Beijing & the Great Wall of China

8 or 10 days | China
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Beijing is a city in transformation, with fast-paced development thriving alongside historically significant sights like the Forbidden City. Experience Chinese culture—from The Legend of Kung Fu show to a Peking duck dinner—and visit the greatest monument of all: the Great Wall. Construction on the Wall began in the 3rd century B.C., and today it extends for more than 3,000 miles.

Everything you get:
Round-trip flights
Full-time Tour Director
Comfortable motor coach; Internal flight with extension
6 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (8 with extension)
Breakfast and dinner daily
1 sightseeing tour led by a licensed local guide (2 with extension); 1 sightseeing tour led by your Tour Director
Entrance to: Summer Palace; Forbidden City; Tiananmen Square; Great Wall of China; The Legend of Kung Fu Show; Temple of Heaven Park; Beijing Zoo; Hutong rickshaw tour; Yonghe Lamasery; Olympic sports complex; With extension: Shanghai World Financial Center; Jade Buddha Temple; Yu Yuan Garden
Experiential learning: Taiji lesson; School visit; Tea ceremony; Meal with Chinese family

Day 1: Fly overnight to China
Day 2: Beijing
- Meet your Tour Director at the airport
Day 3: Beijing
- Take a guided tour of Beijing
- Visit the Summer Palace
- Take a dragon boat ride (April-Oct.)
- Participate in a Taiji lesson
- Visit the Forbidden City
- Visit Tiananmen Square
- Visit a local school (subject to school calendar)
- Enjoy a traditional Peking Duck dinner
Day 4: Badaling | Beijing
- Travel to Badaling
- Take a tour of the Great Wall of China
- Participate in a tea ceremony
- Enjoy The Legend of Kung Fu show
Day 5: Beijing
- Visit the Temple of Heaven Park
- Visit the Beijing Zoo
- Take a Hutong rickshaw tour
- Enjoy a traditional Chinese meal with Hutong families
Day 6: Beijing
- Visit Yonghe Lamasery
- Visit the 798 Dashanzi Modern Art Zone
- Optional: Acrobatics show
Day 7: Beijing
- Take a tour of the Olympic sports complex: Bird’s Nest Stadium; Water Cube Aquatics Center
- Enjoy free time in Beijing
Day 8: Depart for home

2-DAY TOUR EXTENSION
Day 8: Shanghai
- Fly to Shanghai
- Visit Shanghai World Financial Center
- Enjoy free time on the Bund
Day 9: Shanghai
- Take a guided tour of Shanghai
- Visit Jade Buddha Temple
- Visit Yu Yuan Garden
- See Nanjing Lu
Day 10: Depart for home

You can add optional activities to your tour. Additional costs apply.
Beijing
An expert local guide will introduce you to Beijing, the Chinese capital and a treasure chest of imperial monuments. You’ll see Tiantan, or Temple of Heaven Park, a huge outdoor complex adorned with Ming and Qing relics. In the early morning, locals gather together to practice martial arts by the old cypress trees. Cross a moat and protective wall on your way into the Forbidden City, whose grandeur was once accessible only to the emperor. Venture inside and get up-close to the palatial, golden-roofed Imperial Palace. Then, stand in Tiananmen Square, a site of worldwide cultural significance.

The Great Wall
Travel outside of Beijing to view one of the great wonders of the world: the Great Wall of China. It’s your chance to stand upon this man-made marvel; construction began in the 3rd century B.C. to defend the Chinese Empire against the invading Mongols. Three hundred thousand people (many of whom are buried in the wall) labored for several centuries on its construction. The Great Wall extends over an impressive swath of the continent, cutting across mountains and valleys for more than 3,000 miles—by modern estimates, perhaps only a tenth of its former length. Take the picture of a lifetime and capture your own piece of the wall.

Olympic Sports Complex
The city of Beijing captured the world’s attention during the 2008 Summer Olympics; now, tour some of the venues that played host to many of the world’s premier athletes. Learn about China’s efforts to bring the Olympic Games to Beijing and the five-year construction phase that helped prepare the area for the events. Visit Beijing National Stadium, known around the world as the “Bird’s Nest” because of its unique design, which was inspired by a Chinese folding fan. The opening and closing ceremonies, as well as the track and field events, were held here. Then, venture inside the Beijing National Aquatics Center, better known as the “Water Cube.”
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