

# DISCOVERING CHINA

September 8-21, 2015

**14 days from \$4,969 total price from San Francisco**  
(\$4,395 air, land & cruise inclusive plus \$574 airline taxes and departure fees)



**An Exclusive Small Group Tour  
for the Commonwealth Club**

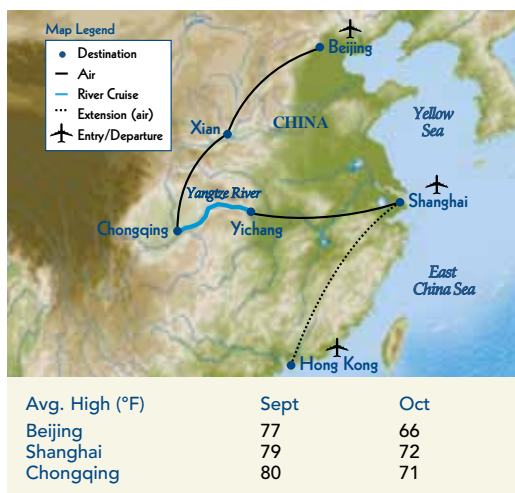
Tour membership limited to 24 guests

# DISCOVERING CHINA

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**C**omprehensive in scope yet briefer in duration than many China tours, this relaxed, well-paced journey combines monumental Beijing, a cruise on the fabled Yangtze, fascinating Xian, and cosmopolitan Shanghai. Traveling in your prized small group, you'll have the good fortune to meet local people and to experience a host of China's highlights, both ancient and of the moment.



**Tuesday, September 8: Depart U.S. for Beijing, China**

**Wednesday, September 9: Arrive Beijing**

We arrive in the Chinese capital and transfer to our hotel. After time to relax we meet our tour director for an early evening briefing and a walking tour of the area surrounding our hotel. Dinner is on our own.

**Thursday, September 10: Beijing** Enjoy a morning briefing with U.S. Embassy staff (schedules permitting). This afternoon begin our discovery of this 2,000-year-old city at vast — and infamous — Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City, seat of imperial power during the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911). Tonight we enjoy a traditional Peking Duck dinner at a local restaurant. **B,D**

**Friday, September 11: Beijing/Great Wall** Our day begins with a rickshaw ride through Beijing's ancient back roads and alleys (*hutongs*). Here we visit the home of a local family for a rare glimpse of the traditional communal life-style that is fast disappearing. Then we make a brief photo stop at Olympic Park, site of the 2008 Olympic Games. This afternoon we encounter the Great Wall, the incredible collection of ancient defense installations (and UNESCO World Heritage site), that stretches more than 5,500 miles and where we visit the Mu Tian Yu section by cable car. **B,L,D**

**Saturday, September 12: Beijing** This morning we tour the splendid Temple of Heaven complex where China's emperors once worshipped. Later this afternoon we tour the Summer Palace, formerly the royal retreat with beautiful gardens and temples that is now a park attracting both visitors and locals. Later we have a special visit to the Dashanzi Art District, a cosmopolitan center of culture and art in Beijing. **B,L**

**Sunday, September 13: Beijing/Xian** This morning we fly to Xian, once among the world's

## Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Beijing touring, including Tiananmen Square, Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven, Great Wall ... Beijing hutong tour and home visit ... Traditional Peking Duck dinner ... Xian's Terra Cotta Warriors ... Three-night Yangtze River cruise including Three Gorges and Smaller Gorges ... Cruise aboard Premier ship of Victoria Cruises ... Included shore excursions ... Visit to site of new Three Gorges Dam ... Shanghai sightseeing: acclaimed Shanghai Museum, the Bund, Yu Yuan Gardens

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Beijing		
2-5	Beijing	Sofitel Wanda Beijing	Deluxe
6-7	Xian	Sheraton Xian North City	Sup. First Class
8-10	Yangtze Cruise	Victoria Cruises	Sup. First Class
11-13	Shanghai	Hilton Shanghai	Deluxe
14	Depart Shanghai for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover Photo: China's Great Wall winds across the varied landscape for more than 5,500 miles.



