



# Road Trip China



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## China - Road Trip

Explore the great mainland, and ride on an amazing fast train during this all-in-one road trip encompassing the best China has to offer!

Learn about China and its rich, vast culture. Encounter incredible Pandas, the scenic mountains of Hongyan village. Practice some Chinese language and experience the coastal city of Zhanjiang. This broad and well-rounded program really has it all!



## Program Description

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This road trip is an incredible journey where you will find yourself immersed in the charming and fascinating nature of Chinese culture.

The first week in Chengdu is a very important step towards a great stay in a new country!

It is a fun filled week that is dedicated to getting you introduced to China and some of its cultural aspects first hand. You will also have opportunities to meet the local people, taste the local cuisine and get familiar with many different Chinese customs. You will also get to be closer to those amazing Panda bears!

After exploring these wonders in South-west China, it's on to the Fengyan village of Guilin. During the days we spend here with the locals, you will gain an even greater understanding of the Chinese ways of doing things. Plus it is a fun-filled week where you can get to know China and its history.

You will have the time to interact with the villagers, taste the local cuisine and become familiar with the area's Chinese customs. There are many opportunities to immerse yourself in the culture with visits to local villages, a Confucius temple, a Guangong temple, local fairs, and some amazing natural scenic sites.

After Fengyan Village you will go to Yangshuo, where you can go cycling, boating in the Li river, enjoy the nightlife in West street. It is a famous place with its scenery with mountains and rivers. Followed will be trekking in Longsheng rice terrace. People here are Yao, a minority of China with its special culture. You will also have the chance to see the woman with the longest hair in the world. For Red Yao, the women only cut their hair one time in their whole life. During your stay you will get to know the culture of them.

Zhanjiang is the next stop of this journey, a city in a very special location. It is located in Guangdong Province, faces the South China Sea in the east and the Qiongzhou strait in the south, with over 2000 km of coastline and various harbors. This part of your trip will be more relaxing. You will wind down on the local beaches, soaking in the sunshine and coastal life, with more free time to explore this amazing area. You will visit the dolphin conservation center, help clean the area where dolphins live and also enjoy the traditional local arts. Zhanjiang is a must visit, if not just to indulge in this region's famous fruits and heavenly seafood dishes.

Haikou is the last stop of this four week journey. Our center located in a Village called Meimei, it is an ancient and artless village located in Haikou, Hainan Province. It was built up in Yuan and Ming dynasty with historical culture. The name of Meimei Village means beauty in Chinese, and according to the legend God made this precious place for people to enjoy their happy and peaceful years. Unique island style brings not only visual pleasure but also relaxing feelings for tourists. You will have the chance to experience local farming life or help teaching, to go to the beach and enjoy the leisure time (Hainan has the most famous beaches in China), to see the city and try local snacks & food.

Please be Advised:

This schedule, especially in Longsheng, participants will need a good physical state (no heart disease, asthma, severe reactions to high altitude)

Self Organized, whether activities or meals, means that TGL coordinator may offer help/suggestions for locating, but these things are paid for on your own.

Train ticket is included in the program fee. It is important to be aware that it is a hard-sleeper train which takes about 24 hours in total. The Chengdu coordinator will see you off at Chengdu station and the Guilin coordinator will pick participants up from the station upon arrival in Guilin.

## Program Duration & Availability

**Min duration (weeks):** 4

## Aims & Objectives

- Give you a complete, cultural experience of China
- Expose you to major cultural sites and scenic locations along an action-packed journey
- Instill an appreciation of Chinese culture, history, and its contribution to the world

## Schedule

### Week 1

#### Day 1: Sunday

Chengdu

- Arrival in Chengdu airport by flight
- Transfer to Mrs. Panda Hostel with airport express bus or Metro (depends on the time of arrival), to freshen up and relax
- Free time to orient yourself, catch up on rest to recover from jet lag, or find some local food on your own!
- Overnight stay in Hostel in Chengdu

## **Day 2: Monday**

Chengdu

- Breakfast
- First things first! A visit to the Pandas at the Breeding Center of Chengdu
- Lunch
- Time to explore! A half day city-walking tour in Chengdu:
- Tianfu square, to see city business center, and the statue of Chairman Mao
- The People's Park to see how local people spend their leisure time;
- Kuan & Zhai Alley is a newly renovated culture street with ancient architecture and a variety of shops etc.
- Panda post
- Welcome Dinner - Local cuisine: Hot Pot!
- Overnight stay in Hostel in Chengdu

