



KIPLING & CLARK
YOUR BRIDGE TO THE EAST

family LUXURY EXPEDITIONS

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KIPLING & CLARK *family* LUXURY EXPEDITION ITINERARY
CHINA SUMMER LUXURY ADVENTURE 2010-2011 (*Ideal for Families!*)
HONG KONG - ZHONGDIAN - CHENGDU - CHONGQING - GUILIN -
BEIJING - SHANGHAI 17 DAYS

YOUR SNAPSHOT ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE HONG KONG

2 Nights – Hong Kong (Mandarin Oriental Hotel or Peninsula)

DAY 3: FLY HONG KONG VIA KUNMING TO ZHONGDIAN

2 Nights – Zhongdian/Ringha (Banyan Tree Resort)

DAY 5: FLY ZHONGDIAN VIA KUNMING TO CHENGDU

1 Night – Chengdu (Shangri-La Hotel)

DAY 6: FLY CHENGDU/CHONGQING

2 Nights – Chongqing (JW Marriot)

***Alternative 3 night Yangzi River Cruise via Yangzi Explorer luxury river vessel**

DAY 8: FLY CHONGQING/GUILIN

2 Nights – Guilin (HOMA)

DAY 10: FLY GUILIN/BEIJING

3 Nights – Beijing (Peninsula or Park Hyatt)

DAY 13: FLY BEIJING/SHANGHAI

4 Nights – Shanghai (Peninsula or Four Seasons)

DAY 17: DEPART SHANGHAI/U.S.

DAY 1: ARRIVAL HONG KONG

Day Summary: Arrive Hong Kong

Upon arrival in Hong Kong, meet and private transfer to the Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Accommodation: Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Hong Kong/ Harbor View Suite or Peninsula

DAY 2: HONG KONG

Day Summary: Optional private touring of Hong Kong

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Independent, discretionary day to further explore Hong Kong with a private guide/driver

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Hong Kong/ Harbor View Suite or Peninsula

DAY 3: HONG KONG – KUNMING – ZHONGDIAN

Day Summary: Fly HKG/Kunming/Zhongdian –Shangri-La

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Morning transfer to the airport. Fly Hong Kong/Kunming

-Meet at Kunming Airport and commence **short private tour of Kunming**

-Transfer back to the airport and assist with onward flight

-Fly Kungming/Shangri-La. Meet at Zhongdian/Shangri-La Airport and transfer to the Banyan Tree Resort

Zhongdian/Ringha Area: Elevation approximately 10,500ft

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Banyan Tree Resort, Ringha/Tibetan Suite



DAY 4: ZHONGDIAN

Day Summary: Private touring of Zhongdian and local Tibetan culture

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Full private guide/driver exploration, including:

Songzaling Monastery: First built in the late 17th century under the auspices of the fifth dalai lama, this monastery has more than 800 monks, and is a noted Buddhist religious college with halls for chanting and instruction – most compelling!

-Tibetan Village

-Ringha Village Market + Evening dancing with townspeople! – This is so much fun!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Banyan Tree Resort, Ringha/Tibetan Suite

Banyan Tree Resort Ringha Amazingly, Banyan Tree Resorts has built a lovely idyllic resort here in Ringha, using Sino-Tibetan designs with each lodge/villa looking remarkably like the local Tibetan farmhouses. The Banyan Tree is located in a lush, green valley that is truly representative of this beautiful, remote land. At least during late spring/summer period, think of the scenery as a Tibetan cultural version of Sound of Music!

The region, (Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture) rich in Tibetan culture, rises 10,000ft in elevation on the southern edge of the Qinghai-Tibet plateau.

This remote, obscure area represents the antithesis of the sophisticated, urban environment of Hong Kong. –R.L.

DAY 5: ZHONGDIAN VIA KUNMING TO CHENGDU

Day Summary: Fly Zhongdian via Kunming to Chengdu

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Morning transfer back to Zhongdian + Fly to Kunming + Connect onto Chengdu

-Evening Face Changing Performance

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Shangri-La Hotel, Chengdu/Horizon Floor

DAY 6: CHENGDU

Day Summary: Panda Research Center and private panda audience! Evening fly Chengdu/Chongqing

Breakfast at the hotel

Afternoon visit to Panda Research Centre, with special session in area of baby pandas.

This 600 acre complex is most impressive – a lush landscape with rolling hills mixed with the natural bamboo habitat of both the “giant panda” and the interesting “red panda” (think of a raccoon mixed with a fox!). Over 70 pandas live here sprawling!



