

5 Days Guilin Sanjiang Longsheng In-depth Tour

Trip overview

Embark on a captivating 5-day exploration that seamlessly blends China's most iconic landscapes with deep ethnic heritage. This private tour takes you from the world-famous **Li River** in Guilin to the majestic "Dragon's Backbone" at the **Longsheng Rice Terraces**, concluding with an immersive cultural experience in **Sanjiang**, the heart of the Dong ethnic people.

- **Durations:** 5 Days
- **Destinations:** Reed Flute Cave - Dong Village and Longji Rice Terraces
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://asiachinatour.com/guilin-sanjiang-longsheng-tour-5-days/>

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Guilin

Welcome to Guilin, a city celebrated for centuries as having "the finest scenery under heaven." Upon your arrival at Guilin Liangjiang International Airport or the railway station, your dedicated guide will be waiting to greet you. Enjoy a seamless private transfer to your hotel in the heart of the city. After checking in, the rest of the day is yours to unwind from your journey and soak in the refreshing mountain air of this picturesque destination.

Accommodation: Stay overnight at Guilin. We have selected a premium downtown hotel that offers a perfect blend of modern comfort and easy access to the city's vibrant night markets and scenic lakes.

Expert Tips:

To ensure a completely stress-free start to your journey, please provide your arrival details in advance so your guide can monitor your status in real-time. We highly recommend a leisurely evening stroll around the nearby Shanhu and Ronghu Lakes to see the illuminated Sun and Moon Pagodas, which provide a stunning introduction to Guilin's charm.

Day 2: Guilin to Sanjiang: Reed Flute Cave and Dong Architecture

Begin your morning by stepping into the ethereal beauty of **Reed Flute Cave**, a natural limestone gallery filled with spectacular stalactites and stalagmites illuminated in vibrant colors. Afterward, settle into a comfortable private transfer for a 2.5-hour journey into the heart of **Sanjiang Dong Autonomous County**. This region is world-renowned for the Dong people's rich cultural heritage and their mastery of timber architecture, built entirely without the use of nails. Upon arrival and a brief refresh at your hotel, immerse yourself in the local atmosphere with a tour of the town's landmarks, including the towering **Sanjiang Drum Tower**, the magnificent **Bird's Nest Theater**, and the iconic **Wind and Rain Bridge**.

Accommodation: Stay overnight at Sanjiang. We have selected a traditional yet high-end wooden hotel that captures the authentic spirit of Dong architecture while providing modern comforts and scenic views of the surrounding river and villages.

Expert Tips:

When visiting the Reed Flute Cave, we suggest bringing a lightweight camera as the low-light sensors perform best against the vivid cave lighting. In Sanjiang, the best way to appreciate the Dong people's craftsmanship is to walk across the Wind and Rain Bridge at sunset when the wooden structures are beautifully reflected in the water. Since this day involves a few hours of driving followed by town exploration, it's a great opportunity to stay active and stretch your legs before dinner.

Day 3: Sanjiang Day Tour: Authentic Dong Village Experience

Today, you will step off the beaten path to visit a secluded Dong village, untouched by mass tourism. Your journey begins at the village's communal heart, the Drum Tower, where you can observe local elders engaged in daily life. You will be a guest in the home of Grandma Lu, who will welcome you with traditional oil tea and demonstrate the ancient artistry of hand-crafting wedding dresses. Her son, Kuan, will then lead you through the village's ingenious landscape, showcasing their new traditional homes, lush tea plantations, and the multifaceted rice paddies that double as fish ponds. You are welcome to participate in the seasonal farm work or visit the village primary school, where you might even share a unique English lesson with the children.

Accommodation: Stay overnight at Sanjiang. We have selected a traditional yet high-end wooden hotel that captures the authentic spirit of Dong architecture while providing modern comforts and scenic views of the surrounding river and villages.

Expert Tips:

The village exploration takes approximately four hours, and since the authentic, exotic flavors of local Dong cuisine can be quite adventurous for some, we will provide a packed lunch from the hotel for your comfort. This immersive day involves walking through uneven farm paths and tea terraces, so we recommend wearing comfortable, closed-toe shoes with good grip.

Day 4: Sanjiang to Longsheng: Longji Rice Terraces and Bamboo Tube Rice

Embark on a scenic 1.5-hour drive to Longsheng, a region famed for its breathtaking landscapes and the vibrant heritage of the Zhuang and Yao minority groups. After settling into your boutique hotel, immerse yourself in the awe-inspiring vistas of the cascading rice terraces—a true masterpiece of rural engineering and a crown jewel of the area. As the afternoon sun begins to mellow, engage in a hands-on culinary tradition by learning to cook authentic Bamboo Tube Rice, which you will then enjoy for a flavorful and culturally rich dinner.

Accommodation: Stay overnight at Longsheng. We have selected a boutique local guesthouse perched on the hillside of Tiantou Village. Staying here allows you to wake up to panoramic views of the rice terraces and experience the traditional wooden architecture of the Red Yao people firsthand.

Expert Tips:

To capture the most striking photographs of the terraces, we recommend heading to a high viewpoint during the "golden hour" just before sunset when the light perfectly accentuates the emerald curves of the fields. While the bamboo rice cooking experience is a delight for the senses, be prepared for a short uphill walk to reach the best vantage points and boutique stays in this mountainous terrain. Since you are balancing a busy workload with these travel experiences, the fresh mountain air provides a great natural reset before your evening routine.

Day 5: Longsheng back to Guilin: Ping'an Village to Guzhuang Village Hiking and Departure

This morning, embark on a refreshing two-hour hike from Ping'an Village to the more secluded Guzhuang Village, which has preserved its original architectural charm and traditional atmosphere far better than its neighbors. As you traverse the ancient paths, you will encounter remarkable century-old stilted folk houses that stand as a testament to the region's enduring heritage. Following your exploration, enjoy a comfortable 2.5-hour private transfer directly to Guilin Liangjiang International Airport for your departure flight.

Accommodation: N/A.

Expert Tips:

The hike between Ping'an and Guzhuang is moderately paced and offers some of the most authentic photography opportunities of the traditional wooden architecture, so keep your camera ready for the ancient stilted houses. We recommend wearing comfortable hiking shoes with good grip, as the village paths can be uneven and occasionally damp from the mountain mist. Since you have a 2.5-hour drive to the airport, it is best to schedule your flight for late afternoon to ensure a relaxed pace for your final morning of exploration.

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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