YUMMY YUMMY TOUR TO FUJIAN

THE HOMELAND OF TEA & THE HAKKA CULTURE

Cities Covered: Xiamen, Youngding, Anxi, Songkou, Fuzhou & Youxi

Tour Package Includes

- International airfare from Honolulu
- 5* hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- Tianzi Hot Spring Hotel & The Westin Fuzhou
- Admissions and all meals as stated
- World Cultural Heritage Site – Hakka Mud Tower (Hakka Tulou)
- One of The Most Beautiful Terraced Fields – Youxi Terrace Field
- Experience Tie Guan Yin Tea Culture
- Local Food and Specialty Products:
  - Tea Tasting, Hakka Cuisine, Anxi Tea Banquet,
  - Fuzhou Seafood Hotpot, Fuzhou Cuisine……
- Gratuity for Tour Guides and Drivers

Traveling Dates:
May 16 – 23, 2018 (8 Days)

Price per person: $1,888
Incl: Tax & Fuel Charge
Single Supp: $450

Tea Culture is a treasure of China, especially in places like Fujian and Guangdong, located in Southern China. Brewing tea is not only for enjoyment or for its health benefits, but more for a pursuit of self-cultivation and soul satisfaction. The way of tea is to encourage people to return to nature, to pursue all that is pure and simple. It’s a way of life.

The Hakka People is a branch of the Han Chinese with their Hakka Dialect and distinct identity, culture and customs. The Hakka people once lived in Central China, but migrated to the South mainly due to wars, and later some even moved overseas to various countries throughout the world. Today, Hakkas are usually identified as people who either speak the Hakka language or share some Hakka ancestry.
Day 1**May 16 Honolulu – Taipei (Taoyuan)

We start our adventure by boarding an international flight to Taipei, the capital city, and also the political, economic, and cultural center of Taiwan (ROC). Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 2**May 17 Taipei (Taoyuan)

Upon arrival at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, we will transfer to our hotel and stay overnight.

Day 3**May 18

Taipei (Taoyuan) – Xiamen – Yongding

(Yongding – Anxi)

Day 4**May 19

***Please bring swimming suit and swimming cap for the hot springs**

After breakfast, we will return to Taoyuan International Airport and take a flight to Xiamen. Upon arrival at Xiamen International Airport, we will visit the Nanputuo Temple, located at the foot of Wulaofeng (Mountain of Five Old Men). The temple covers 30,000 square meters with four main buildings on the north-south axis. The buildings include Devajara Hall, Mahavira Hall, Dabei Hall and a Pavilion built in 1936 in which Buddhist scriptures, Buddha images from Burma, ivory sculptures and other works of art are stored. There are also many rooms flanking the main buildings including dormitories, libraries and study rooms for monks. Afterwards, we will transfer to Zhongshan Road, the heartland of Xiamen commercial area that was founded in 1925. Zhongshan Road is a vibrant pedestrian-only shopping and dining street. As one of the most popular and prosperous attractions in Xiamen, this street has become renown as the dominant commercial center for the city despite its location along the coast. After lunch, we will drive to Yongding. Tonight’s Local Hakka Cuisine will be served in a Tulou. Hakka cuisine occupies an important place in Chinese cuisine with its unique flavor. Hakka dishes taste "fat, salty, and ripe". Traditional Hakka signature dishes include: braised pork with preserved vegetables, salt baked chicken, stuffed tofu, pork tripe, stew chicken, stuffed bitter melon, steamed taro bun, taro dumpling, and stewed duck in three cups of sauces. Finally, we will check into our Tianzi Hot Spring Holiday Resort. Please feel free to use the hotel facilities and don’t forget to try the hot springs! 🛀

The Tianzi Hot Spring Holiday Resort: the AAAA Tourist Attraction has 60000 square meters of Southeast Asian style garden, more than 90 varieties of hot springs. It combines traditional and modern health culture, reflecting the concept of being close to nature. We can immerse ourselves in the spring pool to smooth and relax nerves, while admiring the garden scenery.