Through a Kipling & Clark arranged donation to the research center, we have prepared a private audience with one of the center’s baby pandas – please be pre-warned that the baby pandas (8-10 months) weigh 30-50 lbs!

The fundamental fact is that there exists no other place in the world where one can experience such personal encounters with giant pandas – only here in Chengdu. This is a must visit for all serious panda lovers! –R.L

-Continue to Sanxingdui Museum

-Evening transfer to the airport for flight to Chongqing. Meet at Chongqing Airport and transfer to the **JW Marriot Hotel**

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: JW Marriot, Chongqing/One Club Floor Suite

DAY 7: DAZU STILLWELL MUSEUM

Day Summary: Private touring of Dazu

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Private guide/driver full day visit to the grotto art of Dazu

-Located approx. 100mi from Chongqing, these Buddhist cave sculptures and carvings ranging from the 9th to the 13th century, we rated as among the foremost expressions of Buddhist – Taoist – Confucius influence in all of China.

-Return to the city and time permitting visit the **Stillwell Museum.**

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: JW Marriot, Chongqing/One Club Floor Suite



DAY 8: OLD TOWN – FLY ON TO GUILIN

Day Summary: Fly Chongqing/Guilin, leisure at HOMA (Hotel of Modern Art)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning visit the Old Town prior to transferring to the Airport for your flight to Guilin.

Guilin's unique landscape, with its ubiquitous karst limestone formations in the setting of lush, green rice fields adjacent to the Li River, evokes traditional Chinese landscape paintings. Notwithstanding the large number of tourists visiting this area, it's still worth the visit! –R.L

Remainder of day at leisure



Guilin Landscape



Local Guilin School

Accommodation: Hotel of Modern Art, Yangshuo/Family Suite

Hotel of Modern Art

After reading about the recently restructured HOMA (Hotel of Modern Art) Libre, outside Guilin, my very artsy wife, Bev, was anxious to experience this very special place. In short, our stay at HOMA during our summer 2008 China trip came to be among the special highlights of our China trip! Founded by a Taiwanese business entrepreneur in 1997, HOMA represents a lovely balance of world class sculpture, architecture, and art set against the backdrop of the natural beauty of the lush grounds.

Despite the somewhat limited English among the staff, the genuine kindness and warmth delivered to our family was heartwarming. Our personal attendant, Daisy, (all guests are assigned a personal attendant) was a kids' dream. Daisy's sincere, dedicated time with Zen and Sofia made her feel like part of our family. HOMA's art workshop for kids is hands-on and fun! All 46 rooms here are individually designed with hip, funky decorations/artwork, along with flat-screen TVs, modern amenities, and a "wow" design aesthetic. I feel HOMA is THE place to stay if visiting Guilin. –R.L

DAY 9: YANGSHUO

Day Summary: Guilin private touring

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Full day sightseeing.** Morning transfer to the pier for two hours.
- **Private boat** downstream sailing on the **Li River – Yangshuo – Fuli Part**
- Later **shopping/browsing in Yangshuo on West Street + Long Rice Terrace**
- Evening – Impression of Sister Liu

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel of Modern Art, Yangshuo/Family Suite



DAY 10: YANGSHUO MOON HILL & LOCAL SCHOOLS

Day Summary: Morning Guilin private touring and afternoon fly Guilin/Beijing

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning biking trip to visit **Yangshuo Moon Hill, Banyan tree and local school for the child/children of the family** to distribute an assortment of colorful school supplies to children of their own age.
- Late afternoon transfer to Airport for onward flight to Beijing

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Park Hyatt/Grand Deluxe Room

DAY 11: BEIJING

Day Summary: Beijing private touring – Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City et. al.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- More stoic and perhaps less dynamic than free-wheeling Shanghai, Beijing boasts China's major historical and cultural attractions.
- Private guide/driver for discretionary exploring around Beijing, including visit to **Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, Summer Palace, and various "hutongs."**
- **The Forbidden City:** Built from 1406, the Forbidden City was the China Imperial Palace from the Qing Dynasty. Taking at least 2 hours to walk through the sprawling grounds/compounds, the Forbidden City is a taxing walk for seniors and a "challenging" walk for young children.

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Despite our talks of the history and background of the inner/outer courts (and the 980 surviving buildings!!), Zen and Sofia began “losing it” after the first hour - per Zen, “I love China daddy, but this place is just way too big!”

