

# China

2019 / 2020



**distantjourneys**  
Leisurely and flexible guided touring



*All contact was polite, friendly, helpful and knowledgeable. We were made to feel confident in our choice of holiday and could relax as everything was taken care of. We would definitely recommend them and hope to use them in the future.*

Mr & Mrs Buck, West Yorkshire

## A Warm Welcome Awaits

China is a country of contrasts. Ancient palaces and modern skyscrapers sit side by side, and peaceful river cruises are combined with high speed journeys on 'bullet trains'. Those with a love of history and food will be in their element, and whether you visit the giant pandas of Chengdu, scale the Great Wall or explore the renowned gardens of Suzhou, China never disappoints.

Distant Journeys has carefully crafted an itinerary of highlight after highlight, blended with a selection of enchanting hidden gems. We welcome you to China, for a journey made up of heart-warming and never to be forgotten experiences.

**Over 60 years creating incredible touring holidays**  
The directors at Distant Journeys have over 60 years combined experience designing escorted touring holidays all over the world. Using our extensive knowledge, we have created an exciting style of flexible touring holiday combining the delights and camaraderie of group travel, with the flexibility to allow for personal tastes.

Our tours operate at a leisurely pace, offer exceptional value for money without compromising on quality or inclusions and provide you with unrivalled flexibility, ensuring your holiday is perfect for you.

Our aim is simple – to make every moment of your holiday as memorable as it should be.

## Book With 100% Confidence

### Our Price Promise

All Distant Journeys touring holidays come with our Price Promise\*. This is our guarantee to give early bookers the best price, to never offer your holiday at a cheaper price or add surcharges once your holiday booking is confirmed, and to match the price of any identical holiday you may find.

### Award-winning service

Our friendly travel professionals are experts in the places we visit and are happy to share their passion with you at any time. Exceptional customer service means not only is our Feefo satisfaction rating an outstanding 99%, Distant Journeys has also won Feefo's coveted 'Gold Trusted' rating.

### Financially protected

Distant Journeys are fully bonded by ATOL, meaning you can book your holiday knowing your money is 100% safe.

\* For more information on our Price Promise, please see our booking conditions on pages 36-39.



Richard Hanson, Simon Whittle & Andrew Laycock  
Directors, Distant Journeys



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## Call to book

Our award-winning team of travel experts is happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

**Call us on 01695 577 961**

**Monday - Friday** 9.00am - 5.30pm

**Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.

**Email:** [enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk)





## Why Choose Distant Journeys?

1. **Exceptional value, uncompromising quality**  
Our aim is to offer exceptional value for money without compromising on the quality of your holiday. You'll find included all you would expect from a touring holiday, along with a few special extras you might not expect such as hotel portorage and a welcome drink.
2. **Meticulously designed tours**  
With over 60 years combined experience, our directors understand just what it takes to design the perfect touring holiday. Many months of planning go into every detail of the holiday, and each element is carefully chosen with our customers' enjoyment in mind.
3. **Personal knowledge and expert advice**  
Distant Journeys has a team of professional travel specialists with personal knowledge of the countries we visit, our selected hotels and the fabulous experiences we offer.
4. **Leisurely paced itineraries**  
Our holidays operate at a relaxed pace, as we aim to give you plenty of time to fully explore and savour each area as well as giving you some time to unwind.
5. **Hand-picked hotels**  
You'll be delighted by your hotels, as Distant Journeys only select accommodation which meets the high standards of quality, service and location our guests have come to expect.
6. **Once in a lifetime experiences**  
From spectacular cruises through inspiring landscapes to exploring lesser known gems, our holidays feature many incredible experiences which will stay in your memory forever.
7. **Experienced Tour Managers & guides**  
Our Tour Managers and local guides are all greatly experienced in their field, and have the right balance of organisational skills and local knowledge, coupled with a warm, friendly personality.
8. **Personalise your travel arrangements**  
Flying from regional UK airports at no extra cost, choosing your preferred airline, upgrading your flight and extending your holiday are just a few of the ways in which you can personalise your tour so it's perfect for you.
9. **Freedom to explore**  
We know our customers rightly expect to have all the must-see excursions included, but we understand they also want to tailor their holiday to their own tastes. That's why each tour has several Freedom Days to allow you the flexibility and choice to decide how you wish to spend your time.
10. **Our Price Promise**  
We want you to have the peace of mind you are paying the best price for your holiday, so Distant Journeys guarantees this through our Price Promise\*.
  - ◆ We'll reward you for booking early. The earlier you book the better the offer you'll receive.
  - ◆ We never offer last minute discounts, so you can be confident you'll never see your holiday cheaper.
  - ◆ We will never add surcharges onto the cost of your holiday, once you have booked.
  - ◆ We're so confident our tours represent excellent value for money, should you find the same tour at a cheaper price not only will we match that price, we will also give you £200 off a future booking.
11. **Award-winning holidays**  
Distant Journeys offer touring holidays to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India and China, and we are delighted to have been awarded the 'Best Small Holiday Company to Australasia' in both 2016 and 2017 at the British Travel Awards.
12. **99% customer satisfaction**  
We are so proud that our customers really love what we do. So much so, Distant Journeys has achieved an incredible 99% satisfaction rating with independent reviews provider Feefo.
13. **Gold standard service**  
The exceptional service provided by Distant Journeys has led to us being awarded Feefo's 'Gold Trusted' rating.
14. **Financially protected**  
All Distant Journeys holidays are fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority, ATOL number 10913, meaning you can book in the confidence your money is 100% safe.

\* For more information on our Price Promise, please see our booking conditions on pages 36-39.



## Uncompromising Quality with exceptional value

We are passionate about what we do, passionate about the countries we visit, the experiences we include, the service we offer and the value for money we deliver to our guests without compromising on the quality of the holiday experience.

With Distant Journeys, value does not mean cheap. Value for money means we will provide you with the opportunity to discover a destination in comfort and style, with so much flexibility and so many experiences included in the itinerary, and without it costing the earth.

### So much included

From start to finish, each Distant Journeys holiday is meticulously planned. As you would expect from a touring holiday, we include return international flights from the UK on award-winning scheduled airlines, with all your on-board meals and drinks included. What you might not expect is a choice of flights with either Emirates or Cathay Pacific along with a selection of convenient regional UK departures, without paying any extra.

All your touring holiday essentials are included; overseas transport in high quality coaches, a porter service for your luggage, all pre-payable airport and resort taxes, and all the entrance fees to the many incredible places you will visit. What's more, throughout your holiday you'll be accompanied by a knowledgeable Tour Manager to help you make the most of your time in China.

### Comfort and convenience

Hotels are carefully selected to make the most of each location, and offer quality and comfort so you can unwind and relax when returning from a day's exploring. Daily breakfast is included, in addition to many wonderful lunches and dinners.

### Unforgettable experiences

To make your holiday extra special, along with all the 'must-see' excursions already included, Distant Journeys includes a number of once in a lifetime experiences and visits to lesser known hidden gems. These are all included to create memories you will treasure forever.

## Our Price Promise

Price Promise

### Early booking offers

Our philosophy is simple - the earlier you book the better the offer you will receive.

### No last minute discounts

Distant Journeys never discount our holidays, so you can be confident you will never see your holiday at a lower price than the one you paid.

### No surcharges

Irrespective of any additional costs incurred by Distant Journeys as a result of currency fluctuations, air fare increases or other costs associated with your holiday, surcharges will never be added once you have confirmed a booking.

### Price match

We want you to have the peace of mind when booking a Distant Journeys holiday that you are receiving the best possible price. So, if you see the same holiday cheaper, not only will we match that price, we will also give you £200 off the price of a future holiday with Distant Journeys.

For more information on our Price Promise, please see our booking conditions on pages 36-39.



## Hand-Picked Hotels perfectly located

Distant Journeys appreciate the hotels in which you stay are an integral part of your holiday enjoyment, which is why we take great care in hand-picking all the accommodation featured in our itineraries.

Location and quality are always paramount considerations, and we strive to provide the best of both.

### Hotel ratings

Each property has been inspected whilst planning our holidays, and you can be confident the hotels featured in this brochure have been carefully selected for their location, quality, facilities and level of service.

We understand from many years of experience that accommodation ratings may vary from country to country. We therefore provide our own ratings, which are based on the expectations of guests from the UK, alongside the official hotel rating. Please review our hotel directory on pages 28-31 for more information regarding the hotels included in your Very Best of China tour.

### Location, location, location

Relax in the knowledge that every hotel has been carefully chosen to allow you to make the most of each destination you visit. In Yangshuo for instance, you stay in the peaceful Yangshuo Resort, perfectly located on the banks of the Yulong River, with idyllic karst peaks as a backdrop.

### Character and charm

Some hotels are more than just a place to rest and in many destinations we select hotels for their history, character and charm. When staying in Pingyao, you'll experience a great example of this, where you will spend a wonderful two nights at Yunjincheng Hotel – a charming boutique hotel, whose courtyards and rooms have been lovingly decorated to reflect the history of its surroundings.





## Freedom & Flexibility

### holidays styled just for you

Imagine being able to enjoy all the benefits of travelling with a group of like-minded people; the laughs, the camaraderie, the friendships, the hassle-free organisation - and at the same time being able to personalise your holiday so that it's perfect for you.

When it comes to having the freedom to tailor your touring holiday to suit your tastes and wishes, the flexibility provided by Distant Journeys cannot be beaten.

#### Freedom Days

For an escorted tour to be truly memorable, we believe you should have the freedom to customise your touring experiences to match your interests. That is why we ensure all Distant Journeys tours have a number of Freedom Days for you to spend as you please.

Learn to create local dishes in a small cookery school, experience a spectacular light show where six hundred performers take to the Li River, take a leisurely cycle through idyllic countryside, or simply spend time relaxing with a good book – the choice is yours.