Tour the historic Forbidden City complex on Day 3.

greatest cities that devolved into a provincial backwater until the accidental discovery of the Terra Cotta Warriors in 1974 — considered among the most significant archaeological finds of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century. This afternoon, we tour Xian’s impressive nine-mile city wall and moat. Tonight, we enjoy a special dinner of traditional Chinese dumplings. **B,L,D**

**Monday, September 14: Xian** Our day begins at Small Wild Goose Pagoda (c. 652 CE), among China’s most acclaimed Buddhist temples. After lunch we visit the museum housing the renowned Terra Cotta Warriors, the more than 7,000 life-sized soldiers created to guard China’s first emperor in the afterlife. We see these astounding pieces, each with an individually sculpted face, standing in military formation in three separate vaults. The entire complex is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. **B,L,D**

**Tuesday, September 15: Xian/Chongqing** This morning we fly to Chongqing, where we visit the zoo housing the beloved pandas. Following dinner at a local restaurant, we board our Victoria Cruises ship and set sail this evening. **B,L,D**

**Wednesday, September 16: Yangtze Cruising – Fengdu** Prized for its haunting natural beauty, the Yangtze is one of the world’s busiest and longest (3,600 miles) rivers. This morning we visit one of its most popular towns, the “ghost city” of Fengdu. On board this afternoon a river guide tells us about the Yangtze and the Three Gorges Dam then we enjoy a talk on Chinese medicine. Tonight: Captain’s Welcome Dinner. **B,L,D**

**Thursday, September 17: Yangtze Cruising – Qutang Gorge/Lesser Gorges/Wu Gorge/Xiling Gorge** After traversing Qutang, the

shortest of the Three Gorges, mid-day we disembark in Wushan to board a small ferry for an excursion along the Daning River to the stunning Lesser Gorges. Lined with sheer cliffs and steep mountains, the Lesser Gorges recall scenes from ancient Chinese scroll paintings. Back on board our Yangtze ship late afternoon, we enter beautiful and tranquil Wu Gorge, then reach the scenic western section of 42-mile long Xiling Gorge, with swift rapids and churning whirlpools. Later tonight we enter the locks of the immense Three Gorges Dam. **B,L,D**

**Friday, September 18: Yangtze Cruising – Three Gorges Dam/Xiling Gorge/Shanghai** We tour the site of the immense Three Gorges Dam Project this morning then continue cruis-

## Post-Tour Extension

September 21-24, 2015

### HONG KONG – ON YOUR OWN

4 days/3 nights for \$995 total price  
Single Supplement: \$495

*Explore this dazzling Chinese city on your own: great shopping, a mouth-watering diversity of cuisine, and a vibrant city scene.*

#### Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Shanghai/Hong Kong inclusive of airline taxes and departure fees
- 3 nights’ accommodations at Langham Place Hotel (Deluxe)
- 3 meals: 3 breakfasts
- Transfers to/from airport

*Land only guests: \$1,195 total price*

ing through Xiling Gorge and Gezhouba Dam to Yichang. Here we disembark and fly to Shanghai, the “Paris of the East.” *B,L*

**Saturday, September 19: Shanghai** Our day begins with a walking tour of the Xin Tian Di shopping and entertainment area of reconstituted traditional homes. We continue on to beloved 16<sup>th</sup>-century Yu Yuan Gardens, whose plantings, courtyards, and pavilions create the illusion of mountains, caverns, and lakes. After lunch together we tour the acclaimed Shanghai Museum of ancient Chinese art and artifacts. Tonight we dine on our own then attend an acrobatics show. *B,L*

**Sunday, September 20: Shanghai** This morning we visit the Bund, the mile-long riverside embankment where foreign investors – and their buildings – once held sway over Shanghai. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight we toast our China adventure at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

**Monday, September 21: Depart for U.S.** We depart Shanghai for our return flights to the U.S. *B*



We view Xian’s amazing Terra Cotta Warriors on Day 7.

