

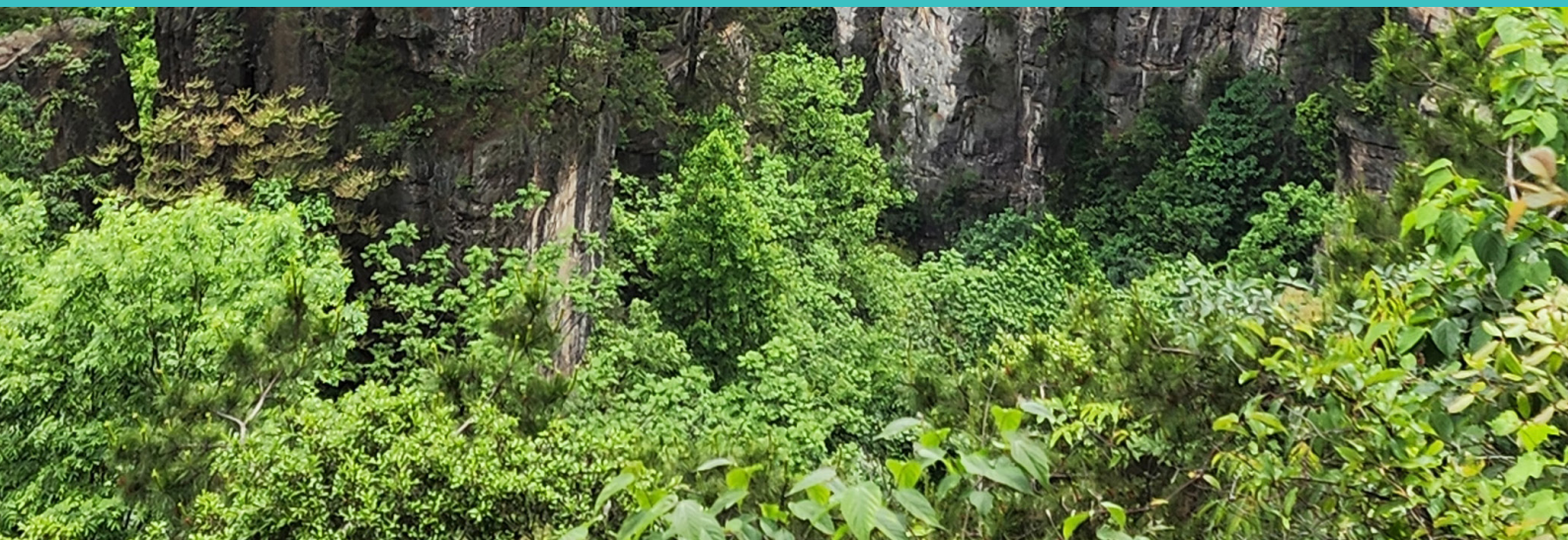
A wide-angle photograph of the Zhangjiajie National Forest Park in China, showing towering, steep limestone cliffs and numerous sharp, vertical rock pillars. The mountains are densely covered with lush green vegetation, and the scene is shrouded in a light mist. In the top right corner, there is a white circular logo with the text "Discover Travel" inside.

Discover
Travel

China

Peaks, Pandas and Palaces

25-DAY ESCORTED TOUR
4 – 28 MAY 2027



Uncover the ancient, modern, and natural gems on this all-encompassing tour of China's must-see sights and unforgettable experiences.

Marvel at China's most incredible landscapes, from the sweeping views atop the mighty Great Wall, to the impressive Three Gorges onboard your 3-night Yangtze River cruise, and the soaring peaks that inspired the blockbuster film 'Avatar' at Zhangjiajie National Park. Immerse yourself in the local culture of Xian's Muslim Quarter, feast your eyes and taste buds on dumplings with a side of Tang Dynasty dancing, and get to know the nation's favourite bear at Chengdu's Panda Conservation Centre.

Join us on an epic journey down the road less travelled to uncover China's most incredible natural treasures, including the sapphire lakes of Nine Villages Valley and the dramatic yet serene valleys at Black Mountain.