#### Travel to suit you

To get your journey off to the best possible start, Distant Journeys offers you a choice of airlines, at no extra cost. Fly from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester via Hong Kong with Cathay Pacific. Alternatively, take advantage of flights via Dubai, with Emirates' selection of regional UK airports - London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Birmingham, Newcastle, Manchester or Glasgow. And if British Airways is your airline of choice, we will be happy to provide you with a price for direct flights from London Heathrow.

If you would like to treat yourself to a little more comfort on your flights, Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected routes. Please see pages 32-33 for more details.

#### Extend your holiday

Should you wish to extend your time in China, we will be delighted to arrange your flights for you – it's all part of the Distant Journeys service. What's more, if you are flying with Emirates or Cathay Pacific, you have the opportunity to extend your holiday with a three night homebound stopover in either Dubai or Hong Kong.





## Once in a Lifetime Experiences which are truly unforgettable

Distant Journeys offers touring holidays to a selection of truly magical countries, featuring an incredible array of holiday experiences.

When you travel with Distant Journeys, you can be confident that not only will all the memorable must-see sights be included, but you will also enjoy several extra special experiences to make your holiday as memorable as it should be.

### A new adventure every day

The reasons to discover China are endless. Nevertheless, here is just a small selection of the highlights you may enjoy as Distant Journeys helps you to explore this spectacular country.

### A fascinating history

Discover the country's millennia of enthralling history, from Beijing's ancient palaces; Xi'an's great archaeological discovery, the Terracotta Warriors; the classical gardens of Suzhou; and the iconic Great Wall; to more recent additions like Tiananmen Square and Shanghai's futuristic skyline of Pudong.

### The UNESCO World Heritage site of Pingyao

This small town is often overlooked by travellers, but Pingyao's superbly preserved architecture and town walls, its elegant courtyards and ancient temples, along with the vibrancy created by the 30,000 locals residing within its walls, makes this less well-known destination a fantastic addition to any touring itinerary.

### Spectacular cruises

Explore the verdant hills and breathtaking scenery as we glide serenely along the Li River. Plus, spend three nights aboard either MV Century Legend or Paragon, waking up each morning to the magnificent landscapes of the Yangtze River. This relaxing cruise allows plenty of time to sit back and relax or to explore a selection of the river's ancient waterside towns and the remarkable engineering feat of the Three Gorges Dam.

### Unwind in Yangshuo

Perfectly timed at the midpoint of the tour, a two night stay in Yangshuo Resort is an ideal opportunity to relax and unwind. Our hotel enjoys an idyllic location on the banks of the Yulong River, offering the opportunity take in the mountainous landscapes with a gentle bike ride, a punt along the river or from the hotel's peaceful surrounding gardens.





# The Very Best of China

23 days from only £3,495 per person

It's not surprising China is considered one of the world's most fascinating and exciting touring destinations. The country offers ancient history and archaeological discoveries, vibrant and colourful cities, stunning and diverse landscapes, peaceful gardens, giant pandas, and warm and friendly people.

Our leisurely 23-day tour covers all the country's major attractions with a perfect blend of included sightseeing tours and Freedom Days to spend as you please. What's more, you will discover less-visited cultural gems such as Pingyao, and experience an unforgettable three night cruise along the spectacular Yangtze River.

With quality accommodation, all breakfasts and many other delightful meals included, along with an opportunity to stopover in Hong Kong or Dubai on your way home, the Very Best of China tour really does offer exceptional value for money.



② = Number of nights

## What's included

### Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- ◆ Return economy class flights
- ◆ Choose to fly with Emirates via Dubai from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. Or fly with Cathay Pacific via Hong Kong from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester
- ◆ Alternatively, travel direct with British Airways from London Heathrow. Supplement from £195 per person
- ◆ All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- ◆ UK Air Passenger Duty

### Carefully selected hotels

- ◆ Superior hotels in great locations
- ◆ All hotel portage
- ◆ Applicable hotel taxes

### Many meals

- ◆ Daily breakfast, worth £343 per person
- ◆ Thirteen lunches
- ◆ Nine dinners

### Unforgettable experiences

- ◆ Sightseeing tours in Beijing, Pingyao, Xi'an, Chengdu, Shanghai and Suzhou
- ◆ The Great Wall
- ◆ Visit the Forbidden City and Summer Palace
- ◆ Stay in the UNESCO World Heritage site of Pingyao
- ◆ View the Terracotta Warriors
- ◆ Cruise on the Li River
- ◆ Visit the Giant Panda Breeding Research Institute
- ◆ Three night cruise on the Yangtze River

### On the ground

- ◆ Services of an experienced Tour Manager and local guides
- ◆ All overseas transfers
- ◆ Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

### 100% confidence

- ◆ Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise\*
- ◆ Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

\* For more information on our Price Promise, please see our booking conditions on pages 36-39.



# The Very Best of China

Days 1 to 4: UK - Beijing

## Day 1: Depart UK

Depart with Emirates from the UK airport most convenient for you. Choose from; London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. Alternatively, fly via Hong Kong with Cathay Pacific from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester. No matter which airport or airline you choose there will be no additional cost. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

### Alternative airline – British Airways

If you prefer, you can fly direct from London Heathrow to Beijing with British Airways. Prices from £195pp.

## Day 2: Beijing, 4 nights

All flights with Emirates to Beijing will travel via Dubai, and those travelling with Cathay Pacific will travel via Hong Kong. Arrive into the wonderful city of Beijing and transfer to the Jianguo Garden Hotel, conveniently located in central Beijing. Previously known as Peking, China's capital city is a historical treasure trove, boasting over 3,000 years of tumultuous history. However, it's not only this city's ancient monuments that attracts visitors. Its imposing socialist monuments of the 1950s along with the explosive growth of modern buildings and infrastructure,

make Beijing an unmissable showcase of China old and new. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with your Tour Manager and fellow travellers, to become acquainted and learn more about our adventure ahead. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

## Day 3: Beijing

Today, our sightseeing tour of Beijing begins in Tiananmen Square. Measuring around 440,000m<sup>2</sup>, and surrounded by soviet-style buildings, it was here that Chairman Mao declared the founding of the People's Republic of China. We continue to the nearby Forbidden City, the world's largest palace complex and home to China's best preserved collection of ancient and ornate buildings. We have plenty of time to explore the Forbidden City, prior to lunch in a nearby restaurant. In the afternoon, we explore the Temple of Heaven Park, which is the site where, during the Ming and Qing dynasties emperors prayed for a good harvest. **Breakfast and lunch included**

## Day 4: The Great Wall

### Tour Highlight

China's most iconic sight and greatest engineering triumph, the Great Wall wiggles its way through 4,000 miles of northern China's landscapes. This morning, we travel northeast from the city to the Mutianyu section of the Great Wall, famous for its Ming-era guard towers and the fantastic views of the surrounding mountains. We take a short cable car ride to the wall, and have ample time to stroll along, and take in the spectacular landscapes. Following our memorable visit, we take lunch nearby and return to our hotel in the afternoon to relax.

Food is an obsession in China and during the course of our journey, we will encounter an incredible array of different dishes and cuisines. This evening, we will enjoy a classic imperial dish from Beijing: Peking Duck, served with plum or garlic sauce, scallions and pancakes. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**





# The Very Best of China

Days 5 to 12: Beijing - Pingyao - Xi'an - Guilin - Yangshuo

## Day 5: Beijing

Following breakfast, we spend the morning exploring the halls, pavilions, palaces, temples, gardens, corridors and bridges of the Summer Palace. The Palace was the playground for the royal family as they escaped the suffocating heat of the summer. As we explore the palace, we marvel at this masterpiece of traditional Chinese landscaping, which has been designed according to the principles of feng shui. We return to the hotel, and our afternoon has been left free to spend as we please. This evening, why not experience a Kung Fu show, featuring dynamic displays of this country's most famous martial art?

**Breakfast included**

## Day 6: Pingyao, 2 nights

This morning we experience the benefits of China's huge investment in its infrastructure, as we board our 'bullet train' to Taiyuan. On arrival, we enjoy lunch in the Shanxi Hui Guan restaurant, which specialises in Jin cuisine and a multitude of noodle dishes. En route to Pingyao, we stop to visit the Chang family mansion, the former home of one of the richest merchants in the Shanxi Province. Covering a total area of more than 600,000m<sup>2</sup>, the compound has over 4,000 rooms, 50 buildings and 13 gardens. Its courtyards feature some of the country's most elaborate examples of Qing Dynasty decorative architectural features. Later in the afternoon, we make our way to Yunjincheng Hotel, a charming boutique hotel in the centre of Pingyao, whose courtyards and rooms have been lovingly decorated to reflect the history of its surroundings. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

## Day 7: Pingyao

### Tour Highlight

Not many UK visitors can lay claim to have visited Pingyao, which is surprising because this UNESCO World Heritage Site is China's best preserved ancient walled town and is a true highlight. The city was at its peak during the Ming dynasty (1368 – 1644) and, incredibly, Pingyao has managed to keep its imposing town walls and watchtowers, elegant courtyards and ancient temples largely intact. What's more, 30,000 locals still reside in the old town, which creates the vibrancy of this living and breathing community. This morning we explore the streets of Pingyao, including visits to its fine temples, government buildings and the Rishengchang Financial House Museum, which began life as a humble dye shop before transforming into China's first bank and pioneering the use of paper cheques as a form of payment.

With a visitor pass allowing free entry to many more of Pingyao's delights, your afternoon could be easily spent further exploring the town. Alternatively, you may wish to make the short journey to the Shuanglin Temple for an optional tour of this astonishing Buddhist temple, with its impressive complex of ancient halls and intricately carved statues.

