

# "THE GREAT WALL"

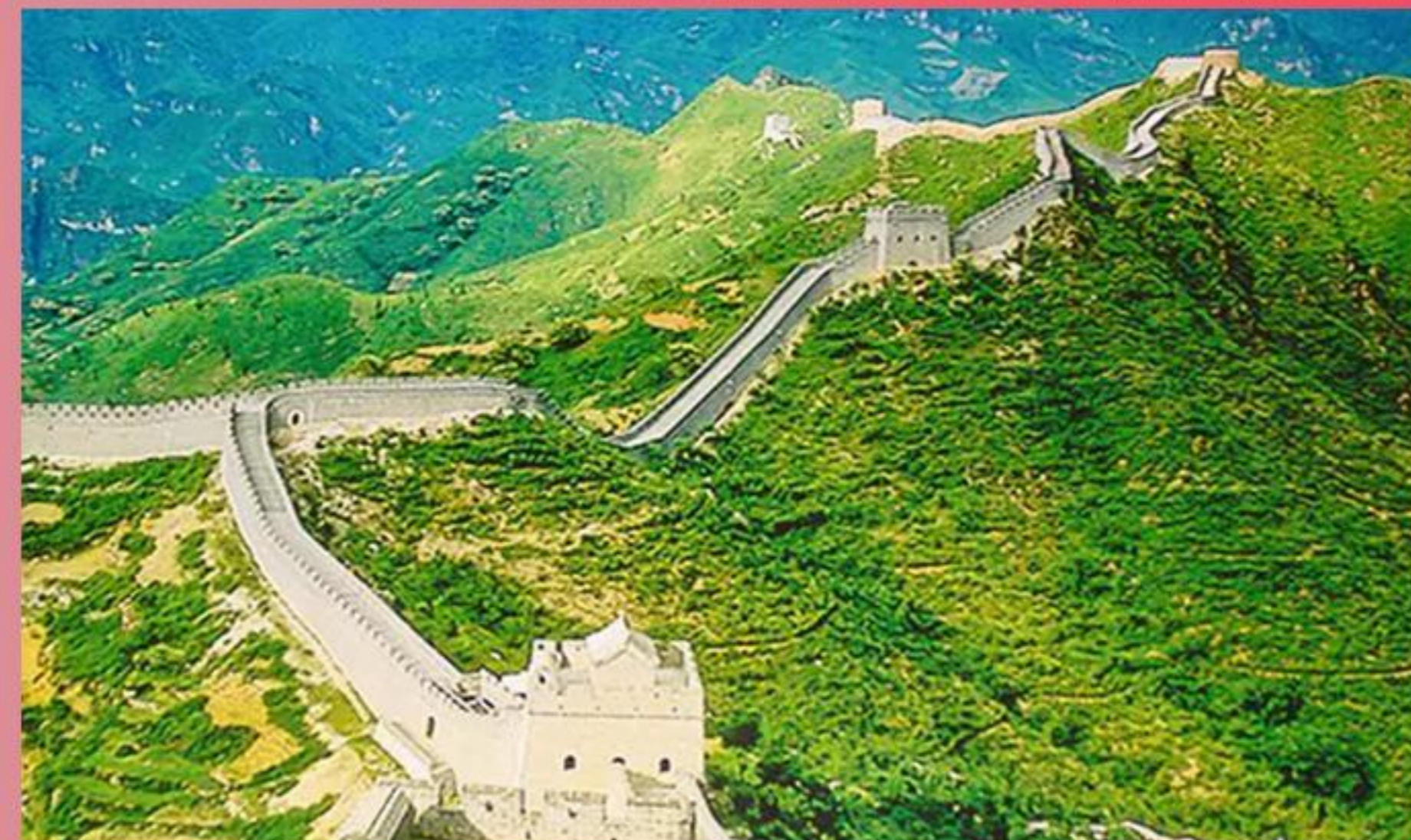
Exploring China & Hong Kong

A Trekking Journey Beyond Boundaries

# DAY 1 - Wednesday & Thursday 1st & 2nd April, 2026

- 13:30hrs - Meeting at MIA departure lounge
- 15:35hrs - Emirates Flight to Beijing via Dubai
- 15:25hrs - ETA at Beijing (Thursday 2nd April)
- 16:15hrs -

We will be greeted by our guide who will accompany us to our first hotel in Pinggu. Do your best to battle jet lag as today is a great opportunity to explore your new surroundings. The group will get together for the first meal, as well as a briefing about the hiking ahead. The drive from Beijing (PEK) airport to Pinggu will take 1 hour. Upon arrival, you can explore the village and get a first taste of China's rural area.



