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

Standard Tour #1 (8 nights / 10 days)

Day 1

Depart 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 (D

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

Beijing has more attractions than any other city in China. It has blossomed into a city that any international traveler can enjoy, and has become a vibrant and international city. The list of musts is impressive: the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, Tian An Men Square, and the Great Wall should not be missed. For the last six centuries, Beijing has been the most important capital of China

Day 3 Beijing (B,L,D)

Aboard your motorcoach en route to sightseeing, enjoy some orientation about Chinese culture, a brief history, and a discussion of the economic and political situations

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 Peking Roast Duck Dinner

Day 4 Beijing (B,L,D)

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 Arts & Crafts Jade Carving Factory, the largest of its kind in China

In the evening, attend the Beijing Acrobatic Performance

Day 5 Beijing (B,L,D)

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













Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in China

Day 6 Beijing (B,L,D)

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 Performance 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

The most important seaport in Northern China, Tianjin was first open for foreign trade after the Opium War in 1842. It is one of the four Municipalities in China directly under the administration of the Central Government

Day 7 Xi'an (B,L,D)

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

Once the largest city in the world and a model of imperial splendor, Xi'an is best known as one of the cradles of Chinese civilization. Xi'an, China's ancient capital, is home to the terra-cotta armies of the first emperor, the royal tombs of 10 successive dynasties, and two pagodas from the golden age of the Tang. Xi'an spans the first 17 centuries of China's dynastic history

Day 8 Xi'an (B,L,D)

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

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in China

Day 9 Beijing (B,L,D)

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 (B)

Return via scheduled airline service, arriving home on the same day

<u>This is a very flexible itinerary</u>. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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