**Breakfast included**

## Day 8: Xi'an, 2 nights

We say farewell to Pingyao and board our 'bullet train' to Xi'an. Xi'an is one of China's most famous cities with a long and fascinating history. A considerable amount of its ancient city has managed to survive alongside its modern developments. We make a stop to explore the magnificent city walls, which date back to the Ming dynasty around 1370, to enjoy incredible views of Xi'an old and new from our vantage point on top of the 12m-high wall. We reach the Holiday Inn Big Wild Goose Pagoda Hotel later in the afternoon, where we stay for the next two nights. One of the delicacies in Xi'an is its fantastic dumplings, which are similar to dim sum. This evening, enjoy sampling a selection of dumplings – each are handmade into a variety of shapes and with a selection of delicious fillings. **Breakfast, boxed lunch and dinner included**

## Day 9: The Terracotta Warriors

### Tour Highlight

Discovered in 1974 by a group of farmers drilling a well, the Terracotta Army is one of the most famous and spectacular archaeological discoveries in the world. Today we explore the pits containing the terracotta soldiers, which have stood guard since 246 BC when Emperor Qin Shi Huang commissioned the work for his mausoleum. Each life-sized warrior has been crafted with individual facial features and clothing, and are arranged in battle formations alongside their horses and chariots. We also visit the equally fascinating Qin Shi Huang Emperor Tomb Artefact Exhibition Hall, which contains many artefacts including a pair of bronze chariots and horses, which are displayed with some of the original weaponry. After lunch, we visit the Small Wild Goose Pagoda, before returning to our hotel. Later, why not enjoy an evening of traditional music and dance at the Tang Dynasty show? **Breakfast and lunch included**

## Day 10: Guilin, overnight

Following breakfast, we head to the airport in time for our flight to Guilin. Upon arrival our waiting coach will take us to the Sheraton Hotel, ideally situated in central Guilin and overlooking the Li River. In the evening, there is an opportunity to take an optional Lakes and Rivers cruise, or you may prefer to enjoy a traditional cormorant fishing display. **Breakfast included**

## Day 11: Li River & Yangshuo, 2 nights

### Tour Highlight

The countryside through which the Li River flows is a photographer's dream. During our four hour cruise, we glide serenely between verdant hills, enjoying iconic scenes of wallowing water buffalo and farmers tending their crops against a backdrop of limestone peaks. Our cruise finishes in Yangshuo, where we meet our waiting coach and leave the hustle and bustle of the town behind as we head to Yangshuo Resort. Our home for the next two nights enjoys an idyllic and peaceful location on the banks of the Yulong River, and is a perfect place to relax and unwind. **Breakfast and lunch included**

## Day 12: Yangshuo Freedom Day

Although our day has been left at leisure to soak up the wonderful surroundings, we have the opportunity to enjoy a selection of fantastic optional activities. Why not take a gentle bike ride along the banks of the Yulong River? Alternatively you may prefer to float downstream on a bamboo raft or join a small cookery class, where you will visit a local market to choose ingredients, before creating a selection of local dishes. In the evening, there's also a chance to experience the enchanting Impression Liu Sanjie show, where six hundred performers take to the Li River to deliver a spectacular light show with illuminated karst peaks as a backdrop. Whatever you choose to do – enjoy! **Breakfast included**



## The Very Best of China

Days 13 to 16: Chengdu - Yangtze River Cruise

### Day 13: Chengdu, 2 nights

After breakfast, we make our way to the airport for our flight to Chengdu, in the Sichuan Province, renowned for its teahouse culture and its most famous inhabitants – the Giant Pandas. Enjoy lunch at the charming Tibet Hotel, where we spend our next two nights. Later, we take a gentle stroll through The People's Park, which is often filled with dancing, song and tai chi. The park is also home to some of the city's favourite local teahouses, where we stop to sample the local brews and perhaps mix with the locals over a game of Mahjong. **Breakfast and lunch included**

### Day 14: Chengdu & pandas

#### Tour Highlight

With over 80% of the world's Giant Panda population found in Sichuan Province, it's little surprise to find the area taking the lead in conservation projects to save these endangered species. The panda is the national symbol of China, and today we visit the Giant Panda Breeding Research Institute, which is home to around 120 giant and 76 red pandas. The project allows us to see these loveable and rare creatures, at close quarters in a near-natural habitat setting. Later in the afternoon, we explore the bustling stalls and shops of the Wide and Narrow Alleys, two ancient streets restored in Ming and Qing architectural styles. We enjoy dinner in one of the local restaurants, serving traditional dishes, cooked with distinctive Sichuan flavours. Later, we recommend venturing to the Sichuan Opera for a one of a kind cultural performance, including acrobats, dancers, puppets and the amazing 'face-changing' mask spectacle. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

### Day 15: Yangtze River Cruise

#### Tour Highlight

Our morning is free to spend as we please. In the afternoon, our 'bullet train' whisks us from Chengdu to Chongqing, where we board either the MV Century Legend or MV Century Paragon, for a fabulous three night cruise along the Yangtze River. Our accommodation is in well-proportioned Deluxe Balcony Cabins, with private en-suite facilities and balcony. Whilst on board, all our meals are included. Following dinner and our safety briefing, enjoy a drink at the Captain's welcome party, as the cruise sets sail. **Breakfast and dinner included**

### Day 16: Yangtze River Cruise

Following breakfast, there is an optional tour of the 'ghost city' of Fengdu. Alternatively, you may prefer to relax on board or enjoy a presentation on traditional Chinese medicine. This afternoon, we cruise along scenic waters prior to our arrival into Shibaozhai, where we can climb up to a nine-storey red pavilion and hilltop temple, affording spectacular views over the Yangtze. We return to the ship and freshen up for dinner with our fellow travellers. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**





# The Very Best of China

Days 17 to 21: Yangtze River Cruise - Shanghai - Suzhou

## Day 17: Yangtze River Cruise

The Three Gorges comprise arguably the most spectacular landscapes of the magnificent Yangtze River. In the morning, we sail through the first of these gorges - Qutang Gorge. We disembark and board a smaller vessel for an excursion along the Goddess Stream. The smaller ship allows us to get much closer to the soaring mountains, which rise up from the Yangtze tributary. Returning to the ship, we journey through the awe-inspiring Witches Gorge, before arriving at Maoping. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

## Day 18: Shanghai, 4 nights

We disembark the ship after breakfast and board our coach for a morning excursion to the remarkable Three Gorges Dam - the largest hydroelectric dam in the world. During our visit we will truly appreciate the immense scale of this hydroelectric project which cost an estimated \$37 billion to complete. We continue to Yichang, and enjoy a stroll through the riverside gardens and visit the city's museum, prior to our flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival, we transfer to the JinJiang Tower Hotel, where we spend our final four nights in China. **Breakfast and lunch included**

## Day 19: Shanghai

Shanghai is China's most glamorous and prosperous city, where Chinese and Western cultures run side by side. This morning our sightseeing tour begins with a walk along the Bund, on the banks of the Huangpu River. The Bund perfectly encapsulates the diversity of Shanghai, with the grandiose Art Deco architecture of the city's former banks and trading houses on one side of the river, and the futuristic skyline of Pudong on the other. We continue to the charming Old Town, which is the original centre of the city and retains many of its original temples, alleyways and buildings. Our morning ends in Yuyuan Gardens. Taking 18 years to build during the Ming dynasty, the gardens survived wars and rebellions, and today are a fine example of classically styled Chinese Gardens. This afternoon we explore the impressive collection of Chinese artefacts housed in Shanghai Museum. In the evening, witness a spectacular performance of skill and grace as we experience the world-class Shanghai Acrobatic Show.

**Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

## Day 20: Suzhou

### Tour Highlight

We embark on a full day tour to Suzhou, a city famed for its culture and elegance, and home to many artists and scholars, drawn to the city by its UNESCO-listed classical gardens. Our first stop is to explore one of China's most famous gardens - the Humble Administrator's Garden, with its bamboo islands, many ponds, humpback bridges and beautiful pavilions. Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the Grand Canal before lunch. In the afternoon, visit the Master of the Nets Garden, which is relatively small, but gives the impression of being much larger thanks to its ingenious use of space. Suzhou embroidery is considered to be one of the four major regional styles of Chinese embroidery, and our final stop of the day is a visit to a silk factory to see how incredible images are brought to life with fine, highly detailed stitching.

**Breakfast and lunch included**

## Day 21: Shanghai Freedom Day

A Freedom Day in Shanghai to spend as you please. Take an optional cruise on the Huangpu River, visit a local community project and enjoy lunch with a local family, or possibly explore the French Concession area on a walking tour. Whatever you wish to do, our Tour Manager will be very happy to help. This evening, we bid farewell to China and our new-found friends in style, with a dinner of authentic Shanghainese cuisine, served in the elegant Xian Qiang Fang Restaurant. **Breakfast and dinner included**



## The Very Best of China

Days 22 to 23: Shanghai - UK

### Day 22: Depart Shanghai

The day is ours until it's time to depart for the airport in the late afternoon / early evening. Our flights to our chosen UK airport operate via either Dubai or Hong Kong, if flying with Emirates or Cathay Pacific. If choosing British Airways, your flight will be direct into London Heathrow. **Breakfast, and in-flight meals and drinks included**

### Day 23: Arrive UK

Today we arrive into our chosen airport; London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow, bringing to an end our incredible adventure. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

## Extend your holiday in Hong Kong or Dubai from £395 per person

If you would like to explore somewhere new on your way home from China, a stopover in Dubai is possible for guests travelling with Emirates, or Hong Kong if travelling with Cathay Pacific.



### Regal Kowloon, Hong Kong

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The Regal Kowloon Hotel is conveniently located in Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong's renowned shopping and entertainment district. The property offers three restaurants, serving a range of Chinese, American, Italian and international dishes.

