

ATHABASCA DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PRESENTS

JOURNEY TO THE ORIENT

BEIJING • XI'AN • SHANGHAI • SUZHOU

JOIN US FOR THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

October 13th – October 24th, 2018
DISCOVER
CHINA

ALL-INCLUSIVE FROM CALGARY, AB
\$2499 CA

11 DAYS – FLY NONSTOP TO BEIJING FROM CALGARY AIRPORT,
FIRST CLASS HOTEL ROOMS, 3 MEALS PER DAY, ENGLISH
SPEAKING GUIDES, FANTASTIC TOURS DAILY

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE ATHABASCA DISTRICT CHAMBER TO
VIEW PICTURES OF PREVIOUS TRIPS.

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REGISTRATION FORMS

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON TRAVELING.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Full Name exactly as it appears on your passport

First Middle Last

What you'd like your luggage tags to say: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Who you are sharing a room with: _____

Who you would like to travel with on the bus: _____

Type of Room (please check one): ☐ 1 King Bed ☐ 2 Queen Beds ☐ Triple Beds

**** When making your reservation, IF YOU DO NOT PAY THE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT you will be paired with another passenger of the same gender who is also traveling alone, that has the same itinerary.**

DEPOSIT INFORMATION

A non-refundable registration fee of \$400 per person is due with your registration and is included in your total tour fare. The balance is due on or before July 15th, 2018

☐ Cheque Enclosed (Payable to Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce) Cheque # _____

☐ Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Code _____

Name on Card: _____

☐ A valid passport and Chinese Visa application is each passengers' responsibility.

Please call Athabasca Chamber 780-519-1171 to get more information on how and when to apply for Chinese Visa)

Signature _____

Please mail or email your registration form to: Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 3074, Athabasca, Alberta T9S 2B9 780-519-1171 or email info@athabascachamber.org

Please Check All That Apply:

☐ I will be attending the Terra Cotta Warriors Trip for \$2499

☐ I will be attending the Classic Trip for \$2299

☐ I wish to upgrade my airfare to Business Class - \$6,000

☐ Please upgrade me to a single room for an addition \$500 (*accommodations are based on double-bed occupancy*).

A non-refundable registration fee of \$400 per person is required and due at the time you register. This will be deducted from your total tour fare, the balance of which will be due by July 15, 201. If you need to cancel the trip for any reason after July 30, 201 you will be at a loss of \$500 on top of the \$400 registration fee, otherwise you will receive a full refund (minus the \$400 non-refundable registration fee).

Securing or updating a passport is your responsibility. Passports must be valid 6 months past travel date. Travelers will need to provide their passport, signed visa application form, one passport photos and the visa application fee to Chinese Consulate visa application center. You might ask Citslinc help for your visa application. There will be a valuable pre-tour briefing for all participants; date, time and location will be announced. We will answer all of your questions and familiarize you with details you will need to know. Citslinc International Inc. has 33 years of experience in the China tour business and we are confident we can respond to your inquiries to your satisfaction.

China is a modern country, so you need not feel as though you are preparing to travel back in time, to a less sophisticated society. In many instances, the country is not "behind" so much as "different." For example, you will find very few ATM machines, but travelers' checks and credit cards are accepted everywhere, so leave your check books and cheque cards behind. The electricity in China is 220 volts and an adapter is required to operate even an American hair dryer. Both the adapter and the hair dryer are available at the hotels in which we will be staying, but it is recommended that you bring your own adapter if you will need to plug anything in. Though you will be treated to sumptuous regional foods, you will also find many American fast-food chains including McDonalds, KFC and Starbucks.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY/DISCLAIMER

Please read, sign and return to the Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce with your registration form.

Passenger hereby agrees to assume all risks of loss, injury, or liability, arising out of the excursion that passenger is undertaking under this agreement. Passenger, on behalf of its heirs, and assigns, hereby releases the Citslinc International, Inc., the Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce and their officers, directors, agents, employees, successors, and assigns (the "released parties"), from any and all liability for damage to property or injury or death of any person. Passenger acknowledges that all international travel carries certain risks and that passenger is voluntarily undertaking this optional recreational and educational activity and that the released parties shall have no liability to passenger for property damage or personal injury unless due to the willful misconduct of the released parties.

Due to local conditions at the time of travel, Citslinc International Inc. and the Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce reserve the right to cancel, advance or postpone any scheduled tour event and may, but is not obligated to, substitute another event and shall not be liable for any loss whatsoever to the tour participants by reason of any such cancellation, advancement or postponement.

Passenger #1

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Passenger #2

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

P. O. Box 3074
Athabasca, Alberta, T9S 2B9
(780)519-1171
info@athabascachamber.org

ITINERARY

CHAMBER MISSION TO CHINA, 2017 Xi'an

Day 1 10/13 Calgary/Beijing

Check in at Calgary International Airport for an afternoon flight HU7978 by 3:05 pm to Beijing. Your adventure begins as you fly trans-Pacific aboard a wide cabin jetliner. Cross the International Dateline.

Day 2 10/14 Beijing

Arrive in Beijing, the Capital of China at 5:10 pm. You will be met by your local tour guide at the airport. Transfer to the hotel after dinner.

Day 3 10/15 Beijing

Sightseeing includes the Tian An Men Square, the largest square in the world; the Palace Museum, also known as the Forbidden City, home of 24 emperors with a total space of 9,999 rooms. Visit the Pearl market. The Summer Palace, known for many significance such as the Long Corridor with painted gallery, Kunming Lake and Longevity Hill, Seventeen- Arch Bridge and Marble Boat.. Peking Roast duck dinner is arranged.

Day 4 10/16 Beijing

Photo stop at the 2008 Beijing Olympic venues for the outside views of National Stadium the Bird's Nest and the National Aquatic Center. Continue the tour to the Great Wall. En route visit the Jade Factory. The Great Wall, the 4,000- mile long and 2,000 years old construction is said to be the only man-made structure visible by naked eye from the moon. Visit one of the Ming tombs, one of 13 Ming Emperors' Tombs is fully excavated and open for exploration.

Day 5 10/17 Beijing

Morning sightseeing to the Temple of Heaven, built in 1420 A.D., where the emperors prayed to the heaven for a good harvest. Afternoon visit to the Lama Temple of the religion of Lamaism.