Experience the thrill of traveling on the high-speed bullet train, take a walk on the glass bridge suspended over Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon, wander through the streets of Fenghuang Ancient Town and be awed by the intricate beauty of the historic Dazu Rock Carvings.

Venture through China's epic history, from the ancient Terracotta Warriors to the futuristic 'cyberpunk' city of Chongqing, where the mind-bending urban landscape waits to blow you away.

This escorted tour would be suitable for both first-timers to China as well as returnees keen to experience some of the incredible new experiences that this vast country has to offer.

Meet your tour escort

Peter Dunne

Over the last 35 years, Peter's visited over 120 countries, always hunting for unique destinations and experiences the familiar streets of Europe and the wilder paths of Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

In recent years, he's escorted tours to China, Sri Lanka and The Silk Road for Discover Travel. This will be Peter's fifth visit to China and he's excited to see what's new this time!



Tour Highlights

- 1 Walk along the ancient **Great Wall of China**, snaking across misty mountain ridges for thousands of kilometres.
- 2 Marvel at the **Terracotta Warriors**, an army of over 8,000 life-sized clay soldiers guarding an emperor's tomb in Xi'an.
- 3 Cross the world's highest **Zhangjiajie Glass Bridge** and ride the Bailong elevator up sheer sandstone pillars that inspired Avatar.
- 4 Meet **Chengdu's Giant Pandas** up close, watching them tumble and munch bamboo in their forested sanctuary.
- 5 Ride the **Tianmen Mountain cable car**, the world's longest, before crossing the dizzying glass skywalk and stepping through Heaven's Gate.





Your Itinerary

MAY 4 | CHRISTCHURCH VIA AUCKLAND TO SHANGHAI

Depart Christchurch, flying Air New Zealand via Auckland to Shanghai. Overnight in flight.

MAY 5 | SHANGHAI

After checking in and resting at the hotel, visit Jinmao Tower before an early dinner at a local restaurant. Evening at leisure.

MAY 6 | SHANGHAI

Explore Shanghai's Old Town, with its traditional shops, tea and local snacks, before strolling along the Bund and through the charming French Concession. This evening, cruise the Huangpu River to see the historic Bund and modern Pudong skyline illuminated at night.

MAY 7 | SHANGHAI TO TAIZHOU

Travel by train to Linhai (Taizhou). Visit a local market in Jiaojiang District, then explore the ancient city wall and old streets. Dating to the Eastern Jin Dynasty, Linhai's Southern Great Wall stretches more than 5,000 metres, with commanding hilltop views. Remainder of the day at leisure.

MAY 8 | XIANJU TO SHANGHAI

Explore the spectacular Shenxianju Scenic Area Cableway & Skywalk and visit Gaoqian Ancient Residence before travelling by train back to Shanghai.

MAY 9 | SHANGHAI TO ZHANGJIAJIE

Fly to Zhangjiajie and cross the world's longest and highest glass-bottomed bridge, spanning 430 metres over the Grand Canyon. This evening, discover the 72 remarkable buildings of Zhangjiajie 72 Qilou.

MAY 10 | ZHANGJIAJIE

Spend the day exploring Zhangjiajie National Park. Visit Yuanjiajie Scenic Area and ride the Bailong glass elevator, the world's highest and fastest outdoor

elevator, rising 326 metres up the mountainside in as little as two minutes. Take in views from Mihun Stage, including the 'First Bridge under the Sun' and Hallelujah Mountain, before continuing to Emperor Mountain and Helong Park. Descend by cable car and finish with a scenic sampan cruise on Lake Baofeng.

Note: Approx. 3-4 hours walking, including wooden and stone steps.

MAY 11 | ZHANGJIAJIE TO YANGTZE CRUISE

Ride the world's longest cable car 7km up Tianmen Mountain, a journey of around 40 minutes. Visit Tianmen Cave - 'Heaven's Door' - at the top of 999 steps, then cross the thrilling glass 'Walk of Faith' skywalk. If time permits, also experience the Cliff-Hanging Walkway or Coiled Dragon Cliff. Descend by cable car before continuing to the Yangtze River to join your cruise.

