

Yin and Yangtze - 15 days

go guide

don't leave home without it



Kicking off in Beijing, soak up all the attractions of China's historic capital before heading south to Xi'an and the Terracotta Warriors. Cruise along the mighty Yangtze River, passing through the stunning Three Gorges and then explore Shanghai and ancient Suzhou.



WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET

Trip Highlights

- Beijing – Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, UNESCO-listed Emperor's Summer Palace, Hutong areas of Beijing, Silk Alley markets, Cloisonne Factory, Chinese Acrobatic performance
- Badaling – UNESCO listed Great Wall of China
- Xi'an – UNESCO listed Terracotta Warriors and Clay warrior workshop, Big Wild Goose Pagoda, City Wall and bike ride
- Three Gorges/ Yangtze River cruise – cruise from Chongqing – Yichang. Qutangxia Gorge, Wuxia Gorge and Xiling Gorge

- Nanjing – Nanjing Memorial Hall, Fuzi Miao (Temple of Confucius), Mausoleum of Dr Sun Yatsen
- Suzhou – UNESCO listed gardens, Grand Canal and waterways, Silk factory, Humble Administrator's Garden
- Shanghai – free time. Visit the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Jade Buddha Temple, The Bund and Old Shanghai, Yuyuan Garden and Huang River

What's Included

- 1 high speed train journey - Wuhan - Nanjing
- 14 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 6 dinners including a Traditional Chinese meal in Beijing
- 10 nights 3 - 4 star hotels
 3 nights 4 star Yangtze River Cruiser, 1 overnight train – soft sleeper cabin
- Chinese acrobatic performance
- Rickshaw through Beijing's Hutongs
- Xi'an - bike ride on medieval City Wall
- Yangtze River cruise - Chongqing - Yichang via Three Gorges
- High speed train journey Wuhan - Nanjing
- Suzhou - historic Grand Canal cruise
- Economy class flight - Xi'an - Chongqing
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 15
- Touring of Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing and Suzhou
- Tour leader escorted (for groups of 6 or more)
- English speaking specialist guides at local sights
- All relevant transfers and transportation

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: \$90 USD
- Entrance Fees: \$70 USD
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 5 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Beijing

Saturday. Beijing - Welcome to China and the start of your holiday! Enjoy an arrival transfer to our hotel. If arriving into Terminal 2, please turn right once you've passed customs to reach the pick up point. If arriving into Terminal 3, you will be met just outside of the restricted area. **Overnight - Beijing**

Day 2 : Forbidden City

Beijing. This morning, we enjoy a Welcome Meeting. Then, it's time to set off and see some of Beijing. We embark on some guided sightseeing of the nation's capital, the host of the 2008 Olympics.

Tiananmen Square partly framed by illustrious Chang-an Avenue is essentially the heart of Beijing. A patriotic vision of grandeur, Tiananmen Square is a square for the public and also home of the mausoleum of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Communist father of the Communist People's Republic and the striking Monument to the People's Heroes. Mao's gargantuan mausoleum is an austere behemoth in granite where since his death in 1976, he has lain in state in his crystal coffin. We'll have a stroll on the square, under the watchful eye of the dutiful guards. Perhaps one of Beijing's most famous sights is the Gate of Heavenly Peace. Up above the gate and looking out across to all his people, is a famous colour portrait of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

The Gate of Heavenly Peace is the main entry point into the Forbidden City. A vision in grandeur with its imperial yellow roofs and vermilion walls, the Forbidden City, once forbidden to all those except on imperial business until 1911, when the last emperor, Puyi, was turfed off his throne is a city within a city. Beijing was always a walled city but the Forbidden City, seat of the great emperors, was the innermost sanctum of the city. Built between 1406 and 1420, it served as the imperial palace for the Ming and Qing dynasties. We enjoy a guided walk through the city's many temples, grand halls and courtyards. An all-out assault on the eyes, it is said that the 720,000 sq m lavishly constructed Forbidden City boasts 9999 rooms!