Day 6 10/18 Beijing/Xi'an

Morning flight to Xi'an. Sightseeing to the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. Visit the Chinese Lacquer Ware Workshop. Evening entertainment of Tang Style Dancing Show.

Day 7 10/19 Xi'an

In the morning bus excurses to the Terra-Cotta Warriors at the Tomb of the First Emperor of Qin Dynasty. Enroute visit the Xian Art Ceramic & Terra Cotta Factory. On the way back, visit the Ancient City Wall and Banpo Museum, a preserved pre-historical cavemen site.

Day 8 10/20 Xi'an/Shanghai/Suzhou

Morning flight to Shanghai, then take a bus ride to Suzhou. Sightseeing to the Tiger Hill.

Day 9 10/21 Suzhou/Shanghai

Morning visit the Suzhou Silk factory. Continue the tour with the centuries old Linger Garden. Afternoon visit to the National Embroidery Institute to see silk embroidery, an important local craft with 1,000 years history. Then visit Jinji Lake situated centrally at Suzhou Industrial Park. Take a bus riding to Shanghai.

Day 10 10/22 Shanghai

Visit the Pudong New Development District. The Bund, a famous waterfront park and landmark of the city. Yu Garden, a maze of marvelous pavilions, ponds, rocky works and over arching trees. Free time exploration of the old town bazaar. Visit the Shanghai Silk Rug Factory.

Day 11 10/23 Shanghai/Calgary

You may take the morning flight to transit at Beijing then HU7977 at 4:00 pm for Calgary where you will arrive at 1:05 pm on the same day.

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

TRIP – TOUR FARE INCLUDES:

- A)** International air transportation: Round trip transpacific air from designated gateway per itinerary/departure date. U.S. & Canada domestic add-on flights between your home city and the designated gateway is on your own but not part of the tour fare.
- B)** China internal transportation: All intra-China flights are included per itinerary. Private motor coach land travel, private transfers between airport and hotel, and all China domestic transportation within tour are included.
- C)** Canada and China air taxes & governmental fees, and fuels surcharges are included.
- D)** Accommodations: First class hotel accommodations are included in your tour cost, based on standard queen-bedded rooms with private facilities. Tour fares shown are quoted on a per person double occupancy rate. Rate for triple occupancy is as that for double occupancy Triple room is a twin-bedded standard room adding a roll-away bed. Single occupancy is subject to Single Supplement charge. \$500 CDN.
- E)** Sightseeing & Admission fees: Comprehensive sightseeing, West Lake cruise and evening shows including admission/entrance fees are included per itinerary. The arrangements of these programs are determined by local tour operator and are based on local circumstances such as weather, traffic, holidays, etc.
- F)** Meals: Daily meals and local flavors are included as specified in the itinerary. Buffet style American breakfast is served at all the hotels on your trip. Lunch and dinner are usually served in the Chinese food restaurants in a “family style” with a set menu including one glass selected beverage per person.
- G)** Escorting/ Guiding Services: For a group travel of each tour bus in China, a professional tour guide is assigned along the program to offer local guiding services.
- H)** Porterage: Luggage handling services are included throughout China.

TOUR FARE DOES NOT INCLUDE

China visa processing fee \$180/each for Canadian passport holders, each application.

Airfare between your home city and the designated gateway airport on your itinerary.

A once for all Gratuities for local guides, drivers and porters is \$39/each passenger for the whole journey.

Items of personal nature such as laundry, room service, phone bills, excess baggage charges, optional tours, and insurance premium, as well as any items or services not specifically listed in the itinerary are not included.

TOUR FARE VALIDITY

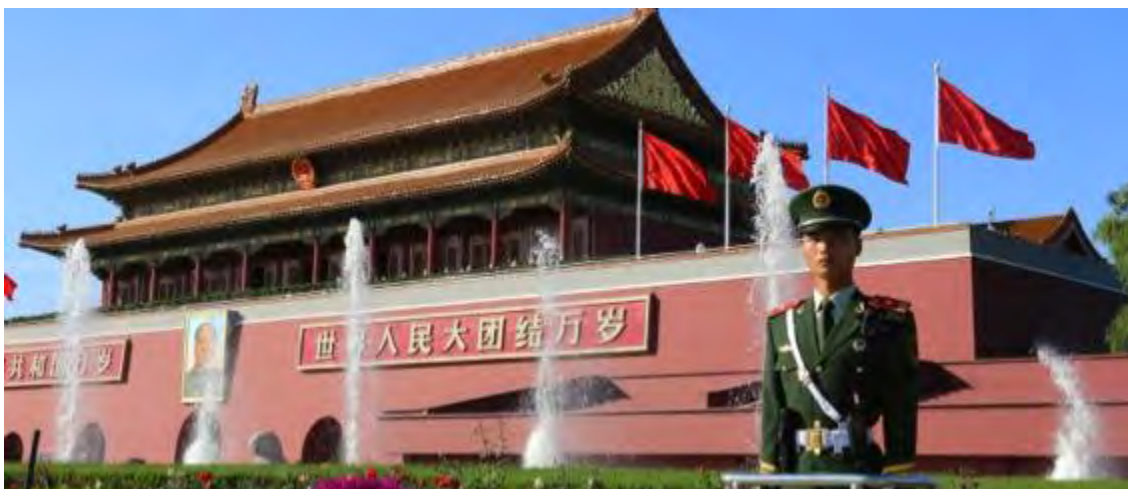
All tour fares shown are based on the current value of the Chinese (Yuan) RMB in relation to CDN Dollar and are subject to change.

PASSENGER INFORMATION

Passengers and the Chamber who purchased the tour are responsible to ensure that Citslinc is provided with correctly spelled names, address, phone number and passport data for each passenger. Names provided to Citslinc must match exactly the first and last name as appearing on passport(s). Failure to do so will result in denial of boarding.

DEPOSIT

A non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person paid to the Chamber organizer is required to secure your reservation. Reservation will not be confirmed until your deposit is cleared with our company. Final tour fare payment is due by July 15th, 2018 for all Fall trips 2018 for all trip depart in October, 2018. Reservation is subject to cancellation if final payment is not received by due date; the deposit will be forfeited. All money must be paid to Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce.



