China, Tibet & the Yangtze River

19 days from $6,987 total price from Los Angeles, San Francisco
($6,495 air, land & cruise inclusive plus $492 airline taxes and fees)

This distinctive small group journey combines a special visit to remote, spiritual Tibet with a memorable cruise on the Yangtze, China’s fabled “long river.” Adding grace notes to this highly popular itinerary: intriguing Beijing, the extraordinary Terra Cotta Warriors of Xian, and cosmopolitan Shanghai. East meets West in a joyful convergence.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Beijing, China

Day 2: Arrive Beijing We arrive in the Chinese capital and transfer to our hotel. After time to relax, we embark on a brief walking tour. Dinner tonight is on our own.

Day 3: Beijing After this morning's briefing about the journey ahead, we begin our discovery of this 2,000-year-old city at vast Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City, seat of imperial power from 1368–1911. Tonight we enjoy a traditional Peking Duck dinner at a local restaurant. B,D

Day 4: Beijing/Great Wall This morning we enjoy a small group highlight, as we ride rickshaws through Beijing's ancient back roads and alleys (hutongs) and enjoy a home visit that gives us a glimpse of the traditional communal lifestyle. Then we stop at Olympic Park, site of the 2008 Olympic Games. This afternoon we head to the Mu Tian Yu section of the Great Wall, the network of ancient defense installations that stretches more than 5,500 miles. B,L,D

Day 5: Beijing This morning we tour the splendid Temple of Heaven complex, where China’s rulers once worshipped. This afternoon we visit the Summer Palace, the former royal retreat now a lovely park. B,L

Day 6: Beijing/Xian We fly this morning to Xian, a provincial backwater until the accidental discovery of the Terra Cotta Warriors in 1974. Upon arrival we visit the Yangling Mausoleum, a Han Dynasty tomb dating to 153 CE. After lunch at a local restaurant we tour Xian’s impressive nine-mile city wall and moat. Tonight we enjoy a special dumpling dinner. B,L,D

Day 7: Xian Our day begins with a visit to the revered Small Wild Goose Pagoda (c. 652 CE). After lunch we tour the museum housing the army of 7,000 life-sized Terra Cotta Warriors that had lain buried and forgotten for more than two millennia. B,L,D

Day 8: Xian This morning we tour the Shanxi Provincial Museum, with an acclaimed collection of historic and cultural artifacts. We eat lunch in a local restaurant then visit a typical farming village where we meet the local people and see their lifestyle up close. B,L

Day 9: Xian/Lhasa Early today we fly to Lhasa, Tibet’s capital and only major city. Sitting on a plateau between two Himalayan ridges, the Chinese province of Tibet covers an area as large as Western Europe. On the way to our hotel we stop to visit with a Tibetan family in their home. Since the altitude here is
Day 10: Lhasa  Our tour begins in the heart of the old city at Jokhang, Tibet’s holiest temple. Built in 647, Jokhang is an intriguing complex that attracts pilgrims day and night. Surrounding Jokhang is Barkhor, a plaza lined with chanting monks, street performers, and vendors. Later we tour the summer palace of the Dalai Lamas at Norbulingka; tonight, we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. B,L,D

Day 11: Lhasa  Opened to foreigners only since 1984, Tibet is a profoundly spiritual place where Buddhism has infused all aspects of life for 13 centuries. We see evidence of this at 17th-century Potala Palace, with 200,000 Buddha images and 1,000 rooms, some of which we explore this morning. This afternoon we visit either the Red Pagoda in Shishabao or the “ghost city” of Fengdu. B,L,D

Day 12: Lhasa/Chongqing  We fly today to Chongqing, where we visit the local zoo to see the beloved pandas. B,L,D

Day 13: Chongqing/Dazu/Board Ship  Today’s excursion features the Dazu Rock Carvings dating back more than a millennium – and now a UNESCO World Heritage site. These cliffside carvings reflect Buddhist teachings, tenets of Confucianism, and local folklore. Tonight we board our river ship and set sail downstream. B,L,D

Day 14: Yangtze Cruising – Shibaozhai or Fengdu  Prized for its haunting natural beauty, the Yangtze is one of the world’s longest (3,600 miles) and busiest rivers. This afternoon we visit either the Red Pagoda in Shishabao or the “ghost city” of Fengdu. B,L,D

Day 15: Yangtze Cruising – Qutang Gorge/Wu Gorge/Small Gorges/Xiling Gorge  Today we pass through narrow Qutang Gorge, followed by tranquil Wu Gorge. Then we board a small sampan for a cruise through the stunning Small Gorges. Back on board our Victoria Cruises ship this afternoon, we enter 42-mile Xiling Gorge. B,L,D

Day 16: Yangtze Cruising – Three Gorges Dam/Shanghai  After visiting the site of the immense Three Gorges Dam, we continue on to Yichang, where we disembark and transfer to the airport for the flight to Shanghai, the “Paris of the East.” We dine together tonight at a local restaurant. B,D

