



VELOSO TOURS

Life in China

Private Individual Tours • Bespoke Itineraries • Excellent Guides
Great Wall • Imperial Palaces • Tibetan Monasteries • Yangtze River Cruises
Ancient Cultures • Exotic Cities • Local Markets • Magnificent Landscapes

VELOSO TOURS IN CHINA

Welcome to Veloso Tours, we love China

China's ancient culture, mysterious life and modern development have long held a deep fascination that we can now share.

Our main ethos is to provide you with authentic experiences, so that you can have an in-depth perspective of China, enhancing your visit by focusing on your own interests and sharing an understanding of local life, people and culture.

We find deeply rooted ancient cultures, a thriving contrast of contemporary and traditional local life and a wide diversity of stunning landscapes.

Our local guides will be with you to enhance your experience with their deep knowledge of life and culture in every region you visit.

Our Travel Consultants in the UK have travelled extensively throughout China, Tibet and Hong Kong, selecting the best places to stay and visit, so that your tour itinerary is meticulously planned and tailored to your interests.

We would like to share our enthusiasm and passion for life in China and will be pleased to hear from you to discuss your travel plans.



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CHOICES, INTERESTS, PRIORITIES & DECISIONS

With so much choice it can be difficult to decide which attractions to include within limited holiday time.

Our experience has shown that the starting point in choosing your holiday should be your own individual interests, so that you can incorporate the main priorities into your China itinerary.

The next step is to consider the itineraries featured in our brochure and, once you have found one that you like, you can book it exactly as shown.

Or, contact us with your requirements so that we can use our knowledge and expertise to prepare your own bespoke tour itinerary. This brochure has a range of modules and cruises, with additional suggestions, for you to consider incorporating in your itinerary.

Visit www.veloso.com/china for additional photographs, videos, descriptions and information.



A myriad of activities from dancing to Tai-Chi at the Temple of Heaven gardens

INTRODUCTION TO CHINA



Chinese life, people and culture are shrouded in mystery.

It is one of the world's oldest societies, based on the ancient teachings of Confucius, overlaid with the Communist principles of Mao and infused with Taoist and Buddhist beliefs. In the 21st century, China has embraced capitalism in its cities, adding an extra layer of intrigue to modern life.

These developments are clearly visible in Beijing, where the hardy older generation gather in the early morning to dance, sing, practice Tai Chi, fly kites and socialise together. These contrast with people from the countryside, who come to explore their past and understand their present.

The magnificent scenery beyond the cities encompasses rice terraces, karst landscapes, sacred peaks and dramatic river gorges. Behind the spellbinding views is always an interesting story to be told, a cultural encounter to be

admired or a traditional way of life to be observed.

China has the power to inspire and amaze in numerous ways: hike a wild section of the Great Wall, wake up as the morning sun illuminates Mount Everest, come eye-to-eye with the 71 metre high Giant Buddha or watch devoted Tibetan pilgrims spinning prayer wheels as they circle Lhasa's sacred Barkhor.

Even around the biggest metropolises, you will find oases of calm to provide the Yin to the big city's Yang, like the exotic islands just a short boat ride from Hong Kong, or the ancient water towns outside Shanghai.

Each trip to China will leave you with unique stories, memories and observations. Broaden your horizons, gain fresh perspectives, discover exotic cultures and challenge misconceptions, or just experience the drama of the main cities or the beauty of the countryside.

Join us to unlock the mysteries of Chinese civilisation.

Main Airlines to China

We can arrange your itinerary with all the leading airlines operating from the UK to China, giving you a greater choice of departure and arrival airports, connectivity, stopovers, aircraft and travel cabins and seats. Our specialists can guide you to the most suitable airlines, according to your travel requirements.

Virgin Atlantic Upper Class



BRITISH AIRWAYS
Preferred Partner



British Airways has direct, non-stop flights to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong with a high degree of punctuality, good communication with passengers, professional, efficient flights and an extensive loyalty program.

British Airways World Traveller Plus



World Traveller

31" seat pitch and 17" seat width with personal flat screens and headphones. Complimentary meals, snacks and drinks and amenity kits that includes cushion and blanket. Upon request are flight socks, an eye mask and toothbrush.

World Traveller Plus

Seats have 38" pitch and 18.5" width, head rest and there are fewer rows. Amenity kit with cushion, blanket, toothbrush, toothpaste, flight socks and eye mask. Three-course premium dining and complimentary bar service, power supply for electronic devices.

British Airways Club World



Club World

72" seat pitch and 20" seat width converts into an 183cm (6') bed. Dedicated check-in desk, access to airport lounges, luxury amenity kit, three-course meals, range of spirits, wines, hot and soft drinks and snacks from the Club Kitchen.

First

78-79" seat pitch and 22" seat width, converts into 198cm flat bed with mattress and duvet. Top chef premium dining, champagnes, wines, spirits and non-alcoholic drinks. Personal 15" screen and headphones. Access to airport lounges and the Concorde Lounge.

British Airways First



CATHAY PACIFIC



Cathay Pacific serves Hong Kong directly from London Heathrow, London Gatwick and Manchester. From there passengers can easily connect to Cathay Pacific's extensive network, which includes Beijing, Chengdu and Xiamen.

Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch and 18.5" seat width, adjustable headrest, in-flight meals.

Premium Economy Cabin

38" seat pitch and 19.5" seat width with expanded legroom.

Business Cabin

81" seat pitch and 21" seat width, can convert it into a bed. Access to premium airport lounges, priority check-in and boarding and fine dining.

First Cabin

81" seat pitch and 36" seat width, fast-track pass at major airports and fine dining.

AIR FRANCE KLM



Air France & KLM operate from London Heathrow, City Airport, Manchester, Leeds, Bristol, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Norwich, Belfast, and Birmingham. Connect via Paris and Amsterdam airports to over 90 destinations in Asia.

Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch and 18" seat width, HD screen. Economy Comfort with KLM upgrade for 35" seat pitch and 7" recline.

Premium Economy

38" seat pitch and 19" seat width and recline for 40% more space. Hot meals, Champagne.

Business Cabin

61/77" seat pitch and 25" seat width converts into a bed. 16" HD screen. Access to lounge.

First Class

With 2m bed, duvet, mattress, 24" HD screen

AIR CHINA



Air China is one of the major airlines in China. Based in the capital, it operates two direct non-stop flights from London Heathrow to Beijing. From there, the airline can connect to over 50 cities in China and many other destinations throughout Asia.

Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch and 18" width. Mood lighting system to recreate different natural settings, video system in both English and Chinese, complimentary meals, snacks and beverages.

Business Cabin

60" seat pitch and 21" seat width with a recline of 180°, 110v AC power port, premium meals, wines, variety of snacks and beverages.

First Cabin

83" seat pitch and 26.5" seat width with a recline of 180°. Gourmet Chinese cuisine and western foods, wines, variety of snacks and beverages, or exclusive tailor-made menus.

海南航空 Hainan Airlines



Hainan Airlines is a Chinese carrier operating direct non-stop services from Manchester to Beijing four times a week, every day during the summer months. From Beijing, passengers can connect to Hainan's extensive domestic and international network across Asia.

Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch and 19" seat width.

Business Cabin

64" seat pitch and 21" seat width. Flat bed seats.



CHINA SOUTHERN



China Southern is the largest airline in China, based in Guangzhou and Beijing. Operates daily non-stop flights from London Heathrow to Guangzhou. Connect to Beijing and Chengdu and regional destinations in China.

Economy Cabin

31" seat pitch and 17" seat width with adjustable headrests, 9" personal TV.

Business Cabin

Seats recline 180°, 74" seat pitch and 26" seat width. Adjustable reading lights, drink trays, magazine racks and dedicated shoe storage. 15" personal TV. Access to premium airport lounges.

First Cabin

Independent space with four cocoon seats that can be reclined 180° and have an 84" seat pitch and 26" seat width. Power outlets, USB sockets, 17" personal TV. Access to premium airport lounges.

virgin atlantic



Virgin Atlantic operates a network of international destinations from its main hubs at London Heathrow and Gatwick and from its secondary base in Manchester. Virgin Atlantic operates a daily direct flight from London Heathrow to Shanghai.

Economy Cabin

31" seat pitch and 17.5" seat width. Includes meals, snacks and a pre-dinner drinks service, plus a good selection of audio visual entertainment.

Premium Economy Cabin

Larger seat in leather with headrest, 38" pitch and 21" width. In addition to the economy service, you have a welcome drink on arrival.

Upper Class

78" seat pitch and 22" seat width, which can form flat beds. Dedicated check in, fast track and access to Virgin Clubhouse. Pre-flight drink, customised meal options and afternoon tea.

GUIDES IN CHINA

Our local guides play a crucial role in your holiday, showcasing their cities and regions, providing their unique personal perspectives on cultural and historical aspects and ensuring your trip flows smoothly throughout. Our close working relationships with the guides also ensures they can tailor their services to your own personal interests.



NANCY, BEIJING

Born in Beijing, Nancy knows the city extremely well and loves sharing the stories behind buildings and historic locations. Her hobbies are reading and travelling all over the world, which has given her an international perspective. Nancy has been guiding for over 20 years and is a good communicator, with a wonderful, friendly personality.



PING, XI'AN

Ping graduated from the Xi'an International Studies University with an English major in 1985 and now has over 25 years' experience as a local guide. Ping is a warm and patient individual and a wonderful source of knowledge about Xi'an. She is also able to offer a genuine perspective on the city in which she has studied and lived for so many years.



HELEN, GUILIN

Now with over a decade of experience as a professional guide, Helen's warm-hearted disposition and boundless enthusiasm are allied with an intimate knowledge of Guilin's unique landscapes and local life. In her spare time, Helen likes to read and play sports, especially swimming and badminton, as well as spending time with her young daughter.



MAT, SHANGHAI

Having graduated from the Shanghai International Studies University, Mat has accumulated a wealth of experience and takes great pleasure and pride in guiding foreign visitors around his city. When he is not with clients, Mat likes to relax by reading and cooking, and he also uses his two or three week holidays each year to travel with his family.



Sangpo is our primary guide in Tibet, a region he knows intimately having lived all his life in Lhasa and travelled extensively to its furthest reaches and its many monasteries. Between taking intrepid travellers on journeys of discovery across the holy land, Sangpo likes to take his son on hikes and trips to the river. Sangpo previously worked with a British-run charity dedicated to rural medical training and so has excellent first aid knowledge.



Michael is one of our main guides for Beijing and hiking along the Great Wall, now with nearly 20 years' experience. He is an engaging character and has extensive knowledge of the capital's lesser-known sights and some of the wild sections of the wall. Michael has previously led groups of Chinese schoolchildren on educational trips to the UK and Europe and is also trained in rock climbing and first-aid.

Our Expert Consultants

web veloso.com/ourteam



PAULO VELOSO

Born in Portugal, Paulo studied photography, design and business studies and has lived in London for all his adult life. Founder of Veloso Tours, Paulo speaks English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French fluently and has worked in the travel industry for 34 years covering management, hotels, ground agents, flights, and tour operation. Over the past 30 years, Paulo has travelled extensively around the world researching and assessing hotels, lodges, guides, transport and travel services.



JENNY ROJAS

Jenny was born and brought up in Colombia. She became involved in tourism after completing a degree at university and working for a specialist travel agency. She also has a Master's degree in Air Transport Management. She has been with Veloso Tours for over 10 years and is now our Senior Flights Manager. She has travelled extensively around the world, including Latin America and Asia, and has a wide knowledge of the airline networks which serve these destinations.



CHRIS BLADON

Chris grew up in the UK and studied business and Spanish at university. Having travelled extensively in South America, Chris has since journeyed throughout China, including Tibet and Hong Kong, inspecting hotels, meeting guides and testing new excursions. His travels also allow him to indulge his love of photography, to experience remote landscapes and to explore the local culture and history of new destinations, informing the articles he regularly writes for the Veloso Tours website.



NICK GOODCHILD

Nick was born and brought up in the UK but has family living around the world, travelling often to visit them. He speaks English, French and Spanish fluently, and has spent extended periods living in a number of countries around the world, always trying to gain a deeper understanding of local life. Nick travels frequently to inspect hotels, meet with local guides, develop new excursions and take photographs for the Veloso Tours brochures and website. He is particularly interested in music, food and wine.

SPELLBINDING SCENERY, RICH HISTORY & CITY LIFE

The Emperor Tour

17 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights

Xi'an: 3 nights

Chengdu: 3 nights

Longji Rice Terraces: 1 night

Guilin: 1 night

Yangshuo: 2 nights

Shanghai: 3 nights

web

veloso.com/emperor



Beijing's Forbidden City, Day 3



Watchtower on the Great Wall of China, Day 5



Xi'an's Terracotta Army, Day 7

Contrast China's Imperial and Communist heritage in Beijing with the booming capitalism embodied in Shanghai. Immerse yourself in magnificent scenery; hike along the Great Wall, around rice terraces and through karst landscapes. Come face-to-face with pandas, a Giant Buddha and the imposing Terracotta Army.

Days 1-5 Depart on overnight flight to **Beijing**, arriving the following day. Our special tour on **Day 3** gives you an in-depth view of the city's history, culture and modern life. We start amid the Communist-style buildings of Tiananmen Square and walk into the mythical **Forbidden City**, home to 24 Chinese Emperors. Here you can learn about China's dynastic past, before climbing Coal Hill for an overview of the central Beijing landscape. After lunch in a traditional hutong, enter the **Confucius** and **Buddhist temples** to understand China's two most important belief systems and their role in daily life. (B,L) **Day 4** at leisure or take an optional excursion. (B)

We now drive two hours north of Beijing on **Day 5** to access the iconic **Great Wall of China**. Choose to hike a wild section to appreciate its full majesty and savour stunning views of the surrounding mountains, take the cable cars to the restored busier part at Mutianyu, or a combination of both. (B,L)

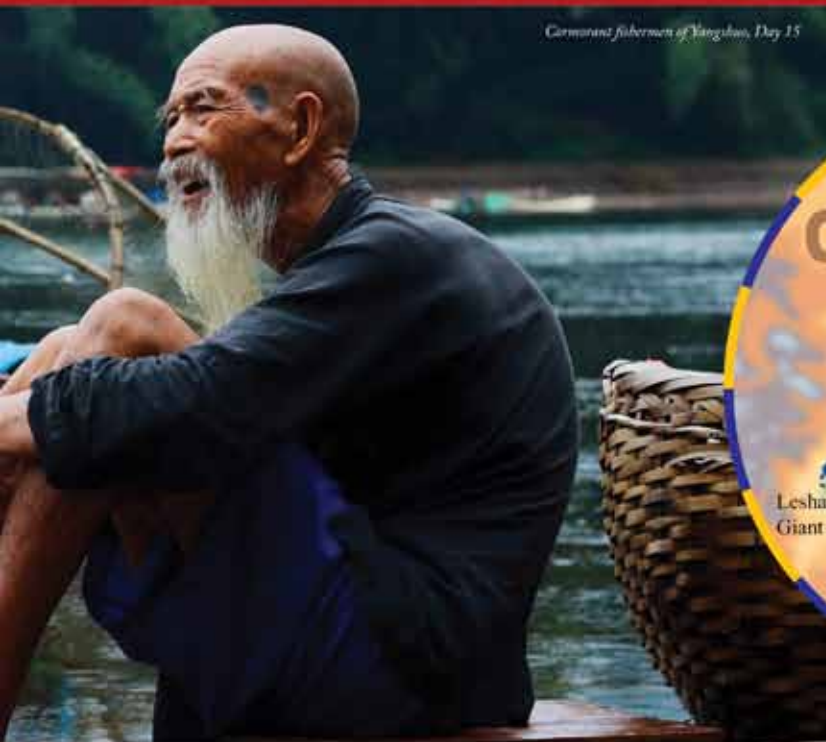
Days 6-8 Ride the Bullet Train to **Xi'an**, starting point of the ancient Silk Road. **Day 7** see the 8,000 individually-carved members of the **Terracotta Army**, built to protect the tomb of China's first emperor. Later explore the Muslim Quarter, the Great Mosque and a traditional home, enjoying a local shadow puppet performance. (B,L) **Day 8** at leisure in Xi'an or take an optional trip to see the famous Farm Painters of Huxian. (B)

Days 9-11 Our journey continues on the Bullet Train to **Chengdu**, with time at leisure to observe local life and drink tea in People's Park, visit the Buddhist Wenshu Monastery or wander along the bustling Jinli Street.