**Three nights £395 per person**  
**Single occupancy £595**

**Your stopover includes return airport transfers, three nights at your chosen hotel and daily breakfast.**

Please note, a tourism tax of 21AED (approx £4.50) per room per night is payable locally in Dubai.



### Mariott Hotel Al Jaddaf, Dubai

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Located within easy reach of Dubai Mall, the Marriott Al Jaddaf, is the perfect alternative to a beachside hotel. With an outdoor swimming pool, deluxe spa and a choice of seven restaurants it's a great location from which to explore downtown Dubai.

**Three nights £395 per person**  
**Single occupancy £595**

## Departure Dates & Prices

### 2019 Departures

10 September 2019	<b>£3,695</b> per person
22 October 2019	<b>£3,695</b> per person

### 2020 Departures

17 March 2020	<b>£3,495</b> per person
14 April 2020	<b>£3,695</b> per person
19 May 2020	<b>£3,695</b> per person

### Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

### Supplements

Single occupancy supplement £1,195.

### Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling Premium Economy with Cathay Pacific or World Traveller Plus with British Airways, and £3,750 per person for Business Class or Club World.

### Stopovers

Extend your holiday with a stopover in Dubai or Hong Kong from £395 per person.

### Flight upgrades

Emirates upgrade to Business Class from £3,095 per person.

Cathay Pacific upgrade to Premium Economy from £995 per person, or Business Class from £3,095 per person.

British Airways upgrade to World Traveller Plus from £1,195 per person, or Club World from £3,395 per person.

### Important information

Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest available booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book.

British Citizens travelling to China are required to have a minimum six months on their passport and require a visa, which must be obtained before travelling. For more details on how to obtain your visa, along with other useful information on your holiday, please refer to our 'Helpful Information' guide on pages 34-35.

Full booking conditions are available on pages 36-39.

**To book, call us on 01695 577 961**

**Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm**

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry. **Email:** enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk



# Hotel Directory



## Beijing Jianguo Garden Hotel

Just a 10 minute walk away from Wangfujing Shopping Street, and only 20 minutes from the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square, the Jianguo Garden Hotel is ideally located. Modern rooms are spacious and equipped with all you need. The hotel boasts a swimming pool, fitness centre and four fabulous restaurants offering a variety of cuisines and three bars.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## Xi'an Holiday Inn Big Wild Goose Pagoda

Conveniently located, the Holiday Inn Big Wild Goose Pagoda has all the facilities and conveniences required, including a fitness centre and swimming pool. Green Café Restaurant provides an international buffet whilst the Two Seas Restaurant specialises in delicious Japanese and Korean cuisine. Enjoy afternoon tea in the lobby or an evening cocktail at the bar.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## Pingyao Pingyao Yunjincheng Hotel

With traditional Chinese architecture and surrounded by lovely courtyards, be transported back to the Tang period with a stay at the Yunjincheng Hotel. Located in the heart of this ancient town, this boutique property is full of character and charm. The hotel's restaurant serves local Chinese cuisine, whilst the coffee shop and bar are an ideal spot to relax with a drink and meet fellow travellers.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## Guilin Sheraton Hotel

Situated on the banks of Li River, this enchanting hotel offers fabulous views of its gardens and the river. The hotel benefits from a central location with Elephant Trunk Hill and Zhengyang Pedestrian Street on its doorstep. Within the hotel, the swimming pool and sauna is the perfect place to relax. A choice of restaurants specialises in Chinese, Western and Italian cuisines.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



# Hotel Directory



## Yangshuo Yangshuo Resort Hotel

Situated by the Yulong River with beautiful views of the nearby mountains. The hotel provides complimentary bicycles, an outdoor pool, garden and sun terrace. Riverside Restaurant serves western food, while Yulong Chinese Restaurant offers local and Cantonese food. Enjoy tea at the Ancient Ferry Restaurant or a drink in the Dragonfly Bar.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## MV Century Paragon or Legend

What better way to experience the beauty of the longest river in Asia and the third longest river in the world, than a floating hotel on The Yangtze River. Modern and comfortable, the deluxe balcony cabins enjoy panoramic sliding doors. Both ships also offer restaurant and bar, pool and spa. Cabin upgrades are also available. Please see our website, or call for more details.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## Chengdu Tibet Hotel

Close to the Old Town, the Tibet Hotel resembles Lhasa's Palace, with ceilings decorated with gold frames, inlaid with lotus and turquoise. Throughout the hotel the Tibetan theme is abundantly apparent, from the pictures adorning the walls to the delicious cuisine on offer. You can take advantage of the hotel's special holy spa, offering massage treatments, or dine in one of five restaurants.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



## Shanghai Jinjiang Tower Hotel

Ideally situated on Huaihai Road, the Jinjiang Tower boasts spectacular views of the city. Guest rooms are spacious and offer fine bedding and furnishings. The hotel offers four different dining options serving a wide variety of cuisines. Savour authentic cuisine such as Sichuan and Shanghai flavours, classic Cantonese food, and a Japanese barbecue.

Local rating: ★★★★★  
Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



# Our Airline Partners

Fly with award-winning scheduled airlines



## Cathay Pacific Economy Class

Make your journey through the skies a pleasurable one with redesigned seats, made to make your journey better than ever. Take advantage of the generous legroom to really stretch out during your journey, enjoy delicious seasonal food, and a state of the art in flight entertainment system.



### Upgrade to Premium Economy from £995 return

Designed to give more comfort, space and personal attention throughout the entire journey with dedicated check-in counters and priority boarding. Settle in to your spacious seat, be greeted with a welcome drink and dine on premium meals served with a selection of wines and beverages.

- ◆ Priority check in and boarding
- ◆ Pre-flight drink†
- ◆ Dedicated cabin
- ◆ Snacks and soft drinks throughout the flight
- ◆ Amenity kit‡

### Upgrade to Business Class from £3,095 return

Enjoy a more comfortable travel experience, with priority check-in and boarding, premium lounge access, and an exclusive cabin featuring fine dining and award-winning seats, which convert into a fully flat bed. Cathay Pacific's Business Class goes that extra mile to make customers feel special.

- ◆ Priority check-in and priority boarding
- ◆ Seat that converts into a fully flat bed
- ◆ Lounge access
- ◆ Award-winning selection of wines and beverages
- ◆ Fluffy pillows and a soft-fabric duvet
- ◆ Luxury amenity kit

Flights are with Emirates or Cathay Pacific in Economy Class from a choice of UK regional airports, at no extra cost. Alternatively, you may choose to fly direct to Beijing from London Heathrow with British Airways, for an additional cost from £195 per person.

Why not make your holiday even more memorable with a flight upgrade? With priority check-in, lounge access and spacious comfortable seats, it takes your flying experience to a new level of comfort and service. Let your holiday start here.

## Emirates Economy Class

Sit back and relax in Emirates' spacious Economy Class, which has a typical seat pitch of 32\*\*\*. Enjoy your own personal in-seat widescreen TV with the widest selection of world movies and music. Enjoy regionally inspired multi course meals served with a selection of complimentary beverages.



### Upgrade to Business Class from £3,095 return

Your holiday starts the moment you step outside your front door with a complimentary chauffeur drive to the airport°. Taste your way around the world with fine dining complimented with exclusive wines and spirits. Stretch out and relax in lie-flat Business Class seats and enjoy the onboard lounge (A380 only).

- ◆ Complimentary chauffeur drive°
- ◆ Fully flat bed seat with a seat pitch of up to 79\*\*\*
- ◆ Large in-seat entertainment screen
- ◆ Fine dining meals served on Royal Doulton China
- ◆ Complimentary Champagne, wines and spirits
- ◆ On board lounge, serving snacks and drinks (A380 only)
- ◆ Priority check-in and priority boarding
- ◆ Lounge access

## World Traveller^ from £195 return

World Traveller, British Airways' economy class service is packed with comfort and benefits. Your seat is ergonomically designed and a whole world of entertainment awaits you with an on-demand service. Naturally, your experience includes complimentary drinks and a delicious assortment of meals designed by world renowned chefs.



### Upgrade to World Traveller Plus^ from £1,195 return

World Traveller Plus is British Airways' long-haul premium economy service, a more comfortable, relaxing experience on longer routes. You'll enjoy a premium dining experience, with the main meal selected from the Club World menu, wider seats with more legroom and a personal amenity kit.

- ◆ Wider seat with greater recline, lumbar support, head rest and foot rest
- ◆ Small, intimate cabins with expert, attentive service
- ◆ Personal entertainment system with noise-reducing headphones
- ◆ Board ahead of economy passengers with priority boarding
- ◆ Amenity kit

### Upgrade to Club World^ from £3,395 return

Club World offers superior levels of comfort and service. Enjoy your own space with a seat, which converts into a fully flat bed. Inspired by some of the world's top chefs, the Club World restaurant style dining combines irresistible local and international flavours to create a mouth-watering experience every time.

- ◆ Access to private lounges
- ◆ Dedicated check-in desks and priority boarding
- ◆ A comfortable chair that converts into a 183cm (6ft)\* fully flat bed
- ◆ An array of indulgent treats and healthy options from the Club Kitchen that you can help yourself to, throughout the flight
- ◆ Luxury bedding and amenity kit by The White Company

**Important information** All prices shown are for return flights, and are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest available booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. \* Dependent on aircraft type. \*\* Seat pitch is dependent on the aircraft type. ° Emirates complimentary chauffeur service is available on selected routes. Restrictions may apply ^ World Traveller, World Traveller Plus and Club World are for long haul services. Different cabins and benefits apply to UK regional connections. † Only available on long haul flights.