## DAY 2 - Friday | 3rd April, 2026

### Taipingzhai | Huangyaguan | Qianganjian

10km Trekking - 6 hours

After breakfast, we will drive to our starting point on the Great Wall at Taipingzhai. Upon arrival, we will have a water station set up for us, as well as snacks and energy bars.

Our trek begins along the partially restored section from Taipingzhai to Huangyaguan, with a mid-morning break at the military pass. Continuing westward, we will tackle Heaven's Ladder, a narrow but manageable steep section and have a picnic lunch at the top.

The trek then leads us through trails snaking into jungles, bushes and farm fields as the Wall becomes less defined. We will descend cautiously to Qianganjian village.

After the trek, we will drive to Gubeikou Village for a homemade dinner and an overnight stay.



## DAY 3 - Saturday | 4th April, 2026

### Jinshanling East/Simatai West to Jinshanling West

8km Trekking - 5 hours

After breakfast, we will prepare our own sandwiches and drive 40 minutes to Simatai West/Jinshanling East. A 40-minute climb up modern concrete steps from the parking lot will bring us to the Wall, where we will enjoy panoramic views of Simatai, Jinshanling, and Gubeikou. This section, popular with photographers, features intact watchtowers and beacon towers. After 2 hours of trekking, we will take a break at Zhuanduokou, where a statue of General Qi Jiguang commemorates his contributions to the Wall's construction.

Continuing for another hour, we will leave the Wall and enjoy a picnic lunch. A 1-hour walk on a farming trail will follow, after which we will be picked up and driven back to our guesthouse.

In the evening, we will participate in a dumpling-making lesson organised by our host and enjoy a dinner of dumplings and other local produce.



## DAY 4 - Sunday | 5th April, 2026

### Jinshanling West to Gubeikou

10km Trekking - 5 hours

After breakfast, we will drive to Jinshanling West (30 minutes). We will resume our hike toward Gubeikou, trekking for 5 hours.

Our journey will begin with a 40-minute trek through jungles and trees, leading to the 24-eye Tower, a viewpoint of the Gubeikou area. We will continue past the General Tower, encountering the original, untouched section of Gubeikou until we reach the trail into the village.

Gubeikou, rebuilt in 1378 under General Xu Da, has witnessed more battles than any other part of the Great Wall. A temple dedicated to Yang Ye, a famous Great Wall garrison General from the Song Dynasty, stands on the southern slope. This temple is one of the oldest dedicated to this general in China.

After a late lunch, we will drive 2 hours to Huairou where we shall spend the night.



**Accommodation :** Shanshui Hotel Huairou  
**Included Meals :** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



## DAY 5 - Monday | 6th April, 2026

### Jiankou to Mutianyu

10km Trekking - 5 hours

After breakfast, we will drive to Jiankou and start our 5-hour trek on the Jiankou to Mutianyu section of the Great Wall. This route features both restored and original sections, offering superb scenery, dense vegetation and many fine watchtowers. The first hour involves a steep climb to the Wall, followed by a trek through unrestored towers of the original Ming Dynasty, with few tourists around. You'll enjoy breathtaking views at Zhenbeilou Tower and a sharp contrast at the well-preserved Mutianyu section.

After a late lunch, we will drive back to the city and stop at the Olympic venues for a 30-minute walk around the Bird's Nest and Water Cube.



# DAY 6 - Tuesday | 7th April, 2026

## Beijing

Today, we explore the theme of the forbidden in Beijing, a city rich in cultural and historical heritage. Visiting the majestic Forbidden City, which housed 24 emperors and their families for over 500 years. Every palace and pavilion here whispers tales of love, murder and political intrigue.

In contrast, Tian'anmen Square, one of the world's largest city squares, has seen pivotal events, including the student protests over 30 years ago. The Temple of Heaven, once exclusive to the royal family for prayers to the God of Heaven, now welcomes locals who gather to dance, perform opera, practice calligraphy and do tai chi.

We will also visit the Summer Palace, a royal retreat covering 290 hectares, four times the size of the Forbidden City. The compound includes hills, courtyards, palaces, corridors, pavilions and a lake. Emperors and their families used it to escape the summer heat and manage state affairs. You will learn fascinating stories about the empires and their royalty. At the end of the Long Corridor, we will take a dragon boat ride on the lake.