Day 10, we visit the **Panda Research Base** in the morning to see baby pandas at their most active, with plenty of time to observe the cubs playing and see red pandas and black swans. Return to the city for midday, and spend the afternoon exploring the city. (B)



Chengdu Panda Research Base, Day 10



Cormorant fishermen of Yangshuo, Day 15



Karst landscape near Guilin, Day 14



We drive two hours south on **Day 5** to visit the 71 metre high **Leshan Giant Buddha**. The immense 9th century structure sits at the confluence of three rivers and was carved out of the mountainside over the course of 90 years. A short boat trip gives a panoramic view, then climb 333 steps to see its enormous features up close. Return to Chengdu in the afternoon. (B,L)

Days 12-13 We fly to **Guilin** and drive two hours through the mountains to the **Longji Rice Terraces**, staying in a minority village. En-route we visit the spectacular **Reed Flute Caves**, with ancient inscriptions and dramatic rock formations illuminated by colourful lighting. **Day 13** we take an easy hike around the rice terraces, walking between spectacular viewpoints and learning about rural life and the unique customs of the people. Return to **Guilin**. (B,L)

Days 14-15 Enjoy a scenic cruise through the wonderful **karst landscape** along the **Li River**. On the way pass innumerable limestone peaks, shrouded in atmospheric mist, and observe locals tending their crops in the rice paddies. The cruise lasts for four hours and ends in the picturesque town of

Yangshuo, where you stay for two nights. Explore the countryside on **Day 15** with a guided hike or cycling tour. Additional optional activities include an early morning bamboo raft trip, the evening illumination show and the traditional cormorant fishing demonstration. (B,L)

Days 16-19 Fly to **Shanghai** in the morning, a city of vertiginous skyscrapers, lively street life and grand European heritage. On **Day 17** our in-depth tour will introduce you to the historic buildings of the Bund, Xintiandi and the French Concession. There will be a short cruise on the Huangpu River to see the towers of Pudong up close and we will visit some classic Chinese gardens, an oasis of calm in the heart of Shanghai. (B,L)

Spend the day at leisure on **Day 18**, or take an optional excursion to the gardens of Suzhou or an ancient water town. On **Day 19** fly home, arriving in the afternoon. (B)

Emperor Tour departs every day. Includes: 19 days, 17 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£5,121	£3,615	£4,136	£6,217	£4,265	£5,232
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£5,740	£4,065	£4,755	£6,999	£4,788	£6,015

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website china.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@china.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on BRITISH AIRWAYS from London, Internal Flights and Taxes, are included. UPGRADE to Business Cabin seat from: £2,314 and World Traveller Plus from £408

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine hotels, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.



Leshan Giant Buddha, Day 11



Shanghai, Days 16-19

BEIJING & FORBIDDEN CITY

Journey through the many layers of Beijing's history in its Imperial palaces and ancient hutong alleyways. Discover the different sides to local life in a city ever-evolving, but rooted in ancient culture.

Beijing is the cultural and historical heart of the People's Republic, where you can explore centuries of extraordinary history and observe modern life in a thriving 21st century China. It is therefore a natural starting point for any first-time visitors to the country.

In the courtyards of the 15th century Forbidden City, on the sacred steps of the Temple of Heaven and in the landscaped gardens of the Summer Palace, you can relive the might and majesty of the Dynastic years, when all-powerful emperors ruled over China.

The uncompromising communism of the Mao era is embodied in the Soviet-style buildings which line the vast Tiananmen Square. Venture into the hutong alleyways to find pockets of life largely untouched by the capitalism of recent years. The younger generation might be moving to the outskirts, but these streets are still home to older Beijingers, who rise early to take communal exercises in the park and who gather weekly to sing their 'red' songs.

But Beijing is not all about the past; microbreweries, contemporary hotels and the 798 Art District lend the city a young and dynamic edge, whilst Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism are embraced by the younger generations and celebrated in magnificent temples.

North of the city are several areas to access the Great Wall of China, both wild and restored sections.



Locals playing xiangqi



View over the rooftops of Beijing's Forbidden City from Coal Hill



Beijing's Summer Palace



Local Beijing residents taking morning exercises in the Temple of Heaven park

ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS IN BEIJING

Forbidden City

Explore the Emperor's palace complex, a wonder of the medieval world. Unlock the mysteries of ancient society and admire the elaborate architecture.

Summer Palace

Tour the landscaped gardens and marvel at the sumptuous Long Corridor. Enjoy fine views on a boat trip across Kunming Lake and see the ruins of the Old Palace.

Temple of Heaven

Climb the sacred steps to appreciate one of China's finest temples. See locals gather to take morning exercises and socialise with friends in the park.

Temples of Beijing

Learn about China's principal belief systems and how they coexist and inform modern life in grand temples dedicated to Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism.

Hutong tour

Walk through these atmospheric ancient alleyways and meet a local family to gain an insight into their life. Enjoy a special lunch and cultural activities.

Museums of Beijing

Delve deeper into Beijing's captivating history and culture at some of the city's specialist museums. Learn about Chinese history, aviation, military, art or railways.

798 Art District

Wander the bohemian streets to see the creative side of the city and browse art galleries in converted warehouses, with a surprise round every corner.

Beijing off the beaten track

Browse the antiques market, admire the symbolic Bird's Nest Stadium, enjoy a show at the Drum Tower and a singing performance at a Buddhist temple.

Evening shows

Enjoy world class performances at the city's range of spectacular shows; the famous Peking Opera, breathtaking acrobatics or high flying Kung Fu.

Chinese cookery class

A fun way to learn about traditional ingredients and cook the authentic Chinese way, under expert guidance at a renowned courtyard restaurant.



Lama Buddhist Temple



Life in a Hutong



Calligraphy at the Panjiayuan Antiques Market



Longevity Hill & Kunming Lake, Summer Palace

GREAT WALL OPTIONS

web veiso.com/beijing



Restored section of the Great Wall at Mutianyu

Several parts of the legendary Great Wall of China can be accessed just north of Beijing on a memorable full day excursion. These range from reconstructed and easily-accessed areas to wilder and more atmospheric sections slightly further afield, or even a combination of both.

Xizhazi-Mutianyu This moderately challenging 6km hike begins with a walk up through a pine forest, then a climb up a short ladder. You will be rewarded with magnificent views of ruined and seldom seen sections of the Great Wall and the chance to walk in complete isolation. It also leads into Mutianyu, giving you a look at one of the very best restored parts.

Gubeikou Another unrestored and quieter part of the Great Wall, the full hike is roughly the same distance as Xizhazi-Mutianyu, but with easier access and more exit points. The views are equally as mesmerising and the atmospheric watchtowers will transport you back to the many great battles which took place here in ancient times.

Mutianyu This popular restored section affords some great views and is larger and less-crowded than its more famous counterpart at Badaling. Cable cars make access easy and this option also affords time to visit the Ming Tombs on the way back to Beijing. For the more adventurous you can also descend via a specially-built toboggan.

Jinsbanling This partly restored section is another great place to experience the true majesty of the wall. Being further from Beijing, it is much quieter and more atmospheric than Mutianyu. This 4-5 hour hike is renowned for having some of the finest views in the region, with a wonderful collection of watchtowers. There are also cable cars for easier access.



Beijing Accommodation

WED

veioso.com/beijing-hotels

Regent Deluxe

A multi-award winning luxury hotel close to Tiananmen Square and shopping streets, providing guests with outstanding service in opulent surroundings. 500 spacious rooms and suites are elegantly finished in traditional Chinese style, whilst floor-to-ceiling windows fill the rooms with natural light and afford panoramic views, including of the Forbidden City from some. Connecting rooms are available for groups and there is a choice of renowned restaurants, as well as an indoor pool and wellness centre.



Regent Hotel



Regent Hotel

Red Wall Garden Deluxe

This delightful boutique hotel is centred around a traditional courtyard in the historic Shijia Hutong, to the east of the Forbidden City and close to popular food and shopping streets. Rooms are a blend of classic and contemporary decor, with modern facilities, luxurious bedding and marble bathrooms. For groups, loft-style suites accommodate up to 4 guests. The hotel's renowned restaurant offers an extensive menu of cuisine from across China, whilst guests can also enjoy a tea ceremony or practice calligraphy.



Red Wall Garden Hotel



Red Wall Garden Hotel

Penta First

Described as a "neighbourhood lifestyle hotel", the Penta is a distinctive 4 star contemporary hotel, close to the Temple of Heaven and a short walk from the subway. The laid-back hotel offers 307 ensuite rooms in a minimalist style, including family rooms, as well as the use of bikes and maps to explore the local area. The heart of the hotel is the bustling Pentalounge; an all-encompassing café, deli, noodle bar, library and games area that provides a meeting place where guests and locals come and go.



Penta Hotel



Penta Hotel

Conrad Deluxe

The Conrad is a 289 room luxury Hilton retreat in the heart of Beijing, well positioned for the airport and close to restaurants. Floor-to-ceiling windows afford panoramic views of the lake or iconic skyline buildings and guests can enjoy the excellent spa, an indoor pool and a choice of bars and dining options. There are also some family rooms with two double beds.



Conrad Hotel

PRICES

2 SHARING SEASONS	4 NIGHTS FROM	EXTRA NIGHT
REGENT		
Apr-May, Sept-Nov	£392	£98
Rest of the Year	£356	£89
RED WALL GARDEN		
Mar-Oct	£300	£75
Rest of the Year	£244	£61
PENTA		
Apr-May, Sep-Oct	£240	£60
Rest of the Year	£188	£47
CONRAD		
Apr-Oct	£432	£108
Rest of the Year	£376	£94

Prices are per person in a Standard Room for double occupancy including accommodation and Breakfast, tax, service charge and transfers. Prices for Triple room, Single room and child fares available on request.

VELOSO TOUR GUIDES

Our local guides are renowned for their intimate knowledge and enthusiasm for life in Beijing. We pride ourselves on our close relationships with our representatives and their ability to tailor their service to you, therefore your guide will be specially briefed on your interests before your arrival. We will advise you of the name of your host, so that you know who will meet you at the airport and be with you during your stay. Your host and our office are your concierge services for reservations, help and suggestions to enhance your stay in China.



Michael, Beijing & Great Wall



Jessie, Beijing & Great Wall



Miko, Great Wall

HONG KONG

web veloso.com/hongkong



Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour & iconic skyline

Hong Kong's picture-perfect views are legendary, but look closer and you'll find traditional life in the tranquil islands, fishing villages and local markets.

The lights burn bright and the skyscrapers stand tall above this captivating and multi-layered city. The markets of Kowloon, the fishing community of Aberdeen and atmospheric temples offer glimpses into a timeless way of life, whilst closeby are exotic islands preserving fishing villages, lush vegetation and tranquil beaches.



Bustling street life in Kowloon

Royal Plaza Hotel First

A good choice for couples, families and groups, the Royal Plaza is located in Kowloon, close to the markets and the metro. 599 spacious modern rooms come with separate bathtubs and rainshowers and a range of modern facilities, in addition to a 40 metre outdoor swimming pool, a sauna and a Jacuzzi. There are over 100 connecting rooms and several family rooms. A range of dining options offer international and contemporary Chinese cuisine.

Hotel Stage First

This boutique hotel in Kowloon exudes contemporary charm. Spacious minimalist rooms offer modern facilities, including a smartphone to browse the internet, consult maps and make international calls whilst in the city. It is located just a few minutes walk to the metro station and the vibrant night market. Freshly cooked breakfasts are prepared to order and the Stage also offers a stylish wine bar, gallery and book area, as well as an exhibition space for local artists.

InterContinental Grand Stanford Deluxe

The InterContinental is a renowned 5 star hotel, conveniently situated in the south of Kowloon, overlooking the iconic Victoria Harbour and close to public transport. 572 luxurious rooms and suites afford harbour, courtyard or city views and come equipped with all the necessary amenities you need, including a handy smartphone. Guests can relax on the outdoor rooftop pool, indulge in the beauty and health facilities and dine on fine Cantonese or Italian cuisine.

InterContinental Grand Stanford hotel



Markets of Kowloon

Kowloon is where we find some of the city's best hotels, a peaceful temple and a collection of lively markets in which you can shop and observe local life. These include areas dedicated to goldfish, jade, flowers, fresh fruit, seafood and even small pet birds, with locals bringing their own along for company. The large night market and the bustling ladies market are enjoyable places to shop for souvenirs or presents.



Bird Market in Kowloon

Tranquil Islands

A short boat ride from Hong Kong are small islands, a world away from the bustle of the big city. On Lantau you can relax on inviting beaches, stroll around the charming Tai O fishing village and ride the cable car to the magnificent Tian Tian Buddha statue. Lamma has a Caribbean feel and offers easy trails through lush vegetation to small beaches. You can also head out to the Sai Kung Peninsula for excellent hiking amid forested hills.



Cheung Sha beach, Lantau Island

Hong Kong for families

Hong Kong is a great place for family exploration as it feels both exotic and familiar at the same time. Spend a few days here and you will feel awed by the sights, sounds and smells, but also very much at home, thanks to the prevalence of good English and the western influences which permeate the city. What's more, the shopping is great, the views are spectacular and the dim sum is delicious.