## **Day 3: Tuesday**

Panda Reserve

- Breakfast
- Transfer to Panda Reserve by highway bus
- Lunch at the Panda conservation
- In the afternoon, visit Panda Reserve office to get registered as a helper, get work uniform and staff card
- Join a training screening to get basic knowledge of Pandas (can also be watched anytime during the week if you want to know more about Pandas!)
- Meet your Trainer aka the Panda Keeper
- Take a tour of the Panda Base waterfall (if time allows)
- Dinner at the Panda base Hotel
- Overnight stay at the panda base

## **Day 4: Wednesday**

Panda Reserve

- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner are offered
- Working with the Panda keepers
- Optional activities during the evenings available: Chinese language lesson
- Overnight stay at the panda reserve

## Day 5: Thursday

Chengdu city

- Breakfast
- Bus back to Chengdu
- Lunch
- Visit Huanghuaxi Park the biggest park in Chengdu
- Visit Qingyang Temple, a famous Taoist Holy Land
- Dinner
- Enjoy the Sichuan opera (based on face changes, self-organized)
- Overnight stay in the Chengdu hostel

## Day 6: Friday

Chengdu city and Huanglongxi

- Breakfast
- Explore the Chengdu Museum
- Lunch
- Bus to Huanglongxi Ancient Town - to see the old street, temples and old buildings of Ming and Qing dynasty, incl stilted building.
- Dinner in the city (self-organized)
- Free time and experience the nightlife of Chengdu
- Overnight stay in the Chengdu hostel

## Day 7: Saturday

Chengdu city

- Breakfast
- Bus to Leshan
- One day tour to Leshan Giant Stone Buddha
- Lunch in Leshan
- Return to Chengdu City
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in the Chengdu hostel

## **Week 2**

### **Day 8: Sunday**

Train to Gongcheng Town, Guilin

- Breakfast
- High speed train to Gongcheng, about 8 hours
- Lunch is on your own in the train
- Arrive in Guilin in the evening
- Dinner in the center
- Overnight TGL Guilin center

### **Day 9: Monday**

Guilin

- Late Breakfast (sleep in a bit if you like)
- Walk around the village with coordinators to explore local life, climb the mountain of the village
- Lunch
- Introduction to China: Chinese lesson
- Chinese Lesson 1: Chinese alphabet
- Hot tips on living in China;
- Dinner
- Optional activity :Play Mahjong, Chinese chess or watch a Chinese movie
- Overnight stay at TGL Guilin center

### **Day 10: Tuesday**

Guilin

- Make "Chinese coffee" - local oil tea, a specialty from the Yao culture
- Breakfast
- Chinese Lesson 2: Numbers - taking part in a culture session focusing on Chinese festivals
- Lunch
- Visit Hongyan Village (new Socialism Model village with Persimmon forest) Visit Fengyu Bridge (from the Yao culture)
- Dinner
- Optional activity :Play Mahjong, Chinese chess or watch a Chinese movie
- Overnight stay in TGL Guilin Center

## Day 11: Wednesday

Guilin

- Breakfast
- Chinese Lesson 3: Basic Conversation
- Lunch
- Take part in s culture session focusing on Chinese food;  
Dinner
- Optional activity :Play Mahjong, Chinese chess or watch a Chinese movie
- Overnight stay in our Guilin center

## Day 12: Thursday

Guilin

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner are offered
- Learning Chinese songs
- Chinese Calligraphy
- Lunch
- Tour Gongcheng County (Confucius Temple, Guangdong Temple, Gongcheng YAO Minorities' Musuem and learn the historyculture, folk of it)
- Free time and shopping
- BBQ
- Overnight stay in our Guilin center

## Day 13: Friday

Yangshuo

- Breakfast & Lunch are offered.
- Pack and transfer to Yangshuo in the morning.
- Check in hostel
- Lunch in Yangshuo.
- Cycling to the big Banyan scenery spot, climb Moon Hill. This is pictured on the front of Lonely Planet China!
- Dinner at Western Street (self-organized), a good chance to try local food or find some Western comfort food to satisfy any cravings!
- Free time in Western Street
- Evening recommended activity: Appreciating the light show: Impression Liusanjie. Directed by Mr. Zhangyimou
- Overnight stay in Yangshuo hostel

## Day 14: Saturday

Yangshuo

- Breakfast
- Bus to Xingping
- Bamboo raft up the Li River
- Lunch in Xingping
- Tour around Xingping village
- Back to Yangshuo for dinner
- Dinner at Western Street (self-organized), a good chance to try local food or find some Western comfort food to satisfy any cravings!
- Overnight stay in Yangshuo hostel