CANCELLATION & REFUND

Notification of tour cancellation for any reason must be in writing by the chamber that purchased the tour. Verbal cancellation by phone is not acceptable. Any cancellation refunds will be calculated from the date the written cancellation is received in our offices. Should traveler(s) cancellation change the room configuration and thereby incurs a single supplement charge to a roommate the amount of charge will be deducted from the travelers' refund. This is in addition to any other cancellation fees that may apply. To receive any refund, all air tickets and all other travel documents must be returned to Citslinc. Applicable refunds will be processed promptly following receipt of the written cancellation and documents. Cancellation Penalty Policy makes any cancellation on or after the day of tour fare payment due date and before the trip departure day lose \$500/each, while any cancellation on or after the departure day lose all the tour fare payment, China visa handling fee is not refundable and is in addition to the above penalty if the visa is processed.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION

All foreign nationals traveling to Mainland China must travel with a valid passport and a visa obtained prior to entering the country. Any passengers participate the trip with Citslinc have to take care of the passport and visa on their own responsibilities. Athabasca Chamber of Commerce will assist you with this process after August 1, 2018.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The world of travel is ever-changing. Therefore, the day-by-day itinerary provided on our website or on the itinerary in your hand is preliminary and subject to adjustment and change. The final verified itinerary will be sent to the Chambers that purchase the tour approximately two weeks prior to departure. Citslinc pledges to make every effort to follow tour itinerary precisely, however unforeseen situations do occasionally occur. If a hotel or flight in the itinerary becomes unavailable, Citslinc reserves the right to make substitution with hotel/flight of equal standard and quality. There will be no refunds for any difference in the cost of those accommodations.



ADD-ON FLIGHTS

Add-on flight between your hometown and the gateway airport on the itinerary is introduced to some of chambers as an optional service, upon request by the chambers, to facilitate the transportation of their passengers to the designated gateway city. Add-on fare is not part of the tour price neither is considered to be part of the tour. Due to the nature of complexity of the add-on flight arrangement, Citslinc cannot guarantee and is not responsible for any change on the flight schedule, flight route, airfare and the availability of the flight. Upon receipt of your add-on airline tickets, the Customer must phone the airlines related to confirm the flight and get their seats assigned. Travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect you from flight change, flight cancellation and travel delays. Citslinc cannot be held responsible for any delayed and/or missed connections whether the add-on flights are arranged by us or not.

SHOPPING

Shopping is always personal matter, and Citslinc is not responsible for any purchases you make during your trip, whether that merchant is part of the scheduled itinerary or not.

GRATUITIES

The customary gratuities to the tour guides, motor coach drivers, porters and wait staff are not included in the tour price. A once for all tipping costs \$39 throughout the whole journey.

BAGGAGE

Baggage is carried at passenger's risk and baggage insurance is recommended. Although every efforts is made to handle clients' baggage carefully, Citslinc cannot be responsible, assume liability or accept claims for loss or damage to baggage and personal effects due to



breakage, theft, or wear and tear throughout the trip. Baggage allowance differs for the transpacific and the China domestic sections of your trip. Baggage allowance for transpacific flight is two pieces of checked baggage per person. Total dimensions (Length + Width + Height) of the two pieces must not exceed 107 inches (273cm); maximum dimensions of single piece shall not exceed 62 inches (158cm). Maximum weight per piece is 50 lbs. and total weight of the both pieces is not to exceed 70 lbs. Some airlines only allow for one piece of check-in bag (United for example). Each passenger may carry one hand baggage, the dimensions of which shall not exceed 45 inches (115cm) and a personal hand-carry-on, such as purse, camera bag or computer bag. Baggage in excess of allowances will incur excess baggage charge payable on site by the passenger. Your luggage should be limited to one large checked suitcase and one small carry-on bag per person. Valuables, breakable items, travel documents and medications must be carried personally in a hand baggage.

HEALTH & MEDICAL ISSUES

Our trips are exciting and active vacations. While there is time to relax, there will also be much to see and do, and your excursions may require an extensive amount of walking. Please check with your personal physician to verify your particular needs. You are strongly recommended to purchase a travel insurance to protect you for the unexpected. Citslinc is not responsible for any costs incurred as a result of medical services or for the quality of medical care received. For information on health issues while traveling overseas, please contact the Centre of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by visiting www.cdc.gov/travel

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance to protect yourself and your investment in case you have to cancel or interrupt your vacation.

DOCUMENTS

Final documents including air tickets, hotel lists, final tour itinerary, clothing suggestions, name badges, luggage tags and other pertinent information will be prepared by the chambers who purchased the tour, with the information from Citslinc e-mailed to the chambers approximately one month prior to departure.

SELLER OF TRAVEL & TICO

Citslinc is Registered Seller of Travel in the State of California, Washington and Florida, and TICO of Ontario.

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY

Citslinc acts only as independent contractors acting on behalf of neither the customer (herein referred to as “you”) nor the travel suppliers. As a tour operator, Citslinc organizes and sells tour programs consisting of certain services, including air, surface, and water transportation, hotel/cruise accommodations, sightseeing excursions and other package programs that Citslinc purchases or reserves from various suppliers (herein referred to as “Suppliers”). Citslinc does not own nor operate any of these Suppliers.

The Suppliers providing travel services for Citslinc are all independent contractors, and are not agents, affiliates, or subsidiaries of Citslinc. As such, Citslinc cannot be held responsible for any negligent or willful act of any supplier or of any third party. The passage contracts in use by the Suppliers such as airlines, cruise lines, motor coach lines, rail companies, local land operators, hotels and other travel providers whose services are included in your tour package, when issued, shall constitute the sole agreements between you and such third party suppliers, and are subject to the terms and conditions specified by each individual supplier. Citslinc assumes no responsibility for any itinerary changes imposed by the airlines or China local tour operator.