Happy Valley Racecourse, Hong Kong Island

Macau in a day

Across the Pearl River Delta from Hong Kong is Macau, whose Portuguese heritage is mixed with Chinese influences. Reached by a one hour ferry from Hong Kong, Macau's colonial buildings, grand churches and intricate *azulejo* tiling will transport you to the streets of Lisbon. But since the former colony was handed back to China in 1999, the two cultures have converged to create a unique city, where East meets West.



Portuguese buildings in Macau

IMPERIAL BEIJING & PEARL RIVER CITIES

The Peking Tour

7 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights

Hong Kong: 3 nights

web: veloso.com/peking



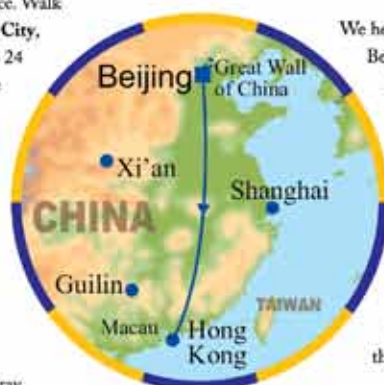
Imperial Garden in the Forbidden City

Explore the Imperial palaces, timeless hutong alleyways and sacred temples of Beijing and hike along the Great Wall of China. Enjoy Hong Kong's exotic beaches, breathtaking vistas and local markets on this in-depth East-meets-West city break.

Days 1-5 Fly overnight to **Beijing**, arriving the following morning. Start **Day 3** in Tiananmen Square to learn of its historical significance. Walk into the **Forbidden City**, mysterious home to 24 emperors. Continue to a **traditional hutong** to visit a typical courtyard home and enjoy cultural activities. (B,L)

On **Day 4** we visit the sacred **Temple of Heaven**, where emperors came to pray for bountiful harvests. Locals gather here early to socialise, practice Tai Chi and play traditional instruments. Later we

tour the sumptuous **Summer Palace**, set amid landscaped parkland, crossing Kunming Lake for fine views. (B,L)



We head two hours north of Beijing on **Day 5** to visit the legendary **Great Wall of China**, set amid rolling mountains. Choose to either hike along a peaceful wild section, access the restored part at Mutianyu via cable cars, or a combination of the two. Return to Beijing in the late afternoon. (B,L)

Days 6-10 Fly south to **Hong Kong**, an exotic city of Eastern and Western influences, spectacularly located at the mouth

of the Pearl River Delta and surrounded by the South China Sea. Our full day tour on **Day 7** provides an in-depth perspective on Hong Kong's local life and the rhythm of the bustling streets. We start by visiting the surprising and diverse markets of Kowloon and then on to its sacred temple, worshipped by local fishermen. We continue onto Hong Kong Island to the Aberdeen fishing community and the Central business district. Finish at the atmospheric Man Mo Temple, where giant incense coils hang from the ceiling, imparting a fragrant, smoky haze. (B)

You might like to use your free time on **Day 8** to cross the Pearl River Delta to Macau, whose mix of Portuguese heritage and Chinese influences creates a unique city. Highlights include the Ruins of St. Paul - a Roman Catholic Church destroyed by fire, the Senado Square and its typical colonial architecture and Portuguese paving, the Ming era A-Ma Temple and the famous casinos. (B)



Confucius Temple, Beijing

View from The Peak, Hong Kong



PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£3,079	£2,085	£2,413	£3,412	£2,283	£2,746
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£3,325	£2,303	£2,659	£3,719	£2,533	£3,053

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website veloso.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@veloso.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on BRITISH AIRWAYS from London, Internal Flights and Taxes, are included. **UPGRADE** to Business Cabin seat from: £2,347 and World Traveller Plus from £468

HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, veloso.com/peking

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine hotels, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.

Alternatively, enjoy spectacular city views, sample dim sum. Head to peaceful islands to relax on golden beaches, enjoy short hikes through exuberant vegetation and discover more of Hong Kong's fishing culture.

Day 9 is also at leisure, with a return flight overnight, arriving **Day 10**. (B)

Peking Tour departs every day. Includes: 10 days, 7 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details of what is included.

ICONIC CHINA, PANDAS & EXOTIC CITIES

The Warriors Family Tour

13 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights

Xi'an: 3 nights

Chengdu: 3 nights

Hong Kong: 3 nights

web

www.velos.com.hk/touring/family



Chengdu's Pandas, Day 10

Relive the Imperial age, when emperors ruled over China from Beijing's Forbidden City, tackle the Great Wall and get up close to pandas and the Terracotta Army on our special family tour to China. Finish in Hong Kong, whose blend of exoticism, local markets and island beaches make it the perfect place to explore together.

Days 1-5 Depart on overnight flight to **Beijing**, arriving in the morning. **Day 3** enjoy a full day tour, walking from the historic Tiananmen Square into the **Forbidden City** to unlock the secrets of the place from where 24 Emperors ruled over China.

Tour the **alleyways of a timeless hutong**, with activities tailored to your interests, such as calligraphy lessons, dumpling making, meeting a local family or a ride in a rickshaw. If time allows, catch a spectacular drumming performance at the Drum Tower. You may wish to attend the high-flying Acrobatics Show in the evening. (B,L) **Day 4** at leisure to explore. (B)

Drive two hours north on **Day 5** to access the iconic **Great Wall of China**, a highlight of the country. You may choose to hike on an atmospheric wild section, ride the cable cars to a restored part, or a combination of both. See p.11 for full options. (B,L)

Days 6-8 Fly to **Xi'an**, starting point of the ancient Silk Road. **Day 7** brings you face-to-face with the 8,000 individually carved clay members of the **Terracotta Army**. Visit a clay workshop to create your own warrior. Back in Xi'an we ride a bike along the city walls and explore the vibrant Muslim Quarter, perhaps ending with a traditional shadow puppet performance. (B,L) **Day 8** free or optional visit to the farm painters of Huxian. (B)

Terracotta Army near Xi'an, Day 7

Days 9-11 Ride the high speed Bullet Train to **Chengdu**, a journey of three hours, with free time to discover the tea culture and local life found in People's Park. In the evening you may wish to try the spicy local cuisine and attend a cultural show, including the famous Sichuan face-changing. **Day 10** we visit the **Panda Research Base** to see giant pandas and playful cubs up close. Time at leisure in the afternoon, perhaps to wander along bustling Jinli Street. (B) Enjoy a memorable day trip on **Day 11**, driving two hours south to see the 71m high **Leshan Giant Buddha**, carved into the mountainside above three rivers over 1,200 years ago. (B,L)

Days 12-16 Fly to **Hong Kong**, the perfect place to finish your family holiday. **Day 13** tour Kowloon's thriving markets, visit



sacred temples and take a boat ride around the fishing community of Aberdeen to delve into Hong Kong's local life. (B,L) **Day 14** free to enjoy the small beaches, easy hikes and fishing villages of the outlying islands or take the ferry to Macau, rich in Portuguese heritage. Return flight on **Day 15**, arriving **Day 16**. (B)

Family Tour departs every day. Includes: 16 days, 13 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.



Tai O fishing village on Lantau Island, Hong Kong, Day 14

GUIDE PRICES

NO. OF TRAVELLERS	SHARING DOUBLE	SHARING TRIPLE
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£2,790	£2,780
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£3,177	£3,102

Children aged 7 to 11 years have a reduction of 20% when sharing a room.
GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website www.velos.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616 or email china@velos.com. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.



Forbidden City in Beijing, Day 3





DYNASTIC HERITAGE, KARST PEAKS & EXOTIC CULTURE



The Dynasty Tour

14 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights

Xi'an: 2 nights

Chengdu: 3 nights

Guilin: 2 nights

Hong Kong: 3 nights

web veloso.com/dynasty



Beijing's Temple of Heaven



Journey through centuries of fascinating Dynastic history in Beijing's perfectly preserved Imperial palaces. Meet pandas in Chengdu and the Terracotta Army in Xi'an and admire storybook landscapes around Guilin. Discover Hong Kong's local markets, atmospheric temples and peaceful outlying islands.

Days 1-5 Overnight flight to **Beijing**, arriving in the morning. On **Day 3** our special tour provides a deeper perspective on Beijing's Dynastic and Communist heritage, visiting the Imperial **Forbidden City** and Soviet-style **Tiananmen Square**. Survey the city from above on **Coal Hill** and have lunch in a traditional hutong. Finish at the **Buddhist** and **Confucius** temples to understand their ancient beliefs and their role in today's China. (B,L) **Day 4** free or optional guided tours. (B)

We hike along a lesser-visited wild part of the **Great Wall of China** on **Day 5**, set amid rolling mountains. Passing atmospheric ruined watchtowers on the way, the hike ends at the **Mutianyu** restored section to take the cable cars down. See p.11 for our alternative Great Wall day trips. (B,L)

Days 6-7 Bullet Train to the historic city of **Xi'an**. See the iconic **Terracotta Army** up close on **Day 7**, returning to the city to explore the bustling **Muslim Quarter**, known for its mosques, street life and exotic food. (B,L)

Days 8-10 Bullet Train to **Chengdu**, with afternoon free to explore. **Day 9** we visit the **Panda Research Base** to watch the bears and their young cubs at close quarters. Free time in the afternoon, perhaps to join the locals as they gather at the outdoor tea houses. (B)

On **Day 10** we travel south to the 1,200 year old **Leshan Giant Buddha**, which sits 71m high, carved out of the rocky mountainside. Take a short boat trip and climb the steps to appreciate both its immense scale and intricate detail. Return to Chengdu by road. (B,L)

Days 11-12 After an early flight to Guilin, we drive two hours to the **Longji Rice Terraces** to enjoy mesmerising views of the sculpted hillsides. **Day 12** cruise along the **Li River** through the spectacular **karst mountain landscape** to Yangshou, with time to walk and explore before returning to Guilin. (B,L)

Days 13-17 High speed Bullet Train to the exotic metropolis of **Hong Kong**. **Day 14** our special 'local life' tour explores the markets of Kowloon and the **Tin Hau Temple**, dedicated to the Goddess of the Sea.

Cross **Victoria Harbour** to visit the fishing community of **Aberdeen**, the business district and antique shops of **Central** and finish at the **Mau Mo Temple**. **Day 15** at leisure to marvel at the magnificent vistas, relax on quiet islands or visit the former Portuguese colony **Macau**. Overnight flight home, arriving **Day 17** (B)

Dynasty Tour departs every day. Includes: 17 days, 14 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£4,968	£3,388	£3,886	£5,934	£3,971	£4,853
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£5,385	£3,692	£4,303	£6,444	£4,322	£5,362

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website veloso.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@veloso.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on BRITISH AIRWAYS from London, Internal Flights and Taxes, are included. UPGRADE to Business Cabin seat from: £2,347 and World Traveller Plus from £468

HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, veloso.com/dynasty

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XI'AN & TERRACOTTA ARMY

Once the starting point of the legendary Silk Road, Xi'an is a bastion of Chinese history, culture and cuisine, encircled by imposing city walls and close to the iconic Terracotta Army.

Xi'an's ancient Bell Tower



Terracotta Army



Soldier of the Terracotta Army

What makes the Terracotta Army truly remarkable is the level of craftsmanship and detail of the soldiers and archers, each with their own individual facial expressions and features. Originally the men were all equipped with weapons and painted in vibrant colours, pigments of which can still be seen if you look closely enough. Located around 40 miles from Xi'an, the 8,000 strong army was built to protect the nearby tomb of the first emperor of the Qin dynasty and was accidentally discovered by local workers in the 1970s.

Muslim Quarter



Market seller in Xi'an's Muslim Quarter

At the height of the Silk Road trade, Arabic and Persian merchants settled here to study and so began the city's Muslim community. Delve deep into the Muslim Quarter with a local guide and today much of Xi'an's long history, thriving local culture and varied cuisine can be discovered in the district's mosques, street markets and restaurants. It is a wonderful place to stroll the streets, try some of the local delicacies, barter for souvenirs and soak up the sights, smells and sounds of this vibrant corner of the ancient city of Xi'an.

Short stays to combine Xi'an: See the China Extensions on p.31 for options.

GUILIN & YANGSHUO



Li River and hills near Guilin

A region of timeless landscapes; mysterious limestone peaks, breathtaking rice terraces and ancient caves. Enjoy mesmerising boat trips and hike or cycle through the hills of Yangshuo.

Guilin's Karst Landscapes



Guilin's karst scenery

The winding Li River is lined with mist-shrouded limestone peaks. Along with traditional paddy fields worked by water buffaloes and farmers in cone-shaped hats, these create scenes that have inspired generations of artists and poets. This beauty can be enjoyed in Guilin and Yangshuo on boat trips, bamboo rafts, hikes or bike rides. In the evening the Illuminations Show lights up the river and cormorant fishermen demonstrate their ancient method, backed by the mysterious hills and the setting sun.

Longji Rice Terraces



Longji Rice Terraces

Layers of ancient terraces curve gracefully around steep hills like ribbons, creating one of China's most profoundly beautiful scenes. In spring the terraces are filled with reflective water, then turn green with the arrival of summer. They take on a golden palette of autumnal colours at harvest time, before winter brings snow. The terraces represent an extraordinary feat of engineering, an example of Chinese vision and ingenuity, whilst tiny minority villages preserve traditional customs and lifestyles.



IMPERIAL PALACES, TIBETAN MONASTERIES &

The Mandarin Tour

20 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights • Xi'an: 3 nights

Lhasa: 3 nights • Chengdu: 3 nights

Longji Rice Terraces: 1 night

Guilin: 1 night • Yangshuo: 2 nights

Hong Kong: 3 nights

web

www.mandarin-tour.com



Beijing's Temple of Heaven Park



Terracotta Army near Xi'an, Day 7



Enjoy a grand cross-country tour of China and its iconic sights. Immerse yourself in the rich culture, history and local life in its captivating cities and hike and cruise through its most spellbinding countryside. See baby pandas at close quarters and unravel the mysteries of Tibet in the palaces and monasteries of its sacred capital.

