DAY 1  FRI  Beijing Arrival
Your China holiday will begin with an international flight to Beijing. Upon arrival at Beijing Capital International Airport you will be met by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel to prepare for your tour tomorrow.

DAY 2  SAT  Beijing
Today you may choose to explore the city of Beijing at your own pace. Alternatively, you can join a selection of optional tours with our experienced local guide.

Today’s optional tours:
- TIAN’ANMEN SQUARE & FORBIDDEN CITY: Set out with your trip leader to discover Beijing’s imperial treasures. Stand in Tiananmen Square, one of the largest and grandest public plazas in the world before progressing on to the Forbidden City. Enter the imposing walls of the Forbidden City, once the exclusive domain of the Ming Dynasty, for an exclusive tour through this vast complex of courtyards and lanes.
- HUTONG TOUR: Take a rickshaw tour of the traditional Hutong areas, famous for the old-style buildings, and time-honoured workshops. Enjoy a meal with a local family here before returning to your hotel.

DAY 3  SUN  Beijing - The Great Wall & Olympic Games Sites
Today, you will travel into the rugged mountain landscapes north of the city to the magnificent Great Wall of China. Once on top of this ancient defensive structure, you’ll find that some sections are quite steep, but the views are magnificent and the experience is truly unforgettable. You will then learn about Jade, China’s most precious and celebrated stone, and its manufacturing process at the largest Jade factory in Beijing. Furthermore, you will visit the 2008 Olympic Games Sites including the Bird’s Nest and Water Cube. Before returning to your hotel, experience the oriental foot massage at a traditional Chinese medical centre where you will learn about alternative treatments for illness and have the chance to consult a Chinese Medical professional.

DAY 4  MON  Beijing to Hangzhou
In the morning, you can choose to spend the day at your leisure – take advantage of the hotel facilities or explore Beijing. You will also have the option to participate in a tour of the Temple of Heaven and practice the martial art of Tai Chi. Tai Chi is an internal martial art system which places emphasis on the development and control of Chi energy (consciousness) within the body. The Temple of Heaven is a sprawling complex of religious buildings located in the south-eastern section of central Beijing. The site was constructed by the emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties who would host annual ceremonies of prayer for good harvest here. Later this afternoon, you will be transferred to Hangzhou by bullet train.

DAY 5  TUE  Hangzhou - West Lake, Tea Village
Today, your will embark on a tour of Hangzhou city - renowned for its beauty and abundance of cultural heritage. It is also the political, economic and cultural centre of the Zhejiang Province and one of the most popular tourist destinations in China. You will then visit the West Lake area in Hangzhou, comprising of the West Lake and the surrounding hills, which have inspired famous poets, scholars and artists since the 9th Century. It is considered one of the most beautiful landscapes in China, and is home to numerous temples, pagodas, pavilions, gardens, causeways and artificial islands. While you’re in the West Lake scenic area, visit the tea plantation, here you will learn about tea picking and processing.

Today’s optional tours:
- In the evening, you may choose to attend the Romance of Song Dynasty Show, a beautiful display that tells the story of the five areas of Hangzhou and features colourful costumes, dancing, acting and acrobatics.

DAY 6  WED  Suzhou - Master of Nets Garden
Today, you will be transferred from Hangzhou to Suzhou via bus. Upon arrival, spend some time exploring the Master of the Nets Garden it is one of the finest gardens in China, and for which Suzhou is renowned. You will explore the garden and admire the effortlessness of art, nature and architecture that has attracted thousands of visitors since 1140CE.

Today’s optional tours:
- After lunch, you will have the option to take a boat trip along the longest canal in the world - Suzhou’s Grand Canal. Some sections date as far back as the 5th century BC and it is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site - there are many beautiful homes to admire along this impressive waterway.

DAY 7  THU  Suzhou to Shanghai - Nanjing walking district, The Bund
After breakfast, spend the morning perusing the most famous silk factory in China to understand the manufacturing processes of silk and its rich history in China before being be transferred to Shanghai via bus. Upon arrival, you will visit the Nanjing walking district and discover the history and culture of Shanghai. You will then continue to the Bund by the Huangpu River, and witness the old meeting the modern side of the city.

Today’s optional tours:
- Enjoy an optional evening on the Huangpu River Cruise, allowing you to take in the famous sites of Shanghai including; the People’s Hero Monument, the Bund, the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, the dramatic skyline of the Pu Dong business district, the bustling International Passenger Station of Shanghai Harbour, the docks and the Wu Song ancient gun fort relics.

DAY 8-9  FRI  Shanghai Departure
Today you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home or you may choose to extend your stay and continue to explore other mesmerising cities. We hope you enjoyed your journey to China with us!
DAY 8   FRI
Shanghai - Leisure Day
Today you may enjoy a day of leisure. Shanghai is host to a great number of historical and cultural sites, so be sure to ask your tour guide for advice on the best places to visit. Alternatively, you can choose to enjoy an optional tour with your experienced tour guide.

DAY 9   SAT
Shanghai - Shanghai Museum, People Square, Jinmao Tower
After breakfast, you will set out with your trip leader to discover what modern Shanghai has to offer. Visit the Jin Mao Building, symbolising Shanghai coming into the 21st century. It is the tallest building in the country and third tallest in the world standing at a whopping 420.5m. You will also explore the Shanghai Museum and the Peoples Square.

DAY 10 - 11   SUN
Shanghai Departure
Today you will be transferred to Shanghai Airport for your scheduled flight home. We hope you enjoyed your journey to China with us!