

# American Celebration of Music in the People's Republic of China



MUSIC CELEBRATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
*Concert Tours with Integrity*



# China Warmly Welcomes You!



**T**he People's Republic of China is opening wide its doors to Western ideas, culture, and business. It is very anxious to promote cultural exchanges at many levels. In 2001, the China International Travel Service, along with the governments of Beijing, Xian, Guilin, Guangzhou and Shenzhen exclusively requested Music Celebrations International to bring American ensembles to China and perform in the top music conservatories and interact with their music students to help them build their music programs. This has now led to the annual **American Celebration of Music in the People's Republic of China.**

Recommended bands, choirs, and orchestras are now annually invited to perform in the most prestigious concert halls throughout China.

**T**he American Celebrations of Music is a special annual performance-tour program, co-sponsored by local governments, music associations, community organizations, and tourist boards around the globe. In many countries this has developed into a



prestigious, recognized, year-long concert-series festival. Recognition of this festival facilitates greater access to performance venues, official publicity, generally very successful concert arrangements, and the ability to touch local cultures in a way that may not be done through other affiliations. This equates to more meaningful musical and emotional experiences for participating performance ensembles.



**N**o other place on earth possesses such an intensity of beauty and strangeness, nor has a longer, richer historical legacy, and few other nations are likely to be as important in the 21st century. China's culture remains exotic, despite rapid modernization and growing Western influences.



**I**t is now possible to travel to most of the interesting places in China in a style not dreamed of ten years ago, or barely possible five years ago. China travel is a mobile feast of sights and sensations, new and old. Chinese art and history are a constant delight, and to see China's past made visible, whether in the vaults where the First Emperor died among his terra-cotta armies or in the Forbidden City where the last emperor was born, brings the dreamy Middle Kingdom to life.



**T**he interest by the Chinese in Western culture is such that an American orchestra, choir or concert band can captivate a large and enthusiastic audience no matter where it performs. Imagine your musical group performing near the Great Wall, an ancient city square, a cultural center auditorium, or perhaps participating in a musical cultural exchange at a Chinese school -- all these things are possible! Music Celebrations International and their official colleagues are ready to transport you to another world -- the Middle Kingdom!

# Sample Tour

## Day 1

Departure from via scheduled airline service to Beijing, China. Enjoy full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Pacific overnight flight. Cross the International Date Line during this flight.

## Day 2 Beijing

Arrive in Beijing Airport, where you will be met by MCI's Chinese staff who assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoaches for the transfer to a downtown hotel. Time permitting, enjoy a brief orientation tour of Beijing en route to hotel check-in.

## Day 3 Beijing

Aboard your motorcoach en route to sightseeing, enjoy some orientation about Chinese culture, a brief history, the economic and political situations, and the preparations for the upcoming Olympics. Visit Tian An Men Square, the largest open plaza in the world (it accommodates half a million people at one time!). Visit the Forbidden City (Palace Museum), the former Imperial Palace for the 24 Emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasty. Also visit the Summer Palace, the summer resort for the Royal Family. This evening, enjoy a traditional Beijing Duck Banquet.

## Day 4 Beijing

Take an excursion to the Great Wall of China at Ju Yong Pass, one of the world's architectural wonders. ***Performance on the Great Wall as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.*** On the way back to the city, stop at the Beijing Cloisonne Factory, the largest of its kind in China. In the evening, attend the Beijing Acrobatic Performance.

## Day 5 Beijing

Visit the Temple of Heaven, the largest temple and altar complex in China, where the ancient Emperors worshiped Heaven and prayed for good harvests. Visit a school in Beijing that specializes in training students in traditional Chinese musical instruments, and participate in a cultural exchange with a school affiliated with the Central Music Conservatory. ***Concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***

## Day 6 Beijing

Excursion to Tianjin via motorcoach (1½ hours). Your Tianjin city tour will include the historic sites and the new economic development district. Possible afternoon visit to a school. ***Evening Concert at the Concert Hall of the Tianjin University as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.*** After the concert, return to your Beijing hotel.

## Day 7 Xi'an

Morning flight to Xi'an (1½ hours). Upon arrival, visit the Ancient City Wall, the only complete city wall existing in China. Welcome Banquet - Dumpling Feast. In the evening, attend the Tang Dynasty Music and Dance Performance.

## Day 8 Xi'an

Visit the Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses Museum, acclaimed as the "Eighth Wonder of The World" with a stop at the Xi'an Drum Tower Walkway. Visit a school affiliated with the Xi'an Music Conservatory for a ***cultural exchange performance. Concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in China.***

## Day 9 Beijing

Early morning, participate in Taichi exercise and enjoy the performance of Martial Arts. Also tour the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. Afternoon flight back to Beijing. Check into a hotel near the airport for a Farewell Dinner and overnight.

## Day 10 Depart for home

Return home via scheduled airline service, arriving late afternoon or evening of the same day.



# Standard Performance Tours in China

## **Tour #1** (8 nights / 10 days)

6 nights in Beijing (with an excursion to Tianjin), 2 nights in Xi'an

## **Tour #2** (8 nights / 10 days)

5 nights in Beijing, 2 nights in Qinhuangdao, 1 night in Tianjin

## **Tour #3** (8 nights / 10 days)

4 nights in Beijing, 2 nights in Hangzhou, 2 nights in Shanghai

## **Tour #4** (5 nights / 7 days)

5 nights in Beijing

## **Tour #5** (8 nights / 10 days)

1 night in Suzhou, 2 nights in Wuxi, 1 night in Nanjing, 2 nights in Hangzhou, 2 nights in Shanghai

## **Tour #6** (6 nights / 8 days)

2 nights in Hong Kong, 2 nights in Shenzhen, 2 nights in Guangzhou



These and all our other Standard Tours may be viewed on our website at [www.musiccelebrations.com](http://www.musiccelebrations.com)

*Music Celebrations International would also be happy to create a custom tour to meet your specific wishes and interests.*



### ***What others have said –***

*“If Americans don't do this tour, they are nuts! We were treated like royalty everywhere we went. This was the most amazing trip I could ever imagine. The cost of the trip for what we got was such a good bargain. The meals were so wonderful, the tour guides were all great, and every concert was just awesome. It was terrific!”*

- Mr. Clair Neamand, Parkland High School Choir

*“I wanted to write and let you know just what a wonderful trip it turned out to be! In every way, it far exceeded our expectations and we thank you all sincerely for having made the entire project possible. The whole trip was over the top, fun, educational, enlightening and incredibly rewarding. It truly was the trip of a lifetime and we thank you again for helping to make it possible!”*

- James Walker, SUNY Geneseo Symphony Orchestra

*“The tour has made a lifelong impression on our students in numerous ways, many of which may not surface for years to come. Our students shared their music, their culture and their friendship in a manner that reflects very positively on our school, community and nation. The administrators were very impressed with everything on the tour, and felt it was one of the greatest experiences we could ever have given our students.”*

- Bill Jastrow, Neuqua Valley High School Band



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