

18-Day New China Discovery

Trip overview

Welcome to China reimagined—a country where thousand-year-old imperial rooflines meet sky-piercing tech towers, and where cutting-edge innovation isn't locked in labs, but woven seamlessly into daily life. This 18-day premium journey is meticulously curated for curious travelers who want to see beyond the ordinary, offering a front-row seat to China's stunning modern transformation without losing touch with its majestic past.

Your adventure begins in **Shanghai**, where you'll transition from colonial-era Bund architecture to highly immersive XR time-travel experiences. You'll glide through the serene water towns of **Hangzhou** and feel the energy of **Chongqing's** cyber-punk mountain city layouts. Pedal sleek electric bikes along the newly listed World Heritage Central Axis in **Beijing**, and witness automated, zero-carbon robotic shipping ports in **Tianjin**. Finally, conclude your journey in **Guangzhou and Shenzhen**—the global capital of hardware and technology—where you'll watch autonomous quadcopters deliver meals straight to park kiosks, ride in driverless smart vehicles, and meet the brilliant startup makers shaping the next generation of robotics.

This is more than a holiday; it's an immersive, private exploration of a country where history, next-gen technology, and vibrant daily lifestyles dance together in perfectly unexpected harmony.

- **Durations:** 18 Days
- **Destinations:** Shanghai - Hangzhou - Beijing - Tianjin - Chengdu - Chongqing - Guangzhou - Shenzhen
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://asiachinatour.com/18-day-new-china-discovery/>

Itinerary

Day 1: Welcome to Shanghai — Smooth Arrival & Private Escort

Welcome to Shanghai, a mesmerizing metropolis where futuristic skyscrapers stand shoulder-to-shoulder with historic colonial estates. As soon as you step past the customs exit into the arrival hall, your professional private guide and chauffeur will be waiting to warmly greet you. Hand over your luggage and settle into the pristine comfort of your private vehicle for a smooth, scenic transfer through the city's dynamic urban landscape directly to your hotel. Your guide will handle

the entirety of your hotel check-in registration behind the scenes, allowing you to head straight to your room to refresh, unpack, and unwind from your flight completely hassle-free.

Meals: None (Independent dining)

Expert Journey Insights:

Welcome to China! To make your entry as effortless as possible, your private guide will be holding a customized name sign immediately outside the secure luggage claim exit. Your dedicated vehicle will accommodate all baggage comfortably, and your guide will assist you with connecting to the hotel's Wi-Fi network and setting up any local travel applications on your phone during the check-in process. The remainder of today is yours to rest and acclimatize to the local time zone, or you can take a relaxing evening stroll along the vibrant, neon-lit streets nearby to catch your very first glimpse of this spectacular mega-city.

Day 2: Shanghai's Dual Identities — Futuristic Horizons & Classical Gardens

Begin your morning scaling the heights of the **Shanghai Tower**, the world's second-tallest building. Ascend to the 118th-floor observation deck for a breathtaking, 360-degree panorama of the sprawling mega-city below. Then, ascend further to the 126th floor for an insider look at the tower's engineering marvel: a massive, 1,000-ton tuned mass damper that acts as a giant structural shock absorber to keep the 632-meter supertall steady during high winds. Descending back to earth, enjoy a guided stroll along the **North Bund**, a historic waterfront area where you can spot landmarks like the vintage Postal Museum, the iconic steel-truss Waibaidu Bridge, and the hyper-modern "Little Egg" concert hall, showcasing a fascinating architectural conversation between the 19th and 21st centuries.