Citslinc reserves the right to change the departure date of any trip, withdraw any tours, alter tour itinerary, and substitute hotels, airlines, land travel operators, and any aspect of your tour package for the convenience of the operation of tours. In the event of cancellation, alteration or substitution of such services due to the operation of the Suppliers, delays, weather, act of government authority or other causes of whatever nature beyond the control of Citslinc comparable services would be offered; and, there shall be no refund or penalties in this connection. Citslinc reserves the right to decline to accept, or retain any person as tour member if such person’s physical or mental conditions, in our opinion, impede the operation of the tour. Citslinc reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure for any reason. Liability for such cancellation is limited to full refund of money received by Citslinc. Doing so will constitute full settlement with the tour member. Airlines, motor coach and other transportation carriers concerned shall not be liable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are



not on board their planes or conveyances. All transportation carriers herein mentioned shall have or incur no responsibility for liability to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Hotel profiles are based upon information provided to Citslinc by hotels and cruise ships, or their representatives, including images and descriptions of individual properties. Star-ratings may differ from country to country. Citslinc does its best to maintain current information, however, is not responsible for any inaccuracies, changes in features or amenities, or images provided by third parties. Payment of the required deposit constitutes consent to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained herein for all travelers covered by the payment. The General Conditions under which you agree to utilize the services of Citslinc in arranging the tours may not be amended in any way except in writing signed by an authorized officer of Citslinc. Citslinc reserves the right to modify this Terms & Conditions, and Customer's continued use of this service will be conditioned upon the Terms & Conditions in force at the time of use. Citslinc makes every effort to ensure accuracy on the website and brochure; however, Citslinc cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions in the publications.

CLAIMS & JURISDICTION

All claims against the tour operators must be filed in writing within 30 days after completion of the tour. By utilizing the services of Citslinc, you agree that the exclusive venue for all claims, actions or proceedings against Citslinc of whatsoever nature arising out of this contract shall be the State of California; and, such claim actions or proceedings shall be determined according to the laws and jurisdiction of the State of California.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

By booking one of these vacation packages, you acknowledge that in all events Citslinc shall not be liable for any consequential, psychological or emotional damage and that the sole extent of liability of Citslinc shall never exceed the amount actually paid by you to Citslinc.



OPTIONAL TOURS FOR 10N11D GROUP

DAY 3 BEIJING -

Peking Opera - 39USD/person, 49USD/person for VIP seat

Peking Opera is the masterpiece of China's traditional culture and art and it is born in Beijing. Until today it is more than three hundred years old. The Opera lasts an hour and thirty minutes, covering several different plays, of which some are full of fighting and some traditional singing and dancing. The show is beautiful for its colourful costumes, impressive facial designs and staging style of oriental culture.

**Clients not attending the evening show: we will arrange transfer back to hotel for a rest.*

The Legend of Kung Fu 39USD/person

The Legend of Kung Fu is the a production which combines the elements of kung fu, story-telling, acrobatics, modern dance, and original music to celebrate the philosophy and skill of martial arts. The show tells the story of a young boy, Chun Yi (the pure one), who in order to pursue spiritual and physical harmony is apprenticed as a monk to learn kung fu. Along the way he overcomes obstacles, is distracted and tempted, but ultimately achieves the designation of master who will enlighten the younger generations. Invited by Canada's most experienced cultural brokers, John Cripton of Great World Artists, 'Chun Yi: The Legend of Kung Fu' had its first North America tour from August 2005 to January 2006. During the time, it played 150 performances in Calgary, Toronto, Reno and other North American cities and won enormous audience admiration.

**People that are not attending the evening show: we will arrange transfer back to hotel for a rest.*

DAY 5 BEIJING –

Hutong Tour - 39USD/person

Hutong is a traditional living area for ordinary Beijing citizens, the history of which dates back to 1000 years ago. Hundreds of thousands of houses of traditional architecture style are densely flanked on both sides of narrow and zigzag streets in which people have been living a peaceful and traditional life there through many generations. Tourists will first get on a traditional rickshaw, two for each, for a Hutong tour, riding through those narrow streets tracing the taste of

the historical life of an oriental country. Afterwards, tourists will visit local families interviewing their life and cooking Chinese dumplings with the family members. During lunch time, tourists will be served with delicious Chinese domestic dishes and the dumpling tourists make. During the two hours Hutong tour tourists will learn a lot of China's modern life and its people. It is another highlight after the Great Wall.

**People who are not going on the Hutong Tour: the local guide will take the clients to have lunch at local restaurant.*



DAY 6 SUZHOU –

Canal Cruise - 29USD/person

It will be over one hour boat ride on the canals. That will be quite an experience for you. Part of the cruise will be on the ancient Grand Canal, which was dug up over 1,300 years ago. This Grand Canal with a total length of 1,100 miles is the longest man-made canal in the world, far longer than the Suez Canal and the Panama Canal. It is one of the two most famous engineering feats in China. And part of the cruise will be on the smaller side canals in the old part of the city. This will be the most interesting part of the cruise. Since you can not only see the water country view with old arched bridges and old houses on the two sides of the canal, which this city is famous for, but also you will get a first-hand view of what life is like living on the canal. Laundry hanging on lines to dry, children playing and waving, potted plants bathing in the

sun and women doing laundry in the canal are common sights along the canal. Half way of the cruise you will also make a stop in the old part of the city to explore the real life of the ordinary people. There is a local market there, and you will have the chance to see a lot of interesting things of the daily life of the local natives. That will also be a fun experience. The canal cruise will be the charm of the “Venice of the East”.