After a long afternoon, we head to Xi'an by overnight sleeper train. Each private cabin has four berths, can be locked from the inside, and accommodates your luggage. This comfortable and popular mode of travel will take us to our next destination.



**Accommodation :** 12 hours Overnight Train (4 Berth Cabins)  
**Included Meals :** Breakfast | Lunch



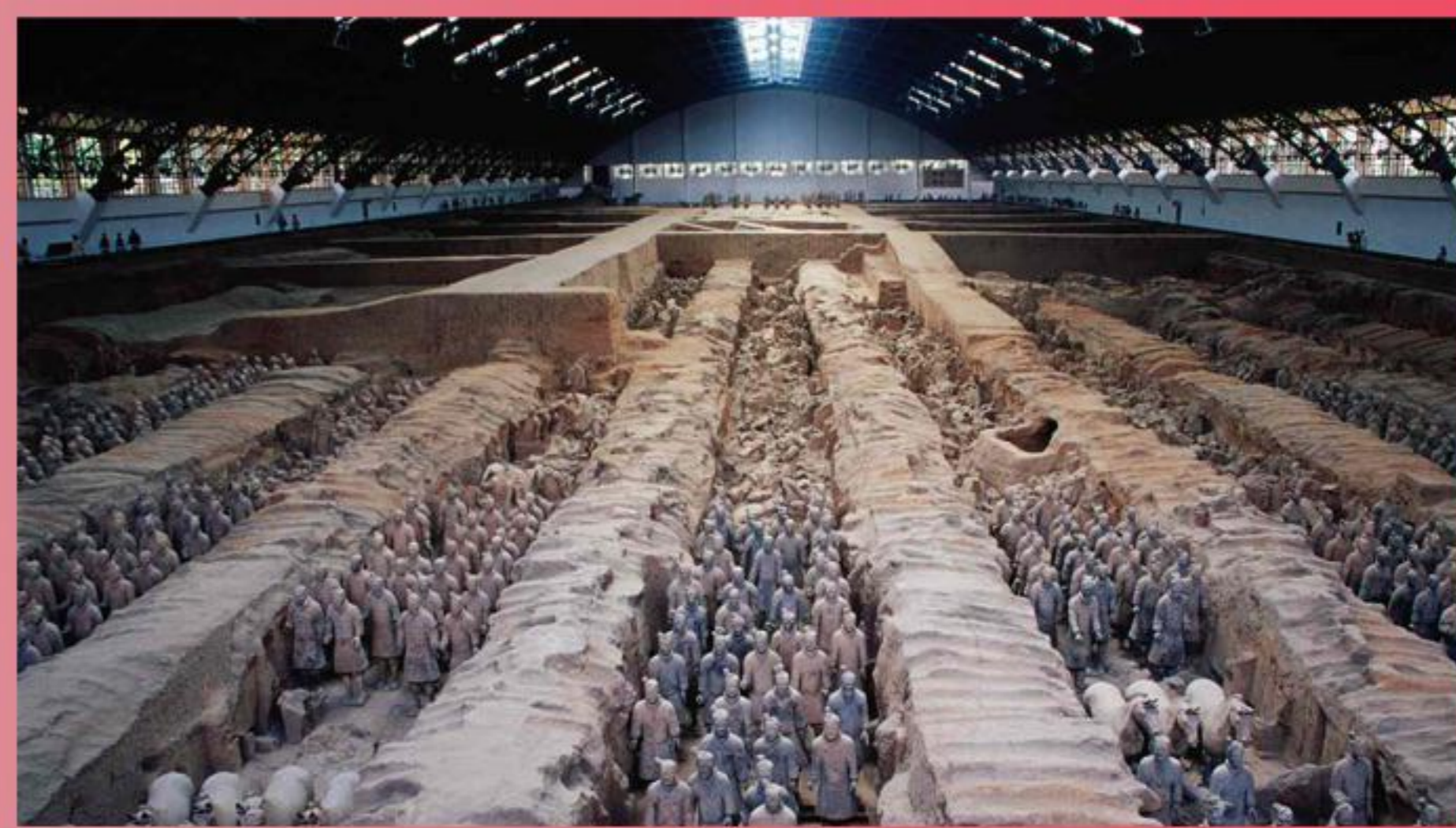
## DAY 7 - Wednesday | 8th April, 2026

### Xi'an

Our guide will pick us up at the train station and take us to our hotel in Xi'an Terracotta Warriors, one of the most significant archaeological discoveries of the 20th century. Discovered by farmers in 1974, three pits are open to the public, with ongoing excavations. The warriors, each with unique facial expressions, are arranged in battle formation, reflecting the emperor's ambition from 2000 years ago.