Continue your riverside exploration down the grand promenade of **The Bund**, where stately colonial-era stone facades face off across the Huangpu River against the neon-lit, sci-fi skyline of Pudong. After a delicious local lunch, dive into a cutting-edge **Extended Reality (XR) gaming experience** that seamlessly teleports you thousands of years back in time to the Qin Dynasty to walk among the legendary Terracotta Army. Conclude your day by stepping deep into classical antiquity at **Yu Garden**. This exquisite Ming Dynasty retreat offers pure old-China charm, inviting you to wander through a poetic maze of traditional stone bridges, glowing silk lanterns, koi ponds, and intricate rockeries.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today is a fascinating study in contrasts, taking you from Shanghai's highest vantage points to its oldest historic alleys. For the morning tower visit, high-speed elevators will whisk you to the top in just 55 seconds; if you are sensitive to rapid altitude changes, swallowing or yawning can help ease any ear pressure. Today includes a beautiful mix of outdoor walking along the river and indoor exploration, so we highly recommend a light jacket and comfortable footwear. As evening approaches, Yu Garden transforms into a magical wonderland as the traditional upturned eaves are illuminated by hundreds of golden lanterns—providing the absolute perfect backdrop for photography.

Day 3: The Cradle of Shanghai Science & High-Speed Rail to Hangzhou

Delve into the intellectual soul of the city this morning by exploring the historic Xuhui District, the birthplace of Shanghai's open and progressive spirit. Your journey centers around the profound legacy of Xu Guangqi, a legendary Ming Dynasty scholar-official, scientist, and agricultural pioneer who first brought Western scientific knowledge to China. Visit the peaceful **Xu Guangqi Memorial Hall** and the adjacent **Xu Guangqi Academy**, wandering through traditional pavilions to discover how his early collaboration with European scholars sparked centuries of cross-cultural exchange. Continue to **Xujiahui Park** for a relaxing stroll past its scenic green canopies, winding creeks, and industrial-era brick chimney relics, before standing before the grand brick spires of the **Xujiahui Catholic Church**, a breathtaking Gothic Revival masterpiece. See firsthand how this urban neighborhood seamlessly blends ancient academic heritage with a bustling, modern lifestyle.

After a delicious lunch featuring local culinary specialties, bid farewell to Shanghai as your private chauffeur escorts you to the railway station. Board a sleek high-speed bullet train for a smooth, scenic journey through the lush southern countryside, arriving in the historic city of Hangzhou in just under an hour. Upon arrival, your new local guide and private driver will meet you right at the train station exits, transferring you straight to your premium lakeside hotel to settle in and relax.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today's exploration offers a wonderful narrative look at the roots of Shanghai's inclusive identity, tracing its evolution from a 17th-century cradle of science to a hyper-modern global crossroads. The walking route through the Xujiahui cultural zone covers beautiful paved park trails and quiet memorial grounds, making comfortable walking shoes an excellent choice. China's high-speed rail network operates with remarkable precision and speed; to ensure a completely stress-free transition, your private guide will handle all train ticketing behind the scenes and will guide you effortlessly through the station's digital security checkpoints using your physical passport.

Day 4: Hangzhou Paradox — Poetic Waters, AI Wellness & Tomorrow's Tech

Greet the morning with a serene, private boat cruise across **West Lake**, a breathtaking landscape that has inspired Chinese poets, painters, and scholars for over a millennium. Drift past graceful, weeping willow trees and through misty, emerald-tinted waters to experience a living "postcard view" of classic Chinese beauty. Stepping back onto land, journey into the historic **Huqingyu Hall Chinese Medicine Museum**, where the century-old aroma of exotic herbs fills a magnificent Qing Dynasty courtyard estate. Here, traditional holistic wisdom seamlessly meets cutting-edge science in the TCM Technology Hall. Step before an advanced AI-powered diagnostic system that reads your face, tongue, and pulse in real time to generate a highly personalized digital health report. Next, participate in an interactive workshop to shape your own herbal moxa stick by hand before sitting back to experience a precise, automated robotic moxibustion treatment—a brilliant example of tradition and technology converging for your physical well-being.