# Helpful Information

A quick information guide from Distant Journeys

**Time zone:** Beijing GMT +8hrs  
**Currency:** Renminbi (commonly known as Chinese Yuan)

## Weather

Weather patterns around the world are becoming less predictable. Our tour of China covers different provinces so the weather can be changeable, however as a general guide, during Spring and Autumn the weather tends to be warm and dry and a little cooler in the evenings. We recommend checking up-to-date weather forecasts before you travel.

## Clothing

Dress for our tours is generally relaxed and informal during the day, dressing to suit the weather conditions and the activity you are undertaking. It's likely there will be occasions when exploring you'll be walking on uneven surfaces, so we recommend sturdy and comfortable walking shoes. Wearing layers of clothing means it's much easier to deal with potentially varied weather conditions and it's always advisable to carry a waterproof. Any included evening dinners are also informal, with smart casual dress being the norm. We would also recommend taking good insect repellent, a high factor sun-screen lotion and a hat for protection from the sun. It is always worth being aware of local customs when visiting sacred places. As a general rule when visiting such places, it is recommended that arms and legs are covered. Women may also wish to take a shawl to cover their shoulders and all visitors should wear long trousers, skirts or shorts that reach below the knee.

## Money

Major credit cards are widely accepted in all hotels and on your cruise. ATMs are widely available in major cities, but less so in more rural areas. We do recommend that for any purchases outside of the hotel, including restaurants, especially outside of the major cities you use cash, as some establishments will not accept credit cards. Local currency is always recommended for small purchases. When you change money, ask for some small bills and keep these, along with coins separate from the larger ones, so that they're readily accessible. If changing currency locally your tour manager will be on hand to help you find the best places to exchange your money. Keep your exchange receipts as these will be needed if you want to exchange any remaining currency you have at the end of your trip. We also recommend advising your bank of your travel plans in advance so you do not encounter potential problems when trying to withdraw cash.

## Tipping

Tipping in China is generally uncommon. International hotels operate on more westernised principles, and small sums of five yuan for bell-boys, waiters in restaurants and cleaning staff is acceptable, but not expected. When eating in restaurants, a service charge of 10-15 percent will already be included in your bill. Tipping for taxi drivers is not expected however, rounding up the final fare is common.

If you have received great service from your Tour Manager, guides or driver you may wish to tip them for their service. We are frequently asked for guidance on this and would suggest a minimum of £2-£3 per person, per guide and per driver per touring day, dependent on your level of satisfaction.

## Travel insurance

It is a condition of travel that you take out sufficient and appropriate travel insurance. We recommend you do this at the time of booking so that in the event of cancellation, providing it is covered by your policy, your deposit (less any applicable excess) is protected.

## Airline seats

With many airlines you can pre-book your seats prior to check in to guarantee your seating and give you a wider choice of seat selection. Please note, many airlines now charge for this service.

## Freedom Days

During your tour, you can book onto a range of additional excursions. These tours are at an additional cost, subject to availability and seasonal operations, and may be subject to minimum/maximum numbers. Where possible we allow for these to be booked locally with your Tour Manager, however, in some instances pre-booking will be required. You will be advised in advance of your departure from the UK if any excursions require pre-booking. All Freedom Day experiences may be found on our website alongside the itineraries of each individual tour.

## Entry requirements

The following information on entry requirements, passports and Visa's is for British citizens only. Holders of a British Subject passport, non-British citizens and holders of a passport endorsed in any way should check immigration requirements with the relevant embassy or consulate of the country to be visited, as should clients with dual nationality or renounced citizenship.

## Passports

A valid ten-year British passport is required for all holidays, valid for a minimum of 6 months after your return date to the UK. When travelling to China you must also allow two blank pages for your visa. If you are not currently in possession of a valid passport please make sure you leave plenty of time before your holiday to apply for this document. Our recommendation is that you should apply at least three months before your holiday. A standard, 30-day single-entry visa can be issued in four to five working days.

## Visas

To enter China you will be required to obtain a visa before you travel. You are required to obtain an L visa type and you apply for your visa via the China Visa Application Centre (<http://www.visaforchina.org/>). We recommend applying for your visa at least one month before your intended travel date. The cost of a single entry visa is £85.00 however, please note the China Visa Application Centre levies an extra administration fee of £66.00 for standard service, £78.00 for a 3 day express service and £90.00 for a postal service. Standard service and express service require you to submit and collect your visa in person, by appointment only. As part of the application process you need to show proof of an air-ticket booking and provide accommodation details. We will provide this information for you once your booking is confirmed. Please be aware our normal cancellation fees will apply if you are refused a Chinese Visa. More information can also be found on the Chinese Embassy website <http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/visa/>. Alternatively, you may prefer to use a visa agency to obtain your visa. We recommend VisaHQ. [www.visahq.co.uk/?a\\_aid=vaff10048](http://www.visahq.co.uk/?a_aid=vaff10048). For more information on passport information and entry requirements please visit the Government Passport Office website [www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/passports](http://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/passports) and the Foreign Office website [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) It is important to note entry requirements may change and it is your responsibility to ensure you are in possession of all necessary travel, passport, visa, other

entry requirements before departure. All costs incurred in obtaining such documentation must be paid by you. We regret we cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to obtain and carry all required documentation.

## Travel documents

Your full travel documents which include electronic tickets, a final itinerary, luggage labels and holiday information booklet will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to your departure.

## Health & vaccinations

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide. You should take health advice from your GP or local travel clinic about your specific needs as early as possible and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough (which may be a month or more prior to departure) to be fully effective by the date of travel. For more information on health and vaccinations please visit the Foreign Office website [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) and NHS Before you Travel website on <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/before-you-travel/>. Advice may change and you should check the most up to date position with your GP or local health / travel clinic in good time before departure.

## Medication and pre-existing conditions

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions or walking difficulties, you should inform us at the time of booking. It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you are carrying is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking or travelling. Always carry medicines in their original, labelled packaging and in your hand-luggage along with a copy of your prescription. Whilst we recommend only carrying enough for the duration of your time away, a small spare supply can be useful. Check that the expiry dates of your medicines will be valid for the duration of your visit abroad.

## Baggage allowance

You're entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44lbs). In some instances, this may be less than the airlines' permitted allowance. Luggage is restricted to accommodate for coach capacity, domestic flights and where applicable local health and safety laws. Personal and valuable items such as cameras, medication, money / credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel

bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried.

## Domestic flights

All domestic flights within our tours are booked on a group basis. Your tour manager will fully assist with the check in process for these flights.

## Smoking

Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is not allowed at any time onboard our coaches or any flight. Within hotels, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes may be restricted to designated areas. We'll endeavour to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip, however we can't guarantee smoking facilities will always be available. It is also worth noting some countries are beginning to ban the use of electronic cigarettes. We recommend you check for up-to-date information before you travel.

## Seat rotation on coaches

We offer a fair system of seat rotation to allow all passengers to experience a variety of views. Exceptions cannot be made to this policy.

## ATOL protection

Our ATOL number is 10913. All the flight inclusive holidays in this brochure or on our website are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you book, you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. For more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to [www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate)

## Further information

The information provided here is as a general guide only. For more detailed information please refer to our FAQ section on our website. We also recommend this Helpful Information guide is read alongside our full Booking Conditions before booking.

# Booking conditions

**IMPORTANT:** The following terms and conditions together with the general information contained in our tour brochure form the basis of your contract with Distant Journeys Limited. Please read them carefully as they set out our respective rights and obligations. By asking us to confirm your booking, we are entitled to believe that you have had the opportunity to read and have read these booking conditions and agree to them. Except where otherwise stated, these booking conditions only apply to the tour arrangements shown in this brochure (including accommodation required both before and after your main holiday and activities and other services) which you book with us and pay for before departure from the UK and which we agree to make, provide or perform (as applicable) as part of our contract with you.

All references in these booking conditions to “holiday”, “booking”, “tour” or “arrangements” mean such tour arrangements unless otherwise stated. Please be aware that your deposit is non-refundable.

## In these booking conditions:

“Force Majeure” means any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events are likely to include, but are not limited to (whether actual or threatened) war, terrorism, fire, flood or any other unusual weather conditions, loss of power, epidemics or pandemics, industrial disputes, slow-downs or other strike activities, riots or civil disturbances, acts of government, government agencies or other authorities, inability to obtain any necessary licence or consent through no fault of ours and any other event or circumstances beyond the control of us or any supplier of any part of your tour. “You”, “your” and “yourself” means each person who makes a booking with us for a tour and/or who is named on the booking (including anyone who is added or substituted at a later stage) and, where appropriate, all such persons. “We”, “us” and “our” means Distant Journeys Limited trading as Distant Journeys.

## Bookings

- All bookings are made pursuant to these terms and conditions.
- It is a condition of booking that you are fit and able to take care of yourself for the duration of the tour. We welcome passengers with disabilities or special needs provided they are accompanied by a companion capable of providing all assistance required. If you have any medical condition or disability which may affect your tour or any special requirements as a result of any medical condition or disability (including any which affect the booking process), please tell us before you confirm your booking so that we can assist you in considering the suitability of the arrangements and/or making the booking. We reserve the right to refuse to carry any person who we deem cannot fully care for themselves on tour without assistance or whenever we reasonably feel unable to accommodate the needs or restrictions of any particular passenger. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to a passenger for walking, dining, pushing their wheelchair, getting on and off motor coaches or other transportation vehicles or other personal needs. Passengers who need such assistance must be accompanied by a companion who is capable of providing all assistance required. You must also notify us of any changes or deterioration in the disability or medical condition or development of any disability or medical condition after booking. We further reserve the right to cancel your booking and impose cancellation charges if we are not fully advised of any relevant disability or medical condition at the time the booking is made and/or promptly notified of any development, change or deterioration occurring after booking. On occasions, the decision to cancel can only be made at the time the person concerned joins the tour as it may only be apparent at this stage that their disability or medical condition cannot be accommodated. Any passenger affected by a disability or medical condition must ensure they have notified this to their travel insurers and that their travel insurance will cover it. We may refuse

to allow you on the tour or may have to terminate your participation in your tour if your mental or physical condition is such as to render you, in the reasonable opinion of any representative of ours or any carrier or other person in authority, incapable of caring for yourself or a hazard to yourself or other passengers. We will not be liable for any expenses arising from your being precluded from joining or completing the tour for any such reason and no refunds or compensation will be paid. Passengers with disabilities or walking difficulties may find access to certain attractions restricted, due to the number of stairs, distance or uneven ground.