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This Go Guide has been compiled with care and good faith. It gives an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. This document does not form part of a contract between the traveller and on the go and their affiliates. Any costs shown are subject to change though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of on the go



Later we take a rickshaw ride through the Hutongs of Beijing, weaving through old back lanes, traditional courtyards and compact houses, gaining a fascinating snapshot of the city's traditional way of life. This evening, we enjoy a Welcome Dinner of Peking Duck at a city restaurant. **Overnight - Beijing (B, D)**

Day 3 : The Great Wall



Beijing. Some say it can be seen from space, but unless you're a top gun at NASA, perhaps you'll never know. Instead, experience the real deal. Today, we travel beyond Beijing to Badaling, where we can walk (and almost climb on some sections) on the Great Wall. No matter how many pictures you've seen, the Great Wall of China is at once very impressive.

An enduring symbol of Chinese civilisation and genius, the UNESCO protected Great Wall of China was built as a defensive structure. Although the present wall dates mainly from the Ming dynasty, some 20 states and dynasties were involved in its immense construction over a period of 2,000 years and followed different routes and building extensions as required. Snaking some 6700 kms across barren hills, deserts, mountains and plateaux, the now partially ruinous Great Wall stretches east to west in northern China. At one time perhaps nearly 9700 kms long, the wall was garrisoned by nearly 1 million soldiers and featured over 1,000 fortified passes and 10,000 beacon towers.

Today, a visit offers a healthy, if steep and vertiginous walk, made all the more breathtaking by the stunning views. Before returning to the hotel we visit a cloisonne workshop, where we'll see firsthand the production of decorative items utilising the techniques of this practised and ancient craft.

Tonight, an eye boggling Chinese acrobatic performance. Swinging ropes, juggling hoops, spinning plates and human pyramids are just a few tricks these showstoppers pull out! **Overnight - Beijing (B, L)**

Day 4 : Summer Palace

Beijing - Xi'an. A chance to cross a few palms with silver at Silk Alley markets, where even the most reluctant shoppers cannot resist the bargains on offer!

Set on picturesque Kunming Lake is the Summer Palace. The buildings date back only to the turn of

the 20th century, though the site goes back to the 12th century. It is said that the Dowager Empress Cixi liked to travel with an entourage of at least 1,000! Her arrival at the rebuilt Summer Palace in 1905 was met by 458 eunuchs, and her two main meals consisted of some 100 dishes! Perhaps most famous of all the structures at the Summer Palace is the wonderful Long Corridor, a covered walkway 730m long, and extraordinarily hand-painted with scenes from Chinese history, legend and literature. There is also an impressive solid marble boat on Kunming Lake! Tonight, we travel by train to Xi'an in Shaanxi Province. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

Day 5 : Terracotta Warriors



Xi'an. Most famous for the Terracotta Warriors, perhaps the find of the 20th century and only just usurped by the discovery of King Tut's gold laden tomb in Egypt, Emperor Qin's Terracotta Warriors comprise more than 7,000 life-sized soldiers which stand in military formation in excavated pits under the cover of a modern protective hanger. Made of local clay, no two faces are alike, each is said to be an individual portrait.

Emperor Qin's army of 2,200 year old terracotta warriors were discovered in 1974 by local farmers who happened to be digging a well. Previous emperors used to be buried with their slaves but slavery had been abolished. So, to make up for this, Qin had the warriors made to be buried near him to protect him in the afterlife.

We visit a workshop where you'll see modern-day crafts people producing terracotta warrior figurines before continuing on to the archaeological site itself. **Overnight - Xi'an (B, L)**

Day 6 : Xi'an's Old City Wall

Xi'an - Shanghai. Spend the morning at leisure before visiting the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and enjoying a bicycle ride atop the Xi'an City Wall this afternoon. **Overnight - Xi'an (B, D)**

Day 7 : Xi'an



Xi'an - Chongqing - Yangtze River Cruiser. Spend the morning at leisure in Xi'an, before we fly to Chongqing, the starting point for our exciting Yangtze River cruise. Before boarding the cruise we can stroll along Chongqing's People's Square, in the city centre. **Overnight - Yangtze River Cruiser (B, D)**

Days 8-9 : Yangtze River Cruise

Yangtze River Cruise. Good morning from the River Yangtze! At 6340km in length, the Yangtze is the 3rd longest river in the world, neatly dividing China into north and south, and wending its way through eight very different provinces. The Upper reaches incorporating the Three Gorges are possibly the most spectacular and it is this part of the Yangtze we'll see. The Gorges are a breathtaking sight.