Days 1-5 Fly overnight to **Beijing**, arriving in the morning. Start **Day 3** in the Soviet-style Tiananmen Square, to learn of its significance in China's history. Walk into the **Forbidden City** to explore the country's Dynastic past, and admire the traditional architecture. Exit at the north to climb Coal Hill for panoramic views, followed by lunch in a traditional hutong. Finish at the **Confucius** and **Buddhist** temples to see how these ancient belief systems continue to shape Chinese life. (B,L) **Day 4** at leisure or choose from our optional tours on p.11. (B)

We drive north on **Day 5** for a memorable visit to the magnificent **Great Wall of China**, either hiking along an atmospheric wild section, taking the cable car to a scenic restored area, or a combination of both. (B,L)

Days 6-8 Take the Bullet Train to the fabled walled city of **Xi'an**, starting point of the Silk Road. The 8,000 strong **Terracotta Army** await on **Day 7**. Close inspection shows that each statue is carved with its own unique features. Return to Xi'an to explore the vibrant Muslim Quarter, visiting the Great Mosque and a traditional family home and enjoying a shadow puppet performance. (B,L) **Day 8** at leisure or choose an optional guided tour. (B)

Days 9-11 Fly to **Lhasa**, capital of Tibet, time to adjust to the altitude and a visit to the Dalai Lama's Summer Palace. **Day 10** take a poignant tour of the **Potala Palace**, winter residence of His Holiness. Watch Buddhist pilgrims spin prayer wheels as they circle the Barkhour and enter the sacred Jokhang Temple. **Day 11** drive to the turquoise waters



Chengdu's Pandas, Day 13

Lhasa's traditional old town, Day 10

INSPIRING LANDSCAPES



Local farmer at Longji Rice Terraces, Day 16

of **Yamdrok Lake** then return to Lhasa to tour the Sera Monastery and observe resident monks holding their afternoon debates. (B,L)

Days 12-14 Flight to **Chengdu**. We begin **Day 13** with a memorable visit to the **Panda Research Base** to observe giant pandas and their cubs. Afternoon at leisure perhaps to wander along Jinli Street or join the locals at one of the atmospheric teahouses. (B)

We drive south on **Day 14** to the **Leshan Giant Buddha**, carved into the cliff-face 1,200 years ago. Enjoy a boat trip on the river for panoramic views of the 71m high structure and climb 333 steps to see its intricate detail up close. Return to Chengdu by road in the afternoon. (B,L)

Days 15-16 Fly to Guilin to continue our journey and visit the **Reed Flute Caves**, where colourful lighting illuminates the spectacular rock formations. We drive through the mountains to the **Longji Rice Terraces**, staying overnight in a minority village. **Day 16** hike around the terraces, enjoying magnificent views and learning about the interesting customs and ways of life of the locals. Return to Guilin later that afternoon. (B,L)

Days 17-18 Cruise to Yangshuo through spectacular **karst mountains** along the **Li River**, scenery which has inspired artists and poets for centuries. **Day 18** explore the beautiful countryside in more depth on a hike or cycle ride. Optional activities include bamboo rafting, river illumination show and cormorant fishing demonstration. (B,L)

Days 19-23 Bullet Train to Shenzhen and short drive to **Hong Kong**. **Day 20** enjoy our special introduction to local life and culture; browse the markets of Kowloon, visit atmospheric temples and the bustling business district and discover the fishing communities of Aberdeen. You might like to end with a tram ride to The Peak to see the skyscrapers as the city lights come on. Free time on **Day 21** could be spent in the outlying islands, with the promise of golden beaches and fishing villages, or on a day trip to the former Portuguese colony of Macau. **Day 22** overnight return flight, arriving **Day 23**. (B)

Mandarin Tour departs every day. Includes: 23 days, 20 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more.



Karst scenery around Guilin & Yangshuo, Days 17-18



Aberdeen Harbour on Hong Kong Island, Day 20

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£7,030	£4,760	£5,483	£8,343	£5,501	£6,790
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£7,407	£5,161	£6,058	£9,160	£6,022	£7,598

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website velas.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@velas.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on **BRITISH AIRWAYS** from London, Internal Flights and Taxes, are included. **UPGRADE** to Business Cabin seat from: £2,314 and World Traveller Plus from £408

HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, velas.com/mandarin

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine hotels, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.

SHANGHAI

web: veloon.com/shanghai

Historic buildings on the Bund waterfront



Courtyard by Marriott First

Located in the Jing'an district, close to the Jade Buddha Temple, the railway station and popular eating and shopping streets, the Courtyard provides 321 modern, spacious and well-equipped rooms and 129 suites, with city views through large floor-to-ceiling windows. There is an elegant indoor swimming pool and a choice of casual dining and bar areas, including the Executive Lounge with panoramic skyline views on the 30th floor.

Hangzhou & West Lake

Marco Polo's "City of Heaven" enjoys an enviable location on the banks of the idyllic West Lake and at the end of the Grand Canal, surrounded by rolling green hills and tea plantations. Relax and enjoy sumptuous lake views, immerse yourself in tea culture and silk making tradition and explore the city's pagodas and temples, including the active Lingyin Buddhist temple, one of the oldest and most important in China.



Hangzhou's West Lake

Shanghai Grand Central Deluxe

Conveniently situated in the bustling heart of Shanghai, close to the historic Bund waterfront and the People's Square, the Grand Central offers 353 luxury rooms and suites, with excellent modern facilities. Guests can enjoy use of the indoor swimming pool, gym and sauna and choose between traditional Cantonese and fine French cuisine if eating in. The hotel is also noted for its magnificent pillar-free Grand Ballroom.

Gardens of Suzhou

Suzhou is a picturesque city of classic gardens, traditional Chinese pagodas and narrow canals, spanned by stone bridges, situated in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. Suzhou is renowned for its cultural heritage and historical trade importance, having been at the heart of China's silk industry for over 800 years. It is a two hour drive from Shanghai and can be visited on a day trip or preferably with an overnight stay.



Classical garden in Suzhou

Shanghai's Pudong skyline



Situated in the Yangtze River Delta, China's economic powerhouse boasts one of the world's most recognisable skylines, but beyond the glitz you'll also find historic buildings, bustling backstreets and traces of past European grandeur.

Shanghai is the epitome of paradoxical 21st century China; bold, ostentatious and modern, yet underpinned by timeless customs, ancient beliefs and a rich history. This contrast is best appreciated on the Bund waterfront, with grand buildings from yesteryear and sweeping views across the river to Pudong's gleaming towers. In the charming French Concession, traces of Shanghai's European influences remain, whilst the teahouse, temple and bazaar of Yu Gardens offer an oasis of peace.

PuLi Hotel & Spa Deluxe

Offering a complete luxury experience, the PuLi boasts 193 impeccably presented rooms and 36 expansive suites, many overlooking Shanghai's distinctive skyline. Facilities include an infinity pool, sauna, steam room and China's first Anantara Spa, providing ancient Asian therapies. A Michelin starred restaurant serves French cuisine infused with seasonal ingredients. The hotel is centrally located in the Jing'an district.

PuLi Hotel & Spa



Ancient Water Towns

Traditional wooden houses nestle against one another and are reflected in sleepy canals, crossed by graceful bridges and traversed by hand-rowed boats. Some of the most authentic and photogenic of the region are Tongli and Luzhi, near Suzhou, Zhuji and near Shanghai and Nanxun and Xitang, nearer to Hangzhou. A visit to these can be incorporated into your itinerary on a half or full day excursion with your local guide.



Water Town near Shanghai

Peaks of Huangshan

The Yellow Mountain's powerful granite peaks and oddly-shaped rocks soar above the clouds, creating arresting vistas that have inspired China's most noted painters and poets. We recommend taking the cable car (or perhaps hiking) to the summit and staying there overnight to enjoy the sunset and sunrise views. You can also combine the Yellow Mountain with the nearby ancient Hui villages, such as Tangmo, Xidi or Hongcun.



Huangshan

CLASSIC GARDENS, ANCIENT CANALS & MISTY PEAKS

The Ming Tour

13 Night Itinerary

Shanghai: 3 nights

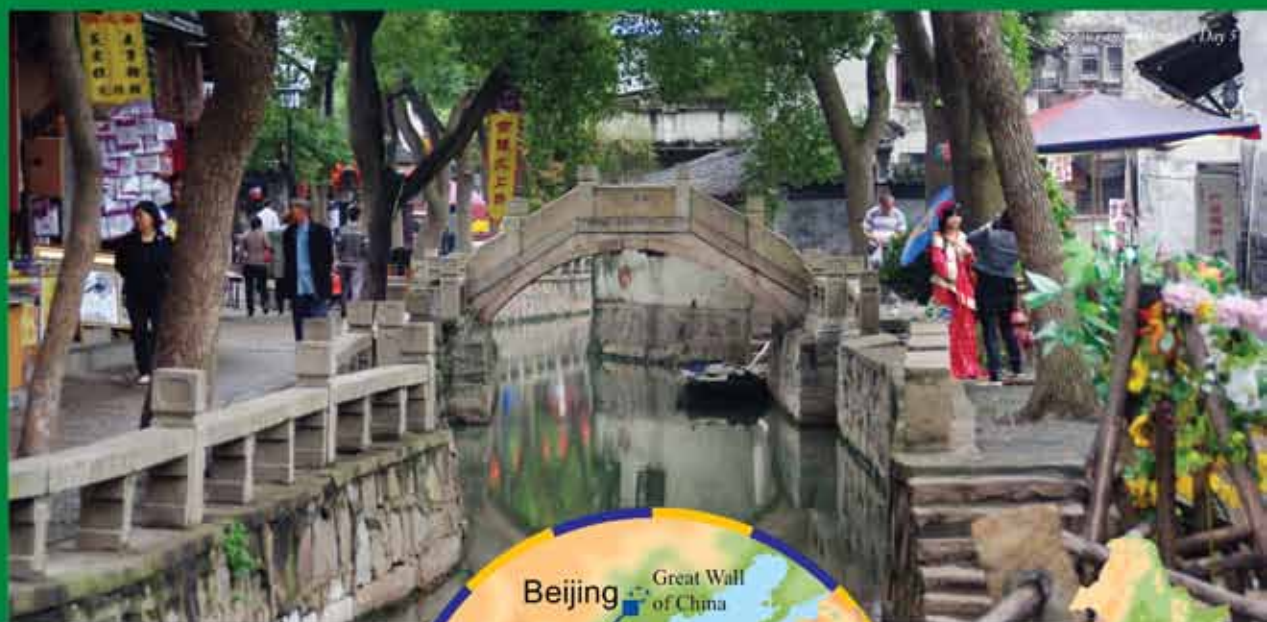
Suzhou: 1 night

Hangzhou: 3 nights

Huangshan: 2 nights

Beijing: 4 nights

visit veloso.com/mtg



Explore Eastern China by Bullet Train, with no internal flights. Find impressive temples and historic buildings amid Shanghai's towering skyscrapers. Admire classic Chinese gardens, ancient canals and breathtaking mountain peaks. Enjoy a slower pace of life and memorable sunsets at Hangzhou's treasured West Lake.

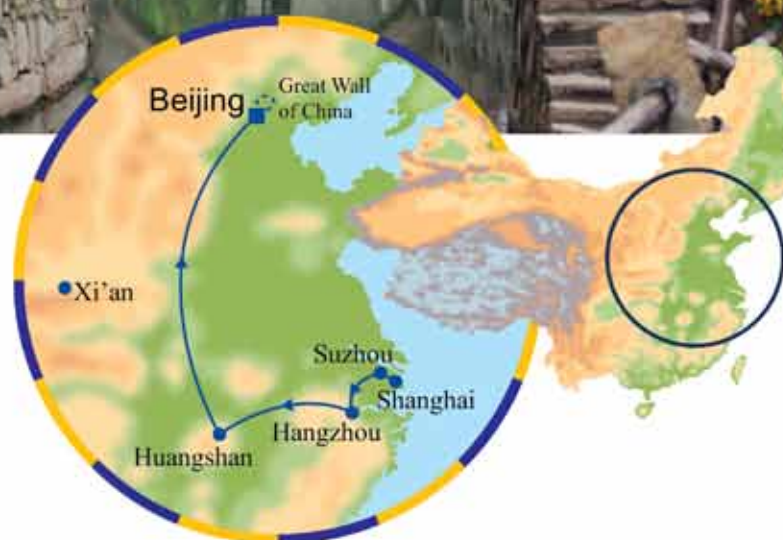
Days 1-4 Overnight flight to **Shanghai**, arriving in the morning. **Day 3** our special tour introduces you to Shanghai's rich history and local life, starting at the classic Yu Gardens. We admire the European buildings of the riverside Bund area, once known as the "Paris of the Orient" and enjoy a scenic boat ride on the Huangpu River. Have lunch in the French Concession before discovering the traditional houses of Xintiandi, now converted into upscale shops, restaurants and bars. (B,L) **Day 4** at leisure, or choose optional tours. (B)

Day 5 Visit Suzhou, with a tour of **Luzhi ancient water town** en route. In **Suzhou** you will see the Humble Administrators Garden, Santang Street, Panmen Gate and a silk spinning factory and enjoy a short Grand Canal cruise. Overnight in Suzhou. (B,L)

Days 6-8 Afternoon Bullet Train to **Hangzhou**, on the shores of the beautiful **West Lake**. On **Day 7** visit a traditional tea farm, garden and historical street, as well as a boat trip on the lake and a tour of the historic Buddhist temple (B,L) **Day 8** at leisure or optional excursions. (B)

Days 9-10 Short drive to Huangshan City, via an **ancient Hui village**, for our visit to the majestic **Yellow Mountain**. **Day 10** ride the cable car up and walk between panoramic viewpoints over ancient bamboo forests and powerful granite peaks. Stay overnight at the summit to enjoy sunset and sunrise. (B,L)

Days 11-15 Continue to **Beijing** by Bullet Train. **Day 12** start amid the Soviet-style buildings of the vast Tiananmen Square



and walk through the Gate of Heavenly Peace into the **Forbidden City**, the epicentre of China's Dynastic rule. Relive the lives of all-powerful emperors and climb Coal Hill for views over the yellow rooftops. After lunch in a traditional hutong, tour the **Confucius** and **Buddhist temples**, learning about how these ancient belief systems still shape local life. (B,L) **Day 13** at leisure or choose from our additional tours. (B)

On **Day 14** take a memorable hike along the iconic **Great Wall of China**, starting at a quiet wild section and walking at your own pace to

the restored part at Mutianyu, taking the cable cars down. Flight home on **Day 15**, arriving in the evening. (B,L)

Ming Tour departs every day. Includes: 15 days, 13 nights accommodation and breakfast, all train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.

Chinese Bullet Train



Beijing street food

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£4,522	£3,047	£3,397	£4,978	£3,328	£3,690
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£4,983	£3,409	£3,858	£5,571	£3,756	£4,236

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website veloso.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@veloso.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

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HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, veloso.com/mtg

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine beach, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.





TIBET

Travel to the Roof of the World to discover a sacred land of timeless monasteries, holy turquoise lakes and remote snow-capped Himalayan peaks.

So long off-limits and shrouded in mystery, Tibet is now attracting inquisitive travellers looking to experience the rich culture, traditional ways of life and magnificent landscapes of the high plateau. The holy monasteries and vacated palaces of Lhasa and Shigatse leave a profound impression, holding the keys to the past and offering a window on modern day life. Venture further afield to find turquoise lakes, dramatic mountain passes adorned with prayer flags and a flourishing river, along which herds of yaks graze and locals gather for afternoon picnics. Keep going south and you'll reach the fabled Everest Base Camp and glorious views of the world's highest peak.

Tibetan monks



Lhasa

Lhasa is the cultural, religious and historical centre of Tibet and, despite decades of Chinese rule, we still find Tibetan culture and Buddhism thriving in the beautiful old town. In the Barkhor, monks and devout pilgrims in traditional dress spin prayer wheels, or prostrate themselves on the floor as they circle the sacred street and enter the Jokhang Temple, the region's spiritual centre.

