



CHINA'S BORDERLANDS YUNNAN & TIBET

Saturday 01 – Friday 21 June 2019 | 20 Nights



Your tour manager for this tour is Andrew Matheson, who has lived and worked in China and subsequently managed successful tours there. He designed this itinerary drawing on a family holiday in Yunnan and business travel in Tibet.

Andrew writes:

I have just returned from taking a tour along China's Silk Road, and am looking forward to sharing the southern provinces of Yunnan and Tibet with a group. As with the Silk Road tour, we will explore regions not often visited by international travellers. We will see astounding scenery and experience a variety of ethnic and religious cultures.

Yunnan and the Tibetan borderlands aren't well known outside of China. Yunnan is a magical realm of beautiful landscapes, rich history and diverse minorities. Tibet is even more remote, more mountainous and more strikingly different from anything you've seen before. Requiring a special permit to visit, it really is off the beaten track.

We start in ethnically-diverse Yunnan, China's southwestern province that nudges into Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. Based in the picturesque towns of Dali and Lijiang and the village of Shaxi, local guides will help us discover the stories of this area. You will

take a cooking class, pick tea leaves, see artisans at work and meet cormorant fishermen, tea growers and merchants. The dramatic scenery includes snow-covered mountains more than 5,500 metres high, deep gorges, rushing rivers and calm lakes.

Then we visit the fabled Shangri-La, still in Yunnan but ethnically Tibetan. There we will join crowds of people dressed in their finest clothes, gathering for the highlight of the festive calendar – the annual Shangri-La festival.

We fly to Qinghai province, then climb to the mighty Tibetan plateau on the world's highest railway to reach Lhasa, centre of the Tibetan world. Beyond Lhasa we experience stunning scenery of high plateaus backed by Himalayan peaks. The towns of Gyantse and Shigatse display more of Tibetan culture and rich Buddhist heritage. You will leave spellbound with Tibetans' deep religious devotion. On the way home a brief stay in Chengdu gets us up close to pandas and a chance to sample some fiery Sichuan cuisine.



Andrew Matheson's last tour to China sold out quickly, so early registration is advised to secure your place on this adventure. Extra time is also needed to secure the travel permits foreigners require before visiting Tibet.

Price per person twin share \$10,959, single supplement \$1,089
Minimum 10 people | Maximum 18 people

Contact us for itinerary and details
Forward this newsletter to family and friends for them to receive our travel inspirations straight to their mailbox.



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