In the afternoon, shift gears completely from ancient healing to futuristic innovation at the **Wensan Future Technology Center**. Step into a high-energy playground of digital-age imagination, where you will explore world-altering breakthroughs pioneered by Hangzhou's home-grown tech titans, including Alibaba, Unitree Robotics, Deepseek, and BrainCo. Engage with interactive displays, witness live demonstrations of highly advanced bionic limbs and agile humanoid robots, and experience the dazzling frontier of the digital age in the city widely recognized as China's Silicon Valley.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today offers a mind-expanding exploration of how Hangzhou flawlessly honors its historic cultural treasures while serving as a global engine for tech innovation. The morning lake cruise is an exceptionally tranquil, smooth experience, making it perfect for relaxing and taking panoramic landscape photos. During your visit to Huqingyu Hall, the automated AI pulse and tongue diagnosis is completely non-invasive and provides a fascinating, lighthearted glimpse into personalized wellness. For the afternoon tech center tour, several installations feature interactive virtual reality and hands-on robotics controls; your guide will be right there to translate and help you easily interact with all the cutting-edge gadgets.

Day 5: High-Speed Rail to Beijing — Hutong Heritage & Avant-Garde Temples

Settle into your spacious seat this morning for a smooth, ultra-modern high-speed rail journey sweeping north from Hangzhou to Beijing. Watch through the wide panoramic windows as China's changing landscape flies past at 300 km/h, turning a long-distance crossing into a seamless part of your travel adventure. Upon arriving in the nation's majestic capital, your private Beijing guide and chauffeur will welcome you at the station and escort you to a highly acclaimed local restaurant for a delicious lunch.

In the afternoon, dive straight into the vibrant pulse of local life with an immersive walking tour through Beijing's historic **Hutongs**—the labyrinth of narrow grey-brick alleys that form the ancient heart of the city. Step past traditional red-lacquered doorways to visit a local family inside an authentic courtyard home (*Siheyuan*), listening to personal stories of how Beijingers lived across generations. Then, explore the neighborhood's modern artistic renaissance as your guide leads you into hidden, centuries-old temples that have been masterfully repurposed into cutting-edge contemporary art galleries. Witness firsthand the captivating intersection where dynastic history meets 21st-century fashion, design, and architectural creativity.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today features a fantastic transition from the comfort of first-class high-speed rail straight into the historic cobblestone grid of Beijing's atmospheric alleyways. Because the Hutongs are narrow, historic residential zones best explored on foot, wearing high-comfort walking shoes is highly recommended. To ensure a completely fluid arrival, your private vehicle handles all heavy luggage transitions straight to your premium hotel behind the scenes, leaving you entirely unburdened to explore the courtyard homes and hidden temple art installations with your camera ready.

Day 6: Biking the Imperial Central Axis & Forbidden City Chronicles

Feel the breeze of the capital this morning during an energetic e-bike ride along Beijing's historic **Central Axis**—the ancient architectural spine and structural blueprint that has guided the layout of China's imperial capital for centuries. Cruise effortlessly past grand historical monuments and bustling neighborhoods, watching the symmetrical alignment of dynastic planning unfold around you.

After building up an appetite and enjoying a classic local lunch, step back in time to explore the UNESCO-listed **Forbidden City (Palace Museum)**. As the world's largest ancient wooden palace complex, this breathtaking sanctuary served as the secretive home to 24 emperors across the

Ming and Qing Dynasties for over 500 years. While you will stand in awe of the massive, golden-roofed ceremonial halls along the main tourist route, your expert guide will quickly lead you down quieter side pathways. Step off the beaten path into secluded courtyards and hidden pavilions to uncover the dramatic human stories behind the palace walls—from powerful empresses and brilliant scholars to influential court figures. These personal tales of ambition, romance, and rivalry will bring the ancient red walls and stone carvings vividly to life.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today's exploration seamlessly blends an active morning outdoor ride with an immersive afternoon walking seminar. Our custom e-bikes are highly intuitive and completely effortless to ride, and your guide will lead you through designated local bike lanes for a safe, scenic journey. The Forbidden City is vast and entirely paved in historic stone, meaning comfortable footwear is an absolute necessity. To ensure a completely seamless entrance into the Palace Museum, please remember to bring your physical passport, as it is strictly required to verify your pre-booked digital admission tickets at the main security gates.