You don't have to wander far from here to soon be drinking sweet tea with the locals in a bustling teahouse, shopping for local handicrafts or sampling the rich Tibetan cuisine in a cozy family-kitchen restaurant.

In Lhasa we also find the poignant former palace residences of the Dalai Lama, where you can relive his daily routine and feel the ghosts of the past in deeply thought-provoking visits. Head to the 15th century Sera Monastery to see the resident monks take to the courtyard for their famous debating sessions and find scenic hills in which to hike through small forests to a remote nunnery.

Lhasa's Potala Palace

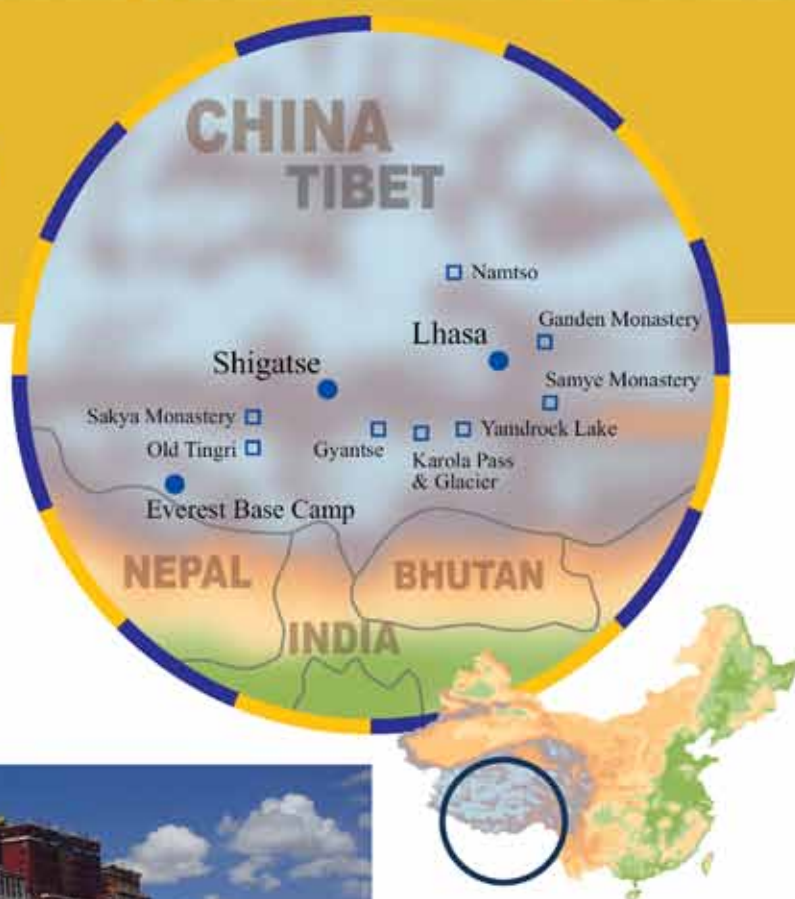


Everest Base Camp

For intrepid travellers, venturing out of the capital to Everest Base Camp is a wonderful way to fully appreciate the natural beauty and rich cultural heritage of Tibet. The landscape on the way is characterised by sacred turquoise lakes, snow-capped mountain passes and rural yak herding communities, whilst the small cities of Shigatse and Gyantse offer timeless monasteries, among Tibet's most important.

The highlight of the journey is the magical moment that you get your first glimpse of Mount Everest as the early morning sun illuminates the world's highest peak.

To have the best chance of seeing Everest, you should stay close by - either in the simple Rongbuk monastery guesthouse, offering a small number of private rooms, or alternatively the spacious communal tents. Both sit at just under 5,000 metres above sea level and are a short shuttle bus ride from Base Camp. In the winter you can stay at a lower altitude in a small town and drive to Base Camp and back, with clear views all but guaranteed all day.



Hiking in Tibet

A number of hiking routes allow you to immerse yourself in the raw beauty and nomadic culture of Tibet. A half-day option is the circular hike from Sera Monastery in Lhasa through forested hills to a remote nunnery and sky burial site. The most popular 4-5 day treks are the 50 mile pilgrimage route between Ganden and Samye monasteries and the 42 mile trek from Tingri to Everest Base Camp. On these you will be accompanied by porters, yaks and your experienced guide and all food will be prepared for you. Accommodation is a mix of camping and small guesthouses. These treks are rather demanding and at high altitude, so a good level of fitness and hiking experience is vital.

Additional Excursions

- Drepung Monastery
- Visit to yak herding family home
- Rafting on the Yarlung Tsangpo River
- Overnight stay at sacred Namtso Lake



Yak at Yamdrok Lake



日喀则市扎什伦布寺管理委员会





MYSTERIES OF TIBET & EVEREST BASE CAMP

The Yak Tour

14 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights

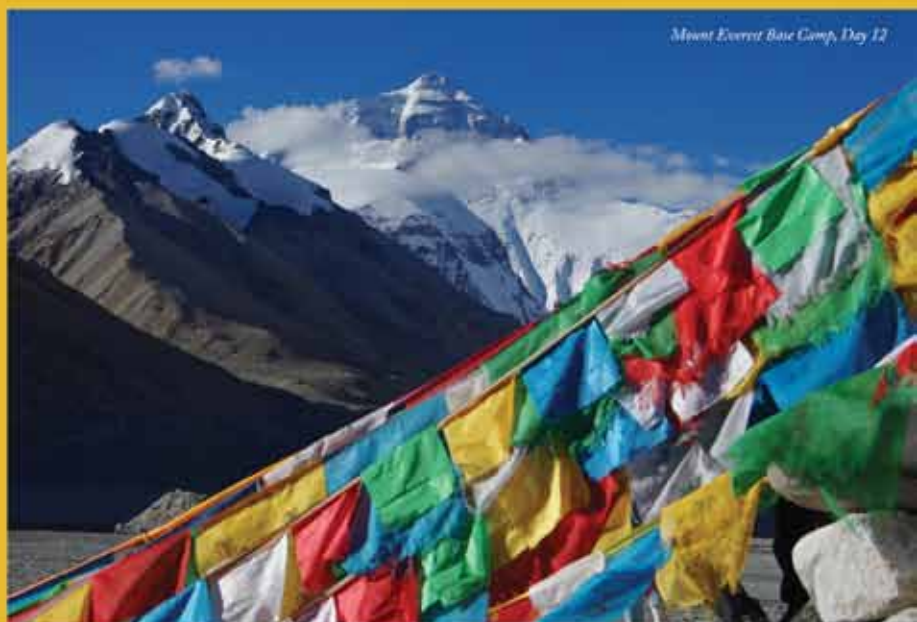
Xining: 1 night • Xining-Lhasa train: 1 night

Lhasa: 2 nights • Shigatse: 1 night

Everest Base Camp: 1 night

Shigatse: 1 night • Chengdu: 3 nights

web: velos.com/yak



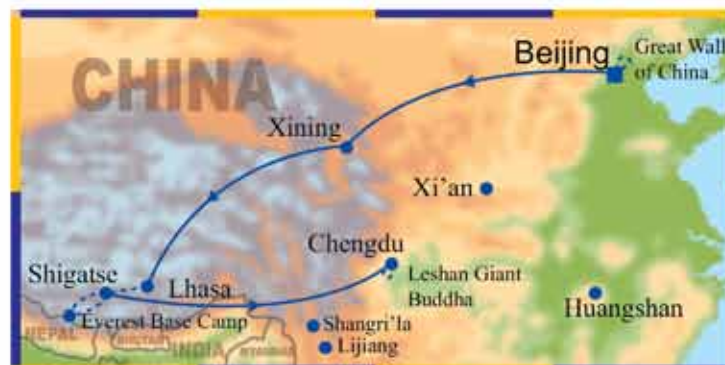
Mount Everest Base Camp, Day 12

Reach the high Tibetan plateau by overnight train to see how this holy land is adapting to life in modern China, whilst retaining its Buddhist traditions. Feel the ghosts of the past in Lhasa, witness the moving acts of devotion of pilgrims from across Tibet and wake up to the sight of the world's highest peak at Everest Base Camp.

Days 1-5 Fly overnight to **Beijing**, arriving in the morning. Our special tour on **Day 3** will lead you through the different eras of Chinese history, starting with Tiananmen Square and the Imperial age splendor of the **Forbidden City**. After climbing Coal Hill for a panoramic view of central Beijing and lunch in a hutong, we conclude at the **Confucius** and **Lama Buddhist temples** to see how these ancient belief systems coexist and shape modern life. (B,L) **Day 4** enjoy time at leisure or optional tours to enhance your stay. (B)

A memorable day trip to hike the **Great Wall of China** at your own pace on **Day 5**, combining a quiet atmospheric section with one of the most picturesque restored areas, taking the cable car down at Mutianyu. (B,L)

Days 6-9 Enjoy a guided tour of Beijing's sumptuous **Summer Palace** before an afternoon flight to **Xining**. **Day 7** board the 22 hour **overnight train to Lhasa**. A soft sleeper cabin provides a comfortable bed and panoramic views of the glistening lakes, sweeping plains and mountain landscapes. Arrive in Lhasa at noon on **Day 8** and visit the former Summer Palace of the Dalai Lama. On **Day 9** we start with a thought-provoking tour of the iconic **Potala Palace** before venturing into the heart of the old town to watch pilgrims circling the Barkhor, spinning prayer-wheels or prostrating themselves on the floor. Enter the sacred Jokhang Palace and enjoy fine views from its roof. After lunch, we tour the Sera Monastery and watch its famous afternoon debates among the monks. (B,L)



Days 10-11 Drive south via the sacred **Yamdrok Lake** and the **Karola Glacier**. Enter Gyantse's Pelkhor Monastery, famed for its Kumbum circular stupa, arriving in Shigatse early evening. (B,L) On **Day 11** we start in the atmospheric **Tashilhunpo Monastery**, seat of the Panchen Lama (spiritual authority second only to the Dalai Lama) and see the world's largest gilded Buddha. Turning off the Friendship Highway to Nepal, we enter the **Everest National Park**. A winding road leads to the Kya Wu Lha mountain pass at 5,198m, offering a potential first glimpse of the Himalayas. Overnight in either the monastery guest house or large communal tents. (B,L,D)

Monastery, known as the "Great Wall of Tibet" due to its rare fortress-like design. It is also noted for having the largest collection of prayer books in all of Tibet. (B,L)

Days 13-16 Fly to **Chengdu**. Next day we visit the **Panda Research Centre** in the morning to see baby pandas at their most active, returning to the city by noon. (B) **Day 15** drive south to marvel at the 71m **Leshan Giant Buddha**, carved into the rock face. Climb the steps for a close-up view and enjoy a boat trip on the river, before returning to Chengdu. (B,L) **Day 16** fly home via Amsterdam, arriving in the evening. (B)

Day 12 Rise early for glorious views as Everest is illuminated by the early morning sun. We take a short shuttle bus ride to walk around **Everest Base Camp**, before returning to Shigatse. En-route visit the **Sakya**

Yak Tour departs every day. Includes: 16 days, 14 nights accommodation and breakfast, all flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£5,686	£3,891	£4,284	£6,499	£4,324	£5,038
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£6,237	£4,316	£4,833	£7,239	£4,851	£5,740

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website velos.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@velos.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on AIR FRANCE-KLM from London via Amsterdam. Internal Flights and Taxes, are included. **UPGRADE** to Business Cabin seat from: £1,245

HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, velos.com/yak

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine hotels, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.



Tibetan pilgrims and monks at the Potala Palace, Day 9

YUNNAN PROVINCE

Marvel at magnificent landscapes, wander the streets of ancient towns and immerse yourself in the culture of China's minority communities.

Breathtaking scenery, charming old towns and an intoxicating mix of cultural identities combine to make Yunnan one of the most rewarding areas through which to travel in China. Combining the headline acts with some of the province's hidden gems offers the chance to explore the many cultures that coexist here and enjoy a cross-section of the most spectacular landscapes. Journeying along ancient caravan routes reveals remote monasteries, historic teahouses and isolated minority communities living a traditional way of life. Head further afield and you'll encounter deep gorges, idyllic yak meadows, sparkling blue lakes and thriving wetlands.

Stone Forest near Kunming



Captivating cities

Most visitors' first contact with Yunnan is at its capital **Kunming**, known as the 'City of Eternal Spring' for its year-round temperate climate and blooming flowers. As well as being the base for visits to the Stone Forest, Kunming boasts an attractive central lake park and some impressive temples.

Dali is famed for its ancient Three Pagodas, traditional Bai architecture, and stunning views of Erhai Lake. It is also close to fishing villages and minority Bai communities.

Lijiang is spectacularly located near yak meadows and the snow-capped Jade Snow Dragon peak. It has one of the country's best old towns; a maze of narrow alleyways and ancient waterways, rich in Naxi culture.

Further north is **Shangri-la**, named in honour of the mythical city. The old town remains the best place to experience Tibetan culture, outside the region itself. The city is also noted for the striking Guishan Temple and its proximity to areas of natural beauty.

Natural Splendour

Yunnan's landscapes are as diverse as they are delightful. Among the most noted is the other-worldly **Stone Forest** near Kunming, where powerful limestone pillars rise side-by-side amid lakes, ponds, forests, caves, underground rivers and waterfalls.

The peaceful **Erhai Lake** at Dali is dotted with small islands which can be visited on boat trips. Further north, the **Tiger Leaping Gorge** and the **Jade Dragon Snow Mountain** both illicit a sense of awe and wonder on excursions from Lijiang.

Venture into the countryside near **Shangri-la** to reach thrilling canyons, national parks rich in biodiversity and powerful rivers carving their way through valleys.

Visited on an overnight stay from Lijiang is the majestic **Lugu Lake**, dotted with tiny islands and home to fascinating minority communities. Among these are the Mosuo people, who operate a rare matriarchal society in their so-called *Kingdom of Women*.



LUX Lijiang Deluxe

The LUX hotel is situated in the heart of ancient Lijiang, close to the main square. Its historic Tea Horse Road roots are evident throughout this 5 star boutique hotel and its welcoming guestrooms. Laid out in traditional courtyard form, the LUX aims to recapture the essence of its past, mixing modern facilities with an atmosphere that evokes those intrepid and epic journeys.

LUX Lijiang hotel



LUX Benzalin Deluxe

Situated in a scenic valley near Shangri-la and surrounded by beautiful nature, this luxury resort hotel promises guests an ultra-attentive service, inspired by the best Tibetan hospitality. After a day exploring the landscapes and rich culture of the area, unwind by the pool, sample delicious cuisine and perhaps enjoy their Cinema Paradiso club.