The first gorge we pass through is the shortest and narrowest of the three; Qutangxia Gorge. Here, the dramatic 1200m limestone peaks are often shrouded in mist and the river shoots through the narrow entrance with great haste.

We then disembark for 2 hours of sightseeing at Shibaozhai 'stone fortress' where you can explore the beautiful 12 floor fortress, laden with fascinating murals, artifacts, paintings and statues, and providing stunning views of the river and surrounding farm land. We also have the option today to visit Fengdu 'Ghost City'. In the Chinese vision of the afterlife, the dead (or ghosts) must undergo three major tests to enter the netherworld. These tests are taken at three locations - Nothing-To Be-Done Bridge; Ghost Torturing Pass and the Tianzi (son of heaven) Palace. These three locations are among many attractions in the Ghost City.

Day 2 of our cruise takes us through Wuxia Gorge, with zig zags revealing new scenery of lush green trees and rising mists at every turn, and giving us a chance to see the twelve peaks on the banks of the river described by legend as fairy spirits with the most impressive resembling a lady looking down at the boats in the river.

Today we take an excursion to Shennong Stream. We transfer to a smaller 'peapod' boat to visit the amazingly beautiful and serene Shennong Lesser Gorge - a tributary of the main river with crystal clear water flowing freely. We may see monkeys, water birds and fish as we sail and we can gaze



at intriguing caves and the mysterious ancient coffins of the Ba people, suspended on the cliffs. Along the banks of the stream see the ancient villages of the Tujia people, one of the local ethnic minorities. There is also the option of visiting White emperor City on this day. **Overnight - Yangtze River Cruiser (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Day 10 : Yichang



Yichang - Wuhan. Today we sail through the east section of the Xiling Gorge - which comprises of various smaller gorges and beautiful streams reefs and karst caves and contains the Huanling Temple and Three Travellers cave. During our cruise, we'll also visit the impressive Three Gorges Dam project. Disembarking from our cruise we drive onward to Wuhan (approx 4 hours) stopping for lunch en-route, we'll enjoy dinner at a local restaurant upon arrival, hotel check in and overnight. **Overnight - Wuhan (B, L, D)**

Day 11 : Nanjing



Wuhan - Nanjing. This morning we take a high speed D3008 (Hankou Shanghai) train bound for Nanjing. Departing at 8am and reaching speeds of over 250km we arrive to Nanjing in just a little more than 3 hours.

Upon arrival to Nanjing our city sightseeing tour will commence. Former capital of the Ming Dynasty and capital of Republican China, from 1911 - 1949, Nanjing holds a rich history of both ancient and modern China. This afternoon we visit the Fuzi Miao (Temple of Confucius) and the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre. A moving experience that charts the atrocities committed at this very site. **Overnight - Nanjing (B)**

Day 12 : Suzhou



Nanjing - Suzhou. A short train journey East takes us to Suzhou in the Jiangsu Province. A sort of oriental Venice, ancient Suzhou is interwoven by a series of striking canals and pretty waterways which feed a series of classical gardens, laid out here since the Song dynasty, a thousand years ago. Suzhou sits very close to the Grand Canal. At 1800km, it is the longest canal on earth and ranks alongside the Great Wall as China's greatest engineering achievement. We enjoy a cruise on the Grand Canal, visit a silk workshop and explore the humble administrator's house and garden. **Overnight - Suzhou (B)**