MAY 12 | YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Visit the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric dam. View the enormous ship locks from above and explore the museum and lookout. Additional excursions may include the Three Gorges Dam ship lift.

Note: Approx. One hour walking. Coaches are not permitted to make photo stops.

MAY 13 | YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Cruise through the spectacular Three Gorges, including Wu Gorge with its forest-covered mountains and sheer cliffs, and Qutang Gorge, the shortest, narrowest and most dramatic. Transfer to smaller vessels for an excursion through the impressive Goddess Stream.

MAY 14 | YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

Relax onboard or disembark to explore the elegant pavilions of Mount Shuanggui and cliff writings by Song Dynasty calligraphers. Depending on local conditions, you may instead visit Shibaozhai Temple or Xiaoguanshan Folk Culture Park. Additional excursions may include Fengdu's 'Ghost City' and the Fengyan Sanguo 'Romance of the Three Kingdoms' evening show.

Note: River conditions permitting.

MAY 15 | CHONGQING

Disembark and explore Ciqikou's atmospheric old quarter, with its traditional teahouses, craft shops and local snacks. Watch a face-changing show and visit Liziba Intersection, where metro trains famously travel through a residential high-rise. This evening, see Hongya Cave illuminated before watching Chongqing's spectacular Saturday night show featuring more than 5,000 drones.

MAY 16 | CHONGQING TO CHENGDU

Travel by bullet train to Chengdu. Explore vibrant People's Park and visit Matchmaker's Corner, where parents gather in search of suitable partners for their children.

MAY 17 | CHENGDU TO LIJIANG

Visit Chengdu's Giant Panda Conservation Centre and see these much-loved animals in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Later, fly to Lijiang for a three-night stay.

Note: Younger panda feeding occurs only at the beginning and end of the day and is not guaranteed. Approx. 1 1/2 hours walking; electric carts are available at your own cost.

MAY 18 | LIJIANG

Travel to spectacular Tiger Leaping Gorge and follow the walkway towards the upper rapids for breathtaking views before returning to Lijiang.

Note: Lunch is a simple meal due to limited restaurant options. Overnight altitude: 2,300m.

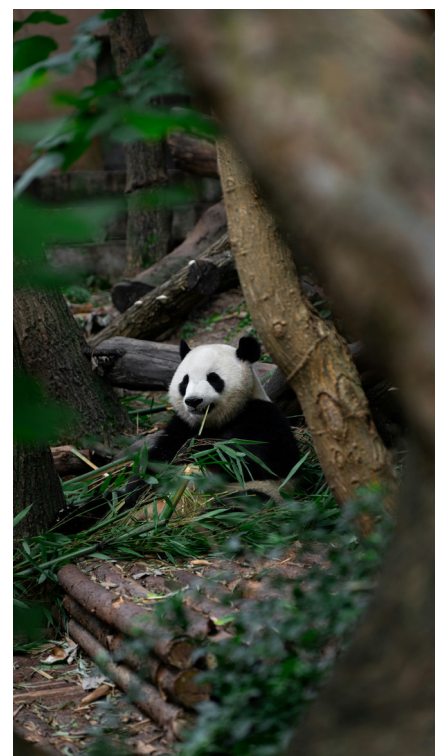
MAY 19 | LIJIANG

Visit Jade Dragon Snow Mountain, whose highest peak reaches 5,500m. Ride the cable car to one of its beautiful high meadows, reached via an approximately 20-minute wooden pathway, before descending. Later, visit Baisha Old Town to see its early Ming Dynasty frescoes, followed by Baisha Village, home to the Naxi minority people.

Note: Access times to Jade Dragon Snow Mountain are allocated by the local tourism authority to manage crowds. Daytime altitude: 3,250m. Overnight altitude: 2,300m.

MAY 20 | LIJIANG TO KUNMING

Explore the canals and cobbled alleys of Lijiang Old Quarter before visiting Black Dragon Pool for spectacular views of Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. Travel by train to Kunming.



**MAY 25 | BEIJING**

Walk across Tiananmen Square and explore the magnificent Forbidden City, followed by a visit to the Temple of Heaven. This evening, enjoy a traditional Peking Duck dinner.