Day 4**May 19

Yongding – Anxi

(B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will visit Hongkeng Tulou Cluster, in Hongkeng Village in Yongding Country. As early as one thousand years ago, some of the original Hakkas migrated and settled in the sparse Yongding area of Fujian. In order to protect themselves from bandits and wild beasts, they used local materials to build tall, multi-storied circular earthen building clusters where a whole family or clan could live. We will visit Hakka Mud Tower - Tulou, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The Tulous were constructed mainly from rammed earth between the 13th and 20th centuries, usually round or rectangular in shape, and divided into several sections for food storage, living quarters, ancestral hall, etc. There is only one entrance for each Tulou, and no windows at the ground level. It is a fortress unit as well as a family kingdom. Afterwards, we will continue our journey to Anxi, the Tea Capital of China and one of China Highlight's Top Tea Cities. As we all know, Chinese people are good at making use of all the resources available to make things taste delicious. Tea, originally served as a medicine in ancient times, is not just a type of beverage, but also an excellent form of seasoning. Tonight, an Anxi Tea Banquet is arranged.
Today’s highlight is **Sanhe Tea Culture Museum**, where we can learn the process of Tie Guan Yin production, from a mature leaf to the finished product, and learn brewing techniques. **Tie Guan Yin** (Iron Goddess of Mercy), one of the Top Ten Teas in China is from Anxi County in South Fujian. It is a famous and popular oolong tea similar to a green tea, with only a little oxidation. This type of oolong tea is golden yellow and offers a very flowery and fresh delicate aroma. Next, we will drive to **Fuzhou** with a short visit to **Songkou Ancient Town** along the way. Songkou Ancient Town, with a history of over 1,000 years, is located in Yongtai County and is the only historical town in Fuzhou with more than 160 well-protected ancient residential buildings. After dinner, we will enjoy tea at a **Local Tea House**.

After breakfast, we will visit the **Three Lanes and Seven Alleys**, located at the center of Fuzhou City. It is a platform for showing the long history and culture of Fuzhou City, commemorating Fuzhou’s ancient celebrities, and also displaying traditional businesses and folk art. It enjoys a reputation of "the museum of the buildings of the Ming and Qing Dynasty". Another popular site since the Tang Dynasty is **Wushan Hill**, also in the center of Fuzhou, with many stone tables with engravings by famous calligraphers. After lunch, we will continue our journey to visit the local tea market, **Xiecheng Chadu**, and experience **Jasmin Tea Culture**. Jasmine tea is distinctive from other herbal teas in that it is a scented tea. Combining the health effects of tea and flower, jasmine tea is good for human health. Tonight, we will enjoy the **Fuzhou Seafood Hotpot**. As we all know, hotpot is an original Chinese cuisine with a long history and suitable for all ages. Very little seasonings and additives are needed since the fresh seafood ingredients provide the flavor for the Hotpot.

In the morning, we will drive to **Youxi** and visit the **Youxi Lianhe Terrace Field**, the most beautiful terraced field in Fujian. Youxi County is an ancient county with a long history. The terraced fields were originally built in 741 in the **Tang Dynasty** and covered 1,667 acres. People in the area have relied on the terraced field for generations. Standing on the hill side, you can see acres of terraced fields where farmers toil and smoke curling up from kitchen chimneys. Lunch will be arranged at a **Local Farm-style** restaurant. Then, we will return to Fuzhou. As one of the Eight Culinary Traditions in China, Fujian-style Cuisine is known to be light but flavorful, soft and tender. Unlike some other cooking techniques, Fujian Cuisine tends to retain the original flavor of the main ingredients instead of masking them. Tonight, we will enjoy one of the major styles of Fujian Cuisine – **Fuzhou Cuisine** at Fuzhou Antai Lou Restaurant, founded in the **Qing Dynasty** over 100 years ago. The name of restaurant came from its location - ancient Antai Bridge in the Tang Dynasty.

After breakfast, we will transfer to the airport for our return flight to Honolulu via Taiwan, ending our fantastic trip to Taiwan.

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

**B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner**
Within 70 days before departure, the cancellation fee will be as follow:

- **69-31** prior departure, 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused from the cancellation;
- **30 days** prior to departure or withdraw during the tour shall be regarded as willingly give up all rights concerned, 100% of total price, and request for the other service as substitute shall not be accepted.

Also we strongly recommend you to purchase travel insurance when you make a reservation.

**Remarks:**
- International airfare from Honolulu
- Deluxe hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- Admission and meals as stated
- 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 Grande Holiday”
- Gratuity for Tour Guides and Drivers is included.
- We reserve the right to modify the itinerary for smooth operation
- Tour price is subject to change according to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
- Tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees. The tour price shown is current at time of listing and pricing on Dec 30, 2017.

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

Written notice is required for any cancellation. $350 deposit is non-refundable if you cancel **within 70 days before departure**.