



13-day cruisetour of 1 country with 17 guided tours

YANGTZE EXPLORER

Explore the heart of China on a relaxing 11-day Yangtze cruise, bookended by two hotel nights in Shanghai. Sail through the legendary Three Gorges region, including a fascinating transit through the Three Gorges Dam's five-stage lock system and a tour of the dam facility. Visit the birthplaces of porcelain and dragon boat racing, and experience the tranquility of Mt. Jiu Hua, one of four mountains sacred to the Buddhist faith. Visit the Hubei Provincial Museum in Wuhan, where you are treated to a concert of bronze bells and other traditional instruments, and take a scenic journey to Suzhou to see its architectural gardens.

DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES	DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES
1	Shanghai	Welcome to Shanghai, China's largest city.	8	Dongting Lake	After breakfast, cross Dongting Lake, Visit to the 66-foot-high Yueyang Tower and its nearby pavilions, originally built during the Qing Dynasty. (B, L, D)
2	Shanghai & Chongqing	After breakfast, enjoy some free time in Shanghai before we take you to the Shanghai airport for your flight to Chongqing. You have a panoramic city tour of Chongqing. (B, D)	9	Wuhan	After breakfast, stop in Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province. Go through the Hubei Provincial Museum to see its many ancient artifacts, including a large collection of bronze bells. (B, L, D)
3	Fengdu	This afternoon, sail into Fengdu, a city dating back to the Han Dynasty. Tour of Snow Jade Cave, featuring dramatic karst limestone formations. (B, L, D)	10	Jingdezhen	Visit the Ceramic History Museum in this city "the Porcelain Capital" due to its 1,700-year history of making pottery. Learn how ceramics were produced in ancient times and their significance to each dynasty. (B, L, D)
4	Shibaozhai	After a morning of scenic cruising along the Yangtze, tour the 12-story Shibaozhai Temple, an impressive example of Qing Dynasty. (B, L, D)	11	Mt. Jiu Hua	Marvel at the tranquil beauty of Mt. Jiu Hua, one of only four sacred Buddhist mountains. Visit one of the area's Buddhist temples, then return aboard for dinner. (B, L, D)
5	Three Gorges & Lesser Three Gorges	This morning, begin cruising past the spectacular limestone cliffs known as the Three Gorges. During your 150-mile journey, first pass Qutang Gorge, board smaller boats to the Lesser Three Gorges. Marvel at the hanging coffins of the Ba people. Afternoon sailing through Wu (Witches) Gorge and pass through the five-stage locks of the Three Gorges Dam. (B, L, D)	12	Nanjing, Suzhou & Shanghai	After breakfast in Nanjing, enjoy a scenic journey to Suzhou, nicknamed "Venice of the East". Take a guided walk through the Old Town and along the city's canals, then tour a silk factory and the exquisite Fishermen's Garden. After lunch, continue to Shanghai; check in to your hotel and have dinner with evening free to relax or explore. (B, L)
6	Three Gorges Dam & Three Gorges	Disembark for a tour of the Three Gorges Dam, an immense hydroelectric engineering project. After your tour, return aboard and cruise through Xiling Gorge. (B, L, D)	13	Shanghai	After breakfast, check out of your hotel. (B)
7	Jingzhou	This morning, visit The Viking River Cruises sponsored elementary school. Arrive to a warm greeting from the children. Return aboard for afternoon cruising and meals. (B, L, D)			

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