**People who are not going on the tour will walk around the local wedding dress market with our guide*

DAY10 SHANGHAI -

ERA Show - 39USD/person

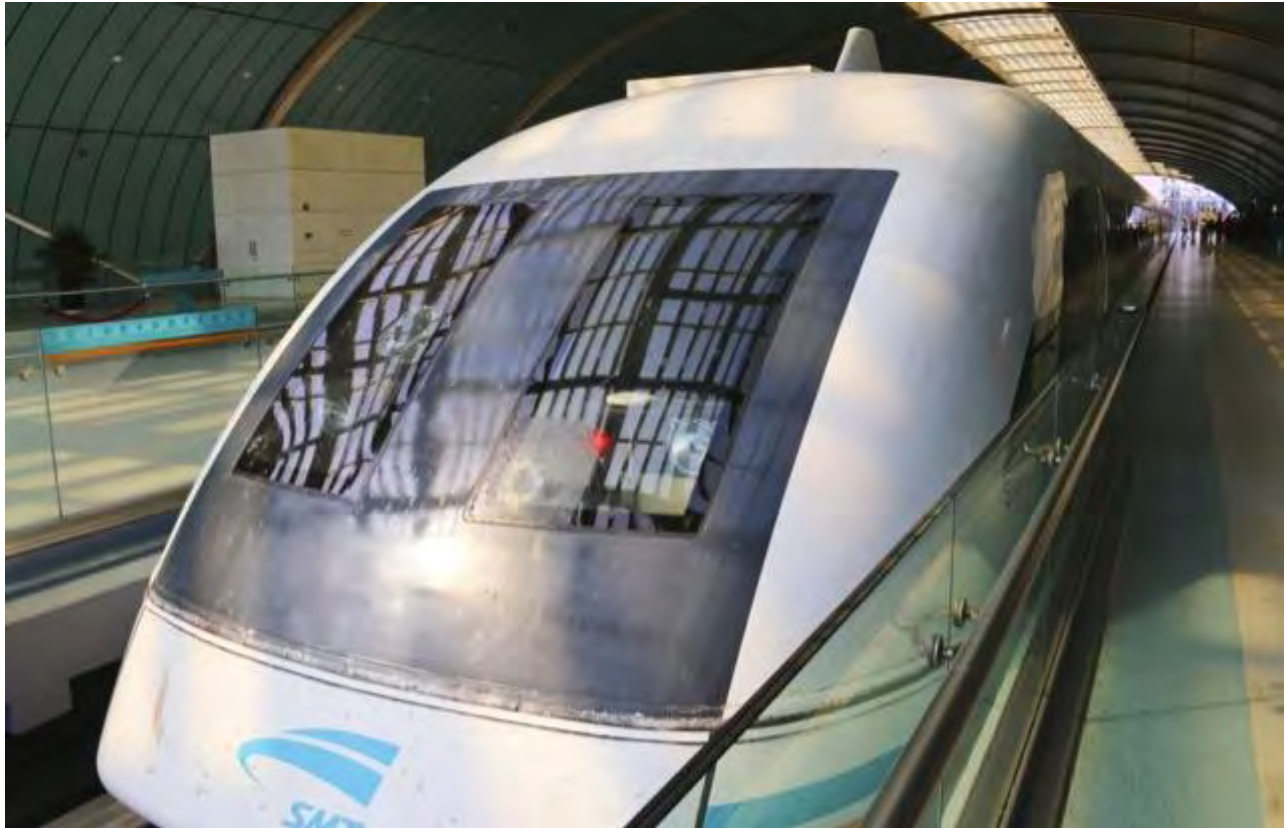
Invested with nearly US \$10 million created by international masters, the first of its kind in China, ERA is a multimedia odyssey whose inspiration is a direct result of the combination of traditional Chinese acrobatic arts and modern technology. Just like Shanghai, ERA evolves through a constant collision between the past and future. ERA is a love story, yet it is also contemplation across the millennia, a fascination with that other dimension man has yet to conquer: time. Not only will the audience be amazed by the acrobats' control and precision, they will be enchanted by the world that is created through the use of multimedia, technology, lighting and sound effects, elaborate costumes, original live music and a lot more. The one and a half hour show tells of a fascinating story with a journey of “past”, “present” and “future”. The audience will be subject to the stimulation of vision, wind, surrounding sound and effect of light or no light... Making them become show participants. As such, ERA can remain universal, without language or cultural barriers. A thousand-year-old gesture is worth a thousand emotions, a thousand images, a thousand words ...

**People who are not going on the show will be on the private tour in the evening on their own*

Maglev Train - 25USD/person - Round Trip

The first and the only commercial rail line of its type in the world, links Metro Line 2 at Longyang Road with the Pudong International Airport by a train traveling at top speed of 431 kilometers per-hour which is much faster than the Bullet Train in Japan. Shanghai Maglev Train takes only 7 minutes and 20 seconds to cover 30 kilometer trip, which currently takes 30 to 40 minutes by driving. Invested with a total amount of 10 billion Yuan, it took 2.5 years to complete. Powered

by electromagnetism, when running it is suspended in air, about 10 millimeters above the track on a magnetic cushion. It brings a speed revolution to the world in ground transportation, and riding on the train will be an exciting experience for you!



Payment:

Beijing: payment of optional tours can only be cash.

East China: payment of above tours could be either cash or credit card (credit card payment will be for those who are running out of cash. The only credit card paying time will be on Day 7 at lunch time in Suzhou.

We strongly recommend the above optional tours which are well worth going with a never-forgettable experience. Of course you are free to make your own judgment and decision.

SHOPPING

Jade Factory BEIJING - Jade articles produced in ancient China were used in sacrificial ceremonies, rituals and adornments. With their solid and smooth quality, and lustrous colours, jade products have always been famous for their beauty and style. In ancient time, jade was only used for personal ornaments. After the middle and later Neolithic age, large jade articles replaced small ones. Large jade article usually symbolizing a certain prestige began to reflect the ideas of social class system and ancient religions. In the book of Rites, jade is described as “mild, smooth and lustrous like the virtue of a kind and decent man. It is cut with angles and corners, but will not hurt anyone, like the virtue of a righteous man. A jade ornament worn as a pendant is like benign, modest man of good manners. When it is struck, it gives a clear, resonant and lingering sound which lasts till it comes to a sudden stop, just like the attitude of a man of virtue toward music. The beauty of a piece of jade co-exists with its flaws which are not covered up, like the behavior of a loyal and honest man. It is crystalline and transparent and shiny, like the quality of purity which springs from the bottom of a good man’s heart.” So the art of jade carving and traditional is most representative respect of Chinese culture, it is subtle to detail, deeply involved in craftsmanship and natural beauty, which shows a unique form of the glorious Chinese civilization.



Pearl BEIJING - As early as 4000 years ago, Chinese people discovered a kind of delicate gem with soft brilliance when searching ocean for food. This is pearl. Since then, countless pearl

jewelry and artwork have been created by talented Chinese people. Hence, pearl has been one of the important parts of Chinese culture. The first book note of pearl is four thousand years ago in China. And people in China have been collecting, growing, and harvesting pearls for over two thousand years - we have the oldest pearl production tradition anywhere in the world. China was also the first country to develop cultured pearls, around 1082 A.D. The country is huge, with diverse waterways that provide many different environments for oysters providing kinds of freshwater pearls and salted-water pearls.