- Due to the accessibility of many of the sights and the boarding facilities available on the Yangtze cruise the tours on offer within this brochure are not suitable for wheelchair bound customers, or customers with limited or restricted walking abilities.
- The operation of all tours is conditional on us securing the minimum number of bookings required to operate the tour and to ensure an enjoyable group atmosphere. Where sufficient numbers cannot be achieved, we reserve the right to cancel or change a scheduled tour. Please also see clauses 21 and 22 We will endeavour to make any decision to cancel or significantly change a tour no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date of the tour but in any event will notify you no less than 30 days prior to the departure date of the tour.
- If you are a single passenger, the applicable single supplement will be added to your invoice at the time of your booking.
- We will aim to accommodate single passengers in twin or double rooms, with single occupancy.
- If you have any special requests (including dietary requirements) you must notify us at the time of booking. Please note special requests cannot be guaranteed. Failure to meet any special request will not be a breach of contract by us. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier of any service(s) or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed by us in writing, all special requests are subject to availability. We cannot accept any conditional bookings, i.e. any booking which is specified to be conditional on the fulfilment of a particular request. All such bookings will be treated as “standard” bookings subject to the above provisions on special requests.

## Payment

- To secure any booking, you must pay the applicable deposit or full payment if booking 90 days or less before the start of the tour. The deposit is £1,000 per person if travelling in economy flight class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy class or £3,750 per person if travelling in business flight class. Where fares are higher than our standard rates, an additional deposit may be required. The deposit or full payment, as applicable, must be received by us within 7 days of booking to ensure your place on the tour is held. Bookings will be automatically cancelled if the applicable deposit or full payment, as applicable, is not received by us within this 7 day period and we will have no further liability to you.
- Deposits are non-transferable and non-refundable except as expressly set out in these terms and conditions. We therefore recommend that you have adequate insurance to cover this.
- The balance of the tour price (after deduction of the applicable deposit) must be received by us no less than 90 days prior to the start of your tour. If we do not receive all payments due (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, we are entitled to believe that you wish to cancel your booking. In this case, we will be entitled to keep all deposits paid or due at that date. If we do not cancel straight away because you have promised to make payment, you must pay the cancellation charges shown in clause 25 depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled.

## Your contract

- Subject to availability we will confirm your booking by issuing our confirmation invoice. This invoice will be sent to the lead name on the booking (“Lead Name”). Please check this invoice carefully as soon as you receive it. Contact us immediately if any information on the confirmation or any other document appears to be incorrect or incomplete as it may not be possible to make changes later. We cannot accept any liability if not notified of any inaccuracy in any document within 14 days of our sending it out (5 days for tickets). We will do our best to rectify any mistake notified to us outside these time limits but you must meet any costs involved in doing so.
- A binding contract between you and us comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice for all bookings. We both agree that English law (and no other) will apply to your contract and to any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between us (“claim”) (except as set out below). We both also agree that any claim (and whether or not involving any personal injury) must be dealt with by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any claim governed by the law of Scotland/Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

## What are your tour obligations?

- (a) You must follow the Tour Manger’s or where applicable, Coach Captain’s instructions at all times to ensure on tour safety. You acknowledge that failure to do so may result in restricted access to places of interest on tour, or if necessary for your own safety and/or that of other passengers, withdrawal from the tour. (b) If we, or our staff or suppliers are of the view you are negatively affecting your own health, safety or environment or that of other passengers, we can oblige you to withdraw from the tour immediately. We will not be liable to you for any loss, cost or damage resulting from your withdrawal. If you are withdrawn from the tour, you must make your own return travel arrangements at your own expense. (c) You must make your own enquiries regarding your tour, including being aware of any relevant government travel or safety warnings.

## Tour price

- Prices shown in our brochures and on the website are believed correct at the time of publication. We reserve the right to alter our advertised (brochure or website) tour prices, introduce supplements or correct pricing errors at any time before your booking is confirmed. We also reserve the right to correct any errors in any tour price and not be legally bound in the case of incorrect pricing and acknowledgement of such an error does not mean acceptance of it. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the revised applicable price at the time of booking. Once the tour price has been confirmed at the time of booking, clause 15 below will apply.

## Price Promise

- Our Price Promise is designed to provide peace of mind; Early booking offers: Whilst we may offer promotional discounts and/or additional inclusions on some tours, these offers reduce in value closer to the departure date meaning the earlier you book the better offer you will receive. Last minute discounts: It is our policy never to sell any holiday cheaper than originally advertised. In the unlikely event we reduce the price of your holiday to below what you have already paid (after any discounts have been applied), we will contact you to refund the difference. No surcharges: We guarantee that no surcharge will be added to the basic price of your holiday once your booking has been confirmed, irrespective of any fluctuation in currency exchange rates, increases in international included economy air fares, or increases in other

costs associated with your holiday. In return for this guarantee and its risk to us, we shall not be able to make any refunds in the event of favourable exchange rate variations or other decreases in costs which would otherwise result in the reduction of the selling price. Price match: Price match applies to an identical holiday operated by another tour operator (excluding travel agents and arrangements made independently) at the same or a lower price within 7 days of booking with us. By ‘identical holiday’, we mean one which: Departs on the same day from the same airport, with the same flight number and carrier. Visits the same destination(s) for the same duration and offers the same number of included excursions/meals. One which features the same accommodation and board basis; and utilises the same services of a Tour Manager/Coach Captain. If this happens we will refund the difference between the cost of the holiday you have booked with us and the price of the identical holiday offered by the competitor. Plus, we will give you £200 per person towards a future booking. Our Price Promise applies once a booking is confirmed and a contract exists between us. It applies to tour prices only and does not include ad hoc or optional services such as airline upgrades, holiday additions, extended stays or regional connecting flights. Additionally, this price promise does not apply to optional services including, but not limited to; visa charges, excursions and amendment fees. The price promise excludes increases in airport or other taxes imposed by British or overseas governments, increases in Air Passenger Duty, or any increases by British or overseas governments relating to improved passenger security. For bookings made within the balance due date and prior to confirming your holiday we reserve the right to notify you of any price increases to your holiday as a result of any additional costs we may incur.

## Tour features

- The features of the tour are set out in the tour brochure.
- We make no representations about the features of any tour other than those expressly set out in the tour brochure and these terms and conditions.

## Brochure validity

- The tour brochure and these terms and conditions are valid for the departure dates as stated in the tour brochure, or additional departure dates we may introduce, unless otherwise expressly advised by us.

## Variation or cancellation by us

- Subject to clauses 20, 21 and 22, we reserve the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers, vehicles, vessels or any other service(s) which form part of any tour at any time for any reason and cancel or alter the itinerary and/or tour at any time without notice as we consider necessary for any reason whatsoever including road, weather or traffic conditions, non-performance of suppliers, industrial action, operational conditions and requirements, water level problems, excessive winds or Force Majeure. Errors in the details of advertised and/or confirmed tours and/or other details occasionally occur and we reserve the right to correct these whenever they occur.
- In the event of industrial action affecting air, rail, cruise or other tour related transportation we will make every effort to contact the lead name and advise of alternative arrangements (if any).
- Most changes made to a confirmed tour are minor. Occasionally, we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour and we must reserve the right to do so. A significant change is a change made before departure which, taking account of the information you give us at the time of booking or which we can reasonably be expected to know as a tour operator, we can reasonably expect to have a significant effect on your tour. If we have to make a significant change or cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure, you will be offered the following

options: (a) (for significant changes) accepting the changed arrangements or (b) purchasing alternative arrangements from us, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more expensive than those originally booked or (c) cancelling or accepting the cancellation and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to us. Please note, the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one.

- If we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour, we will in addition to the options set out in clause 21, pay you reasonable compensation if and as appropriate subject to the following exceptions. Compensation will not be payable and no liability beyond offering the options set out in clause 21 can be accepted where (1) we are forced to make a change or cancel as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with all due care or (2) we have to cancel because the minimum number of bookings necessary for us to operate your tour has not been reached – see clause 3. No compensation will be payable and the options set out in clause 21, will not be available if we have to cancel as a result of your failure to comply with any requirement of these terms and conditions entitling us to cancel (such as paying on time). A change of flight time of less than 12 hours, airline (except as specified in clauses 50-53 “Flights”), type of aircraft (if advised) or destination airport will all be treated as minor changes.
- Very rarely, we may be forced by Force Majeure to change or terminate your tour after departure but before the scheduled end of your time away. This is extremely unlikely but if this situation does occur, we will be unable to make any refunds (unless we obtain any refunds from our suppliers which we do not use to pay for alternative services), pay you any compensation or meet any costs or expenses you incur as a result.