Days 13-14 : Shanghai



Suzhou - Shanghai. An hour's journey brings us to bustling Shanghai. Arrive Shanghai and hotel check in. Just the mere mention of 'Shanghai' conjures up mystery, romance and general decadence. Pre - 1949, cosmopolitan Shanghai was a magnet for seekers of wealth, idle colonialists, explorers and the dispossessed. The city's oddities were due to the unusual circumstances of the city's existence. Written into the Treaty of Nanjing was the notion of extraterritoriality, which translated as foreign nationals not being bound by Chinese law, but rather by the laws of their own consuls. Basically anything went. Until 1949, foreigners dominated commerce, banking and industry, amassing huge fortunes and transforming the landscape of foreign concessionary sections of Shanghai. Everything went belly up in 1949, when Mao and the communists took to power and swept the good times and rock and roll away rather swiftly. A legacy of these heady times, is Shanghai's Bund where on and around this waterfront promenade are a vast series of grandiose pre-1949 buildings. After four decades of austerity, economic reforms implemented by Deng Xiaoping, reawakened Shanghai.

Today and tomorrow are free for you to explore the city independently. Perhaps visit the Oriental Pearl TV tower, the Jade Buddha Temple, French Quarter, The Bund or the Old City. **Overnight - Shanghai (B:2)**

Day 15 : Shanghai

Saturday. Shanghai. Hotel check-out and included onward transfer to airport.(B)

Beijing

China's capital city, host of the 2008 Olympics, is also China's political, economic and cultural centre. Established in 1045 BC, for 800 years alone it served as the capital of several powerful dynasties. A heady mix of old and new, with stunning sights, excellent shopping at Silk Alley market and the traditional Hutongs, with alleys and courtyards sandwiched together in the old back lanes.

Forbidden City

Built between 1406 and 1420, The Forbidden City served as the imperial palace for the Ming and Qing dynasties and is said to contain 9999 rooms. Residence of the emperors and focal point of the empire, entry was forbidden to all those, except on imperial business until 1911, when the last emperor, Puyi was overthrown. It is a giant complex, dominated by vast gates, temples, halls and palaces, replete with imperial yellow tiled roofs, surrounded by a protective moat.

The Great Wall

An enduring symbol of Chinese civilisation and genius, the UNESCO protected Great Wall of China was built as a defensive structure. Some 20 states and dynasties were involved in its immense construction over a period of 2,000 years. Snaking some 6700 kms across barren hills, deserts, mountains and plateaux, the now partially ruinous Great Wall stretches east to west in northern China. At one time, the wall was garrisoned by nearly 1 million soldiers and featured over 1,000 fortified passes and 10,000 beacon towers. Today, a visit offers a healthy, if steep and vertiginous walk on perhaps one of the world's most legendary attractions.

Terracotta Army - Xi'an

The discovery of Emperor Qin's army of 2,200 year old terracotta warriors was made in 1974 by a local farmer who happened to be digging a well. More than 7,000 life-sized warriors stand in military formation in excavated pits under the cover of a modern protective hanger. Made of local clay, no two faces are alike - each is said to be an individual portrait. Delicate excavation continues on site, where hundreds of warriors remain smashed like eggs, not due to the passage of time but rather a peasant revolt after the emperor's death.

Yangtze & 3 Gorges

Although the river and life along the banks are fascinating in themselves, centre stage on a Yangtze cruise is the awesome journey through the Three Gorges on a cruise from Chongqing to

Yin and Yangtze - 15 days



Wuhan. The Three Gorges (Qutangxia, Wuxia and Xiling) were formed around 70 million years ago during movements in the earth's crust. Towering perpendicular cliffs and sharp gorges give way to the Yangtze below. Despite China's controversial Yangtze dam project, where the waters are set to gradually rise until 2009, creating the world's largest dam, it is thought the Gorges will still be as breathtaking, although some villages and landmarks will ultimately disappear.

Nanjing

Nanjing (Nanking), capital of imperial China under the early Ming dynasty and of Republican China under the nationalists from 1911 to 1949 is a great city that offers an even mix of imperial and revolutionary China. Famed for its City Wall (one of the longest in the world), Nanjing offers many points of interest including the impressive Mausoleum of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the great pioneer of the Chinese Revolution, the ruins of the Ming Palace – a model for Beijing's Forbidden City, the Tomb of Zhu Yuanzhang, the first Ming Emperor and the Yangtze River Bridge. The Russians said it couldn't be done, but Chinese ingenuity won through, the result being that the vast bridge now links South with North China. There is also a memorial hall to the thousands of Chinese massacred by invading Japanese troops during the "Rape of Nanjing" in 1939.