Returning to the city, we'll bike along the top of the well-preserved Ming Dynasty city wall. This 600-year-old structure offers a 1.5-hour ride of 13 km, showcasing a contrast between old houses inside the wall and modern buildings outside.

We'll also visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, a Tang Dynasty Buddhist temple and explore the surrounding square. Finally, we'll stroll through the Sleepless Tang Dynasty Town, a reproduction of ancient capital streets, featuring occasional performances and a night time light show.



## DAY 8 - Thursday | 9th April, 2026

### Xi'an | Zhangjiajie

In the morning, after breakfast, we explore the nearby Muslim Quarter, established by Arabic traders during the Tang Dynasty and home to over 60,000 practising Muslims who speak the local Han Chinese dialect. It's an ideal spot for finding curios, souvenirs and trying local Muslim snacks.

In the afternoon, we'll get an internal flight to Zhangjiajie and then transfer to the hotel.



## DAY 9 - Friday | 10th April, 2026

### Zhangjiajie

After a hearty breakfast, we embark on an unforgettable journey to Tianmen Mountain, one of Zhangjiajie's most iconic landmarks. We experience the thrill of the Sky Walk, a glass walkway clinging to the cliffside with breathtaking views beneath your feet. Then, we challenge ourselves with the legendary 999 Steps, leading up to the awe-inspiring Tianmen Cave, also known as Heaven's Gate.

Next, we head to the Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon to cross the world-famous Glass Bridge, suspended high above the canyon floor. This architectural marvel offers panoramic views and an adrenaline-pumping experience you won't forget.

After a long day, we head for a dinner and transfer back to the hotel.



# DAY 10 - Saturday | 11th April, 2026

## Zhangjiajie

After breakfast, we start the day with a ride on the Bailong Elevator, the world's tallest outdoor glass elevator, offering stunning views as it ascends the sheer cliff face of Zhangjiajie National Forest Park.

Continue to Yuanjiajie Scenic Area, the inspiration for the floating Hallelujah Mountains in the movie Avatar. Marvel at dramatic sandstone pillars and panoramic viewpoints, including the famous "Avatar Hallelujah Mountain" and the "First Bridge Under Heaven."

In the afternoon, unwind with a serene walk along the Golden Whip Stream, a picturesque trail that winds through lush forest, crystal-clear waters, and towering peaks - perfect for immersing yourself in the tranquility of nature.

After dinner, back to the hotel.



# DAY 11 - Sunday | 12th April, 2026

## Guilin | Yangshuo

In the morning, after breakfast we head to the train station and board the speed train to Guilin (3 hours), where upon arrival at the train station we'll be transferred to our hotel in Yangshuo.

OPTIONAL: Approximately €45

In the evening, we visit a famous show in Yangshuo called "Impression Liu Sanjie" (印象刘三姐).

It is a spectacular outdoor night performance directed by renowned filmmaker Zhang Yimou. The show is set on the Li River, with the stunning karst mountains as the natural backdrop. It features hundreds of performers, including local villagers, and showcases Guangxi's ethnic culture, folk songs and breathtaking choreography.



# DAY 12 - Monday | 13th April, 2026

## Yangshuo

In the morning, we will bike upstream along Yulong River, the most beautiful tributary of Li River, for one and a half hours. Our scenic countryside trail along the riverbank will take us through villages, rice fields and orchards, all framed by majestic karst mountains. You'll want to take photos and in the warmer months, you might even capture buffalos in your frame.

Next, we'll pair up to drift along the river on bamboo rafts, offering more scenic moments to capture. Rafting on the Yulong River is a traveller favourite for its beautiful views.

After rafting, we'll have lunch and then ascend to Moon Hill. It takes about 40 minutes to reach the Moon Hill and another 15 minutes to the top if you're brave enough. The panoramic view of the town, dotted with hills and rivers, is worth the climb.

We will then cycle back to West Street for you to explore on your own. There are plenty of restaurants, cafes and bars where you can try the popular beer fish for dinner.



# DAY 13 - Tuesday | 14th April, 2026

## Yangshuo

On this day, after breakfast, we have a free day for everyone to choose any activities they would like to do.