## Week 3

### Day 15: Sunday

Longsheng

- Breakfast
- Departure from Yangshuo
- Arrive Dazhai village of Longsheng (check in and get settled)
- Lunch
- Spend the day trekking the spectacular terraced hills – JinFoDing. Enjoy the beautiful Scenery of Dazhai and Zhuang culture.
- Dinner
- Evening recommended activity: Appreciating long hair show and performance (Yao People). A Bonfire party is included in the show.
- Overnight stay in Longsheng

### Day 16: Monday

Longsheng

- BreakfastLunch and dinner are included
- Spend the day for more trekking - Xishan Shaoyue or Qianceng Tianti.
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in Longsheng



## **Day 17: Tuesday**

### Overnight Train

- Bus ride back to Guilin
- Breakfast and lunch offered during the ride
- Arrive in Guilin, free time for relaxing
- City tour in Guilin/Chinese massage to reduce any tension from your trek! (self organized)
- Dinner
- Night train to Zhanjiang
- Overnight stay on the train

## **Day 18: Wednesday**

### Zhanjiang

- Arrive in Zhanjiang in the early morning
- Check into hostel Breakfast
- Unpack and relax
- Relax on beachLunch
- Visit a university and meet the students
- Overnight stay in Zhanjiang center

## **Day 19: Thursday**

### Donghai Island

- Breakfast
- Transfer to Donghai Island and tour the area
- Lunch
- Visit the local village
- Watch a documentary of dolphin
- Make local snacks
- Overnight stay in the Dolphin Center on Donghai Island

## **Day 20: Friday**

### Donghai Island

- Breakfast
- Take a boat to sea and if you are lucky, see some dolphins! Fishing from the boat
- Lunch at the center
- In the afternoon, clean the beach area.
- Relax and enjoy the beautified area
- Dinner BBQ night in the center
- Overnight stay in the Dolphin Center on Donghai Island

## **Day 21: Saturday**

Zhanjiang City

- Breakfast
- Transfer back to Zhanjiang city
- Lunch
- Zhanjiang Museum;
- Free time in City park and shopping mall
- Dinner (self-organized)
- Overnight stay in our Zhanjiang center

## **Week 4**

### **Day 22: Sunday**

Hainan

- Breakfast
- Train to Haikou(about 5 hours)
- Arrive Haikou in the afternoon
- Free time and have a rest
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

### **Day 23: Monday**

Hainan

- Breakfast
- Brief introduction to Hainan island and its culture
- Farm experience-pick up papaya or guava
- Lunch
- Take a tour in Yongxing Town,and taste local desert;
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

### **Day 24: Tuesday**

Hainan

- Breakfast
- local school visit
- lunch
- leisure time on the beach
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

## **Day 25: Wednesday**

Hainan

- Breakfast
- local farming life experience or help teaching
- Lunch
- Visit Hainan Museum
- Go to Arcade Streets offering diversity local snacks
- Self organized dinner
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

## **Day 26: Thursday**

Hainan

- breakfast
- local farming life experience or help teaching
- Lunch
- Make local snacks
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

## **Day 27: Friday**

Hainan

- Breakfast
- Local farming life experience or help teaching
- Lunch
- Prepare coconut hotpot materials for dinner
- Packing
- Overnight stay in Haikou center

## **Day 28: Saturday**

Departure day!

Hope you enjoyed this full and varied journey through China!

**This schedule can be changed and/or amended depending on weather conditions, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances.**

## Starting Dates

### During 2019

March 4th	Apr 1st	May 6th	June 3rd	Jul 1st	Aug 5th	Sep 2nd	Oct 7th
Nov 4th	Dec 2nd						

### During 2020

Jan 6th	Feb 3rd	Mar 2nd	Apr 6th	May 4th	Jun 1st	Jul 6th	
Aug 3rd	Sep 7th	Oct 5th	Nov 2nd	Dec 7th			

## Participant Criteria & Requirements

<b>Minimum age:</b>	-
<b>Maximum age:</b>	-
<b>Minimum English level:</b>	Basic
<b>CRB required:</b>	On Signup
<b>Passport copy required:</b>	No
<b>Resume copy required:</b>	No
<b>Required qualification:</b>	None

### Additional Requirements

- Due to the length and active nature of this program, a decent level of fitness is required. If you have chronic ailments such as: Asthma, Heart Disease, or any other illness, you might want to consider the high level of activity before booking.

## Additional Equipment

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- Good hiking shoes
- Compact backpack. Less is better!
- A heavy jacket for winter depends on the season (the temperature can range between 0 - 30 degrees.)