curling up its middle. Rich forest, herb and animal resources thrive on the mountain. We will take cables to climb the mountain and be intoxicated in the picturesque scenery. And we also organize a tour in the **[ancient town]**. The Ancient Lijiang City has no city walls, which is one of the features of this ancient city and different with other China's ancient cities. "The city depends on water for existence and water comes along with the city" has become one of the main features of the old town. The Yuquanshui River includes three mainstreams, which flow towards the west, east and in the middle. The river running into the ancient city includes many branch canals, so the network of rivers mixed with the roads of the five-flowered stones.

Stay overnight in Lijiang.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 13: Lijiang-Tiger Leaping Gorge

Depart for **[Tiger Leaping Gorge]** by private car, van or bus after breakfast. You'll have lunch at Qiaotou Town on the way before trekking. After having a short rest, we will head on to TLG and go straight to our first guest house.

Stay overnight in Tiger Leaping Gorge.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 14: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Relax in the morning and enjoy the view before we will take the high trail to our second guest house. Wedged tightly between steep cliffs, the Tiger Leaping Gorge is a well-known gorge of Yangtze River, where the river is so narrow here. As the legend goes, a hunted tiger made his escape to the other side in a single bound.

Stay overnight in Tiger Leaping Gorge.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 15: Tiger Leaping Gorge-Zhongdian

We will walk out from the Tiger Leaping Gorge before lunch time. After lunch in Qiaotou Town, we will continue our trip to Zhongdian, the town now officially recognized as "Shangri-La". This is actually the old Tibetan Province of Kham and was used as a winter grazing area for the livestock. The surrounding countryside is much as it always has been, preserving mysterious and ancient atmosphere. Eventually we will arrive at Shangri-la before dinner time.

Stay overnight in Zhongdian.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 16: Zhongdian

Let's go for a tour to the **[Songzanlin Monastery]** today. It is a famous Tibetan style Buddhist temple in China. Tourists are attracted to this scenic spot where they can enjoy the view and be lucky to take photos of girls wearing exquisite Tibetan costumes holding perfectly white fluffy lambs against the imposing mountains and blue sky. Later we will visit the **[old part of the town by bike]**, including a **[Tibetan family visiting]**. The Tibetan built their houses in distinctive religious styles influenced by Buddhism. You can **taste Tibetan specialties of yak butter tea, local yogurt and Tibetan barley**. Later this afternoon will be on your own to walk around. We suggest you visit the **local market** to feel the local people's daily life.

Stay overnight in Zhongdian.

Meals: (B,L)

Day 17: Zhongdian-Kunming-Hangzhou

We take a morning flight back to Kunming. In the afternoon, we catch a flight from Kunming to Hangzhou. Upon arrival, your guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel. The rest of the day will be leisure at relax.

Stay overnight in Hangzhou.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 18: Hangzhou

Today we will have **[a cycling tour to the West Lake]**. It is undoubtedly the most renowned feature of Hangzhou, noted for the scenic beauty that blends naturally with many famous historical and cultural sites. Sitting in a boat wandering on the river, enjoy the beautiful scenery. Solitary Hill, the Mausoleum of General Yue Fei, the Six Harmonies Pagoda and the Ling Yin Temple are probably the most frequently visited attractions in this scenic area. This afternoon we will pay a visit to **[Hefang Old Street]**, a well-designed old pedestrian street which is the epitome of old Hangzhou. Shops selling art crafts, souvenirs, silk, teahouses, and restaurants line on both sides of the street. You can find many famous century-old shops including Hu Qing Yu Tang, Wang Xingji Fans along the street. The Street is otherwise known as the Snack Street for the diverse food it serves. You can choose to try some of the local flavors.

Stay overnight in Hangzhou.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 19: Hangzhou-Suzhou

This morning we will drive to Suzhou city (about 2.5hrs). Then let's visit the **[Humble Administrator's Garden]**, the largest private garden in Suzhou, as well as one of the four most famous classic gardens in China. Humble Administrator's Garden is a typical example of the art of horticulture south of Yangtze River as well as a treasure house containing arts of architecture, calligraphy, carving, painting, and bonsai. In the rest of the day, you will have a chance to **[enjoy a cycling tour around the ancient part of the city]**, to experience local people's daily life.

Stay overnight in Suzhou.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 20: Suzhou-Shanghai

This morning we will drive to Shanghai. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to the hotel. After a short rest, we will start our Shanghai trip. The first one is **[Yuyuan Garden]**, where you find more delicate handicrafts and tasty Chinese snacks. Also include a visit to the **[Jade Buddha Temple]**, an elegant structure famous for its Buddha statue which is carved of solid white jade and decorated by jewels. Lunch will be arranged at a characteristic Shanghai restaurant. After lunch our guide will take you to the **[Outer Bund]**, for a grand view of Shanghai and you may marvel at how modern this metropolis is while still containing its old traditions. You can enjoy a walk on the **[Nanjing Road]**, the most prosperous commercial street. You can find lots of world famous brands setting along the street and enjoy a good time in shopping.

Stay overnight in Shanghai.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 21: Shanghai

This morning we will visit the **[Shanghai Museum]** to find out more about Shanghai. It is a very large one of ancient Chinese art. After lunch, the rest of the day will be free at leisure. You can walk around this cosmopolitan city.

Stay overnight in Shanghai.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 22: Shanghai-Departure

This morning, our service for your China tour will end after breakfast.

Meals: (B)

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