



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

Classic Yunnan Photography Tour

<http://www.chinaexpeditiontours.com/china-tours/class-yunnan-photography-tour.html>

Tour Code: CET-PG05

Length: 9 days and 8 nights

Cities Visited/Stayed: (Shanghai), Kunming, Dali, Lijiang, Shangri-la, (Shanghai)

Highlight Attractions: The Stone Forest, The Three Pagodas, Dali Ancient Town, Jade Dragon Snow Mountain (Yulong Xue Shan), Songzanlin Monastery

Experience & Features: Breath-taking Yunnan Natural Landscape, Bai Ethnic Group, Naxi Ethnic Group and Tibetan Area Experience including Tibetan Family Visit

Have a good relax in picturesque scenery and take marvelous photos by your favorite camera. You can enjoy all of these in this photography tour designed for photograph fans. Go to visit Kunming. The natural sceneries and local minority costumes will add luster to your photographing. Enjoy old towns and visit fantastic snow mountain in Dali and Lijiang. You will be amazed by unique scenery in Bitahai Lake in Zhongdian and take many amazing photos. Beautiful Yunnan is waiting for you and your camera to explore.

Itinerary

Day 1: Shanghai-Kunming

Our guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel upon your Arrive in Kunming.

Stay overnight in Kunming.

Meals:

Day 2: Kunming-Dali

Today we will visit the [**Stone Forest**]. It is those magnificent stone masterpieces, various strange and steep intricate formations, and countless labyrinthine vistas that make Stone Forest (Shi Lin in Chinese) worthy of the fame as the "First Wonder of the World". People usually say that "It is a waste of time without being in the Stone

Forest while visiting Kunming". 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 3: Dali

You are picked up by your guide at Dali Train Station in the morning, and will be transferred to your hotel in the Old Town. You can arrange rest time in the morning on your own. After lunch, we will set out to visit a typical sight of Dali-the **[Three Pagoda Temple]** that are made up of three ancient independent pagodas forming a symmetrical triangle. And this is distinctive in China. They are one of the most significant and majestic wonders in Dali and look magnificent. Then we continue to visit **[Dali ancient Town]**. The city layout in Dali was uniform: 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 the same in modern times. You will see traditional Bai ethnic minority folk houses are everywhere, which give us a different feeling from any other Chinese city. Walking on the cobble-paved streets would be very impressive too you. Besides, the grey-green roof tiles, peculiar workshops, temples, schools and churches with an antique flavor would be a valuable part of our memory. You can enjoy a free walk to take some photos.

Stay overnight in Dali Old Town.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 4: Dali-Lijiang

This morning we will head for Lijiang by private car, van or bus after lunch. It costs us roughly 3.5 hours to drive there. The scenery along the way is so beautiful that you will feel refreshed from the tiredness during the way there, 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 5: Lijiang

The Old Town of Lijiang has retained a historic townscape of high quality and authenticity. Its architecture is noteworthy for the blending of elements from several cultures that have come together over many centuries. Lijiang also possesses an ancient water-supply system of great complexity and ingenuity that still functions

effectively today. This morning we will go to the **[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. When looking afar, the snow-capped range looks like a silver dragon with snow curling up its middle. Rich forest, herb and animal resources thrive on the mountain. A giant tram cart up here is one of the highest of its kind in China. We take cables to climb the mountain and be absorbed in the picturesque scenery.

Stay overnight in Lijiang.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 6: Lijiang-Shangri-la

We will depart for Shangri-la by private car, van or bus after breakfast, which will be a long drive. You have a lunch stop on the half way. When you are there, you will discover that the scenery along the way is fantastic. You will arrive in Shangri-la before dinner time.

Stay overnight in Shangri-la.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 7: Shangri-la

What waits for us is the **[Songzanlin Monastery]**, a spiritual hub for people to discover the mystery and traditions of Tibetan Buddhism, a famous Tibetan style Buddhist temple in China. This scenic spot is attractive to tourists because 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], a **[Tibetan family visiting]** is included as well. The Tibetan built their houses in distinctive religious styles influenced by Buddhism. There are many things you can do there such as taste Tibetan specialties of yak butter tea, local yogurt and Tibetan barley. Later this afternoon is on your own to walk around. We recommend you to visit the local market get to know local people's daily life.

Stay overnight in Shangri-la.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 8: Shangri-la

Bitahai Lake is widely recognized as 'A Pearl on the Plateau' and the most attractive lake in Shangri-La. Today we will have the opportunity to visit **[Bitahai Lake]** and enjoy the feast for eyes. The lake locates in the east of Shangri-La County of Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and we drive 32 kilometers from Shangri-la

County to there. It is over 3500 meters (about 3828 yards) above sea level, so it is the highest lake in Yunnan Province. Bitahai Lake is famous for its limpid water and charming scenery with mountains embracing it and forests encircling it. The surrounding mountains are also spotted with fields full of azaleas. You will see the blooming flowers in late spring and early summer each year. And the petals go with the wind into the lake and fish rise to the top, vying with each other to eat them. Since the chemicals of the flowers are a little intoxicated, the fish look like drunk, floating lethargic and slothfully after they eat them. This is an enchanting scene, known to the locals as "fish drunk by azalea". And you are kindly required to either walk or ride a horse around the lake to take photos to preserve the delicate, natural harmony of the area.

Stay overnight in Shangri-la.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 9: Shangri-la-Kunming-Shanghai

We will take a morning flight back to Kunming, and another flight followed from Kunming to go back to Shanghai.

Meals: (B)

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