Shanghai

Pre – 1949, cosmopolitan Shanghai was a magnet for seekers of wealth, idle colonialists, explorers and the dispossessed. A legacy of these heady times, is Shanghai's Bund, where on and around this waterfront promenade, are a vast series of grandiose pre-1949 buildings. After four decades of austerity, economic reforms implemented by Deng Xiaoping reawakened Shanghai. Just across the Huangpu River is the new Shanghai, a high-tech development of sky scrapers, the centre piece of which is the rocket-shaped Oriental Pearl TV tower. Mercedes and BMW cars cruise the neon-lit streets, modern department stores rub shoulders with cool bars and Shanghai is staking its claim to being China's foremost metropolis.

Suzhou

Suzhou, a 2,500-year-old cultural city is located in an area of rivers that crisscross the Yangtze River Delta of southeastern China. In the city, boats bob along waterways interwoven with small bridges that run parallel to the streets and traditional houses built along them. Coupled with a stunning collection of UNESCO-listed gardens and famed for its silk, Suzhou is an oriental treasure. Just southeast of Suzhou is the charming Venetian-like town of Zhouzhuang. Surrounded as well as divided by lakes and rivers, various stone bridges offer amazing views of this pretty town that is popular with Chinese artists.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Please Note

Collection of entrance fees and tipping kitty is collected in local currency, CNY - Chinese Yuan.

Visas

China Visa

Visas are required by all visitors to China. It is essential that a tourist visa is procured prior to travel. We will provide you with an invoice/ itinerary indicating that you are travelling to China on a pre-arranged holiday. Visa forms are also available from us and also supplied upon booking. The visa is valid for entry within 3 months, so you cannot apply any earlier. Please ensure your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of return from China. We also offer a visa service for those residing in the UK, please contact us for information. Visa requirements are subject to change. Visa procurement is also the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go Tours.

Visa for Hong Kong

Most Western visitors to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China do not require a tourist visa issued in advance of travel. Currently, UK nationals can stay up to 180 days. Nationals of Australia, Canada, Eire, most other EU countries, New Zealand and the US do not require a visa for a stay not exceeding 90 days, while holders of RSA passports can remain for up to 30 days. If entering Hong Kong from mainland China and returning to mainland China a multiple Chinese entry visa is required.

Visa for Tibet

Tibet - If travelling to Tibet, a Tibet Travel Permit is required. The permit will be arranged by our office in China. Please contact On The Go Tours prior to departure for the most up to date Tibetan entry information.

Climate

In all, China has a great diversity of climates. To sum it up - China experiences hot summers in most parts of the country, very cold winters in the north and comfortable winters in the south! Sep-Oct is warm to hot and dry across the country. Nov-Mar is winter with very cool temps in the north, whilst mild in the south. If combining the north and south, you'll experience 2 distinct weather patterns. Apr-May - perfect in the north, if a little humid and rainy in the south. Jun-Aug can bring a few showers.

Health Requirements

It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus, Polio, Typhoid and Hepatitis A. A Malarial risk exists in remote areas of the south, and Rabies and Meningitis are present in Tibet and remote areas. Vaccination requirements can change so please check with your local health care provider before travel.

Currency

USD, Euro and other major currencies can be converted into Chinese Yuan (CNY) prior to your departure or upon arrival to China. A number of ATM's are located in the baggage collection area

at Beijing Airport should you wish to withdraw cash upon arrival. We recommend you bring a mix of cash and credit/ debit cards for use at ATM's. Exchange rates are subject to fluctuations.

- USD 1 = 6.5 CNY
- GBP 1 = 10 CNY
- AUD 1 = 6.2 CNY
- EURO 1 = 8.6 CNY

Note: In Tibet the Chinese Yuan is the only acceptable form of currency. If bringing foreign currency for exchange USD is best. ATM's and credit card facilities are limited.

