



CENTURY CRUISES

Imperial China & Japan + Yangtze River Cruise 18 days


China :Beijing - Xi'an - Chongqing - Yangtze River Cruise (Three Gorges) - Yichang - Jingzhou - Shanghai

Japan: Osaka - Kyoto - Nara - Nagoya - Hamamatsu - Fuji - Tokyo

A DESTINATION OF TRUE LEISURE



CRUISE IN UTMOST LUXURY

- ◎ 9 Nights in 5-star Hotels
- ◎ 3 Nights Onboard Century Glory
- ◎ 30 Meals included
- ◎ Visit 4 World Heritage Sites 
- ◎ Professional English-speaking Tour Guides

Day 1: USA Home city – Beijing

Departure from your home city to Beijing, overnight on international flight.

Day 2: Beijing

Fly to Beijing, the imperial capital of China, with a history spanning over 3,000 years. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by a dedicated airport transfer service and then proceed to check in at the hotel. Hotel: Sheraton Beijing Lize Hotel (5 stars) or similar

Day 3: Beijing (B/L/D)

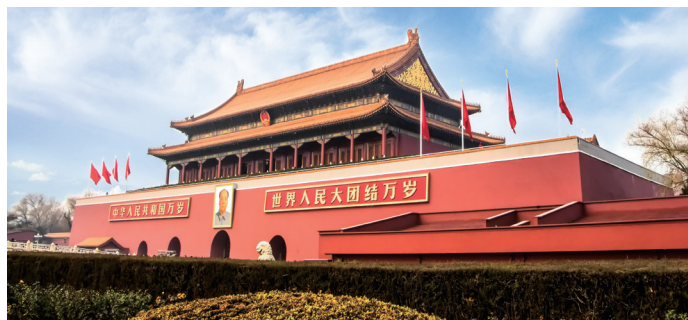
Beijing embodies the beating heart of China, brimming with monumental landmarks that reflect its storied past and thriving economic centers. After breakfast, we will visit Tiananmen Square before entering the imperial-red walls of the magnificent Forbidden City—the emperor's palace. For centuries, this architectural masterpiece was off-limits to commoners, serving as the exclusive residence of emperors, their families, and the imperial court for 500 years. Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it stands as a testament to China's imperial history. After enjoying lunch at a local restaurant, we will visit another UNESCO World Heritage Site—the Temple of Heaven—where emperors once humbled themselves and prayed for a bountiful harvest. In the evening, we will savor a traditional Peking duck welcome dinner, a culinary delight renowned for its crispy skin and rich flavors.

Hotel: Sheraton Beijing Lize Hotel (5 stars) or similar

Day 4: Beijing (B/L)

Enjoy an excursion to the ancient Great Wall, one of the world's most iconic landmarks. Built and maintained from the 5th century BC to the 16th century AD, this UNESCO World Heritage Site, made of sandstone and earthwork, stretches approximately 4,000 miles. Explore its winding pathways and take in the breathtaking panoramic views from its ramparts. In the afternoon, visit the Summer Palace (Yiheyuan), a masterpiece of Chinese garden design and a former royal retreat with lakes, gardens, and palaces. Stroll the Long Corridor, admire the Marble Boat, savor the calm of Kunming Lake, and escape the city's hustle.

Hotel: Sheraton Beijing Lize Hotel or similar (5 stars) or similar



Day 5: Beijing - Xi'an (B/L)

After breakfast, take a city tour in the old town of Beijing: visit the Hutongs with a rickshaw ride, admire the well-kept courtyards of families who still live in this richly historic community, and enjoy lunch at a local resident's home. Fly to Xi'an, one of China's oldest cities. Celebrated as the starting point of the ancient Silk Road. With more than 3,000 years of history, this city played a crucial role in one of China's most glorious cultural periods. Dinner and transfer to the hotel. Hotel: Hilton Xi'an (5 stars) or similar

Day 6: Xi'an (B/L)

Visit the Eighth Wonder of the World: the magnificent Terracotta Warriors. At the enormous mausoleum where Emperor Qin Shi Huang was laid to rest over 2,000 years ago, see the 8,000 life-sized sculpted warriors, archers, and infantrymen who were buried with him. Remarkably, each man and horse was molded with its own distinctive features. The incredible archaeological site was discovered by local farmers in 1974. In the afternoon, we will visit the Grand Wild Goose Pagoda. In the evening, enjoy dinner while watching the spectacular Tang Dynasty Dance Show.

Hotel: Hilton Xi'an (5 stars) or similar

Day 7: Xi'an - Chongqing Century Glory (B/D)

After breakfast, take a high-speed train to Chongqing, known as the 'Mountain City.' Upon arrival, enjoy a city tour to explore its unique urban landscape and vibrant atmosphere.

After dinner, board the Century Glory for an unforgettable Yangtze River journey.

Cruise: Century Glory (5-star cabin with private balcony)

Day 8: Yangtze River Cruise (B/L/D)

Take an excursion to Fengdu Ghost City, a legendary site rich in Chinese mythology and folklore.

In the evening, enjoy the Captain's Welcome Cocktail Party aboard the cruise.

Cruise: Century Glory (5-star cabin with private balcony)

Day 9: Yangtze River Cruise(Three Gorges) (B/L/D)

Journey through the most scenic stretch of the Yangtze River as it carves its way through a breathtaking series of limestone ridges known as the Three Gorges. Cruise through Qutang Gorge, the shortest, narrowest, and most dramatic of the three major gorges. Next, board a smaller boat for an excursion along the Goddess Stream, sailing through awe-inspiring canyons flanked by towering cliffs. Along the way, witness fascinating historical sites, including the hanging coffins of the Ba people and the ancient plank road carved into the cliff-side. Continue sailing through Wu Gorge, renowned for its magnificent scenery and misty peaks.