## Amendment or cancellation by you

- If you wish to make any amendments to your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing as soon as possible. It may not always be possible to make such amendments. Where we can, an amendment fee of £75 per person will be payable together with any costs incurred by ourselves and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers. A change of tour dates will normally be treated as a cancellation of the original booking and rebooking in which case cancellation charges will apply. Changes may result in the recalculation of the tour price where, for example, the basis on which the price of the original tour was calculated has changed.
- You may cancel your booking by notice to us in writing and payment of the applicable cancellation fee as shown below. Cancellation notifications are not effective until received by us in writing (if received by us on a weekend day or public holiday the notification will be treated as having been received by us on the next working day). The following cancellation fees apply to each individual person who cancels and where shown as a percentage are based on the total cost of the arrangements which are being cancelled excluding any insurance premiums, amendment fee or previously incurred cancellation charges which are all non-refundable in the event of your cancellation:

## CANCELLATION FEES

Period before your tour commences within which written notification of cancellation is received by us:

Tour cancellation period	Fee per person
91 days and over	Loss of Deposit
90 days to 75 days	50% of holiday price
74 days to 60 days	60% of holiday price
59 days to 30 days	75% of holiday price
29 days or less	100% of holiday price

**NB** Transferring to another departure date is treated as a cancellation and the cancellation fees above will apply. Depending on the reason for cancellation, you may be able to reclaim these cancellation charges (less any applicable excess) under the terms of your insurance policy. Claims must be made directly to the insurance company concerned.

## Our liability

- We will ensure that the tour arrangements we have agreed to make, perform or provide as applicable as part of our contract with you are made, performed or provided with reasonable skill and care. This means that, subject to these terms and conditions, we will accept responsibility if, for example, you suffer death or personal injury or your contracted tour arrangements are not provided as promised or prove deficient as a result of the failure of us, our employees, agents or suppliers to use reasonable skill and care in making, performing or providing, as applicable, your contracted tour arrangements. Please note, it is your responsibility to show that reasonable skill and care has not, been used if you wish to make a claim against us. In addition, we will only be responsible for what our employees, agents and suppliers do or do not do if they were at the time acting within the course of their employment (for employees) or carrying out work we had asked them to do (for agents and suppliers).
- We will not be responsible for any injury, illness, death, loss (including loss of enjoyment or possessions), damage, expense, cost or other sum or claim of any description whatsoever which results from any of the following:
  - the act(s) and/or omission(s) of the person(s) affected or any member(s) of their party or
  - the act(s) and/or omission(s) of a third party not connected with the provision of your tour and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable or
  - Force Majeure.
- We cannot accept responsibility for any services which do not form part of our contract with you. This includes, for example, any additional services or facilities which any hotel or other supplier agrees to provide for you where the services or facilities are not advertised in our tour brochure as part of your tour and we have not agreed to arrange them as part of our contract and any excursion or other services you purchase during your tour. Where any such excursion or services are purchased through or with our assistance please note that we act only as booking agent. Your contract will be with the operator or provider of the excursion or services in question. We have no liability in relation to the same. In addition, regardless of any wording used by us on our website, in any of our brochures or elsewhere, we only promise to use reasonable skill and care as set out above and we do not have any greater or different liability to you.
- The promises we make to you about the services we have agreed to provide or arrange as part of our contract and the laws and regulations of the country in which your claim or complaint occurred will be used as the basis for deciding whether the tour arrangements in question had been properly provided. If the particular arrangements which gave rise to the claim or complaint complied with the then applicable local laws and regulations, the services will be treated as having been properly performed or provided. This will be the case even if the arrangements did not comply with the laws and regulations of the UK which would have applied had those arrangements been provided in the UK. The exception to this is where the claim or complaint concerns the absence of a safety feature which might lead a reasonable tour participant to refuse to take the tour in question. Please note, however, our obligation is to exercise reasonable skill and care as referred to in clause 26. We do not make any representation or commitment that all services will comply with applicable local laws and regulations, and failure to comply does not automatically mean we have not exercised reasonable skill and care.
- Where we are found liable for loss of and/or damage to any luggage or personal possessions (including money), the maximum amount we will

have to pay you is £1,000 per person affected unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under this clause or clause 31 below. For all other claims which do not involve death or personal injury, if we are found liable to you on any basis the maximum amount we will have to pay you is twice the price (excluding insurance premiums and amendment fees) paid by or on behalf of the person(s) affected in total unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under clause 31 below. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you have not received any benefit at all from your tour.

31. Where any claim or part of a claim (including those involving death or personal injury) concerns or is based on any travel arrangements (including the process of getting on and/or off the transport concerned) provided by any air, sea or rail carrier to which any international convention or EU regulation applies, the maximum amount of compensation we will have to pay you will be limited. The most we will have to pay you for that claim or that part of a claim if found liable to you on any basis is the most the carrier concerned would have to pay under the international convention or regulation which applies to the travel arrangements in question (for example, the Warsaw Convention as amended or unedited and the Montreal Convention for international travel by air and/or for airlines with an operating licence granted by an EU country, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability No 889/2002 for national and international travel by air, the Athens Convention for international travel by sea (as amended by the 2002 Protocol with effect from 31st December 2012) and COTIF, the Convention on International Travel by rail. Please note: where a carrier or hotelier would not be obliged to make any payment to you under and in accordance with the applicable international convention or regulation in respect of a claim or part of a claim, we similarly are not obliged to make a payment to you for that claim or part of the claim. When making any payment, we are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the carrier for the claim in question. Copies of the applicable international conventions and regulations are available from us on request.
32. Please note, we cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss, expense or other sum(s) of any description (I) which on the basis of the information given to us by you concerning your booking prior to our accepting it, we could not have foreseen you would suffer or incur if we breached our contract with you or (2) which did not result from any breach of contract or other fault by ourselves or our employees or, where we are responsible for them, our suppliers. Additionally, we cannot accept liability for any business losses including self-employed loss of earnings.
33. You must provide ourselves and our insurers with all assistance we may reasonably require. You must also tell us and the supplier concerned about your claim or complaint as set out below., If asked to do so, you must transfer to us or our insurers any rights you have against the supplier or whoever else is responsible for your claim or complaint (if the person concerned is under 18, their parent or guardian must do so). You must also agree to co-operate fully with us and our insurers if we or our insurers want to enforce any rights which are transferred.

#### Carriers

34. The carriers (including airlines, rail carriers and sea carriers used in association with the tours) are not responsible for statements in the tour brochure or any of its features.
35. The applicable conditions of sale / carriage in use by the carriers will apply to you. These may limit or exclude the carriers' liability to you, usually in accordance with international conventions. Copies of these are available on request.

#### Force Majeure

36. Except where otherwise expressly stated in these terms and conditions we regret we cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our obligations under our contract with you is prevented or affected by or you otherwise suffer any damage, loss or expense of any nature as a result of Force Majeure.

#### Risk and travel insurance

37. You acknowledge and accept that there are inherent risks associated with our tours, for example events of Force Majeure, hazards of travelling in undeveloped areas, travel by boat, train, automobile, aircraft or other means of transportation particularly in underdeveloped countries or more remote locations, forces of nature, political unrest and accident, illness, epidemics or pandemics in regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. Baggage is entirely at your risk during the tour. We cannot accept any liability regarding the provision of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered.
38. Except as expressly set out in these terms and conditions you agree that we cannot accept any liability for, and you discharge and release us from all claims arising from or connected with any loss or harm suffered by you arising from any risk referred to in clause 37 or any other risk which you should have reasonably recognised as being inherent to your tour.
39. Distant Journeys cannot accept bookings for any persons without adequate travel insurance. We insist you take out appropriate travel insurance to cover as a minimum cancellation by you, loss of luggage, early return following death of a relative as defined in the respective proposal forms or emergency repatriation in the event of accident or illness for example. Please read your policy details carefully and take them with you on your tour. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover you purchase is suitable and adequate for your particular needs.

#### Itinerary changes and travel advice

40. During local or national holidays, certain facilities such as museums and restaurants, sightseeing tours and shopping may be limited or not available. Alternatives will be offered if possible. Whilst cruising on the Yangtze River the weather conditions are changeable and the itinerary is a guide only.
41. Your safety is our first consideration and if the Foreign Office advises against travel to a certain country, we act on this advice. The Foreign Office issues regular advice and updates on its website [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) which you are recommended to consult before booking and in good time before departure.

#### Smoking

42. Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is not allowed at any time onboard our coaches, on any flight and such other places as are prohibited by us or our suppliers from time to time. Within hotels, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes may be restricted to designated areas. We will take reasonable endeavours to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip which are available for smoking, however we cannot guarantee these facilities will be available.

#### Baggage allowance

43. You are entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44 lbs). Hand luggage must have a total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 115cm (45 inches) and weight 5kg (11lbs). Personal and valuable items such as make-up, cameras, medication, passport, money/credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried. Some carriers may impose a small surcharge per day for a second suitcase per person. Excess baggage is always at your cost.

#### Young travellers

44. Travellers who are less than 18 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by and share a room with an adult aged 18 or over. Children under 8 years of age cannot be accepted.

#### Complaints

45. If a problem occurs during your tour, you must advise our representative immediately so that steps can be taken to resolve the matter and you can continue to enjoy the remainder of your tour. You must also advise the supplier concerned. If

you remain dissatisfied, any complaint must be made in writing to us giving full details within 30 days of the end of the tour. If you fail to follow this procedure, your right to claim compensation you may otherwise have been entitled to may be affected or even lost as a result.

#### Tour price and duration

46. All prices in this brochure are quoted in English pounds (Sterling). All prices in this brochure are believed to be correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing but errors may occur and prices are subject to change. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen tour (including the price) with us at the time of booking. The number of days duration stated in each itinerary includes day of departure and day of return. Tour durations may vary should you choose to have a stopover, and airline flight schedules and the itineraries in this brochure should be used as a guide only.