Holiday Money

Funds collected in China for entrance fees and tip kitty (if applicable to your holiday) or optional excursion that you may wish to participate are payable in local currency (CNY).

Time

China is 8 hours ahead of GMT. The country operates on one time zone, so clocks are set according to Beijing time, meaning, given the size of the country, sunrise and sunset can occur at peculiar times!

Essential Packing

As light as possible! In China most often porterage is not available at railway stations and you will be required to carry your own luggage. Bags with wheels can be a hindrance when climbing several flights of stairs, though are a blessing when walking lengthy distances to reach our awaiting transportation.

- Food in China is very different to your local takeaway !If you prefer western snack food consider bringing a supply.
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume, torch & umbrella for sun or rain.
- Comfortable closed in walking shoes for climbing the Great Wall
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- Chinese plugs come in at least 3 designs: 3 prong angle pins similar, though smaller than those used in Australia; 2 prong flat pins (type A) or 2 round pins, European style (type C). To cover all bases, pack a travel adaptor!
- Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.

Arrival Transfers

If your tour or short stay includes an airport arrival transfer (as indicated in the 'What you Get' section of this Go Guide) our arrival procedure is as follows:

Arrive to Beijing International Airport, where after you have attended to customs and immigration formalities, please proceed to the arrival hall. If arriving to Beijing via Terminal 2, when exiting immigration to the arrivals hall, please turn right where our representative will be waiting. If arriving via Terminal 3 you will be met just outside the restricted area.

Yin and Yangtze - 15 days



Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative who will be waiting for you in the arrivals hall, holding a prominent On The Go Tours logo signboard, ready to escort you to our awaiting transportation and onward to your tour start hotel

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (remember Beijing Airport can be very busy) after waiting 30 minutes in the arrival hall or your flight to China is delayed please call the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

If travelling on our Eye on Shanghai Short Stay (with arrival via Shanghai Airport) or one of our 'Short Stays' where an airport arrival transfer is included in your holiday, the procedure for meeting you at the airport is the same as those detailed above.

Toilets/Wahrooms

Public toilets, when found, are usually 'squats' - holes in the ground with footrests at either side and often don't possess a door! The custom is to wash with water from a jug or little pipe attached to the toilet using your left hand. Doesn't appeal? Here are some hints!

- Time yourself with the hotels you are staying at.
- If you are out and about, find the nearest hotel, restaurant, fast food outlet, or toilets at tourist attractions, which all tend to have Western style facilities.
- Ask your tour guide to make a stop.
- Pack a roll of toilet paper and anti-bacterial wipes for your own comfort.

Travelling By Train

Fast and efficient, China's first rail lines were laid in the 19th century, and today, the government continues to invest heavily in this crucial mode of transport which connects many parts of the country. When travelling during the day, 'soft' seats, that is to say 'upholstered' seats are provided. For overnight travel, clients are accommodated in 'soft class' sleeper cabins. Aboard each wagon are 9 compartments that comprise 4 bunks per compartment. Four people of mixed sex share one compartment. On occasion, dependent upon group size, you may get the opportunity to share with local people on the overnight journey, though sometimes dependent upon how the Chinese Railways Booking Office configure the bookings, the cabin may be filled with four of our passengers. A dining wagon serves reasonably priced Chinese food of the noodles and rice variety, along with snacks and drinks. A very simple menu is published in English. On the Beijing - Xi'an service, there is also a small bar serving drinks including alcohol. Each wagon offers a WC and hand basin facility. At one end, is a Chinese squat-style WC, whilst at the other end is a modern Western-style WC. Cabins are lockable from the inside and luggage is stowed in overhead compartments and under the bottom bunk. Bed linen and slippers are supplied, and often there is a TV mounted on the wall at the end of each bed that may even work. Most channels are broadcast in Mandarin, excluding one English channel, which has little of interest on it!

Porterage

In China most often porterage is not available at railway stations and you will be required to carry your own luggage. We recommend you pack as light as possible as there can be several flights of stairs and a lengthy walk to our awaiting transportation.

Yin and Yangtze - 15 days

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