

## OPTIONAL SUZHOU AND SHANGHAI EXTENSION

4 days | Explore the Canals and Gardens of Suzhou and City of Shanghai

An important city renowned for its historical and cultural heritage as well as for its natural beauty, **Suzhou** has been called "Capital of Silk," "Land of Abundance," "World of Gardens" and "the Heaven on the Earth." In 1981, this ancient city was listed by the State Council as one of the four cities (the other three being Beijing, Hangzhou and Guilin) where the protection of historical and cultural heritage as well as natural scenery should be treated as a priority. **Shanghai**, the eighth largest city in the world (over 22 million people), is one of China's most cosmopolitan areas, virtually the only one that strikes an immediately familiar chord with Western visitors. This impressive city considers itself the leading cultural and educational center of China.

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

##### Day Trip to Suzhou

📍 Suzhou, China

Drive via private motor coach to Suzhou this morning with your local guide.

Start your tour of Suzhou with a visit to the beautiful **Lingering Garden**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The almost six acre garden is divided into four distinctly themed sections with amazing architecture, perfectly combined corridors, artificial hills, rocks, ponds and other water features.



Later this morning visit the **No. 1 Silk Spinning Factory** or a small workshop. The city is famous for its traditional hand-made embroidery and silk products. With a history of over 2,000 years, Suzhou embroidery is considered "The Pearl of Oriental Art" for its excellent materials, unique designs, varied stitches, superb workmanship and elegant colors. You will have the opportunity to go behind the scenes to see how silk is collected and spun and to peruse the attached shopping areas to perhaps pick up a few key pieces for your personal collection.

After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy a boat ride on the **Grand Canal**. The Grand Canal is the longest man-made waterway in the world and stretches 1,100 miles through eastern China. Take a boat ride along the Suzhou section of the canal which was built by ancient emperors beginning back in 605. This trip will show you the bridges, canals, streets, markets, houses, as well as the locals' daily life.



Return to Shanghai late this afternoon where dinner will be on your own.

#### DAY 2: SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

##### Explore Shanghai

📍 Shanghai, China

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, start your tour of Shanghai with a stop at the **People's Square** to explore the ancient and modern Chinese art of the **Shanghai Museum**. This delightful museum is famous for its bronze, ceramics, calligraphy, and other ancient furniture. Also stop for a short visit to the **Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center** before heading to lunch at a local restaurant.



After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the **Jade Buddha Temple**. The current temple was built in 1918 and highlights the two Buddha statues that survived the revolution overthrowing the Qing Dynasty. The statues were originally from Burma and are a beautiful representation of jade artwork on a grand scale.

Return to the hotel for some time to relax before an **evening cruise** on the Huangpu River. Take in the impressive scenery along the riverbank as you relax and enjoy the view. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel.

### DAY 3: SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

#### Cultural Explorations of Shanghai

📍 Shanghai, China

Begin your final day in Shanghai with a visit to see **Xintiandi Shopping District** including a short stop at the **Shikumen Museum** and **Museum of Cultural Revolution Picture Posters**. Your guide will show some of the highlights of both facilities before you have some time to explore the shopping area.

After lunch, explore the **Shanghai World Financial Center** located in Lujiazui Financial Area in Shanghai, one of the most dynamic areas in the world. Make your way to the top of **Shanghai World Financial Center** for a bird's eye view of Shanghai.

Return to the hotel for some time to relax prior to a final dinner at a local restaurant. Finish up your journey with a visit to an **Acrobat Show** at ERA.

### DAY 4: SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

#### Fly Home

After breakfast, transfer to Longyang Railway Station for the Maglev train ride to the international airport for your flight home (arrival same day).

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

##### Narada Boutique Hotel

🌐 [www.naradaboutiquehotel.com](http://www.naradaboutiquehotel.com)

839 Renmin Road (Renmin Lu)  
Shanghai, P. R. China

International number:  
++86-21-6326-5666



## PROGRAM INFO

**Date & Length:** 4 days September 24–27, 2018

**Extension cost:** \$999 per person | *Single supplement:* \$299

**Inclusions:** Group airport transfers (including Maglev train ride) and baggage handling, meals and activities as mentioned, all tips and accommodations based on double occupancy.

**Not Included:** Hotel incidentals, spa services and meals not mentioned.

*To participate in the optional extension, complete and return the extension registration form. Return no later than 90 days prior to departure or within five days of receiving the information.*