Pearls have been harvested and cultivated primarily for use in jewelry, but in the past they were also stitched onto lavish clothing. Pearls have also been crushed and used in cosmetics, medicines, and in paint formulations. Generally, salt water pearls are higher in quality than freshwater pearls. They often have a smooth, round, regular shape—freshwater pearls tend to be more irregular. Salt water pearls have a glossy surface with moderate luster. Their colour is most often white or light. Because a salt water oyster can produce only one pearl, while a freshwater mollusc can produce several at once, salt water pearls are more rare than freshwater—and thus more expensive.

DongLin Silk Factory SUZHOU - Jiangsu Provincial Department of Commerce silk located at No. 636, Xiyuan Road, the crossways of Xiyuan Road and Xihuan Road, is one of the biggest tourist shopping centres all around the country at present time. And it is the sub-company belonging to Dongling Group which has an abundance of manpower and natural resources. As known for all of us that the silk culture of Suzhou have been famous all round the world for years. And the silk identification centre of our silk research institute has inherited and exalted this traditional culture. The shopping centre has many special items, such as silkworm's feeding, choose cocoons, boil cocoons, silk-reeling, silk-throwing and silk weaving. All the processes are full of traditional features and they have exhibited the comfort and magnificence of the traditional silk to the tourists all round the world. Especially the "long-lived" brand silk quilt, which has the advantage of light, soft and warm, is popular with the tourists both at home and abroad.

Lan Liyuan Embroidery Research Institute SUZHOU - Lan Liyuan Embroidery Research Institute, located at No 518 Huqiu Road, is one of the biggest embroidery research institutes in China. Suzhou or "Su" embroidery is one of the oldest embroidery techniques in the world, with origins stretching back more than 2,000 years. Suzhou embroidery was one of the first embroidery styles to be developed in China, but its detailed needlework and intricate images are

still produced today. It is a style characterized by brightly coloured silk embroidered with well-proportioned and uncluttered representations of almost any pastoral scene, person, animal, or object. Examples of Suzhou embroidery were so detailed and intricate that many people used the pieces as artwork, and some of the oldest pieces still in existence date back hundreds of years.

MeiJiawu Tea Culture Village HANGZHOU - Hangzhou's Mei Jiawu tea culture village has more than 600 years of history. It is situated to the west of the famous West Lake scenic area, to the south of the Mei Lin tunnel and runs along both sides of Mei Lin road for ten miles. The village is located in a deep and secluded valley and is surrounded entirely by green hills. With small streams running down through the valley and abundance of wild life, this fertile land is a true paradise on earth. The fragrant green tea aroma that fills the atmosphere is that of the famous West Lake Dragon Well green tea. Mei Jiawu remains Hangzhou's most affluent suburb and is characterized by the timeless tea farmers who continue to farm and labour in the same manner as their ancestors. The area remains an important tourist attraction allowing the promotion of Chinese tea culture across the world. During 1950s' and 1960s' Mei Jiawu had already been a focal point for opening Chinese culture to the world. As a sightseeing village, it has received a lot of distinguished guests from both home and abroad. Today Mei Jiawu's exquisite scenery, unique style and friendly character have firmly placed it on the world map as a representative of Chinese tea culture. Of the four green teas found within Hangzhou, Mei Jiawu's Dragon Well green tea is renowned as the finest of all.

It's strong pleasant fragrance and light refreshing taste with a soft sweet after bite have made it a favourite choice for not only the people of China but for the people of the world. The warm hospitable small tea village is both honest and sincere in its invitation for both Chinese and foreign tourists to visit Mei Jiawu and appreciate Dragon Well green tea as much as they do.

Shanghai Artistic Carpet Factory SHANGHAI - Shanghai Artistic Carpet Factory was set up in 1904 with a long history, which is almost 100 years. Now, it is a big government carpet woven factory with six branches distributed around suburbs of Shanghai. They have about 2000 fixed employees and professional designers. They are one of the biggest produce and sale carpet factories in South China. They can also design and produce according to the customers' demands. They attach great attention to the quality and credit, try to seek high quality for living

and they won good reputation during the national carpet quality competition many times. Most of their products are exported to America, European countries and so on.

Xi'an Art Ceramic & Lacquer Ware Factory XIAN - Xi'an Art Ceramic & Lacquer Ware Factory also named Terracotta army museum government factory. It shows how to make the real Qing Dynasty terracotta warriors, we know there are 8,000 individual warriors in the Terracotta warriors museum, but we don't know how to make it in the Qing Dynasty, many tourists feel wonder. We can get this answer in it. We also can see the some lacquer products, which has long history in China. Such as lacquer panel screens, lacquer furniture, elm wood and other precious hard wood furniture.

Lacquer furniture FACTORY XIAN - The Lacquer ware products had a very long history in China. More than 3000 years ago the ancient people realized it is much more comfortable to sit on the chairs than on the ground. From then on the lacquer ware products become better and better gradually. It reached the peak in the Ming and Qing Dynasty. Nowadays our craftsmen develop and make various lacquer ware products, such as the lacquer panel screens, all kinds of furniture and other precious hard wood furniture. You will find something you like.



SAMPLE RESTAURANTS

Beijing - Golden Palace Restaurant

Braised Beef Brisket Beef fillet with Oyster sauce, Fried Chicken fillet, Sweet and Sour Pork, Braised eggplants, Fries, Sauté Seasonal vegetable, Diced chicken with bean paste sauce, Rice, Chinese traditional dumpling, Oxtail soup.

Suzhou - Lan Li Garden Restaurant

Fried shrimp with pepper and salt, Special-flavoured minced pork, Fried fish with tomato sauce, Fried chicken nugget, Bean curd with ham, mushroom and shrimp, Poached sliced pork in hot chili oil, Braised eggplant with minced pork, Two seasonal vegetables, Mixed vegetable soup with ketchup, Suzhou-style fried rice.

Hangzhou - Li Ly Hotel

Deep fried fish row with tomato sauce, Braised meat ball, Braised pork with bun, Braised beef brisket with potato, Kung Pao Chicken, Fried season vegetable, Fried cabbage, Tomato with eggs soup, Noodles with soy-bean paste, Cream cake.

