

East Adventure Tour: China and Japan

October 05 – October 18, 2020



Day 1/Mon/: Departing USA

The journey begins with your flight departing from USA.

Day 2/Tue/: Arrival in Shanghai (D)

Welcome to Shanghai! Your transfer from the airport to the hotel is included. Enjoy the balance of the day at leisure upon hotel check-in.

Hotel: [Sheraton Shanghai Hongkou or similar](#)

Day 3/Wed/: Shanghai (B/L/D)

With a population of 24 million (2015), Shanghai is China's biggest city. Rapid economic growth in the past 30 years has again turned Shanghai into a leading global city with significant influence in commerce, culture, finance, media, fashion, technology and transport. Today's visitors to Shanghai are delighted by its futuristic skyline that blends so well with its treasured historical landmarks. Following tour orientation, we visit Jade Buddha Temple located in an old neighborhood, the famous waterfront promenade known as the Bund, and the Yu Garden in the old town center. We wrap up the day with a drive through the glitzy financial district of Lujiazui on the opposite side of the Bund across Huangpu River. Hotel: [Sheraton Shanghai Hongkou or similar](#)

Day 4/Thu/: Shanghai (B/D)

Complete the classic tour of Shanghai by visiting **Oriental Pearl Tower**. The private car will drive through The Bund Sightseeing Channel in 20 minutes and get you off at the magnificent tower quite soon. From the height of 468 m (1,535 feet) you'll enjoy a bird's eye view of this vibrant city. Free Time to explore on your own

Day 5/Fri/: Shanghai – Beijing (B/D)

After breakfast we ride the world's fastest train (350km/h) to Beijing.

Capital of China, Beijing is a world-class cultural and educational center with a population of 21 million (2013), ranking it China's second largest city behind Shanghai. Beijing is renowned for its opulent palaces, temples, and huge stone walls and gates, treasures that make it the most popular tourist city in China by the number of visitors it receives every year. Afternoon sightseeing in Beijing takes in Lama Temple. Lama Temple, commonly known as Yonghe Temple among locals, was built in 1694 as residence of Prince Yong (Yinzen), one of the sons of Emperor Kangxi. After Prince Yong ascended the throne as Emperor Yongzheng in 1722, half of his former residence was turned into a lamasery – a monastery for monks of Tibetan Buddhism. Hotel: [Sheraton Beijing Dongcheng or similar](#)

Day 6/Sat/: Beijing (B/L/D)

We begin today with a visit to the Forbidden City. Officially known as the Palace Museum, the Forbidden City was the place where the emperors of Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1912) Dynasties lived and carried out their administration. Construction of the Forbidden City took 14 years (1406-1420) to complete. The complex consists of 980 buildings and covers 72 hectares or 180 acres. The Qing Dynasty was overthrown in 1912 but the royal family was allowed to continue to live in the Forbidden City till 1924, when the last emperor, Pu Yi, was driven out of the imperial palace. Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987, this is the largest collection of preserved ancient wooden structures in the world. Next up is Tian'anmen Square. Located in the heart of Beijing, the square measures 880 meters from north to south and 500 meters from east to west. Said to be the largest public plaza in the world, Tian'anmen Square has the capacity to hold one million people. The imposing Tian'anmen Tower sits at the north end of the square while the Monument to the People's Heroes dominates the center. The square is flanked by The Great Hall of the People (west) and the National Museum (east). Chairman Mao's Mausoleum and Qianmen (Front Gate) are located in the south of the square. One of the top 16 tourist attractions in Beijing, Tian'anmen Square is also the witness of the Chinese people's great struggles for democracy and personal freedom since 1919. Afternoon sightseeing at the Temple of Heaven, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Situated in southeastern Beijing the Temple of Heaven is China's largest extant sacrificial temple where, during the Ming and Qing Dynasties, the emperors conducted the elaborate and most exalted sacrifices addressed to "the Supreme Ruler of the Universe." Construction of the temple started in 1406, during the reign of the Ming Emperor Yongle, and took 14 years to complete. The temple was expanded under the Qing emperors Qianlong (1736-1796) and Jiaqing (1796-1820). Occupying 2.73 square kilometers (roughly 1,700 by 1,600 meters), the area of the Temple of Heaven is more than twice that of the Forbidden City.

Day 7/Sun/: Beijing (B/D)

After an early breakfast we embark on a full-day excursion to the legendary Great Wall at Mutianyu, 75km northeast of the city. Zigzagging over 6,000 kilometers from east to west along undulating mountains, the Great Wall was built to hold off tribal invaders from the north. As history shows, the Wall failed the Chinese rulers miserably, especially in the case of Kublai Khan whose cavalrymen swept across China from the Mongolian steppe, thus the beginning of the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368). We conclude the day with a stop at a hutong neighborhood. Hutong refers to an ancient alleyway with siheyuan or "4-sided courtyard house" on both sides.