-Mausoleum of Mao Zedong

Most compelling, make a visit to the Mausoleum of **Mao Zedong**, adjacent to Tiananmen Square. Particularly for westerners, viewing Mao’s preserved corpse is at once spellbinding and abominable. The long waiting line to enter the mausoleum moves swiftly, perhaps not more than 15-20 minutes.

-Factory 798 – Most interesting collection of China modern art and art studios in all of China!

Being an avid modern Chinese art lover, my wife, Bev, led the way to Beijing’s funky art district, **Factory 798**. Named after the military factory that formerly occupied the buildings, Factory 789 is a must for all modern art lovers. In addition to the many art galleries/exhibitions, the district also includes cool, hip cafes and bookstores. **Timezone 8** is our favorite - the best Caesar salad in all of Beijing set in an artsy-soho ambience.

- Nanluoguxiang St. (hutong) – Dongchen district

Similar to Factory 789, Nanluoguxiang St. is a quiet, artsy contrast from most of busy, noisy Beijing. Nanluoguxiang really resembles a long alley, and is a favorite spot for Beijing’s young musicians, hipsters, and gen X’s. This is a great street to have lunch and shop. All of us very much enjoyed the many small custom shops, two of the most interesting - Pottery Workshop (this gallery sells modern takes on classic ceramics fired in the imperial porcelain city of Jingdezhen) and NLGX Design. (very cool China-themed T-shirts!) Our only disappointment here was hearing that this area was formerly a teeming residential hutong that was transformed by a local developer.

-Dinner reservations – Lan Club – with transfers

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Park Hyatt/Grand Deluxe Room

DAY 12: BEIJING

Day Summary: Excursion to Great Wall (Mutianyu) and discretionary private touring and shopping!

-Breakfast at the hotel

-Discretionary use of private guide and driver to include following:

-The Great Wall (at Mutianyu!)

Notwithstanding the various wall locations, we

enthusiastically endorse the Mutianyu section, an approx. 2 hour drive from downtown Beijing. Not nearly as jammed with tourists as the closer Badaling site, Mutianyu has a ski-lift service to the Wall itself where one can hike (an earnest work-out!) to varying sections of the Ming Dynasty guard towers, with few tourists and unobstructed views.

-Another big plus of Mutianyu - **a toboggan ride** from the wall to the base. Bev, Zen, Sofia, and I felt this to be among the really fun activities of our trip! Each toboggan has a manual control throttle that controls your speed sliding down (4500 ft.) from the wall highpoint - the entire trip down takes about 5 minutes - exhilarating!! – (check it out on YouTube!)

- Also, contrary to a popular myth, the wall is NOT visible from the moon. This myth originated in a 1923 National Geographic article that began “According to astronomers, the only work of man’s hands which would be visible to the human eye is the Great Wall of China.”

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Park Hyatt/Grand Deluxe Room

DAY 13: BEIJING - SHANGHAI

Day Summary: Fly Beijing/Shanghai, afternoon leisure

- Breakfast at the hotel

- Morning transfer to the airport for onward flight to Shanghai

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Four Seasons/Grand Deluxe Room Boutique, chic alternative: The JIA Hotel

DAY 14: SHANGHAI

Day Summary: Shanghai private touring and excursion to Zhujiajiao (Watertown)

- Breakfast at the hotel

- Half-day private touring including Zhujiajiao (Watertown)

-Afternoon private touring including:

The Bund

Shanghai Museum

-Dinner reservations – T8 – with transfers

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Four Seasons/Grand Deluxe Room

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DAY 15: SHANGHAI

Day Summary: Discretionary use of private guide and driver and half-day private Jewish heritage tour.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Morning Private Jewish Quarter tour with Mr. Dvir** - This is an amazing half-day tour of the Jewish heritage of Shanghai.
- Afternoon – private vehicle with driver and English speaking guide for your discretionary use.
- **Dinner reservations – M on the Bund** – with transfers

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Four Seasons/Grand Deluxe Room



For more information or to book your customized journey, please contact:

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DAY 16: SHANGHAI

Day Summary: Private touring and shopping!

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Full day discretionary use of private guide/driver including visits to French Concession area, including Xintiande (many shopping opportunities!)**

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Peninsula or Four Seasons/Grand Deluxe Room

DAY 17: DEPARTURE

Day Summary: Fly Shanghai/U.S.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer via private car + maglev train to Shanghai Pudong Airport for departure flight back to the U.S.

Accommodation: None

BON VOYAGE!