Day 17: Shanghai  Our day begins with a walking tour of the Xin Tian Di shopping and entertainment area of reconstructed traditional homes. We continue on to beloved 16th-century Yu Yuan Gardens, then after lunch together we tour the acclaimed Shanghai Museum of ancient Chinese art and artifacts. Tonight we dine on our own then attend a lively acrobatics show. B,L

Day 18: Shanghai  This morning we visit the Bund, the mile-long riverside embankment where foreign investors – and their buildings – once held sway. Then the remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight we toast our China adventure at a farewell dinner. B,D

Day 19: Depart for U.S.  We depart Shanghai for our return flight to the U.S. B

The travel experiences with UCLA Alumni Travel are at the top of my list.”
– Carol Comparsi

Meet Your Faculty Lecturer

Ted Huters
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures

Ted Huters taught Chinese language and literature for 16 years at UCLA prior to his 2010 retirement, after which he lived for three years in Shanghai, editing the translation journal Renditions. He has published a number of books and articles on modern Chinese literature and culture, most of which are concerned with the massive cultural changes between c. 1890 and 1920. At various points in his life he has lived in Hong Kong, Taipei, Beijing and Shanghai, but has resided in Oakland since 2013.

Post-Tour Extension

October 19-21, 2020
Shanghai – On Your Own
3 days/2 nights for $195 total price
Single Supplement: $165

Spend additional time exploring dynamic Shanghai, China’s most prosperous, vibrant, and cosmopolitan city.

Your Tour Price Includes
- 2 nights’ accommodations at The Kunlun Jing An (Deluxe)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to the airport

Your Tour Price Includes
- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 17 nights’ accommodations: 3 nights aboard Superior First Class ship of Victoria Cruises; 14 nights in Deluxe hotels
- 43 meals: 17 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 13 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odyssey Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip, including on shore excursions
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
- UCLA lecturer’s participation is contingent on a minimum of 15 paying travelers

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Victoria Cruises Premier Ships

Launched/Rebuilt: 2004–2011
Air Conditioning: Yes
Decks: 5 or 6
Registry: Chinese
Crew: 121–189
Passenger Capacity: 218–378
All Cabins: Private balcony; satellite TV with HBO

Tour Departs: October 1, 2020

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Los Angeles, San Francisco $6,987
Portland (OR), Seattle $7,187
Boston, Chicago, New York, Phoenix, Washington, DC $7,287
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Philadelphia, Tampa $7,387

Land Only (transfers not included) $6,295

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in an outside cabin and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of $492, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add $1,695. All 2020 tour prices (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: $4,195 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour. Lhasa’s altitude (12,090 feet) could pose problems for travelers with certain health conditions. You should consult with your physician if you have concerns.
Tour Prices
Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2020, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; services of a UCLA Lecturer or Host with a minimum of 15 travelers; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

Gratuities
Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on “On Your Own” optional extensions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price
Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Registration and Payment
A deposit of $500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

Cancellations and Refunds
If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:
For all tours (except as noted)

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<td>95 days or more:</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>94-65 days:</td>
<td>25% of tour price</td>
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<td>64-45 days:</td>
<td>50% of tour price</td>
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<td>44-30 days:</td>
<td>75% of tour price</td>
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<td>No refund</td>
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For Machu Picchu to the Galapagos & Africa’s Wildlife

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Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If because of low participation Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Pre-Departure

After reserving your tour, you will receive pre-departure mailings that include a detailed itinerary, visa requirements, and reading list. We will send your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers) two to three weeks before departure.

Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We will endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a $100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement.

Please note that no changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.

Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our travel partners: for international tours – your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender. In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport (international tours) or other form of government-issued photo identification (domestic tours) than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue.

Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all international tours in this catalog. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

Smoking

For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. has a No Smoking policy (including e-cigarettes and vaping) on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.
Health and Medical Issues
We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance if you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that a number of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the UCLA Alumni Association reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, the UCLA Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

Air Transportation
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer more direct service, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates that enable us to offer you the best possible travel value. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. In addition, we recommend that you not purchase your tickets until final payment is due. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the UCLA Alumni Association will incur no liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes therein. In any event, neither Odysseys’s Unlimited, Inc., nor the UCLA Alumni Association is responsible for losses, direct or indirect, or missed components of a trip which result from air delays, cancellations, rerouting or any other air-related problem.

Responsibility
The liability of the UCLA Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under its control. It serves only as an agent for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The UCLA Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within its control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.
Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______ ($500 per person) for ____ person/people on the tour listed below. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, along with completed reservation form, to: UCLA Alumni Association, Attn: Alumni Travel, James West Alumni Center, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1397. Or call UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613; fax: 310-209-4271; e-mail: travel@alumni.ucla.edu.

UCLA Alumni Travel is a benefit of UCLA Alumni Association Gold, Life or Blue Membership. Please select an option below:
- I am currently a (circle one)  Gold  |  Life*  |  Blue Member of the UCLA Alumni Association.
- I have enclosed a check made payable to the UCLA Foundation for:  $1,000 Gold Membership  $100 Blue Membership

Detailed Alumni Association benefit information can be found at alumni.ucla.edu/benefits.

*The UCLA Alumni Travel benefit has been grandfathered in for existing Life Members. Life Membership is not currently available for purchase.