## Victoria Cruises Premier Ships



**Launched/Rebuilt:** 2004-2011 **Air Conditioning:** Yes  
**Registry:** Chinese **Decks:** 5 or 6  
**Crew:** 121-189 **Passenger Capacity:** 218-378

*All Cabins: Private balcony; satellite TV with HBO*

## Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 12 nights’ accommodations: 3 nights aboard Superior First Class ship of Victoria Cruises; 9 nights in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 29 meals: 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Services of a Commonwealth Club Host with a minimum of 15 guests
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip, including shore excursions
- Special private cultural and educational highlights
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

## Tour Departs: September 8, 2015

*Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.*

Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$4,969
Boston, Chicago, New York	\$5,369
Miami, Washington, DC	\$5,469
Land only (transfers not included)	\$3,995

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in an outside cabin and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees of \$574, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,195.

All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: \$3,495 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

**Due to Chinese visa restrictions, no registrations can be accepted within 45 days of the tour departure.**

**Please Note:** This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking on stairs and uneven surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.

**Contact Club Travel**

**415-597-6720**

[travel@commonwealthclub.org](mailto:travel@commonwealthclub.org)  
[www.commonwealthclub.org/travel](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/travel)



Dear Members and Friends of the Commonwealth Club,

We invite you to join fellow Commonwealth Club members on an exciting small group tour to China. From the capital of Beijing to fascinating Xian, and the fabled Yangtze River to cosmopolitan Shanghai, you will experience China's ancient past as well as its fast-moving present on this inclusive tour.

Begin in China's modern-day capital, the 2,000-year-old city of Beijing, and visit its legendary sites including Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and, of course, the Great Wall. Enjoy a special rickshaw ride along Beijing's ancient alleyways, where you'll experience a traditional way of life. Continue on to Xian, site of the excavated terra cotta army of more than 7,000 life-size warriors. From there fly to Chongqing and board your Victoria Cruises ship for a three-night cruise on the fabled Yangtze, and see the spectacular Three Gorges Dam. Conclude your tour in Shanghai, a dazzling city that epitomizes 21st-century China. A 4-day/3-night extension to Hong Kong is also available.

Space on this exclusive Commonwealth Club tour is limited to just 24 travelers and will fill quickly. Please call today to guarantee your place on this comprehensive tour of China!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth  
Director of Travel

**COMMONWEALTH CLUB RESERVATION FORM: DISCOVERING CHINA**

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) for \_\_\_ person/people on **Discovering China** departing **September 8, 2015**. I/we understand the final payment is due 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. **Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send to: Commonwealth Club Travel, Attn: Travel Department, PO Box 194210, San Francisco, CA 94119. For reservations and information, call (415) 597- 6720, or email travel@commonwealthclub.org. You may also fax your reservation to (415) 597-6729.**

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_ I request a single room (limited availability)

**Post-Tour "Hong Kong – On Your Own" Extension:** Please sign me/us up

**Please Note:** The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **Discovering China, September 8-21, 2015**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**  Check  American Express  Discover  MasterCard  VISA

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

## GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

### Not included in tour price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only tour package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airline baggage fees; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities, \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing or shore excursions; travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

### Cancellations, refunds and changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.** If a guest makes any changes to their reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, your date of birth and your gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

### Insurance

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event you must cancel your participation in the travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Information will be sent upon registration.

### Responsibility

The liability of the Commonwealth Club, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

### Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this Odysseys Unlimited tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and ships on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

### Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. CST#2077973-40 The Commonwealth Club CST#2096889-40



Attn: Travel Department  
PO Box 194210  
San Francisco, CA 94119

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Odysseys  
Unlimited, Inc.



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AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO CHINA!**

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