LUX Benzalin hotel



Dali's Three Pagodas

CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS ON THE TEA HORSE ROAD

The Shangri'la Tour

14 Night Itinerary

Beijing: 4 nights • Kunming: 2 nights

Benzhalin: 3 nights • Lijiang: 2 nights

Dali: 2 nights • Beijing: 1 night

Journey through the culturally-rich Yunnan province, admiring its natural beauty and enjoying privileged cultural experiences as you go behind the scenes on the old Tea Horse Road. Discover minority communities, captivating cities and remote monasteries where monks hold lively afternoon debates.

web veloso.com/shangrila



Lijiang, Jade Dragon Snow Mountain, Day 12



Tea Horse Road

Days 1-5 Depart on an overnight flight to **Beijing**, arriving in the morning. On **Day 3** we visit the infamous Tiananmen Square and the Imperial palace complex of the **Forbidden City**, before getting a birds-eye view of Beijing from Coal Hill and having lunch in a hutong restaurant. Visit the peaceful **Confucius Temple** and the **Lama Buddhist Temple** to learn about China's relationship with these two ancient philosophies. (B,L)
Day 4 at leisure or enjoy optional tours. (B)

Day 5 we walk along the **Great Wall of China**, perhaps starting at an atmospheric wild section and finishing at the restored Mutianyu, before returning to Beijing. (B,L)

Days 6-7 Fly to Yunnan's capital **Kunming**, the *City of Eternal Spring*. On **Day 7** marvel at the remarkable **Stone Forest of Shilin** and explore a local market. (B,L)

Days 8-10 Fly to Shangri-la to start the **Tea Horse Road** experience, using the LUX Benzhalin as your base for three nights.

Head to the **Napahai Wetlands**, home to diverse wildlife, including the rare black-necked crane. Drive through a dramatic canyon to reach the hotel. On **Day 9** watch the monks debate at the lesser-visited Dongzhulin Monastery and stop at a

remote Tibetan hamlet to see how incense sticks are made. **Day 10** starts with a scenic drive to the **Balagezong Canyon**, with a boat trip and nature walk through an area rich in bio-diversity. After lunch you'll be taught about the famous black pottery of the Nixi people, seeing a master potter at work and perhaps having a go yourself. (B,L,D)

Days 11-12 Walk through Shangri-la's old town, admiring the temple and the world's largest prayer wheel. We then drive south to Lijiang, en-route seeing the awesome **Tiger Leaping Gorge** and the powerful **Yangtze River**. Be welcomed to the LUX Lijiang with a traditional tea session. (B,L,D)

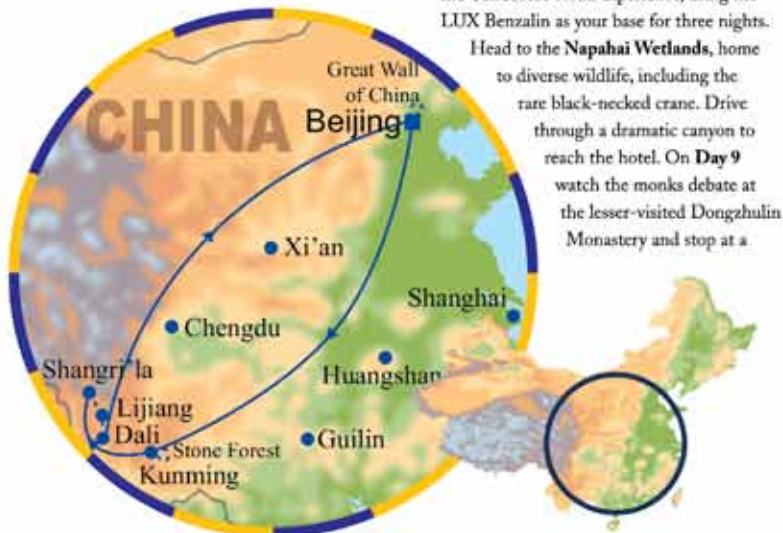
Take a self-guided walk through the ancient alleyways of **Lijiang's old town**, visiting some of the city's lesser-known sites. We then head to a local food market with the LUX hotel's chef to buy the ingredients for a special Naxi Hotpot dinner later that night. Enjoy the **Lijiang Impressions Show**, set against a backdrop of the **Jade Dragon Snow Mountain** and visit the Naxi community at Baisha. Here you will see the Dongba hieroglyphic script - the world's only living pictographic language. (B,L,D)

Days 13-16 Head south to **Dali**, stopping at the **Shibaoshan Grottoes** to admire their intricate carvings and **Shaxi**, a caravan town of the ancient tea route. **Day 14** starts at the vibrant Bai village of Xizhou and a scenic boat trip to the islands of **Erhai Lake**, finishing at a traditional fishing village. (B,L) Fly to Beijing on **Day 15** for your flight home on **Day 16**. (B)

Shangri'la Tour departs every day. Includes: 16 days, 14 nights accommodation and breakfast, flights, train tickets, private transfers & excursions with English-speaking guides and meals as shown. See p.35 for more details.



First bend of the Yangtze River, Day 11



PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TOUR GUIDELINE PRICES

	FIRST (PART DELUXE)			DELUXE		
	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM	1 SINGLE TRAVELLER	TRAVELLING TOGETHER DOUBLE	OWN ROOM
LOW SEASON (DATES)	£6,116	£4,196	£4,486	£6,525	£4,400	£4,838
HIGH SEASON (DATES)	£6,498	£4,519	£4,856	£6,922	£4,754	£5,250

GUIDELINE TOUR PRICES are all per person, subject to availability, as all services are booked when you pay your deposit. Please refer to our website veloso.com for current prices and any special offers available. To obtain a Guaranteed Price for your travel dates, please call 020 8762 0616, email china@veloso.com, or contact our appointed travel agents. Prices for Special Events, Chinese New Year, National Day Holiday on request.

FLIGHTS on BRITISH AIRWAYS from London are included. UPGRADE to Business Cabin seat from: £2,023 and World Traveller Plus from £526

HOTELS used, descriptions and photographs on our website, veloso.com/shangrila

TAILOR-MADE SERVICE: Please enquire for a personalised itinerary to fulfil your individual requirements. We can combine hotels, change route, excursions and we can offer Triple Rooms, Suites and Deluxe Plus Hotels.

YANGTZE RIVER CRUISES

Combine dramatic scenery with cultural activities and relaxation on a Yangtze Cruise



Sailing through the Three Gorges

Relax in style as you pass through the jaw-dropping Three Gorges landscape. Gain insights into life on the river and immerse yourself in Chinese culture.

The 400 mile stretch of Yangtze River between Chongqing and Yichang provides the best luxury cruising in China. Sleep in spacious cabins with private showers and balconies, enjoying freshly prepared meals, nightly cultural shows and traditional activities, such as calligraphy, folk dancing, cooking lessons and Tai Chi.

3 night itinerary Chongqing to Yichang

Days 1-2 Transfer to Chongqing, settling in to your cabin in the evening. Next day, disembark for optional visit to the ancient town of Fengdu, touring the shrines and temples of **Ghost City**. Later visit the **Shibaozhai Temple**, a 200m tall pagoda-like structure built into a cliff-face. (B, L, D)

Day 3 Take an optional tour to the **White Emperor City**, an ancient hilltop temple complex. Relax as the boat begins to pass through the breathtaking **Three Gorges**, where steep mountainsides, covered in thick vegetation, descend into the river. After lunch take an excursion to either the picturesque Shennv or Shennong Stream, part of the Lesser Three Gorges. Later, at around 10pm, the boat lowers some 600 feet as you pass through the locks of the **Three Gorges Dam**, a true feat of masterful Chinese engineering and vision. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Start with a memorable excursion to see the **Three Gorges Dam** and learn about this remarkable, yet controversial engineering project. Next, cruise through the east section of the spectacular Xiling Gorge. Disembark at Yichang and transfer to the airport for your afternoon onward flight. (B, L)

This itinerary can also be taken in reverse at no extra cost, sailing upstream to Chongqing over five days at a more leisurely pace.

PRICES WITH TRAIN/FLIGHTS

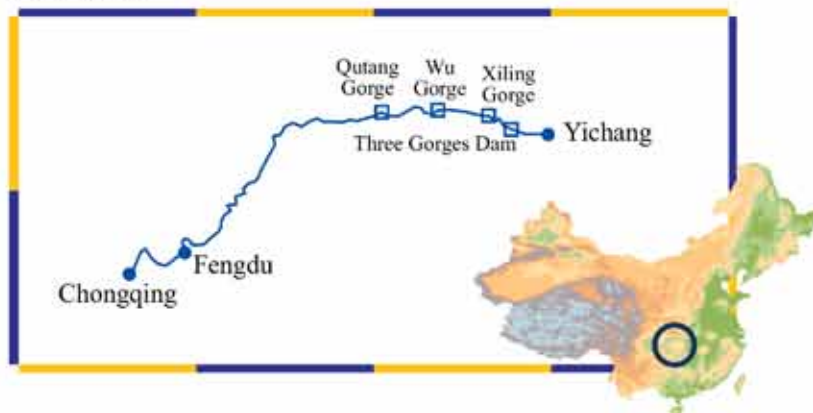
4 DAYS • 3 nights	HIGH	LOW
Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer	£1,713	£1,288
Century Paragon & Legend	£764	£718
Century Sun & Sky	£718	£663

Price per person sharing double occupancy room, including transfers, train from Chengdu and onward flight. Based on Century Cruises itinerary. Ask about early booking savings on Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer.

Visit the world's largest dam and cruise through the Three Gorges



The Lesser Three Gorges



Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer

This boutique cruise vessel accommodates 124 passengers, far fewer than most other cruises along the river. The high staff-to-guest ratio promises a more attentive and intimate service. Spacious and stylish cabins and suites offer wonderful retreats in which to relax and watch the dramatic scenery roll by from your private balcony. Itinerary offers chance to visit a local market and meet a relocated family.



Century Cruises

The Century Paragon and Legend are deluxe sister ships, among the newest on the river. They offer outstanding value for a luxury cruise, with extremely helpful staff and a range of on-board cultural activities and facilities. The Sun & Sky are 4 star ships, following the same upstream and downstream routes, with the same levels of service and, as with all Century boats, also boast private balconies.

CHINA EXTENSIONS

Enhance your trip to China with a short visit to explore these fascinating lesser-visited sights

Mount Emei

veloso.com/emeban

Sacred Buddhist mountain with elaborately decorated monasteries, pavilions and temples

Ride the cable car to the summit for breathtaking views over forested peaks and the Sea of Clouds

Stay in a lakeside resort hotel, perfect for relaxed evening strolls

Combine with Chengdu

Day 1 Transfer by road from Chengdu. See the 71m high Leshan Giant Buddha, with a panoramic boat trip and a climb up the 333 steps to admire its immense features up close.

Day 2 Take cable cars to Golden Summit for spectacular views over the Sea of Clouds. Visit three temples, taking time to admire the astonishing figures carved into the cliff-face.

Day 3 Return to Chengdu via the ancient town Huanglongxi, noted for its stilt houses.

From £388 including transfers from Chengdu



Fuhu Temple, Mount Emei

Pingyao

veloso.com/pingyao

Quintessential Chinese walled city, with atmospheric streets lined with authentic Qing era architecture

The economic centre of China during the Qing dynasty and the site of the country's very first bank

Stay in a charming courtyard hotel in the heart of the old town

Combine with Beijing & Xi'an

Day 1 Take the high speed Bullet Train from Beijing, with transfer to your hotel on arrival.

Day 2 Discover Pingyao in the company of our local guide. Admire the traditional architecture, browse antique and handicraft markets and see China's first bank. Later visit to the luxurious Wang Family Compound, noted for its Ming and Qing architecture.

Day 3 Transfer to the station for your 2 hour 40 minute onward bullet train to Xi'an.

From £433 including transport by train



Classic street in Pingyao

Dunhuang & Mogao Caves

veloso.com/dunhuang

Magnificent sand dunes, caravan passes and sculpted rock formations on the ancient Silk Road route

Perfectly-preserved Buddhist artwork and statues dating back to the 4th century in the Mogao Caves

Stay in a traditionally-decorated hotel in Dunhuang

Combine with Beijing & Xi'an

Day 1 Fly to Dunhuang, tour of Mogao Caves. Buddhist artwork and statues reveal the story of ancient life along the Silk Road.

Day 2 Explore the landscapes of the Silk Road, visiting the Yudan Landform, Yumen Pass and Great Wall of Han Dynasty.

Day 3 Visit the huge Singing Dunes, with a camel ride into the desert to the idyllic Crescent Spring Lake. Later transfer to airport for your onward flight to Xi'an.

From £1,061 including internal flights



Singing Dunes, Dunhuang

Shaolin Temple & Longmen Caves

veloso.com/shaolin

Ancient artwork, statues and stelae reveal the secrets of Buddhist culture and history at the Longmen Caves

Watch martial arts and marvel at the Qing and Ming era architecture of the iconic Shaolin Temple

Stay in a classic hotel in the heart of Dengfeng, close to the temple

Combine with Xi'an & Chengdu

Day 1 Bullet Train from Xi'an and tour the Longmen Caves, where over 100,000 Buddhist statues are carved into a limestone cliff, some from the 5th century.

Day 2 Visit the Shaolin Temple, famed for its martial arts and Zen Buddhism. Learn about life here with a guided tour and enjoy a spectacular kung fu performance.

Day 3 Transfer to Zhengzhou airport for your onward flight to Chengdu.

From £ 651 including train & onward flight



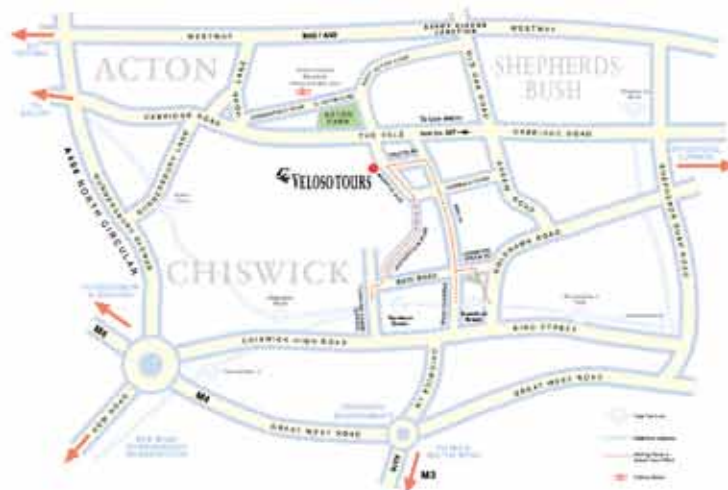
Longmen Caves

Please refer to p.35 for more information about what is included in the price.