Day 7: Cosmic Harmonies & The Cyber Great Wall

Begin your morning at the magnificent **Temple of Heaven**, a dignified imperial sanctuary where Ming and Qing emperors once performed sacred rituals to bridge the realms of Earth and Heaven. Stroll through the surrounding parklands to witness a vibrant slice of local life: elderly Beijingers gathering for their morning exercises, practicing everything from graceful Tai Chi to traditional dance and unique gymnastics. This peaceful immersion offers a beautiful look into the city's living communal spirit.

Next, leave the city center behind and head into the rugged mountains to visit the legendary **Great Wall of China**. Glide effortlessly up the steep mountain slopes in a panoramic cable car, watching the monumental stone fortifications unfold across the ridgelines. Once at the top, experience a jaw-dropping blend of ancient history and cutting-edge modern innovation. At this historic outpost, you can use your smartphone to order a fresh burger or cold drinks, watching as a high-tech delivery drone swoops over the dynastic battlements to drop off your snacks. It is a thrilling, unforgettable moment where one of the world's oldest wonders meets the pinnacle of 21st-century smart logistics.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today showcases a spectacular contrast between centuries-old traditions and China's rapid tech development. Please note that the Great Wall drone delivery service operates strictly at the Badaling section and is highly weather-dependent; for safety, flights are immediately suspended during high winds, heavy rain, or thick fog. Furthermore, because Badaling attracts dense crowds during the peak summer vacation season (July and August), we highly recommend skipping the drone snack experience here to preserve your tour comfort. Don't worry—you will have a fantastic opportunity to experience China's cutting-edge drone delivery infrastructure later in your itinerary when visiting Shenzhen!

Day 8: Tianjin Day Excursion — Autonomous Mega-Ports & The Five Avenues

Embark on an exciting day trip to the historic coastal city of Tianjin, located just a brief, ultra-smooth high-speed train ride away from Beijing. Your exploration begins at a striking frontier of green technology: the world's first **smart, zero-carbon port**. Stand at a designated panoramic viewing platform to witness a flawless symphony of modern engineering. Here, massive quay cranes and autonomous guided vehicles fleetly transport shipping containers across the docks without a single human driver in sight—a high-tech marvel powered entirely by self-sustaining wind and solar energy systems.

In the afternoon, shift from the cutting edge of industrial automation to the nostalgic charm of the **Wudadao (Five Avenues) Historic District**. Stroll along quiet, tree-lined boulevards bordered by a stunning collection of over 400 historic European mansions. From grand Gothic Revival brickwork to elegant 1920s Art Deco storefronts, this open-air architectural museum reflects old Tianjin's unique international history. Along the way, treat your palate to iconic local snacks, experiencing the vibrant culinary traditions that perfectly complement the neighborhood's sophisticated global flair.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today offers a truly remarkable visual contrast between the clean, automated future of global shipping and the beautifully preserved remnants of early 20th-century history. The smart port facility is a highly exclusive industrial site, and your guide will handle all security clearances to ensure a completely safe, comfortable, and informative viewing experience. For your afternoon stroll through Wudadao, the streets are flat and pedestrian-friendly. Don't miss trying local specialties like Goubuli stuffed buns or savory Jianbing guozi crepes, which your guide will source from the most authentic neighborhood vendors.

Day 9: Flight to Chengdu — Gateway to the Southwest & Leisurely Afternoon

Bid farewell to the grand imperial capital this morning as your private chauffeur escorts you to the airport for your flight to **Chengdu**, the vibrant capital of Sichuan province. Sit back and relax on your journey into Southwest China, stepping off the plane into a city celebrated for its lush greenery, rich culinary heritage, and legendary, laid-back lifestyle. Upon arrival, your dedicated Chengdu guide and private driver will welcome you at the arrivals hall and transfer you directly to your premium hotel.

