



Air & Sea Travel Center

www.airseatvl.com

50 S. Beretania Street, Suite C - 211B, Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 951-9800

Toll Free: 1-877-951-3888

E-mail: info@airseatvl.com

China

SPRING BLOSSOM OF CHINA - PEONY FESTIVAL UNESCO BRILLIANT CULTURE AND ART TOUR

Cities Covered: Beijing, Zhengzhou, Dengfeng, Luoyang, Pingyao, Taiyuan & Datong



Tour Package Includes

- * Direct Flight from Honolulu to Beijing
- * Train from Zhengzhou to Dengfeng
- * Deluxe Hotel Accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- * Admissions and **28** Meals as stated
- * Local Specialty:
 - Dengfeng Roast Duck
 - Luoyang Water Feast (Luoyang Shui Xi)
 - Pingyao Merchant's Traditional Banquet
- * Visits to **5** UNESCO World Heritage Sites:
 - Temple of Heaven
 - Pingyao Ancient City
 - Longmen Grottoes
 - Buddhist Shaolin Temple
 - Yungang Grottoes
- * Hanging Monastery: Be Impressed by the Extremely Sheer Cliffs
- * Shaolin Chan Zong Show: Watch Kung Fu Performance
- * Hands-on Experience – Pingyao Noodles
- * Peony Garden: Enjoy China's National Flower
- * Special Kamg Style Bedroom in 5* Yunjincheng Hotel

FREE
Use of
Wireless
Tour Guide System



Traveling Dates:

**Apr 12 – 24, 2018
(13 Days)**

Price per person:

\$ 2,888

Incl: Tax & Fuel Charge

Single Supp: **\$ 650**

The Luoyang Peony Festival is very popular among Chinese tourists and peony enthusiasts the world over. The peonies are in full bloom in April, generally reaching their peak between April 15th-25th, the date set for the annual festival. During this time, gardens are awash with colorful flowers: mostly reds mixed with whites, yellows and purples set against a background of thick, vibrant, dark green leaves, like a myriad of precious stones set in bright, shiny rings. Various folk performances are staged in the gardens.



Pingyao Ancient City



Longmen Grottoes



Hanging Monastery

Day 1-2 ** Apr 12-13

Honolulu – Beijing →

We start our vacation by boarding an international Direct Flight to Beijing, the capital of China and an ancient city of great splendor. Meals and snacks will be served on the overnight flight.

Day 3 ** Apr 14

Beijing

(L)

Arrive at Beijing International Airport. An Air & Sea travel representative will greet us and start us on our journey to the Temple of Heaven, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is widely regarded as the noblest example of religious architecture in all of China. This site is where emperors came to worship heaven for a bountiful harvest. The design shows that the heaven is high and the earth is low and reflects an ancient Chinese saying: 'the heaven is round and the earth is square'. After lunch, explore this charming ancient city or enjoy some free time before we check into our hotel.

Day 4 ** Apr 15

Beijing – Zhengzhou – Dengfeng



(B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will take a Bullet Train to Zhengzhou, the capital city of Henan Province. Upon arrival, we will drive to Dengfeng, a county-level city in Zhengzhou. It is located at the foot of Mount Song, one of the most sacred mountains in China. The city is one of the most renowned spiritual centers of China and home to various religious institutions and temples such as the Taoist Zhongyue Temple, the UNESCO World Heritage Site Buddhist Shaolin Temple, and the Confucian Songyang Academy. Tonight we will watch the Shaolin Chan Zong Show which cost 35 million Yuan to produce. One hundred Kung Fu monks perform at the same time and the show is as grand as the Olympic Ceremony.

Day 5 ** Apr 16

Dengfeng – Luoyang

(B, L, D)

Today's highlight is a Shaolin Temple, the home of Chinese martial arts (Kung Fu) and China's Oldest Pagoda Forest where monks are buried. We will visit the Martial Arts School to understand the life of a student in a Kung Fu school. After the special Dengfeng Roast Duck Lunch, we will drive to Luoyang where the best peonies are grown.

Day 6 ** Apr 17

Luoyang

(B, L, D)

Today's highlight is the Peony Garden and Peony Gene Pool. The beautiful and graceful peony is the national flower of China and is called the "King of Flowers". Today there are more than 300 varieties of peonies in Luoyang. People from around the country and abroad are attracted to Luoyang when the peony flowers are in full bloom. In the afternoon, visit Longmen Grottoes. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the three major grottoes in China constructed more than four hundred years ago. Also, enjoy the most famous Luoyang Water Feast (Luoyang Shui Xi) that features many kinds of soup for dinner.