Shanghai - Dai jia Cun Restaurant

Borscht, Chicken chop salad, Fillet beef Teppanyaki, Dai jia la wei, Special Chinese sausage, Sweet and sour weever, Homemade pita bread, Dry pot wild mushroom, Curry flavour potato, Dry pot lotus root, Scrambled egg fried rice, Fried noodles.

Xian - Hantangtianxia Restaurant

Vegetable soup, Roast beef tenderloin with Black bean sauce, Pork fillet with sugar and vinegar sauce, Sautéed Shredded Pork in Sweet Bean Sauce, Stir fry ham with vegetable, Braised meatball with potatoes, Sauté Cauliflower with Oyster Sauce, Sauté Seasonal Vegetable, Braised eggplants, Egg fried rice, Stir fried noodles with vegetable.



FAQ

REGISTRATION:

Who can travel on the Chamber of Commerce trip?

Anyone who purchases the all-inclusive package prior to July 15, 2018 may travel. Members and non-members are welcome, as are young people and retired travelers.

Are there any information sessions available?

Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce will hold a seminar late June to go over these points.

What is the cost and what is included in the trip?

Trip A – Classic China:

\$2,299 for 11 days Open to everyone

Trip B – Terra-Cotta Warriors:

\$2,499 for 11 days Open to everyone.

This price includes round trip international airfare from Calgary, 4 and 5 star hotel accommodations, deluxe tour bus transportation in China, a knowledgeable English-speaking tour guide in each city, three full meals every day, and fees for all attractions. Trip price is based on double occupancy, should you require single occupancy an additional \$500 will be applied to your registration.

A one-time payment of \$39 USD will be collected in China on day one to cover all your gratuities for the trip.

What is not included in the cost of the trip?

Your Chinese Visa processing fee is not included and is approximately \$180 per application good for a max 10 years.

A one-time payment for gratuities for all local guides, drivers and porters of \$39 per person for the whole journey.

Items of personal nature such as laundry, room service, phone bills, excess baggage charges, optional tours, and insurance.

May I register in a separate room?

Registration is based on double occupancy. However, if you require a separate room, you may upgrade for an additional \$500.

What is the registration deadline?

All registrations must be completed by July 15, 2018. A \$400 non-refundable deposit must be paid at the time of registration to secure your reservation. The balance owing is due July 15, 2018.

What if I cancel?

You will need to cancel in writing to the Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce prior to July 15, 2018, at which time your payment will be refunded, less the non-refundable deposit of \$400. After that time, a cancellation fee of \$900 per traveler is due.

When will I receive my final itinerary?

The itinerary will be finalized by mid-August 2018 and will be given to all registrants with flight numbers and times; hotel names, addresses and phone numbers; name badge and luggage tags. Please wait to book any connecting travel until this information is received.

What travel documents do I need?

1. Registration Form with your \$400 non-refundable deposit
2. Waiver Form
3. A valid passport (expiration date must be valid six months after your return date – there are no exceptions to this requirement)
4. China Visa

I am travelling from outside Calgary, when should I book my connecting travel?

We recommend waiting until the final itinerary is released in the middle of August. Please give yourself a minimum of three hours between flights when traveling internationally. We will search for a reasonable hotel near the airport with a shuttle bus for those who would like to come the day prior to flight time. You will return home mid day so please be sure you have enough time to board your flight back to Edmonton. If we have 30 or more people we may arrange a bus from Athabasca to Calgary return. Check with Chamber to book bus trip.

Chinese Travel Visa: When should I apply for my China Visa?

Your Visa should be applied for four to six weeks in advance of your trip, but no earlier than three months. We will have your final itinerary ready by the middle of August, which you will need prior to applying. The visa is good for 10 years past the date of issue (Some exceptions will apply but we will notify you as to what these are), the process should only take about one to two weeks.

Special Bulk Visa Application by Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce staff

We will offer a special bulk China Visa opportunity approximately the middle of August or early September. You will need to bring your signed Visa application and your passport to the Chamber office. It will take approximately two weeks to get your Visa and passport back. The cost for this service is TBD. Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce staff will type your application for you as the Chinese embassy is very fussy. We must have the information by August 20th.

**If you plan to go in person with your passport, you should make an appointment in advance on their website.*

Trip Partners: Who/What is Citslinc?

The Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Citslinc International to produce this trip. Citslinc International, Inc. is a tour operator established in 1992 in Monterey Park, California. Leo Liu is the president of Citslinc and has been coordinating tours to China for more than 15 years. He has partnered with over 1000 Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade since 2001 and each year more than 10,000 tourists visit China on Chamber tours like this trip offered by the Athabasca District Chamber of Commerce.

Before you Travel: Do I need travel insurance?

Medical, cancellation and baggage insurance are strongly recommended. Some travelers may already have coverage through credit card packages, home insurance riders, BCAA packages or other insurance vehicles.

Do I need vaccinations?

While immunizations are not required for entry into China at this time, you may wish to check with your health care provider or a travel health clinic to go over your vaccination needs and

travel health advice. You can also check the Canadian government website at

www.voyage.gc.ca

Will my cell phone work in China? Your cell phone might work in China but check with your provider. Your provider can also give you the service package options available to you to add onto your cell phone. You may want to purchase an international calling card as well. Cell phone use in China can be expensive.

Will I have access to Wi-Fi?

Most hotels have Wi-Fi. On previous trips our travelers have found that they can make free phone calls back to Canada using various apps such as VoIP or MagicJack.

Packing: How much luggage can I bring?

Each traveler is allowed one carry-on and two checked bags. The checked bags should not weigh more than 50lbs each or 70 lbs total. Valuables, breakable items, travel documents and medications should be in your carry-on luggage. You may want to ensure that you have sufficient room for bringing back any purchases and gifts.

Personal Needs: How much money should I bring and can I use credit cards and ATMs?

Bringing \$400 to \$500 CDN in cash is appropriate if you like to shop - small and fairly new CDN bills (\$5, \$10, \$20). Small bills come in handy because street vendors do not typically give change. US \$1 bills work well with street vendors. Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted in China.

Use small bills \$1 and \$5 as they do not make change easily. ATMs will dispense Chinese Yuan. Currency exchange is available at all hotels, banks and airports, but these places exchange only a small amount (\$75-\$100) into the Chinese Yuan. You may also purchase Chinese Yuan before you depart but you may have to pre-order at your bank or financial institution. Factory stores typically take credit cards. Optional tours are paid for in cash and the one-time only gratuity payment of \$39 USD will be collected in cash.

