

## Optional Side Tours – China

### Beijing – Day 4

#### Hutong Tour - \$39 pp

Hutong is a traditional living area for ordinary Beijing citizens, the history of which dates back to 1,000 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 attendees will be served authentic Chinese domestic dishes and the dumpling you make. During the two hour tour, guests will learn a lot of China's modern life and its people.

*\*Guests not taking the Hutong Tour will go with their guide to a have lunch at a local restaurant*

### Beijing – Day 4

#### The Legend of Kung Fu - \$39 pp

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.

*\*Guests not attending the evening show will be transferred back to the hotel.*

### Suzhou – Day 5

#### Canal Cruise - \$29 pp

This is a one-hour boat ride along the canals in Suzhou. 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 manmade canal in the world. 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 firsthand 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 life there. There in a local market, and you can see lots of interesting things in the daily life of locals. It's a fun experience for guests.

*\*Guests not taking the cruise will walk around a local wedding dress market with the local guide.*

### Shanghai – Day 8

**ERA Show - \$39 pp**

Invested with nearly \$10 million 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 90 minute 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.

*\*Guests not attending the show will be on a private tour that evening on their own.*

**Shanghai – Day 8 or 9****Maglev Train Ride - \$25 pp round trip, or \$15 pp single trip (Your guide will tell you options once there – depending on flight times)**

Shanghai's maglev train is the first and the only commercial rail line of its type in the world. It links Metro Line 2 at Longyang Road with the Pudong International Airport by a train traveling at top speed of 431 kilometers per-hour. The 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.

*\*Guests not taking the train will ride a bus to the airport.*

**Items of Note:**

- You will sign up for these optional tours (and pay) when in China.
- Payments for Beijing tours (Day 4) will only be accepted in cash (USD).
- All other payments can be made with cash (USD) or credit cards.
- The credit card payment will be when in Suzhou during lunch.
- If taking the Xi'an side tour to see the Terra-Cotta Warriors, you will not be able to attend the Suzhou canal side trip. You can sign up for other excursions.