The afternoon is entirely yours to enjoy at your own relaxed pace. Chengdu is famous throughout China for its slow-living philosophy, making it the perfect destination for an unscripted afternoon. You might choose to unwind in a traditional bamboo armchair at a historic local teahouse, sample the city's legendary spicy street food snacks along ancient lanes, or simply relax and indulge in your luxury hotel's premium amenities as you prepare for tomorrow's travel.

Meals: Breakfast

Expert Journey Insights:

Today is carefully designed as a restful transition day to let you naturally adapt to the slower, charming rhythm of Sichuan. Your private vehicle coordinates a seamless, hassle-free luggage transfer directly from the airport straight to your hotel room, leaving you completely unburdened. To make the most of your free afternoon, your guide will provide a curated list of neighborhood secrets, including the best local teahouses for people-watching and top-tier recommendations for an authentic Sichuan dinner tailored perfectly to your preferred spice levels.

Day 10: Sichuan Lifestyles & Creative Vanguard — Private Neighborhood Seminars & Backstage Access

Your morning features an exclusive, privately guided exploration into the social fabric of Chengdu inside a beautifully preserved Sichuan courtyard estate. Observe the organic harmony of local life while visiting a community center, a traditional neighborhood tea pavilion, and a fine embroidery studio dedicated to safeguarding intangible heritage. Following this cultural seminar, your private guide will lead you on a tailored gastronomic expedition through a historic market lane. Bypassing the mass-market venues, enjoy a multi-course street food tasting of elite Sichuan delicacies sourced entirely from multi-generational culinary masters.

This afternoon, transition to the post-industrial galleries of the iconic **Eastern Suburbs Memory** arts district, exploring avant-garde design studios, luxury boutique storefronts, and independent pop-up art galleries tucked inside towering mid-century factories. Conclude your day with an elite theatrical evening featuring VIP admission to a premier Sichuan Opera. Your experience begins with exclusive backstage entry, giving you the rare opportunity to interview master actors as they meticulously apply their historic face-changing cosmetics. Afterwards, enjoy premium, front-row seating accompanied by artisanal tea and traditional snacks as you witness a spectacular performance of imperial drama and rapid face-changing illusions.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

VIP Operator Insights:

The morning courtyard exploration offers an intimate, highly educational window into China's progressive community-based welfare and heritage preservation initiatives. To maximize your comfort during the street food tour, your private guide will secure private, sanitized table areas and curate the spice progression to line up perfectly with your taste. Our exclusive backstage access at the Sichuan opera theater is heavily restricted and strictly coordinated with the theater director; this unique window provides unparalleled, close-up portrait photography conditions. Premium seating at the theater is pre-arranged in the optimal acoustic and visual zone, complete with dedicated traditional server assistance.

Day 11: Morning Panda Encounters & Bullet Train to the Mountain City

Set a bright and early alarm this morning to catch Chengdu's most famous residents at their absolute liveliest. Head just six miles north of central Chengdu to the world-renowned Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. Arriving early allows you to beat the heavy midday crowds and watch these iconic creatures during their favorite time of day: morning breakfast. Stand just feet away from beautifully landscaped enclosures to watch playful giant pandas munching happily on fresh bamboo shoots, tumbling off wooden platforms, and climbing trees, while nearby red pandas dart through the lush canopy.

After a delicious local lunch, head to the railway station to board a sleek, ultra-fast bullet train bound for **Chongqing**. Sit back and watch the green hills of Sichuan speed past your window. In just a few hours, you will step out into China's legendary "Mountain City"—a jaw-dropping, vertical megalopolis famous for its gravity-defying architecture, winding multi-level highways, and vibrant cyberpunk energy. Meet your local Chongqing guide and transfer to your hotel to catch your first glimpse of this mesmerizing, high-elevation city.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Giant pandas are heavily sensitive to heat and spend most of their afternoons sleeping inside air-conditioned dens; our early morning departure is strictly timed to guarantee you see them when they are active, feeding, and playing outdoors. The breeding base features extensive, beautiful walking paths through hilly bamboo forests, so comfortable walking shoes are highly recommended. For the afternoon train transit, your guide will manage all luggage transfers and ticketing details, ensuring you enjoy a completely smooth, hands-free journey onto the high-speed rail.