CLIMATE CHART

	JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			Ave			
	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days	High	Low	Rainy Days			
LONDON	6	3	19	7	3	16	10	4	16	13	6	16	17	9	15	20	12	13	22	14	14	21	14	13	19	12	15	14	9	15	10	6	17	7	3	17
CHINA																																				
BEIJING	2	-9	2	4	-7	3	11	-1	4	20	7	5	26	13	6	30	18	9	31	22	14	30	22	12	26	14	7	19	7	6	10	0	5	3	-7	2
XI'AN	5	-4	3	8	-2	4	13	3	8	21	9	9	26	14	10	30	19	11	31	21	12	30	20	12	25	16	13	20	10	11	12	3	6	6	-3	3
CHENGDU	10	3	14	11	5	13	15	8	16	21	12	16	26	17	18	28	21	19	29	22	20	29	22	20	25	18	19	21	15	18	16	10	10	11	4	9
GUILIN	12	5	16	13	7	16	16	10	19	23	16	20	27	20	19	30	23	18	33	25	16	33	25	15	30	22	8	27	17	10	20	12	9	15	7	9
HONG KONG	18	13	6	20	15	9	22	17	10	26	21	11	29	23	15	30	26	19	31	26	17	31	26	17	29	25	14	28	23	8	24	19	6	20	14	4
KUNMING	15	2	4	17	4	5	21	6	6	24	10	7	24	14	12	24	17	17	24	17	21	24	16	19	23	15	16	20	12	13	17	7	7	15	3	4
SHANGHAI	8	0	11	9	2	12	13	5	14	19	11	15	24	16	15	27	20	15	32	25	12	32	25	11	27	20	13	22	15	12	17	9	11	11	2	11
LHASA	7	-9	1	9	-6	1	13	-2	2	16	2	4	20	6	10	23	10	14	23	10	19	21	10	20	20	8	15	17	2	5	12	-4	1	8	-8	1

The information listed above is provided only as an indication of the seasons and general weather patterns. Veloso Tours cannot check the accuracy of the climate information, particularly at a time when weather patterns are changing and appear to be more unreliable than ever. Please note that we cannot be responsible for the weather conditions during your holiday and that the wind is also an important factor. There are numerous regional weather variations and microclimates related to geography, altitude and latitude. Our travel consultants and Travellers' Guide offer suggestions on the clothing for your journey.



WHERE TO FIND US

Our Address: 34 Warple Way, London W3 0RC

- Our office is situated on the ground floor facing the street, next to number 34, in a large art deco style industrial building that has been converted into offices.
- We are open from Monday to Saturday 09.00 to 18.00
- You are welcome to visit our office for reservations or to discuss an itinerary or customised tour. We would suggest you telephone in advance to confirm that there will be a member of staff on duty with knowledge of the specific area you wish to visit.
- Parking is free and easy on Saturdays, however during the week there is metered parking on Valetta and Emlyn Roads and by Acton Park.
- By Underground on the District Line, the best station to use is Stamford Brook, walking along Emlyn Road and Valetta Road or Turnham Green station walking along Woodstock Road and Warple Way. Alternatively take the Overground Line to Acton Central.
- STREETMAP.CO.UK Use postcode W3 0RG

2018

CALENDARS

2019

[illegible]

Special calendar dates in sequence: New Year Bank Holiday, Chinese New Year, Spring Festival Golden Week, Dragon Boat Festival, National Day Golden Week, Christmas Day

BOOKING PROCEDURE

Brochures can be ordered by post, through our website veloso.com, or collected from our office or from your travel agent. We are open from Monday to Saturday from 09.00 to 18.00 and you are welcome to telephone us or come to our office to discuss your travel plans.

How to Book

Individual Tours:

When you are ready to book you will need to provide all necessary details and a deposit payment of £400 per person.
We will contact our representatives in China and make all the reservations for you.
Within three days we will send you a confirmation of your complete itinerary, details of flights, dates, times, hotels, cruises, excursions and will show if there is any item awaiting confirmation.
Once you have received confirmation of the full itinerary to your satisfaction, you send us the full payment eight weeks before departure.
We will send you your tickets, vouchers, final itinerary and documentation no later than two weeks before departure.

Bespoke Tour Itineraries:

We will be pleased to discuss your travel plans by telephone, email or you may visit our office.
The process of preparing your personal itinerary may involve a certain amount of liaising to arrive at an itinerary that best fits your requirements.
We will send you a written proposal for your itinerary and once you are happy with the tour and price, you send us a deposit of £400 per person together with your booking form and we complete the booking in the manner described above in Individual Tours.

Special Requests / Interests

Our commitment to our clients' comfort leads us to try to satisfy special requirements in order to make your trip as enjoyable as possible. We require a written note with any such request, highlight, essential requirement or special interest you may have. To make sure, we will book it first and confirm to you that we can provide it.

Safety & Security

It is important that you should be aware, before you book your holiday, that standards of health, safety and security in many parts of China do not meet European standards. Many areas are poor, underdeveloped, with different priorities and a serious lack of resources to import the standards and technical ability that we enjoy in Europe. Visiting China means being part of the life and standards in those countries, with all the limitations of their social, economic, political and regulatory conditions. Unfortunately crimes against people and their property can occur everywhere in the world and China is no exception. Travellers have the same obligation to look after their personal safety, health, security and possessions as they do at home. Our 'Travellers' Guide provides information and suggestions on precautions to take while travelling. Since the situation is constantly changing, you may wish to check the advice and up-to-date information issued by The Foreign and Commonwealth Office Travel Advice Unit at their web site www.fco.gov.uk

Our Prices

We aim to provide a competitive price consistent with the high quality of our service, consumer protection and commitment to our clients. The prices in this brochure are correct at the time of going to press, but are not guaranteed and may change over time. We will quote you the exact price when you first enquire, for you to consider and agree, before you decide to book and before we confirm your booking and take your deposit. Once you receive our confirmation invoice our prices are guaranteed if you pay in full within one month from the date of the invoice.

Our prices may bear no relation to prices of services in China, available and payable locally at the time of travel, contracted by local agents or special promotions. We cannot provide a breakdown of prices other than those shown in our brochure. Please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currencies and any apparent changes in local prices have no impact on the price of your travel due to contractual and other protection in place.

Single Travellers and Single Room Supplement

The price shown for a single traveller on an Individual Tour includes the cost of a single room. The single room supplement applies to those who prefer to stay in a single room when several people travel together.

Flights

Special Reduced Fares and Restrictions

Prices in this brochure and tailor-made quotations are based on special leisure airfares and conditions offered to us by the airlines primarily for holiday travel, as opposed to the normal IATA fares used mostly for business travel. These represent a reduction on the normal IATA fares which entitle passengers to privileges and flexibility that leisure passengers do not normally require. Tickets at our special fares are 100% non-refundable, valid ONLY on the airline, flight and dates shown and do not entitle passengers to switch to another airline in case of a flight

cancellation, delay or technical problem with the aircraft or the reservation. However, we are able to offer higher IATA airfares and aircraft charters to clients for whom these restrictions are not acceptable.

Flights with Special Service Classes

For more comfort, most airlines have their own special service class on board, called Club World, First Class, Upper Class, Business First and so on, providing passengers with larger reclining seats, sometimes flat beds, better meals and other benefits at a premium fare. However, there is no uniform equivalence between each airline's service classes, and the prices and service offered are very different. Please ask for our advice, price and details of the service each airline provides.

Delays, Reservations and Problems with Flights

The vast majority of flights operate without any problem, particularly off peak. The reality of air travel in the world today is one where the volume of flights and passengers at the airports, together with congestion and economic pressures, lead to the possibility of lost luggage, delays, cancellations and the overbooking of flights. The whole process of going through crowded airports, queues, check-in, officials, endless security and flights, is not an enjoyable experience, but rather a test of patience and endurance. Clients travelling long haul must be aware of this reality and must be prepared to cope with the consequences of any disruption, including delays that may be in the order of a few minutes or several long hours. Normally airlines provide accommodation and meals or refreshments if the wait is prolonged but this may not be the case with some smaller airlines in countries with limited resources. The airline ticket entitles you to be taken from A to B but it does not guarantee when or how. It is common sense that in everyone's interest, airlines have a paramount concern for the safety of their crew and passengers, therefore timekeeping is of secondary importance should the airline find or suspect any technical problem with the aircraft, crew, weather or air traffic control. In addition, clients should accept that, at times, airlines may have to change the type of aircraft used and the destination airport, in which case you will be taken back to your original destination, on alternative transport, as soon as possible.

Health & Vaccinations

All passengers should consult their doctors for proper medical advice and vaccinations in good time before travel. It is important to consider taking precautions against illnesses in the area that you are visiting, but these vary widely and there are no compulsory vaccination requirements for passengers travelling from Europe or the United States. China does require travellers arriving from Yellow Fever affected countries to show a Yellow Fever Vaccination certificate. There is a MASTA Travellers Health advice website www.masta-travel-health.com validated by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. However, vaccines are only the first step. It is just as important to take precautions while travelling since the reality is that the more common ailments may prove to be the most disruptive. When we confirm your booking we will send you our pre-departure Travellers' Guide with essential information for your journey.

Visas & Permits

Visas are mandatory for UK citizens to enter China and these are NOT included in the cost. You must arrange a China Visa in a timely manner ahead of your visit. We will provide the required documentation, including an authorised invitation letter from our agents in China, and our Travel Consultants can support and advise you wherever possible. Please visit the China page of the Gov.uk website or Visaforchina.org for full details of the process and the costs involved. At the time of printing there are no additional costs for Tibet permits and these will be arranged via our local agents beforehand.



VELOSO TOURS

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The Travel Association
ABTA No. W1095




100% Financial Protection


ACCREDITED AGENT

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Your holiday contract is with Veloso Tours Limited a member of ABTA (W1095) and holds ATOL 5153. This brochure was published in January 2017 and is valid until superseded. The holidays featured are operated by Veloso Tours Ltd (the Company) which is registered in England under company no. 3612863. The following conditions, together with the information set out in the relevant brochure descriptions, will form part of your contract with the Company.

1. BOOKING YOUR HOLIDAY

To secure your booking you should complete and sign the Veloso Tours Booking Form and forward to the Company together with the relevant payment (see Section 2 below). A contract will exist when we accept your reservation and issue our confirmation invoice. When you arrange your holiday direct with the Company all correspondence will be forwarded to the lead passenger on the booking form unless otherwise stipulated. If your booking is made through a travel agent, all communication by the Company will be made to the travel agent. Special requests should be included in the booking form. The Company will try and arrange for special requests to be met, but these cannot be guaranteed. The Company will not be liable if any special request is not met.

2. PAYMENTS

A deposit of £400 per person is payable together with a completed and signed booking form. Upon receipt of this the Company will forward our confirmation invoice showing the amount received. Payment of the balance is due by return of the full price guarantee, or at anytime you wish to pay but no later than 8 weeks before departure.

*A higher deposit or pre-payment is required on certain holidays for flights, cruises and special events i.e. Chinese New Year.

If the booking is made within 8 weeks of departure, full payment is due, by return, as soon as you have received our confirmation invoice. If the holiday is made through a travel agent, all monies paid by the client to the travel agent, under or in contemplation of a contract with Veloso Tours Ltd are held by the travel agent as an agent of Veloso Tours Ltd. If payment is not received on the due date, the holiday or travel arrangements will be liable to cancellation and if cancelled will mean the loss of your deposit. Tickets and other documents will normally be forwarded 10-14 days before the date of departure.

3. PRICE GUARANTEES

All prices in this brochure are calculated on rates of exchange as published in the Financial Times on the 12th July 2017 in relation to the US Dollar, UK Sterling and Euro and local currencies in China and Hong Kong. No Surcharge Guarantee - The price of your holiday, which we confirm to you in writing when we confirm your booking, is fully guaranteed and will not be subject to surcharge under any circumstances if you pay in full within 30 days of the date of the invoice or immediately if your departure date is within 60 days.

Regrettably, should you prefer not to pay in full within 30 days of the date of your confirmation invoice, your holiday price may change at the time when you do wish to pay in full, but not later than 60 days before your date of departure. Your holiday will then be subject to surcharges in certain unusual circumstances resulting from: government action, currency fluctuations, increase in scheduled airfares, transportation and fuel costs and taxes. Once paid in full, the price of your travel arrangements is fully guaranteed and will not be subject to any surcharges.

4. CANCELLATION BY YOU

Any cancellation by the client must be advised in writing to the Company (signed by the same person who signed the booking form). Cancellation will only come into effect on the day written advice is received by the Company. Recorded or Special Delivery is strongly recommended. Upon receipt the following charges will be payable by the client (excluding insurance premiums and amendment charges paid which are non-refundable), depending upon the number of days prior to departure.

Days prior to departure date when written advice of cancellation is received:	% of holiday price payable:
Up to 60 days prior	Deposits and advance payments forfeit
59-32 days prior	60% of total holiday cost or all advance payments
31 days or less	100% of total holiday cost

For cruises, hotels, special events and flights, it may be necessary to pay a higher deposit and all monies paid are 100% non-refundable. We strongly recommend that, at the time of booking, you take out full insurance including cover against loss of deposit or cancellation charges.

Force Majeure: This means that we will not pay you compensation if we have to cancel or change your travel arrangements in any way because of unusual or unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control. These can include, for example, war, riot, industrial dispute, terrorist activity and its consequences, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions.

5. ALTERATIONS TO A CONFIRMED BOOKING WHILST ABROAD

Clients cannot make any changes to their travel arrangements after the date of departure and while on holiday except in exceptional circumstances of 'force majeure' with the consent of the Company. Should you decide to alter your travel arrangements whilst abroad the holiday becomes your own responsibility, and Veloso Tours Ltd, or the Company's agents are not responsible for any extra costs or difficulties that may arise with onward travel or services paid for but not delivered or delivered substandard.

Please note that when you book any excursion or service locally, you contract with the local service provider or its agents and not with the Company. The Company has no legal liability or obligation for the services provided or the monies paid, and any claim that you might have arising out of the excursion or service will be against the local service provider and subject to their terms and conditions. We regret that no credit or refund is possible for unused services provided in the cost of your holiday, hotel accommodation or transport.

6. CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION BY US

We expect and hope to be able to provide you with the services we confirmed to you at the time of booking. However, we plan arrangements many months in advance of your holiday, and use the services of independent suppliers such as hotels and airlines, over whom we have no direct control.

Flight and transport times are given as an indication only; transport operators have no obligation to adhere to any specific timetable. In the event of the Company having to alter, amend or cancel the holiday we will endeavour to contact you and/or your travel agent as soon as reasonably possible. If we have to cancel your holiday you will be able to purchase another holiday from us or obtain a full refund of all monies paid. Most changes which arise are minor, but if we consider them a MAJOR CHANGE before your departure we will provide you with 3 alternatives:

1. Accept the alternative offered (at additional cost if applicable).
2. Purchase another available holiday from us.
3. Cancel your holiday with a full refund of all the monies paid.

In addition, if we have to make a major change or cancel your holiday within 8 weeks of departure, each person affected will also be entitled to the following levels of compensation:

60-42 days	£10	27-15 days	£30
41-28 days	£20	14-0 days	£40

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We cannot be liable to pay any compensation if we are forced to cancel or in any way change your holiday as a result of situations outside our control and 'force majeure' which neither we nor our suppliers could foresee or forestall even with all due care. For example technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by rescheduling or cancellation of flights by an airline, the alteration of the airline or aircraft type, war or threat of war or civil unrest, civil strife, industrial disputes, fire or bad weather, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster.