Note: Approx. 3-4 hours walking.

MAY 26 | BEIJING

Visit Juyongguan Pass and walk the Great Wall of China, with approximately 2 1/2 hours to choose a route suited to your fitness level and explore at your own pace. Later, visit a jade factory and stroll through the Summer Palace before a farewell dinner on your final night in China.

Note: The Great Wall includes many steps, with some sections steeper than others.

MAY 27 | FLY BEIJING - SHANGHAI - NZ

Fly from Beijing to Shanghai and connect with your Air New Zealand flight to Auckland.

MAY 28 | ARRIVE HOME

Arrive in Auckland and connect home to Christchurch.

MAY 21 | KUNMING

Explore the remarkable limestone formations, rock pinnacles, lakes and ponds of the Kunming Stone Forest. Return to Kunming for an afternoon at leisure before dining on the local speciality, Across the Bridge Noodles.

Note: Approx. 2 1/2 hours walking.

MAY 22 | KUNMING TO XIAN

Fly to Xian and explore the atmospheric alleys of the Muslim Quarter. This evening, enjoy traditional Shui Jiao dumplings accompanied by a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing.

MAY 23 | XIAN

See the extraordinary life-sized Terracotta Warriors across three active archaeological pits. Visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Exhibition Workshop to see smaller models of the warriors being made, then explore Xian's beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls at your own pace.

Note: Approx. one hour from Xian, with a 15-minute walk from the bus park and around 2 1/2 hours exploring. Electric carts are available at your own cost; none are available for the return from the museum exit to the bus park.

MAY 24 | XIAN TO BEIJING

Try your hand at traditional Chinese calligraphy before travelling by train to Beijing.



**Experience.
The Difference.**

**For more details
and to book:**

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Discover Travel

New Zealand owned and operated; Discover Travel is a premier boutique travel agency within the House of Travel Group. Specialising in travel to far-flung places, we have travelled extensively worldwide, returning regularly to ensure our knowledge is current. We aim to experience those places through your eyes and passionately share our knowledge of the destination with you. Our goal is to genuinely connect you with the location and its culture.

Consequently, we like to think that our clients come home with the stories that everyone else misses.

TOUR PRICE FROM

Twin share price NZD\$15,795

Single price NZD\$18,795

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Economy class return Air New Zealand airfares from Christchurch to Shanghai and Economy class flights with Air China from Beijing to Shanghai.
- 4* accommodation throughout
- Transfers and transportation by air, rail and road as per itinerary
- Meals: 22 breakfasts, 21 lunches and 22 dinners
- Sightseeing and excursions with local guide as per itinerary
- Admissions to all excursions
- Gratuities/tipping for all group activities
- Tour escort

NOT INCLUDED

Travel insurance (compulsory), any meals/beverages not specified, airport portage and items of a personal nature. Premium Economy/Business Class pricing available on request.

PLEASE NOTE

Exploring this region often involves traversing uneven roads and staying in the best available accommodation. A positive attitude and a flexible mindset will enhance your experience, allowing you to fully appreciate the unique charm of this captivating destination.

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE

To confirm your booking, a nonrefundable deposit of \$3,000 per person and completed booking form is required. Final payment will be due no later than 6 February 2027.

CONDITIONS | Price - The price of \$15,795 per person is based on twin-share. Single Supplement - for those travellers wanting their own room, the tour price is \$18,795. • Payments - the price quoted is for payment by direct bank transfer. • Bank Transfer: 060801049560502 - Discover Travel Worldwide Ltd, using 'China27' as a reference. • VISA or Mastercard payments will incur a 1.5% convenience fee and American Express a 3% fee. • To confirm your booking, a non-refundable deposit of \$3,000 per person and completed booking form is required. Final payment will be due no later than 06 Feb. • As cancellation fees apply, travel insurance is mandatory. Prices are based on a minimum group size of 10/maximum of 18 (excluding tour escort). • Should the group size be less than 10, excluding tour escort, a surcharge will apply. Premium Economy supplement: \$2700 per person Business Class supplement: \$5300 per person