What will the weather be like?

The temperature will range from 8C to 20C. The day-time weather is comfortable, but the temperature will be cooler in the morning and night. Light rain occurs from time to time.

What type of clothing should I pack for my trip?

Most days you will be wearing comfortable sight-seeing clothes. Dress in layers as you will not be returning to the hotel during the day. A long-sleeved shirt and a light jacket will be enough for daytime, but you will want to add a layer or have to a thick jacket for early mornings and the evenings. We will not be going to fancy restaurants so do not bring evening clothes. You will be required to walk a fair amount, so bring comfortable shoes. Also, be prepared that the Great Wall has lots of stairs. If you have signed up for a Business meeting – men, please wear a coat and tie; and women, please wear business professional attire (dress, pant-suit, etc.). There are no cultural no-noes regarding dress, so be comfortable but dress professional at business meetings.

What personal items should I bring?

The air quality can be poor, so if you have any breathing issues, bring all medications you will need. Travelers on previous Chamber trips have not found great difficulty with the air quality and have not needed masks. If you have allergy tendencies, bring antihistamines and decongestants. Also bring anti-diarrhea medication such as Imodium and Pepto-Bismol. Bring over the counter medications you prefer, such as “Tums” or “Advil” as they are hard to find in China and you will not have the opportunity to easily purchase them. Bring hand sanitizer, hand wipes, and several packets of toilet paper (see info on bathrooms below).

What voltage is used in China?

China uses 220V. Most new small appliances such as razors, hair-dryers and phone/camera charges are designed for 110/220. You may not need a voltage converter but you may need a plug adapter. You can purchase these ahead of time at electronics stores or luggage stores or you may rent them from the hotel.

Air Travel: What time should I arrive at the airport?

It is recommended that travelers arrive 3 hours prior to departure as seats are assigned at the check-in counter.

Am I guaranteed a specific seat on the plane?

Travelers are not guaranteed a specific or assigned seat on the flights. Seats will be assigned at the airport check-in counter, thus it is important to arrive early.

What about airport security?

The best information can be found at www.catsa-acsta.gc.ca

What airline are we flying on?

Airline information will be finalized after the trip is paid for in full. Either Hainan Airlines or Air China will be chosen based on availability and pricing at the time of booking.

How long is the flight and what will happen during the flight?

The flight is roughly 11-12 hours depending on the flight itinerary, during which two meals will be served and three movies shown. Flight attendants will also distribute yellow arrival certification cards that should be filled out during the flight and presented at immigration before going to the baggage claim to get your luggage. You will cross the International Dateline, and connect through Shanghai to Beijing where you will be met by your tour guide and transported to the Beijing hotel.

On Tour: What is the typical daily schedule?

The program is fast-paced and includes full-days of walking and travelling. Typically there would be a 6am wake up, 7am breakfast, 8am bus departure and we would return to hotel by 8pm. The longest walk will be when the group visits the Forbidden City and will cover 5kms in 2.5 hours. Wheel chairs are available.

What will the bus travel be like?

You will be assigned the same bus with the same people for the entire trip. Each bus will have approximately 25- passengers. Your seat on the bus will be “yours” for the day. You may leave personal items on the bus for the day, but take any valuables with you. The bus rides between cities will take approximately: from Shanghai to Suzhou - 1 1/2 hours; Suzhou to Hangzhou - 2 1/2 hours; Hangzhou to Shanghai - 3 hours. Cold water and beer will be available for purchase on the bus. There are no wash-rooms on the bus but adequate provision is made for stops with wash-room access.

Will language be a problem?

Your tour guides speak excellent English. English is also spoken at the hotels. Others will probably speak limited English but often will want to engage you in conversation in order to practice.

What are the guidelines on tipping?

The bus Captain will collect \$39 USD from each traveler on the first day to cover all your gratuities. Unless you request special services, you should not expect to tip anyone else.

Will I have the opportunity to travel outside of the tour group?

No. You may not leave the tour to travel or sightsee on your own except during designated free time during portions of certain days.

What can I expect as far as hotels?

All hotels are 4 and 5-star and have Western-style facilities including Internet service. The hotels have power adapters, but it is recommended that you bring your own adapter. Four and five-star hotels in Asia are luxurious.

What are the exact hotels that we will be staying at?

The hotels listed on the draft itinerary are tentative and subject to change as there are a number of Four and Five-star hotels (comparable to Sheraton, Hilton, Marriott) that are used by Citisline. When you receive your final itinerary in mid-August, you will receive the confirmed hotel information.

What type of food will I be served and what happens if I have food allergies or special dietary needs?

Because of the size of the group, it is not possible to provide special meals. However, the guides will assist you to see that your needs are met as best as possible. Breakfast will be a Western and Asian-style buffet at the hotel. Lunch and dinner are family-style at local Chinese restaurants. This involves 8-10 people at a large round table. Servers bring out platters of food for the table. Rice is served at every meal. Fresh fruit is typically the only dessert. As for beverages, soft drinks and beer are served. There are many vegetables in Chinese meals.

Can I drink the tap water in China?

No. Citslinc International, Inc. recommends that travelers not drink Chinese tap water or use ice. Bottled water is available at your hotel or can be purchased on the bus or from local vendors. Travelers may drink hot tea, and bottled water may be purchased for about \$1 for two bottles.

What are the bathrooms like in China?

Western-style bathrooms are provided at each hotel but if you need to use a rest-room outside your hotel - many are a hole in the floor, without toilet paper provided. Make sure to take toilet paper with you. Baby wipes also come in handy.

Are there any foods that I should avoid in China?

Yes. Citslinc International, Inc. recommends that travelers avoid food from street vendors.

How is the shopping in China?

We will be visiting many stores and factories, some offering merchandise that is not readily available in Canada. The level of service provided can feel intimidating but don't feel obligated to buy. Some stores are able to ship purchases home for you. It is culturally expected that shoppers will negotiate prices with vendors and that the actual purchase price of most items will be several times below the original asking price. Most vendors accept US/CDN dollars. For cash transactions, please be aware that most vendors do not make change and it is always best to carry small bills whenever shopping in China. Many larger factories do take credit cards, but be prepared with cash.