7. FLIGHTS, SCHEDULES AND TIMEKEEPING

All transport timings are only estimates provided by the carrier concerned and cannot be guaranteed.

Anyone embarking on one of our holidays should not expect any transport times to be punctual since there are paramount safety considerations for passengers and crew that override any personal need to be on time. In addition, many cultures that we visit do not share the importance that we attach to timekeeping. Their tradition is to tolerate these delays and drawbacks but benefit from a relaxed approach to day-to-day life, which we are there to observe and experience.

Transport arrangements by air, sea or rail are subject to operational decisions by carriers, airports and air traffic control restrictions, which may result in delays, lost or delayed baggage, diversions or rescheduling to a later date. Veloso Tours has no control over such decisions and is therefore unable to accept responsibility for them. The Company accepts no responsibility for the overbooking of flights and for the consequences of flights missed owing to the passenger's failure to reconfirm their flight reservations. Your flight ticket commits the airline to take you from A to B but it carries no guarantee as to when that will be. Clients should be aware that flights to long haul destinations are often full and it may not be possible to be allocated seats together.

8. OUR RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT TO YOUR HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Veloso Tours is licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority, ATOL no. 5153, and bonded with major banks/insurance companies to protect customers' holiday payment and repatriation. The Company accepts responsibility if you suffer death, personal injury or illness as a direct result of the negligent acts and/or omissions of our employees or agents, suppliers or sub-contractors whilst acting within the scope of, and in the course of their employment to provide any service or arrangement forming part of the holiday that you have booked with us.

However, the Company will not accept responsibility if there has been no fault on the part of the Company or its suppliers and the loss, death or personal injury suffered is attributable to your own acts or omissions, to the acts or omissions of a third party not involved with providing the services which make up your holiday, or to the unusual or unforeseeable circumstances whose consequences could have been avoided or anticipated. If any client suffers death, illness or injury whilst overseas arising out of activity which does not form part of the inclusive holiday arrangements or excursions arranged through us, we shall at our discretion offer assistance, provided we are advised of the incident within 90 days of the occurrence. Where legal action is contemplated, our authority must be obtained prior to commencement of proceedings and be subject to your undertaking to assign any costs recovered or any benefits received under an appropriate insurance policy to ourselves. Veloso Tours Ltd's costs in respect of the above on behalf of you and your party shall not exceed £5,000 in total.

In respect of carriage by air, sea and rail, and the provision of accommodation, our liability in all cases will be limited in accordance with the relevant international conventions.

9. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Clients are responsible for obtaining all passports, visas, health certificates, international driving licenses, travel documents, vaccination certificates, currency and travellers cheques required for the holiday and to ensure that these are in order. You are responsible for arriving at stated departure places and times and it is incumbent upon clients to behave in a responsible, restrained and sober manner when dealing with the local authorities, fellow travellers and our local suppliers and representatives.

By travelling on one of our tours, clients agree to accept the authority and decisions of the Company's employees, Tour Leaders and agents whilst on tour with the Company. If in the opinion of such persons of authority the health or conduct of a client at any time before or after departure appears likely to endanger the safe, comfortable and happy progress of a tour the client may be excluded from all or part of the tour. If a client commits any illegal act the client may be excluded from the tour and the Company shall cease to have responsibility to or for them.

10. COMPLAINTS

Most problems can be sorted out straightaway if we know about them. If you have a complaint you must report it immediately to our staff, supplier, or local agent or representative, or the emergency contact telephone numbers provided with your travel documents, so that we can do our best to investigate and rectify the situation. Failure to inform us of a problem may affect your consumer right to compensation. If the problem cannot be resolved locally and you wish to complain full details must be sent in writing to: Customer Relations Department, Veloso Tours Ltd.

In the unlikely event that disputes arising out of, or in connection with, this contract cannot be amicably settled they may be referred to arbitration, if the customer so wishes, under a special scheme arranged by the Association of British Travel Agents, and administered independently by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. The scheme provides for a simple and inexpensive method of arbitration on documents alone with restricted liability on the customer in respect of costs. Full details will be provided on request or can be obtained from the ABTA website (www.abta.com).

The scheme does not apply to claims for an amount greater than £5,000 per person. There is also a limit of £25,000 per booking form. Neither does it apply to claims which are solely in respect of physical injury or illness or their consequences. The scheme can however deal with compensation claims which include an element of minor injury or illness, subject to a limit of £1,500 on the amount the arbitrator can award per person in respect of this element. The application for arbitration and Statement of Claim must be received by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators within nine months of the date of return from the holiday. Outside this time limit arbitration under the scheme may still be available if the Company agrees, but the ABTA Code does not require such agreement.

This contract and any matters arising from it are governed by the laws of England and Wales and are subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales. You may however, choose the law and jurisdiction of Scotland or Northern Ireland if you wish to do so.

11. ATOL CONSUMER & FINANCIAL PROTECTION

All the flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate. Our ATOL number is 5153.

Holidays booked with Veloso Tours that do not include flights are covered by our licence with ABTA.

THIS BROCHURE: The information in this brochure, to the best of our knowledge and ability, is correct at the time of going to print. During the validity of the brochure, hotels will change facilities, airlines will change their flights and circumstances and the countries visited will also change. We will advise you of these changes before departure, wherever possible. At times these changes may affect your travel arrangements, and in such cases our local representatives will provide alternatives and rectify the situation within the constraints of what is available.

MAPS: The maps in this brochure are illustrations and are not accurate representations of the countries and towns in China.

12. ATOL CERTIFICATE

When you buy an ATOL protected flight or flight inclusive holiday from us, you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong.

We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternate ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to the alternate ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it may not be possible to appoint an alternate holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable).

If we, or the suppliers identified in your ATOL Certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.



WHAT THE PRICE INCLUDES

All the Tour Prices shown include the following:

Accommodation each day in standard rooms, 5 star standard for DELUXE and 4 star hotels for FIRST
Breakfast each day (B) plus lunches or dinners where indicated in the itineraries or with the abbreviations (L) for lunch or (D) for dinner
International economy class return flights as shown
Internal economy class flights, 2nd class bullet train tickets (soft sleeper in Xining-Lhasa train) or private car transfers between destinations as described
Service charges and local taxes
Arrangement of all necessary Tibetan permits (excludes Chinese visa)
Private transfers between airports and hotels
Private excursions with an English-speaking guide as described in the itinerary
Entrance tickets to places described in the tours
The help and support of English-speaking Veloso Tours representatives in each location visited

Items not included in the price:

Passport and visa costs, insurance, overseas departure and airport taxes, portage at the hotels and airport, meals not listed, personal expenditure, gratuities, any optional tours or activities referenced in the itineraries.

Accommodation

DELUXE prices indicate 5 star hotels throughout your stay (excluding Everest Base Camp). FIRST prices are based on high quality 4 star hotels throughout (excluding Everest Base Camp). See below for more details and visit veloso.com/china for full details on the hotels used for each tour and alternative hotel options for a tailored itinerary.

China Extensions (on p.31)

These are extra 2 night modules which can be inserted into the full itineraries at an additional cost. The prices shown are guide prices based on two travellers sharing a room and include train tickets and flights as described, transfers to and from the airport or train station, 2 nights accommodation and breakfast in a 4 star hotel as described, all private

excursions and road transfers as described, with English-speaking guides and all necessary entrance tickets. Please indicate to our Travel Consultant if you wish to include one or more of these extensions into your itinerary.

Yunnan LUX Tea Horse Road Experience

As part of the Shangri-la tour (p.29) we have chosen to offer the 5 night LUX Tea Horse Road itinerary (Days 8-12) as a way of providing a more in-depth and intimate experience, visiting some of Yunnan's lesser-known villages and landscapes. You will stay in 5 star LUX resorts (see p.28) with daily small-group excursions led by their highly knowledgeable guides and all meals included.

Documentation & Local Representatives

Clients will first receive an itinerary proposal listing the exact price, all the hotels, transfers, excursions and services to be provided. Once you have paid in full we provide a final itinerary with all the contact details, addresses and telephone numbers of your hotels and local representative agents. You maintain a supervisory role over the whole itinerary and the

services to be provided, calling our agents or guides to check departure and meeting times. Our local representatives have English-speaking guides and staff to answer any questions you may have and are able to provide additional excursions, restaurant suggestions or general information. You will also be provided with a Veloso Tours China Traveller's Guide.

Veloso Tours 24 hour UK Duty Officer

For peace of mind, passengers travelling with Veloso Tours are provided with a 24 hour emergency telephone number, manned by a duty officer 365 days of the year, should it be necessary to contact the company at any time for help in an emergency.

FACTS OF LIFE IN CHINA



China has a rapidly expanding tourist infrastructure, particularly with the large-scale expansion of its high speed Bullet Train network, shortening land transfer times between major cities. We offer a selection of luxury and reliable cruises along the Yangtze River and have selected the hotels, wherever possible, on the basis of their service, location, authenticity and character.

Cultural Differences

We have found throughout China that locals receive Western visitors warmly, often wanting to have their photographs alongside them.

In major cities you may find that attitudes towards personal hygiene, politics, health and safety and personal space can differ to ours.

These form part of the cultural differences which exist and it is important to have realistic expectations and a level of tolerance. Though as China develops its capitalist society, you will perhaps find that most of the younger generation actually share much in common with our way of life. China generally has a reputation as a safe place to visit for Western tourists, something largely borne out in our experiences.

Tibet

Tibet is at high altitude, with the journey to Everest Base Camp reaching altitudes of over 5,000 metres. It is important that travellers are prepared for this and follow the instructions provided by the Traveller's Guide and your local host. In Tibet (indeed China as a whole) it is vital that travellers refrain from anything which could be deemed to be a political demonstration. Travelling with an open-mind will allow you better to understand the dynamics of the situation, come to your own conclusions and enjoy a trouble-free visit. Permits are required and a number of checkpoints exist in Tibet, however these will be handled by the guide with minimum disruption.

Accommodation

In selecting our hotels we have placed an emphasis on authenticity, character and location wherever possible. This is to enable you to enjoy a greater sense of identity and culture of China and immerse yourself in the heart of the city or within the diverse landscapes. Locally-run independent hotels are mixed with many recognisable international luxury hotels in the major cities.

In a small number of places it is not always possible to find hotels with character or 5 star standards in some of the towns and villages, or our first choice may not be available. In this case we use other hotels inspected which, in our opinion, provide a good level of comfort, facilities and service.

We have graded the hotels that we use as follows:

Deluxe Hotels are 5-star properties, ideally centrally located and with particular emphasis on the incorporation of traditional Chinese decor into spacious, modern and well-equipped rooms. These hotels are renowned for their service, attention to detail and facilities, which may include spas and highly regarded restaurants.

First Class Hotels are 4-star standard, which offer a high degree of comfort and convenience. We look for well-presented rooms of a reasonable size, with private toilet and showering facilities, heating and a good standard of decor. Many offer good dining options and some have a spa or swimming pool. Visit veloso.com/china for our full range of hotels in each location.

China Traveller's Guide

Our clients receive a comprehensive Traveller's Guide, with information and suggestions on how best to prepare for travel in China. This covers health and vaccination, climate and clothes, money matters, luggage, security, flight reconfirmation, meeting your guides and airport transfers.



TRAVEL INSURANCE IS MANDATORY WHEN YOU TRAVEL WITH US

INSURANCE

All persons travelling with VELOSO TOURS must have Travel Insurance as it is a condition of booking with us. You are welcome to arrange your own Travel Insurance and provide us with confirmation of cover. Travel Insurance with full cancellation and deposit cover should be taken out at the time of booking.

Please contact Campbell Irvine to arrange Travel Insurance cover:

Telephone 0844 8262722
Email info@campbellirvine.com
or contact VELOSO TOURS for details of how to apply online.

Campbell Irvine is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). This can be checked on the FCA website www.fca.gov.uk or by contacting them on

+ 44 (0) 845 606 1234

Veloso Tours is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd

DURATION	ADULT PREMIUM	FAMILY PREMIUM	(Rate for 2 parents under 66 years travelling with up to 4 dependent children 18 years old or under)
Up to 9 days	£59.00	£147.50	
Up to 17 days	£66.00	£165.00	
Up to 24 days	£73.00	£182.50	
Up to 31 days	£80.00	£200.00	

WORLDWIDE INSURANCE EXCLUDING NORTH AMERICA. N.B. CHILDREN 18 OR UNDER - 50% WITH INSURED ADULT. INFANTS FREE WITH INSURED ADULT PERSONS 66 - 69 YEARS : DOUBLE THE PREMIUM. FOR PERSONS AGED 70 AND OVER, TO ENQUIRE ABOUT HIGHER COVER, WINTER SPORTS AND FOR DETAILS OF THE POLICY COVER, PLEASE CONTACT CAMPBELL IRVINE DIRECTLY ON 0844 826 2722

Insurance Cover And Limits

SECTION A	Medical Expenses	£10,000,000
SECTION A	In Patient Benefit	£200
SECTION A	Criminal Injuries	£5,000
SECTION A	Personal Liability	£2,000,000
SECTION B	Personal Accident	£25,000
SECTION C	Cancellation & Curtailment	£3,000 (Extend to £5,000 for £29)
SECTION D	Delayed Departure or Arrival	£100
SECTION D	Cancellation due to Delayed Departure	£1,500
SECTION D	Hijack of Aircraft	£3,000
SECTION D	Interruption of Transport	£300
SECTION E	Personal effects (valuables limited to £350)	£2,000
SECTION E	Passport & Visas & Travel Documents	£250
SECTION E	Personal Money	£500
SECTION E	Tickets	£1,000
SECTION E	Temporary Loss of Luggage	£100
SECTION F	Legal Expenses	£25,000

EXCESSES

Sections A, C, E, G are subject to an excess of £70 per person per claim.
Section F is subject to an excess of £250 per person per claim.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is only a summary of cover, full details of the cover provided are shown in your Policy Document. You will be asked to read it carefully to ensure you are happy with the cover provided which is offered on a Non Advised basis from a single insurer. The policy contains a 4 day Cooling Off Period and details of how to make a claim and who to contact in the event of a medical emergency.

IMPORTANT Health Screening:

The policy contains certain terms, conditions, exclusions and excesses. In particular, cover is excluded for any defined pre-existing medical conditions from which you, or any person upon whom travel depends are suffering. If in doubt please contact the insurers medical helpline, in confidence, on 0844 826 2686 as additional cover may be purchased directly from the insurer's medical screening helpline for certain pre-existing medical conditions.

All policy details shown are correct at time of going to print. All premiums are shown inclusive of Insurance Premium tax.

 **ABTA**
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ABTA No. W1095



 **AITO**
Assured
100% Financial Protection

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ACCREDITED AGENT



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