Cruise: Century Glory (5-star cabin with private balcony)



Day 10: Yangtze River Cruise/Yichang/Jingzhou/Shanghai(B/L)

After breakfast, disembark for a tour of the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric power project, which took nearly 20 years to complete. Get an up-close look at the inner workings of this massive structure and learn how it controls flooding while also leading to the relocation of 1.25 million people. After the tour, transfer by bus to Jingzhou, an ancient hub for trade and transportation, strategically located within a loop of the Yangtze River. Explore the Jingzhou Museum, home to fascinating historical artifacts, and walk along the well-preserved ancient city walls, a testament to the city's rich past. Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Shanghai.

Hotel: Shanghai Marriott Hotel Yangpu Riverside (5 stars) or similar

Day 11: Shanghai(B/L)

After breakfast, take a stroll along the Bund, Shanghai's iconic waterfront promenade, offering stunning views of the city's historic and modern skyline. Then, explore the old Shanghai district of Cheng Huang Miao (City God Temple), a vibrant area known for its traditional architecture, street food, and cultural significance. Continue to Nanjing Road, the city's main shopping street and one of the busiest commercial avenues in the world.

In the afternoon, visit the Shanghai Museum, home to nearly one million artifacts spanning 21 categories. The museum's impressive collections of bronzes, calligraphy, ceramics, and paintings provide a deep insight into China's rich artistic heritage. Enjoy your Huangpu River Cruise in the evening.

Hotel: Shanghai Marriott Hotel Yangpu Riverside (5 stars) or similar

Day 12: Shanghai - Osaka(B)

After breakfast, transfer to Shanghai Pudong International Airport, marking the end of your journey in China. Board your flight to Osaka, Japan. Upon arrival at Kansai International Airport, your local representative will assist you with your transfer to the hotel. After check-in, enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure

Hotel: Osaka Hanshin hotel (4 stars) or similar

Day 13: Osaka - Nara – Osaka (B/L)

After breakfast, transfer to Nara, a city renowned for its iconic cultural and historical sites. Begin your exploration at Todai-ji Temple, built in the 8th century. This vast complex houses several national treasures, including the Daibutsuden (Great Buddha Hall), which enshrines the world's largest bronze statue of Buddha Vairocana. Before returning to Osaka, take a leisurely walk through Nara Park, home to over 1,200 freely roaming wild sika deer, regarded as sacred messengers in Japanese culture. Back in Osaka, visit the Osaka Castle, a historic landmark that played a pivotal role in the unification of Japan during the Azuchi-Momoyama period (16th century). Conclude your journey at Dotonbori, a bustling entertainment district that embodies Osaka's vibrant street food culture and nightlife. Enjoy some free time to explore this dynamic area before boarding your return flight home.

Hotel: Osaka Hanshin hotel (4 stars) or similar

Note: Century Cruises reserved the right to adjust and update the itinerary according to the navigation, weather or conditions of the actual operation.

Day 14: Osaka - Kyoto (B/L)

After breakfast, transfer to Kyoto, Japan's former capital and imperial residence from 794 to 1868. The city is home to countless temples, shrines, and historic landmarks.

Visit the stunning Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion Temple) and Higashi Hongan-ji, then head to Kyoto Station for a perfect shot of Kyoto Tower before stopping for lunch.

Hotel: Mitsui Garden Hotel Kyoto Shijo (4 stars) or similar

Day 15: Kyoto - Nagoya - Hamamatsu - Fuji(B-L/D)

Upon arrival in Nagoya, visit the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology to explore the company's evolution from textile machinery to automotive and robotics innovation. Continue to Gotemba Peace Park for a breathtaking view of Mount Fuji before visiting the Oshino Hakkai, eight pristine ponds fed by Mount Fuji's melting snow, known for their crystal-clear waters. Next, stop at a Sengen Shrine, then enjoy a scenic Lake Kawaguchi cruise, offering stunning views of Mount Fuji. End the day with a traditional hot spring experience and a buffet dinner at a ryokan-style hotel.

Hotel: Tominoko Hotel or similar

Day 16: Fuji – Tokyo(B/L)

After breakfast, visit Meiji Shrine, dedicated to Emperor Meiji and Empress Shōken. Next, head to Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building for a panoramic view of the vast cityscape.

Stroll through Senso-ji Temple (Asakusa Kannon Temple), one of Tokyo's most vibrant and historic temples. For a unique experience, opt for a Kimono rental and capture memorable photos along the ancient streets. Finally, explore Nakamise Shopping Street, an 820-ft long avenue lined with stalls offering traditional Japanese goods and souvenirs.

Hotel: Tokyo Shinagawa Prince Hotel (4stars) or similar

Day 17: Tokyo(B)

After breakfast, enjoy a leisure day in Tokyo, exploring the city's vibrant streets at your own pace. Visit museums to discover Japanese history and art, or indulge in retail therapy at Tokyo's cutting-edge shopping districts. Alternatively, join an optional Modern Tokyo Tour (\$95/pax, includes lunch), featuring:

National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation

Tsukiji Fish Market, renowned for fresh seafood and culinary delights

Shibuya Crossing, one of the world's busiest pedestrian intersections

Hachiko Statue, a symbol of loyalty and devotion

Shinjuku Gyoen Garden, an oasis of tranquility in the city

Free time in Shinjuku, a bustling entertainment and shopping district

After the tour, return to your hotel for a relaxing evening.

Hotel: Tokyo Shinagawa Prince Hotel(4stars) or similar

Day 18: Home City

After breakfast, transfer to Tokyo airport, USA, end of trip.