Day 8/Mon/: Beijing (B/D)

This morning we visit Summer Palace, a well-preserved UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. The imperial resort was first named Garden of Clear Ripples, which was burnt down by the allied forces of Great Britain and France in 1860 at the end of the Second Opium War (referred to as Arrow War by the British). Reconstruction started 25 years later and was completed in 1895 when the name was changed to Yi He Yuan (Garden of Good Health and Harmony). The design gives prominence to Longevity Hill, and Kunming Lake south of the hill. The sprawling complex covers an area of 290 hectares and the buildings inside consist of over 3,000 bays. After lunch the afternoon is set free for you to shop and explore on your own.

Day 9/Tus/: Beijing Tokyo (B/D)

Free morning. Transfer to airport to board your flight to Tokyo. Arrival into Tokyo Narita International Airport, where the representative of Institute will bring you to the hotel). Your local guide will be present to assist with the hotel check in. Hotel: [Tokyo Prince Hotel or similar](#)

For information and reservations Please Contact:

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Day 10/Wed/: Tokyo Sightseeing (B/D)

After breakfast, transport to the Imperial Palace - residence of the royal family of Tokyo. Visit to the Nijubashi Bridge (which means the double bridge). Then proceed to Senso-ji Buddhist Temple in historic Asakusa district. The Nakamise-Dori Street is the main approach to this ancient temple, and all along the road are traditional shop fronts for souvenir items and snacks.

Day 11/Thu/: Tokyo Sightseeing (B/D)

After Breakfast we will continue our sightseeing in Tokyo: visit to Meiji Shrine, raised in the midst of a manmade primeval forest, to honor the memory of Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken. We will conclude the day's tour with a visit to the Ginza where Tokyo's most famous department stores, entertainment district, boutiques, art galleries, restaurants, night clubs and cafes.

Day 12/Fri/: Tokyo - Kyoto (B/D)

After breakfast, we will head toward the foothills of Fuji Mountain and Kyoto. **Kyoto** is nestled among the mountains in Western Honshu. The city is considered to be Japan's most beautiful, a living museum of Japan's great artistic heritage. Free Time. **Hotel: Rihga Royal Hotel**

DAY 13/Sat/: Kyoto City Tour (B/D)

Journey today to historic Kyoto, founded in the 7th century, one of the early capitals of Japan and home of the country's most treasured remnants of Japanese imperial life. Discover its hidden beauty in its 2000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines, as well as palaces, gardens, and architecture. Among the most famous temples are Kiyomizu-Dera, a magnificent wooden temple; Kinkaku-Ji, the Temple of the Golden Pavilion; Ginkaku-Ji, the Temple of the Silver Pavilion; and Ryoan-Ji, famous for its rock garden. The 'Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto' are listed by the UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. **Accommodation: Rihga Royal Hotel or similar**

Day 14/Sun/: Kyoto -Tokyo (B/D)

After breakfast, we will visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Kiyomizu-dera a Buddhist temple founded in 778AD, and its present buildings were constructed in 1633 by order of Tokugawa Iemitsu. In the afternoon, we will proceed to Fushimi-Inari Taisha. Fushimi Inari Shrine is an important Shinto shrine in southern Kyoto. The highlight of the shrine is the rows of torii gates this is called Senbon torii. In the afternoon we will proceed back to Tokyo. **Accommodation: Narita Hilton Hotel or similar**

Day 15/Mon/: Tokyo - Home City (Service End) (B)

After breakfast, our guide will assist you to International Airport, where you will depart on your flight back home as you conclude your marvelous journey through China and Japan.

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ESTIMATED PRICE: 3,750.00

Price includes the following services:

- 1.1 Airlines Ticket: International and Domestic
- 1.2 Accommodation in 3 * or 4* hotels. The standard rooms.
Breakfasts, Lunches and Dinners according to the program
- 1.3 Fees and admissions tour of the facilities in accordance with the program
- 1.4 English/Polish language Tour Guide
- 1.5 Transfers according to the program

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Mandatory Insurance. Expenses of a personal nature: beverages, drinks, etc. Customary tips, City Taxes.

Estimated prices quoted in these flyers are based on airfares and land and exchange rates in effect in February 2019 and on group rates of 35 passengers or more. All prices are subject to change without notice prior to departure due to major currency fluctuations, fuel price increases and/or unforeseen economic conditions.

Deposit of \$500.00 per person is required at time of booking to secure reservation.

First Installment - \$800.00 before March 30, 2020

Balance is due before June 01, 2020

Please complete the booking form with full name as it appears on passport. **Please remember to make your check payable to THE LAY INSTITUTE OF DIVINE MERCY, INC. and mail with your application to:**

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