

TWILIGHT TOURS CHINA ECLIPSE ITINERARY JULY 13TH – 26TH, 2009

Day 1 Jul 13 (Mon) USA – BEIJING

Board your individually selected transpacific flight from the USA to Beijing.

Day 2 Jul 14 (Tues) BEIJING

(-/-/-)

Upon arrival in Beijing, you will be greeted and escorted to the hotel. Check in to hotel.

Overnight at **Capital Hotel** ***** or similar

Day 3 Jul 15 (Wed) BEIJING

(AB/ L/ D)

After breakfast, visit **Tiananmen Square** and the **Imperial Palace** in the **Forbidden City**, home of Chinese Emperors for more than 500 years. After lunch, visit the **Temple of Heaven**, where the emperors came to pray for good harvest and pay his appreciation. Bid your goodbye with a glass of wine and enjoy a fabulous farewell banquet featuring the famous Beijing Duck in the evening. Lunch at local Chinese restaurant. Dinner at Qujude Duck restaurant.

Overnight at **Capital Hotel** ***** or similar

Day 4 Jul 16 (Thur) BEIJING

(AB/ L/D)

The highlight today is an excursion to **the Great Wall**. Enjoy the dramatic vistas and marvel at the Wall as it climbs and descends steep ridges and narrow valleys. A scenic cable car ride enhances your visit through the steep hills. Continue on to visit a cloisonné factory on the way to lunch. After lunch, visit the **Summer Palace**, taking a leisure stroll while admiring the thousands of ancient murals along the Long Corridor and a boat ride on the **Kunming Lake** (weather permitting). Enjoy acrobatic show in the evening.

Overnight at **Capital Hotel** ***** or similar

Day 5 Jul 17 (Fri) BEIJING

(AB)

Free at leisure to explore the city. Lunch and dinner at leisure on your own.

Overnight at **Capital Hotel** ***** or similar

Day 6 Jul 18 (Sat) BEIJING -XI'AN

(AB/L/-)

Farewell to Beijing, transfer to the airport for your flight to Xi'AN. Lunch at local restaurant.

Dinner at leisure on your own.

Overnight at **Hyatt Regency Xi'AN** ***** or similar

Day 7 Jul 19 (Sun)

XI'AN

(AB/L/SD)

Today's highlight is a visit to the **Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses Museum**, home to more than 6,000 life-size army excavated from the tomb of the first emperor of the Qin Dynasty. After lunch, visit the **Shaanxi Provincial Museum**, renowned for its collection of Han and Tang dynasty antiquities. In the evening, enjoy a dinner show at the Tang Dynasty Theatre recreating the music, costumes and dance of that era. Lunch at local Chinese restaurant. Dinner at Shaanxi Grand Theatre.

Overnight at **Hyatt Regency Xi'AN** ***** or similar

Day 8 Jul 20 (Mon)

XI'AN – HANGZHOU

(AB/L/-)

Transfer to the airport after breakfast for your flight from Xi'AN to Hangzhou. Arrive in Hangzhou and transfer to our hotel. Dinner is on your own this evening. After dinner, we hold a **group pre-eclipse meeting** at our hotel, to review the schedule for Wednesday's total eclipse event.

Overnight at **Victoria Regal Hangzhou** ***** or similar

Day 9 Jul 21 (Tue) HANGZHOU (AB/L/D)

Following breakfast at our hotel, start exploring this charming 2,000 year-old-city with a boat ride on scenic **West Lake**. Long famous for its beauty, there is a Chinese saying "In heaven there is paradise and on earth there are Hangzhou and Suzhou". Visit **Hangzhou Tea Plantation** (this tour is **optional** for those who would rather ready their equipment for tomorrow's eclipse).

Overnight at **Victoria Regal Hangzhou ****** or similar

Day10 Jul 22 (Wed) ECLIPSE DAY - Hangzhou/Eclipse Site/HANGZHOU (AB/L/D)

05:00am depart after breakfast from hotel and drive 90KM/1.5 hours to our reserved site for Eclipse-observing (snacks, water, apple, sandwich and sitting-mattress will be well prepared in advance). After completing the observation, drive back to our hotel in Hangzhou. **Celebration Dinner** at our hotel followed by a **post eclipse meeting** for the group to share videos and still photos of today's eclipse.

Overnight at **Victoria Regal Hangzhou ****** local best or similar

Day11 Jul 23 (Thur) HANGZHOU – SHANGHAI (AB/L/D)

After lunch, drive 230KM/3 hours to Shanghai, check into hotel. Lunch and dinner at local Chinese restaurant.

Overnight at **Hyatt Shanghai ******* or similar

Day12 Jul 24 (Fri) SHANGHAI (AB/L/D)

After breakfast at hotel, start your brief city tour of Shanghai by visiting to the Old Town of Shanghai, **Yu Garden**, and Stroll along the **Bund**. Lunch and Dinner at local Chinese restaurant.

Overnight at **Hyatt Shanghai******* or similar.

Day 13 Jul 25 (Sat) SHANGHAI (AB/-/-)

A free day to further explore Shanghai on your own, before you depart for the USA tomorrow.

Overnight at **Hyatt Shanghai ******* or similar

Day 14 Jul 26 (Sun) SHANGHAI – USA (AB/-/-)

Farewell to Shanghai. Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the USA.