Day 12: Chongqing's 8D Mirage — Gravity-Defying Transits, Artistic Alleys & Cinematic Nightscapes

Immerse yourself in China's most surreal urban landscape with a relaxing morning walk through Chongqing's local neighborhoods. Discover the city's artistic side by photographing vibrant street murals that blend historical Chinese motifs with bold contemporary pop art on old city walls. Pop into independent, design-forward boutiques filled with locally crafted stationery, custom apparel, and creative cultural products that capture Chongqing's proud regional identity. Next, dive directly into the city's mind-bending "8D" spatial layout. Head to **Liziba Station** to watch a monorail train smoothly slice right through the middle of a nineteen-story residential high-rise. Then, feel the urban geography warp at **Kuixing Tower**, where you can step out onto a street-level public plaza, look down, and realize you are actually standing on a bridge suspended twenty stories above another bustling ground-level road.

In the afternoon, glide effortlessly over the rushing Yangtze River aboard the historic **Yangtze River Cableway**, taking in sweeping views of towering skyscrapers stacked tightly on steep mountain terraces. As twilight descends, gather for an unforgettable, authentic riverside hotpot dinner. Savor the bubbling, aromatic broth as the city ignites into a neon wonderland around you. Conclude your evening with a starlight stroll along the glowing waterfront to witness the stunning, multi-tiered stilt houses of **Hongya Cave** illuminated beneath the dramatic spans of the **Qiansimen Bridge**—a mesmerizing, cinematic vista frequently dubbed "Chongqing's own La La Land."

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Expert Journey Insights:

Chongqing's vertical topography is a true geographical wonder—it is common to enter an elevator on the 1st floor and exit onto a brand-new mountain highway from the 10th floor, so we highly recommend wearing supportive walking shoes today. The Yangtze River Cableway and Liziba viewing platforms are exceptionally popular with photographers; your guide will coordinate our arrival times to avoid the peak tour-bus rush. If your tour takes place on a Saturday, your guide will secure a prime waterfront viewing location for you to enjoy the dazzling Charming Chongqing drone light show, which paints the night sky over the river with brilliant, animated aerial formations.

Day 13: Transit to the Millennium Merchant City — Guangzhou's Maritime Silk Road Legacy

Relax on a seamless morning transit via private luxury vehicle to Chongqing Airport, boarding your business-class flight to **Guangzhou**. Arriving in South China's historical capital of commerce,

your private Canton reception team will receive you at the gate, handle all luggage retrieval, and transfer you via premium private vehicle to your luxury hotel overlooking the Pearl River corridor.

This afternoon, enjoy a privately guided heritage seminar at the elite **Thirteen Hongs Museum**. Bypassing the public paths, your historical specialist will guide you through an exquisite private collection of 18th and 19th-century export art pieces, detailing the sophisticated financial networks and global trade monopolies managed by Canton's merchant princes. Discover the intricate craftsmanship behind historic Cantonese porcelain, reverse-glass paintings, and fine tortoiseshell fans that once captivated royal European courts, gaining an exclusive, high-level understanding of China's rich mercantile history.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

VIP Operator Insights:

All premium domestic air ticketing, priority seat selections, and luggage porter services are fully coordinated by our regional offices to guarantee a perfectly fluid transition between Chongqing and Guangzhou. The Thirteen Hongs Museum collection features highly delicate, masterfully preserved textiles, export watercolor paintings, and rare antiques; your private specialist guide will tailor the commentary to your specific historical or artistic interests. For dinner this evening, your guide will gladly arrange priority reservations at one of Guangzhou's legendary, Michelin-starred Cantonese dining mansions or private riverside garden estates.