There's many active and water sports in Yangshuo, like rock climbing, filida, paddle boarding, kayaking, cycling ,trekking and Quad biking

You can select some of the activities, or just set back and read a book by the fresh-aired hotel.



# DAY 14 - Wednesday | 15th April, 2026

## Yangshuo | Longji Rice Terrace Hiking

10km Trekking - 4 hours

After breakfast, we leave for the Longji Rice Terraces with a 3-hour drive to Jiuwu village. From there, we'll trek to Dazhai village for 4-5 hours and stay overnight at a guesthouse in Dazhai.

The Longji Rice Terraces, also known as the Dragon's Backbone, are a stunning landscape of layered rice fields cultivated by the Zhuang and Yao ethnic minorities for over 600 years. These hand-carved terraces create patterns resembling dragon scales. Visitors can trek through the terraces, enjoy the breathtaking views and learn about the local agricultural practices, showcasing the harmony between humans and nature.



# DAY 15 - Thursday | 16th April, 2026

## Dazhai | Ping'an

11km Trekking - 5 hours

After breakfast, we will hike from Dazhai to Ping'an Village, passing through Yao villages like Zhongliu and viewing terraced rice paddies along the way.

We will have a late lunch in the Zhuang village of Ping'an, with free time to explore in the afternoon.



# DAY 16 - Friday | 17th April, 2026

## Guilin - Hong Kong

In the morning, savour the serene beauty of the rice terraces or experience the breathtaking sunrise, then we will drive 2 hours to Guilin train station.

We board the speed train to Hong Kong (3.5 hours), where you'll be transferred to your hotel next to Victoria Harbour.

In the evening, take a leisurely stroll along the Avenue of Stars to discover handprints of your favourite Hong Kong movie stars on commemorative plaques.

At 8pm, enjoy the spectacular light show as the city's high-rise buildings illuminate the skyline.



# DAY 17 - Saturday | 18th April, 2026

## Hong Kong

After breakfast, we will walk to the neighbouring pier to catch the Star Ferry for the iconic bay crossing. This journey is a beloved tradition for locals and offers a legendary experience. Onboard, you can admire one of the world's most stunning skylines, with skyscrapers set against the city's highest hill, providing a fresh perspective compared to the lights show you enjoyed the previous night.

Next, ascend Victoria Peak via the historic Peak Tram to reach Hong Kong's highest point (552m), where you'll be treated to a panoramic view of this captivating metropolis.

Enjoy a refreshing drink and lunch at one of the Sky Terrace restaurants and be captivated by the incredible surroundings.

- **21:10hrs - Shuttle to Hong Kong Int. Airport**
- **00:35hrs - (Sunday 19th, April)**  
**Emirates Flight to Malta via Dubai**
- **14:05hrs - (Sunday 19th, April) | ETA at Malta**



**Accommodation :** Harbour Plaza Metropolis Hotel, Hong Kong  
**Included Meals:** Breakfast



## What is included?

- International flight - Malta | Dubai | Beijing
- International flight - Hong Kong | Dubai | Malta
- 7kg cabin luggage & 30kg checked in luggage
- All transfers
- Local English speaking Chinese Guides
- 6 trekking days with Guide
- Breakfasts on days 2 to 6, 8 to 17
- Lunches on days 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 & 16
- Dinners on days 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 & 14
- Entrance tickets and excursions listed below:
  - \* Temple of Heaven
  - \* The Forbidden City
  - \* Summer Palace & Boat Ride
  - \* Terracotta Warriors
  - \* City Wall & Bike Ride
  - \* Big Wild Goose in Xi'an
  - \* Biking, Bamboo Rafting, Moon Hill in Yangshuo
  - \* Tianmen & Tianzi Mountain park entrances
- Night-sleeper overnight train Beijing to Xi'an
- Internal flight from Xi'an to Zhangjiajie
- Speed Train from Zhangjiajie to Guilin
- Speed Train from Guilin to Hong Kong

## What is NOT included?

- Breakfasts (which are not mentioned in the "What is included" list)
- Lunches (which are not mentioned in the "What is included" list)
- Dinners (which are not mentioned in the "What is included" List)
- Drinks with all meals
- Activities on Day 13
- Excess baggage charges
- Internal flights Excess baggage charges
- Insurance
- Vaccines
- Visa for China
- Tippings and gratuities to local guides and drivers
- All that is not mentioned in the "What is included" list.