Day 7 ** Apr 18

Luoyang – Pingyao

(B, L, D)

After breakfast, drive to Pingyao, a city listed by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage. Pingyao's old town is typically considered the best ancient walled city in China and is on many lists of the best walled cities in the world. Picture a period film showing ancient China - and you won't be far off. Lunch will be arranged at Yuncheng city, which is the half way point. We must transfer to a Shanxi tour bus as we enter Shanxi province. Upon arrival, check into our hotel and enjoy the charming old style courtyard hotel with special Kamg Style Bedrooms in the walled city of Pingyao. Pingyao Merchant's Traditional Banquet will be served in the evening.

Day 8 ** Apr 19

Pingyao

(B, L, D)

Today we will spend the entire day in the ancient town. Visit Ancient Ming and Qing Streets, the City Wall of Pingyao, and the Rishengchang (Sunrise Property) where the earliest bank started in China. Noodles were one

of the popular and main dishes in ancient China. Today, we will have a hands-on experience making Pingyao Style Noodles. And we will enjoy the noodles for lunch. We can also participate in Coloring Chinese Opera Mask and/or Chinese Paper Cutting. The opera mask can be an elegant addition to any art collection, a wall hanging, or part of a special costume. Paper cutting is a unique art form that has existed for thousands of years featuring both national and regional themes.

Day 9 ** Apr 20 **Pingyao – Taiyuan** **(B, L, D)**

After breakfast, we will go to Qiao's Compound, built on 4,220 square yards. There are six main courtyards and twenty minor ones within the compound. These compounds belonged to one family in the Qing Dynasty. It has been featured in many famous movies such as the "Red Lantern". Then we drive to Taiyuan, the capital city of Shanxi Province, and visit Jinci Temple on the way.

Day 10 ** Apr 21 **Taiyuan – Datong** **(B, L, D)**

After breakfast, visit the Coal Museum of China, which is the symbol of Taiyuan city. The highlights of the tour are the display of coal formation, a 4D Theater show, and a coal cart ride through a replica of an underground coal mine. After lunch, drive to Datong, the second largest city in Shanxi Province. On the way, we will pass through YanMenGuan Pass, the location of one of the most important fortresses on the Great Wall of China. Surrounded by tall mountains peaks and accessible only by an ancient road which works its way between the cliffs, this pass was the logical invasion point for foreigners (especially Mongolians) looking to pour into China. Over a 2,000 year period, over 130 major battles took place at this strategically important mountain bottleneck.

Day 11 ** Apr 22 **Datong** **(B, L, D)**

The scenic spots we will see today are "must see" places according to many websites and TV programs when visiting Datong. In the morning, we drive to Hunyuan to visit the Hanging Monastery (Xuankong Si) which is built on extremely sheer cliffs above Jinlong Canyon. Construction dates back 1400 years to the Northern Wei Dynasty. In the afternoon, we visit the Caves of Yungang Grottoes which house over 51,000 Buddha sculptures completed during the Northern Wei Dynasty (460-494AD). It extends one kilometer from east to west, and represent the outstanding achievement of Buddhist cave arts. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is staggering, beautiful and marvelous. We will have our Farewell Dinner tonight.

Day 12 ** Apr 23 **Datong – Beijing** **(B, L, D)**

Enjoy some free time in the morning before we check out of our hotel. After lunch, we drive back to Beijing. We will enjoy a dinner before transferring to the Beijing International Airport.

***** Depart to airport at 10:00PM. Our flight leaves at 1:50 AM on April 24.**

Day 13 ** Apr 24 **Beijing – Honolulu →**

Our flight takes off to Honolulu after midnight. This ends our wonderful tour in China. We arrive at Honolulu on April 23 at approximately 5:30PM.



****** FREE 10-Yrs China Visa w / multiple entries is available NOW ******
****** Call your Air & Sea Travel Agent for more details and conditions ******

We wish you a safe journey and many wonderful memories to share with family and friends!



B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner

Map of China



Remarks:

- ✦ Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
- ✦ Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
- ✦ Local English speaking tour guide service
- ✦ All transfers and sightseeing by air conditioned coach
- ✦ Refer to "General Condition of Air & Sea" for details
- ✦ Tips and gratuities are not included
- ✦ China Visa is not included, available at \$180 for 10-year multiple entries (subject to government approval)
- ✦ We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure a smooth and safe trip
- ✦ Tour price is subject to change without notice. This is due to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
- ✦ The tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees. The tour price shown is current at the time of listing and pricing on Aug 30th, 2017.

Payment Policy:

CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY. A deposit of \$350 per person is required at the time of application. The balance is due **70 days prior to departure**. In the event of balance payment is not made within the required time period, Air and Sea Travel Center reserves the right to cancel reservations and charge a cancellation fee.

Written notice is required for any cancellation.

\$350 deposit is non-refundable if you cancel 70 days before departure.

Within 70 days before departure, the cancellation fee will be as follow:

**** 69-31 days** prior to departure, 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused from the cancellation;

**** 30 days** prior to departure or withdrawing during the tour shall be regarded as willingly giving up all rights concerned, 100% of total price, and request for other services as a substitute shall not be accepted.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance when you make a reservation.