#### Included in your fare

47. All airfares from the UK in economy class (unless specified at the time of booking), coach travel and overseas transfers whilst travelling as part of the group or on one of our organised stopover programmes, service of a Tour Manager or Coach Captain (if applicable), portage whilst on tour, airport transfers, meals as specified, accommodation as specified (please note, the third bed in a triple room may be a rollaway bed), sightseeing and admissions and other services as expressly indicated in the itinerary.

#### NOT included in your fare

48. Meals not specified in the itinerary, drinks unless specified in the itinerary, laundry, passport and visa fees, Dubai Tourism tax (if stopping over), expenses of a personal nature and any other items which are not expressly included in the cost of your tour. Changes to flight schedules may require additional overnight accommodation at either commencement or completion of tour which is at your own expense.

#### Airfare conditions

49. Your Distant Journeys travel expert will book the most appropriate fare for your tour. Full details and conditions may be obtained from your travel consultant. Changes to original tickets will incur amendment or cancellation fees, are subject to availability and surcharges may apply. Please see clauses 24 and 25 above. Please note: all airfares are subject to routing restrictions. Airfares and applicable taxes are subject to increase without notice due to fare and tax changes, surcharges dependent on class available at time of booking and other factors outside our control. Please contact your travel consultant for the applicable rules and regulations. At the time of booking please ensure you supply your first name and surname as they appear on your passport, as both of these must be stated on your flight ticket. You may not be able to travel if the name on your passport and documents do not match. Any costs for ticket changes due to an incorrect name on paperwork which has been sent to you, will result in the cost being incurred by you.

#### Flights

50. For flight inclusive tours, the flight timings given on booking are for general guidance only and are subject to change. The latest timings will be shown on your confirmation invoice. As flights only become available to book around 11 months in advance, we are only able to confirm upgrade prices at time of booking your flights. However, the actual flight times will be those shown on your tickets which will be dispatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. You must accordingly check your tickets very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been dispatched - we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. Distant Journeys has no control over the allocation of seats by the airline, and even if you have requested or made payment directly with the airline to pre-book seats, no guarantees can be made. The provision of such seats does not constitute a term of your contract with Distant Journeys.

51. In accordance with EU Directive (EC) No 2111/2005, we are required to bring to your attention the existence of a “Community List” which contains details of air carriers that are subject to an operating ban within the European Union. The Community list is available for inspection at [http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air-ban/list\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air-ban/list_en.htm). We are also required to advise you of the carrier(s) (or, if the carrier(s) is not known, the likely carrier(s)) that will operate your flight(s) at the time of booking. Where we are only able to inform you of the likely carrier(s) at the time of booking, we shall inform you of the identity of the actual carrier(s) as soon as we become aware of this. Any change to the operating carrier(s) after your booking has been confirmed will be notified to you as soon as possible. Any change in the identity of the carrier, flight timings, and/ or aircraft type (where advised) will not entitle you to cancel or change to other arrangements without paying our normal charges except where specified in these terms and conditions. If the carrier with whom you have a confirmed reservation becomes subject to an operating ban as above as a result of which we/ the carrier are unable to offer you a suitable alternative the provisions of clause 21 to 22 will apply.
52. If you suffer a delay in your outbound travel arrangements, we will do our best to ensure you make the start of your tour or, if this cannot be achieved, join it as soon as possible. Any costs we incur in making any alternative arrangements in this situation will be your responsibility. In the event of a flight delay, the airline concerned may provide refreshments and/or other assistance depending on factors such as the length of the delay, time of day and number of passengers affected. We cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in clause 27 (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on the flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time).
53. If your flight is cancelled or delayed, your flight ticket is downgraded or boarding is denied by your airline, depending on the circumstances, the airline may be required to pay you compensation, refund the cost of your flight and/or provide you with accommodation and/or refreshments under EC Regulation No 261/2004 – the Denied Boarding Regulations 2004. Where applicable, you must pursue the airline for the compensation or other payment due to you. All sums you receive or are entitled to receive from the airline concerned by virtue of these Regulations represent the full amount of your entitlement to compensation or any other payment arising from such cancellation, delay, downgrading or denied boarding. This includes any disappointment, distress, inconvenience or effect on any other arrangements. The fact a delay may entitle you to cancel your flight does not automatically entitle you to cancel any other arrangements even where those arrangements have been made in conjunction with your flight. We have no liability to make any payment to you in relation to the Denied Boarding Regulations or in respect of any flight cancellation or delay, downgrading of any flight ticket or denial of any boarding as the full amount of your entitlement to any compensation or other payment (as dealt with above) is covered by the airline's obligations under the Denied Boarding Regulations. If for any reason, we make any payment to you or a third party which the airline is responsible for in accordance with the Denied Boarding Regulations, you must, when requested, assign to us the rights you have or had to claim the payment in question from the airline. If the airline does not comply with these rules, you may complain to the CAA on 020 7453 6888 or by e-mail to [passengercomplaints@caa.co.uk](mailto:passengercomplaints@caa.co.uk) or see [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk) – Referring Your Complaint to the CAA.

#### Passports and visas

54. You must have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity following your return date. It is your responsibility to ensure any visas required for countries to be visited on the tour have been obtained prior to the tour departure date. Failure to obtain correct documentation will mean you may be unable to participate in particular excursions and may be denied boarding and/ or entry into certain countries. Passport and visa entry requirements and costs are your sole responsibility. We cannot accept any liability if you

are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation. If failure to have any necessary travel or other documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

55. A full British passport presently takes approximately two to six weeks to obtain. If you are 16 or over and have not yet arranged a passport, you should apply for one at least six weeks before your departure from the UK. The UK Passport Service has to confirm an applicant's identity before issuing their first passport and will ask them to attend an interview in order to do this. If you are not a British citizen or hold a non-British passport, you must check passport and visa requirements with the Embassy or Consulate of the country(ies) to or through which you are intending to travel. Please note, all requirements may change and all clients must check the up to date position in good time before departure with the Embassy or consulate of the country(ies) you are travelling through and to.

#### Your financial protection

56. When you buy an ATOL protected flight or flight inclusive holiday from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong. We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable). If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.

#### Coaches

57. To ensure all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed on all of our coaches and you must follow the seat rotation system.
58. If you suffer from travel sickness, you should arrange medication or other alternatives to treat symptoms as we cannot make allowances for this.

#### Clothing

59. We recommend casual and comfortable clothing. Please bring comfortable walking shoes for sightseeing. Dinner attire is generally smart casual. It is always worth being aware of local customs when visiting sacred places. As a general rule, when visiting such places, it is recommended that arms and legs are covered. Women may also wish to take a shawl to cover their shoulders and all visitors should wear long trousers, skirts or shorts that reach below the knee. Taking off your shoes is also a prerequisite before entering many sacred places.

#### Currency and credit cards

60. Currency will vary depending on your destination, please refer to your bank or local foreign exchange bureau. For small purchases in small towns, local currency is advantageous. Many locations accept major credit cards (fees may apply) and cash

machines are located at some stops. Prior to departure you should confirm that your card and PIN will work in your destination countries.

#### Tour Manager

61. An experienced English-speaking Tour Manager OR Tour Managers OR Coach Captains accompany every tour. In some countries your Coach Captain will also be your guide. They are there to ensure your comfort, answer your questions and make your holiday relaxed and memorable.

#### Sightseeing tours

62. Many of itineraries include sightseeing tours which may involve walking for medium to long periods of time and over uneven surfaces. Steps may also feature, either as part of a tour or within your accommodation. On some tours we use jeep and safari vehicles. A reasonable level of fitness is therefore required for all tours.
63. Optional activities and dining are subject to availability, seasonal / operational factors and minimum / maximum numbers. More details on optional tours may be found on our website. On occasion, it may not be possible to arrange an included activity. Suitable alternatives will be arranged. Inclusions may also be subject to change.

#### Vaccines, medication and medical services

64. Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of all recommended vaccinations and health precautions for the countries you are visiting and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough to be fully effective by the date of travel. You should take health advice about your specific needs as early as possible and recognise that advice may change, prior to your departure. Please see the Foreign Office website [www.gov.uk/foreign-traveladvice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-traveladvice) and NHS Before you Travel website on [www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthybody/before-you-travel/](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthybody/before-you-travel/) for up to date information. It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you need to carry is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking and review in good time before your departure as advice may change. Any medical services and costs required on tour are at your expense. We strongly recommend suitable and adequate travel insurance.

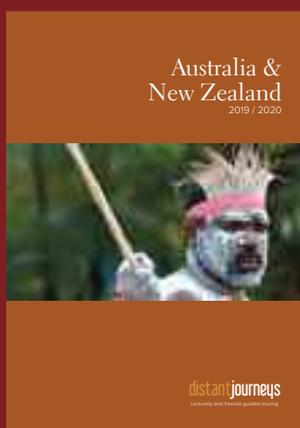
#### Images, photographs, maps and information

65. The photographs in the brochure and information provided represent typical scenes and descriptive detail for each tour, but it is possible that the subject matter may not be seen or experienced whilst on the tour itself. Some pictures may have been digitally enhanced.
66. All offers and pricing are subject to availability at the time of booking.
67. Maps or tour depictions contained in this brochure or any other brochures issued by Distant Journeys, are intended as an indication only and should not be relied upon as the actual route taken during the tour. Distant Journeys are not liable to you for any variation to the tour.

#### Amendments to terms and conditions

68. These terms and conditions may be subject to amendment from time to time. Amendments will be posted on the Distant Journeys website [www.distantjourneys.co.uk](http://www.distantjourneys.co.uk).

## More extraordinary holidays with Distant Journeys



# distantjourneys

To book, call our travel experts on  
**01695 577 961**

**Mon - Fri** 9.00 a.m - 5.30 p.m    **Sat** 9.00 a.m - 5.00 p.m

**Email** [enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk)

**Visit** [www.distantjourneys.co.uk](http://www.distantjourneys.co.uk)

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