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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

- ★ International Flight from Honolulu
- ★ Deluxe Hotel Accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- * Admissions and 27 Meals as stated
- * Local Specialty:
 - Dengfeng Roast Duck
 - Luoyang Water Feast (Luoyang Shui Xi)
 - Pingyao Merchant's Traditional Banquet
- * Visits to 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites:
 - Pingyao Ancient City
- Longmen Grottoes
- Buddhist Shaolin Temple
 Yungang Grottoes
- * Shaolin Chan Zong Show: Kung Fu Performance
- ★ Hanging Monastery: Be Impressed by the Extremely Sheer Cliffs
- * Hands-on Experience Pingyao Noodles
- ★ Peony Garden: Enjoy China's National Flower
- ★ Special Kamg Style Bedroom in 5* Yunjincheng Hotel
- ★ Gratuity for Tour Guides & Drivers

Traveling Dates:

Apr 11 – 23, 2019 (13 Days)

Price per person:

\$ 2,988

Incl: Tax & Fuel Charge Single Supp: \$ 650









Day 1-2 ** Apr 11-12

Honolulu – Beijing

We start our vacation by boarding an international 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 13

Beijing – Zhengzhou →

(D)

Upon our arrival at the Beijing International Airport in the morning, we will take a connecting flight to Zhengzhou, is the capital city of Henan Province and located in the central of China, is one of the eight National Central Cities serving as the political, economic, technological, and educational center of the province, as well as a major transportation hub in China. We will meet with an Air & Sea travel representative who will escort us to our hotel.

Day 4 ** Apr 14

Zhengzhou – Dengfeng

(B, L, D)

This morning, we will visit Yellow River Scenic Area, a national AAAA scenic area in the northwest of Zhengzhou City. After that, 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 <u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u> 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 15

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 <u>Dengfeng Roast Duck Lunch</u>, we will drive to Luoyang where the best peonies are grown.

Day 6 ** Apr 16

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 <u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u> 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 17

Luoyang - Pingyao

(B, D)

After breakfast, we will drive to Pingyao, a city listed by <u>UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage</u>. 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. We will transfer to a Shanxi tour bus as we enter Shanxi province. Upon arrival, we check into our hotel to 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 18

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 <u>Pingyao Style Noodles</u>. 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 19 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 20 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 21 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 22 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 9:00PM. Our flight leaves at 1:50 AM on April 23.

Day 13 ** Apr 23 Beijing – Honolulu >>

Our flight takes off to Honolulu after midnight. This ends our wonderful tour in China. We arrive at Honolulu on April 22 at approximately 5:30PM.



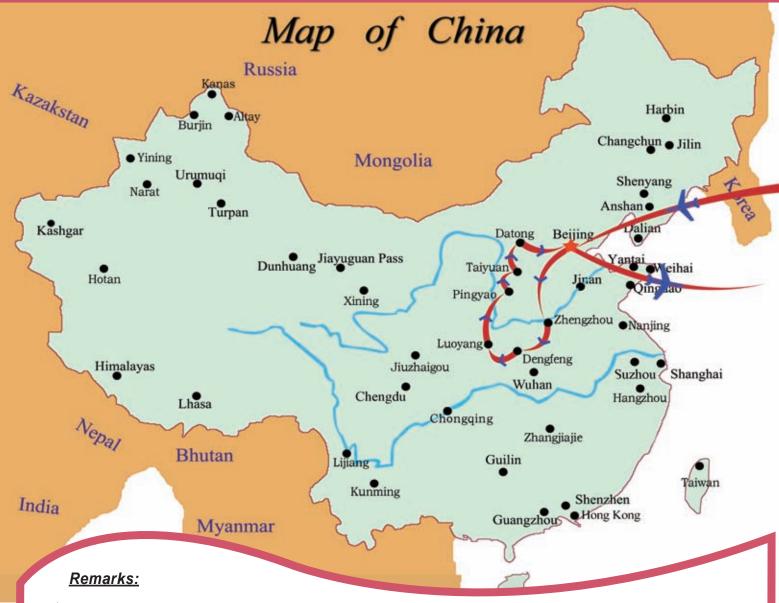
**** FREE 10-Yrs China Visa w / multiple entries is available NOW ****

*** 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



- ★ 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
- → Gratuity for tour guides & drivers is 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 Jun 30th, 2018

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 within 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.