

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

Standard Tour #3 (8 nights / 10 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

(D)

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

(B,L,D)

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 Peking Roast Duck Dinner

Day 4

Beijing

(B,L,D)

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 Arts & Crafts Jade Carving Factory, the largest of its kind in China

In the evening, attend the Beijing Acrobatic Performance

Day 5

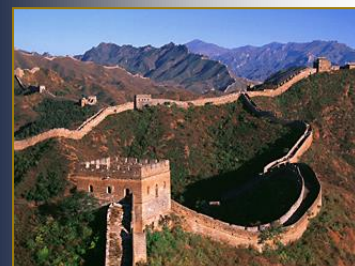
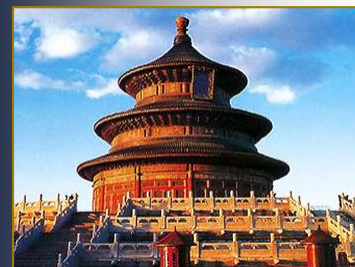
Beijing

(B,L,D)

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

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in China



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Concert Tours With Integrity

Day 6 **Hangzhou** **(B,L,D)**

Morning transfer to Hangzhou via AM flight (1 ½ hr). One of the most scenic areas in China, Hangzhou was once described by Marco Polo as the Paradise on Earth

Afternoon guided tour of the city includes a cruise on the West Lake where you can see some of Hangzhou's breathtaking scenery

Hangzhou is a rarity in China: a city in a beautiful setting that's made for strolling and biking. One can visit the museums, the factories, patronize the shops, but Hangzhou's essence is outside, on the lake, on the walkways, and in the folds of the green tea-laden hills

Day 7 **Hangzhou** **(B,L,D)**

A guided tour includes a tea plantation, a silk weaving factory (with fashion show), and the Lingyin Temple (one of China's best known Buddhist Monasteries)

Afternoon rehearsal and evening performance at a Municipal Art Performing Hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in China

Day 8 **Shanghai** **(B,L,D)**

Transfer to Shanghai via motorcoach (2 ½ hrs)

Afternoon sightseeing includes Shanghai's Old City, a charming mesh of lanes and alleyways. Then visit the Yu Garden with its marvelous vistas of pools, pavilions and rock gardens, and then spend some time at the Nanjing Road Pedestrian Walkway and the Bund

In the evening, take a cruise of Shanghai's busy harbor, enjoying the lights of the skyline

Shanghai is clearly one of Asia's most powerful cities, perhaps soon to be its most powerful economically. With 20 million residents, Shanghai is China's most populous city, and the United Nations estimates that by the year 2015 Shanghai's population will reach the unimaginable figure of 23-24 million

Day 9 **Shanghai** **(B,L,D)**

Morning sightseeing includes the Municipal Planning Exhibition Hall and Shanghai Museum. This modern and top-notch museum contains more than 120,000 Chinese art pieces and archeological findings. Permanent exhibits feature bronzes, ceramics and paintings, among other artifacts

Afternoon school visit for a music exchange and activities

Afternoon rehearsal and evening joint performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in China

Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 10 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Return via scheduled airline service, arriving home on the same day

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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