Day 14: The Fashion Tycoon Experience — Guangzhou's Supply Chain Magic

Step directly into the fast-paced world of global commerce today as you play "fashion tycoon" inside Guangzhou's massive, world-famous textile and garment epicenter. Go behind the scenes of the world's most responsive supply chain to see exactly how a simple design sketches its way onto retail shelves in record time. Explore sprawling, multi-level fabric mega-markets packed with millions of textiles, visit cutting-edge independent design studios, and tour high-speed garment factories. Watch the mesmerizing process as raw materials are sourced, patterned, stitched, and packed, seeing firsthand how an order of 10,000 T-shirts moves seamlessly from a creative spark to global store shelves in just a matter of days.

Alternative Tech Experience: If your interests lean toward futuristic engineering instead of fashion, choose our premium optional upgrade to visit XPENG Motors' Smart EV "Dark Factory." Step onto the floor of a highly automated, state-of-the-art electric vehicle production facility where massive robotic arms, automated guided vehicles (AGVs), and smart AI systems assemble cutting-edge electric cars in near-total darkness, showcasing the absolute pinnacle of China's industrial automation.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today offers a rare, fascinating look into the sheer scale of China's modern manufacturing power. The textile district tour involves a good amount of walking through high-energy wholesale markets and active production facilities, so comfortable closed-toe shoes are required. For guests choosing the alternative tech tour, the XPENG Smart EV factory is a heavily secured, advanced facility; reservations must be finalized at least 14 days in advance to secure security clearance, and a possible additional upgrade fee applies.

Day 15: Cantonese Legacies — Centennial Dim Sum, Ancestral Masterpieces & The Silicon Valley of the East

Begin your morning by immersing yourself in Guangzhou's most delicious culinary tradition: *Yum Cha* (drinking tea). Step into a beautifully preserved, 100-year-old traditional teahouse to sip premium oolong tea alongside steaming bamboo baskets of authentic Cantonese dim sum. Savor local favorites like translucent shrimp dumplings (*Har Gow*), tender barbecue pork buns (*Char Siu Bao*), and flaky egg tarts while enjoying the lively morning buzz of local residents gathering over their daily papers. Afterward, walk off your breakfast at the magnificent **Chen Clan Ancestral Hall**. Built in the late 19th century, this stunning temple complex serves as a profound monument to China's deep-rooted family values and lineage heritage. Marvel at the jaw-droppingly intricate wood, stone, and brick carvings that coat every historic surface, and look up at the famous, colorful ceramic roof ridges that bring ancient folk legends to life.

In the afternoon, transition instantly from old-world traditions to tomorrow's technology. Board a sleek high-speed train for a short, smooth ride to **Shenzhen**, globally celebrated as China's "Silicon Valley." Watch the landscape transform into a sweeping sci-fi metropolis of glass skyscrapers, innovative green spaces, and high-tech design houses. Arrive and check into your hotel, ready to explore this hyper-modern global tech capital.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today highlights the striking contrast between old Canton's clan traditions and Shenzhen's futuristic, fast-paced tech lifestyle. The Chen Clan Ancestral Hall is an absolute paradise for photography, but it requires mindful walking to appreciate the miniature details in the courtyard carvings. For our afternoon transit, the bullet train ride takes under 45 minutes; your guide will handle all electronic tickets and station entry procedures, allowing you to travel hands-free while our logistics team handles the transfer of your main luggage straight to your new hotel rooms in Shenzhen.

Day 16: The Shenzhen Miracle — Economic Pioneers, Cyberpunk Hubs & Hardware Bazaars

Discover the incredible story behind China's hardware capital, starting at **Fisherman's Village** (*Yumin Cun*). Walk through this historic neighborhood to see where local fishing families became overnight millionaires following the historic 1978 Reform and Opening-Up policies, kickstarting the city's economic rise. Deepen your understanding at the **Reform & Opening-Up Museum**, tracing how a tiny border village exploded into a soaring megacity in just a few decades. Afterward, enjoy a refreshing walk up **Lianhua Mountain** (*Lotus Hill Park*). Stand at the scenic hilltop plaza beneath the grand bronze statue of Deng Xiaoping to take in sweeping, panoramic views of the Futian financial district's architectural marvels.

