

# American Celebration of Music in the People's Republic of China

Standard Tour #4 (10 nights / 12 days)

## Day 1

Depart via scheduled airline service to Beijing, China. Enjoy full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Pacific overnight flight. Cross the International Date Line during this flight.

## Day 2 Beijing

Arrive in Beijing Airport, where you will be met by MCI's Chinese staff who assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoaches for the transfer to a downtown hotel. Time permitting, enjoy a brief orientation tour of Beijing en route to the hotel.

*Beijing has more attractions than any other city in China. It has blossomed into a city that any international traveller can enjoy, and has become a vibrant and international city. The list of musts is impressive: The Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, Tian An Men Square, and the Great Wall should not be missed. For the last six centuries, Beijing has been the most important capital of China.*

## Day 3 Beijing

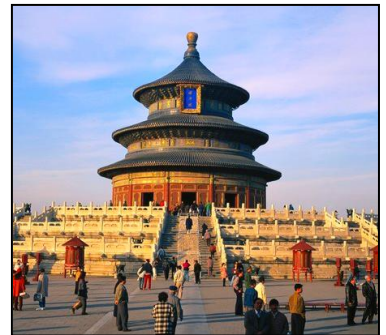
Aboard your motorcoach en route to sightseeing, enjoy an orientation of Chinese culture, a brief history, and a discussion of the economic and political situations. Visit Tian An Men Square, the largest open plaza in the world that accommodates half a million people at one time. Tour the Forbidden City (Palace Museum), the former Imperial Palace for the 24 Emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasty, and also visit the Temple of Heaven, where the Emperors of both dynasties worshiped heaven. This evening, enjoy a traditional Beijing Duck Banquet.

## Day 4 Beijing

Excursion to the Great Wall of China at Ju Yong Pass, one of the world's architectural wonders. ***Performance on the Great Wall as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.*** On the way back to the city, stop at the Beijing Cloisonne Factory, the largest of its kind in China. In the evening, attend the Beijing Acrobatic Performance.

## Day 5 Beijing

Morning tour of the Summer Palace, the summer resort of the royal families, including the famous Marble Boat. Afternoon visit to a school in Beijing that specializes in training students in traditional Chinese musical instruments, and participate in a cultural exchange with a school affiliated with the Central Music Conservatory. ***Rehearsal and joint Concert at the Conservatory's concert hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***



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## Day 6 Tianjin

Transfer to Tianjin via motorcoach (1 ½ hours). A guided city tour will include the historic sites and the new economic development district. Afternoon visit to a school that specializes in training students in traditional Chinese musical instruments. ***Rehearsal followed by an evening joint concert at the Art Performing Hall of the Tianjin University as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***



*Tianjin is located at the sea coast, about 160 km east of Beijing. Officially a special municipality belonging to no province, Tianjin is nicknamed the "Shanghai of the North" because of its history as a foreign concession port with its European architecture and its impressive industrial output. Your city tour will include the Ancient Culture Street, an attempt to re-create an ancient Chinese Community, and the old part of the city is stuffed full of lanes, traditional architecture and dilapidated temples.*



## Day 7 Qinhuangdao

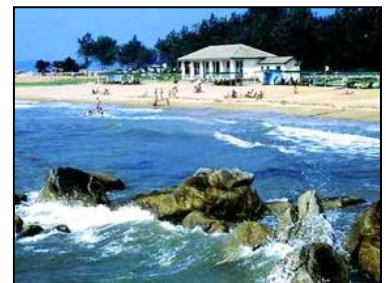
Transfer to Qinhuangdao via motorcoach (3 ½ hrs). Upon arrival, enjoy a panoramic introductory city tour. Tonight's dinner will be hosted by the Municipal Government Officials, local musicians and students.

*Qinhuangdao is an ocean front city, where the mountain and sea water meet, known as Shanhai Pass, the very starting point of the Great Wall of China. Today, it is the summer and beach resort for all the top leaders of the Chinese Government from Beijing.*



## Day 8 Qinhuangdao

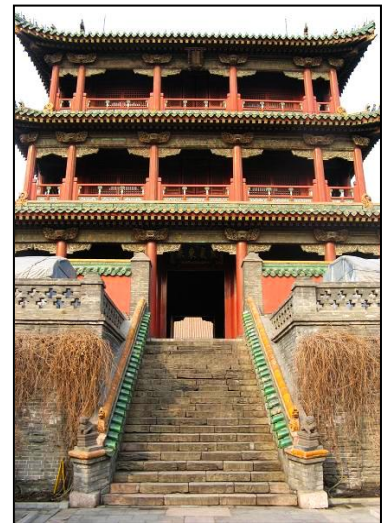
Morning tour in Qinhuangdao includes Shanhai Pass of the Great Wall and the Old Dragon Head, the very starting Point at the ocean front. Also visit the Beidaihe, one of the most popular holiday and health resorts in China with numerous guesthouses and sanatoriums. ***Afternoon rehearsal time. Evening concert at the Municipal Concert Hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***



## Day 9 Shenyang

Transfer to Shenyang via motorcoach (4 ½ hrs). Upon arrival take a panoramic tour of some of Shenyang's highlights.

*Capital of Liaoning Province and the largest city in the Northeast, Shenyang serves as an important transport and industrial hub at the heart of the province. Of strategic importance in the state of Yan during the Warring States period (475-221 BC), the town was first called Shenyang during the Mongol Yuan dynasty, before rising to prominence as the first Manchu capital in 1625, when it was known as Mukden and was chosen as the setting for the imperial Palace.*



## Day 10 Shenyang

Enjoy a morning tour of the former Imperial Palace of the Manchurian Empire, a splendid rival to Beijing's Forbidden City. The Imperial Palace is Shenyang's premier historical sight, situated in what was the center of the old city. Serving as the imperial residence of both Nurhachi and his son and heir Abahai, the palace is composed of 300 rooms. ***Afternoon rehearsal followed by an evening concert in a local theatre as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***



### **Day 11 Beijing**

Transfer to Beijing via Express Train (8 ½ hrs). Time permitting; the rest of the day is at leisure. Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight.

### **Day 12 Depart for home**

Transfer to Beijing's International Airport for return flight. Return via scheduled airline service, arriving home on the same day.



*NOTE: Three meals per day are included in China. The sightseeing mentioned above can be modified according to the group's wishes and interests.*



Summer Palace