This afternoon, experience Shenzhen's futuristic public design at the **"Shenzhen Eye"** (Gangxia North Station), a mind-bending transit hub famous for its massive, architectural roof canopy that looks like a sci-fi portal. Then, dive straight into the electric heart of global tech at the legendary **Huaqiangbei Electronics Market**. Explore dense, multi-level high-rises where independent innovators, hardware hackers, and local tinkerers design, build, and trade drones, microchips, robotics, and custom gadgets out of thousands of vibrant stalls, showcasing the ultimate spirit of modern tech startups.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today moves from historic cultural roots straight into the fast-paced energy of a global tech hub. The walk up Lianhua Mountain follows smooth, gently sloped paved paths and takes about 20 to 30 minutes, making it a highly accessible trek that rewards you with the city's best skyline views. Huaqiangbei is an expansive, high-energy market district; your local guide will lead you through the top specialized hardware towers, helping you navigate the busy stalls and find the most interesting tech displays safely and easily.

Day 17: Tomorrowland Today — Sky Cities, Autonomous Journeys & Low-Altitude Wonders

Prepare to step into a real-world sci-fi film today as you explore Shenzhen's cutting-edge low-altitude economy and autonomous urban infrastructure. Begin with an exterior architectural tour of **DJI Sky City**, the breathtaking global headquarters of the world's leading drone pioneer. Designed by Foster + Partners, these iconic asymmetrical twin towers feature massive, floating glass cantilevers that redefine modern skyline engineering. Next, embrace the future of urban mobility by boarding an advanced, **self-driving autonomous vehicle** for a smooth smart-transit ride down to DJI's flagship experience center. Dive into hands-on interactive displays to see how state-of-the-art drone technology is revolutionizing wildlife filmmaking, emergency search-and-rescue, and precision agriculture.

This afternoon, head into a lush municipal park to witness a live **autonomous drone delivery demonstration**. Watch as automated delivery quadcopters land seamlessly at custom tech kiosks to deliver fresh food and cold drinks entirely by air. Conclude your immersive day at the hyper-modern **MixC World** lifestyle hub. Stroll through this vibrant, open-air design complex to explore giant, interactive art-tech installations, discovering how international designers blend digital science and creative imagery to bring urban public spaces to life.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Expert Journey Insights:

Today showcases why Shenzhen is globally recognized as a living laboratory for future technology. The autonomous car rides follow designated smart-transit corridors under strict local municipal safety compliance framework. The outdoor drone delivery programs are highly automated but remain dependent on clear weather conditions; in the event of heavy rain or high winds, your guide will adjust the schedule to feature an extended indoor simulation session inside the flagship experience center.

Day 18: Homeward Journey — Carrying Forward a New Vision of China

Enjoy a relaxed final morning breakfast at your hotel before your private chauffeur transfers you to the airport for your homeward departure flight. As you head to the gate, reflect on an extraordinary 18-day odyssey that brought you from deep inland valleys to cutting-edge coastal tech zones. Having journeyed past towering high-tech skyscrapers, shared quiet moments with giant pandas, explored ancient lineage temples, interacted with advanced robotics, and experienced automated drone-delivered park meals, you leave with a completely transformed perspective of this dynamic

nation. You return home not just having seen a global tech titan, but having experienced a deeply nuanced country where ancient history, brilliant innovation, and vibrant daily rhythms dance together in completely unexpected ways.

Meals: Breakfast

Expert Journey Insights:

Your dedicated private vehicle and local guide will coordinate your hotel checkout and synchronize your departure transfer to match your flight schedule perfectly. We recommend arriving at Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport at least three hours before international departures to allow plenty of time for smooth check-in, customs, and security protocols. Take a moment during check-in to admire the airport's spectacular, honeycomb-inspired Terminal 3 architecture—a beautiful, final design marvel to close your South China journey.

Booking Policy

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation by Customer

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 20% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 40% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 70% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.

- For infant (<04 years old): Free of Charge
- 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- Above 11 years old with extra bed: 100% adult rate

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