



GIGWAY TRAVEL PROMOTIONS

Curated Journeys to China

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Pandas, Peaks & Imperial Heritage

Route: Beijing → Chengdu → Zhangjiajie

Duration: 13 Days / 12 Nights

Bespoke starting point — fully customisable with your tour specialist

Gigway Travel Promotions — Bespoke China Tours

TOUR PROFILE

Categories:

History & Heritage Nature & Scenery Wildlife Food & Flavour Culture & Arts

Departure: Includes return connection to Beijing for your international flight, or direct departure from an international gateway city of your choice.

Customisation: Cities, pace, duration (8-30+ days) and budget all adjustable — contact our tour specialist.

Best travel window: Sep-Oct & Apr-May (Zhangjiajie clearest); avoid May-Jul peak rains

INTER-CITY TRANSPORT — FLIGHT / TRAIN / CAR TIMES

Leg	Flight	Train	Private Car	Recommended
Beijing → Chengdu	2h 40m	7h 30m	~18-20h	Flight
Chengdu → Zhangjiajie	1h-1h 30m	4h-5.5h	~8-10h	Flight (speed) or Train (scenery)

Daily Mobility Ratings

Gentle Mostly flat, smooth paths, seating available **Moderate** Uneven ground, some steps, longer walks **Active** Climbs, stairs, higher elevations; accessible alternatives noted

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day	Location	Highlights	Local Transport	Mobility
1	Beijing	Arrive Beijing · private airport transfer · hotel check-in · welcome dinner <i>Airport transfer; rest day to adjust to time zone.</i>	Private vehicle	Gentle
2	Beijing	Tiananmen Square · Forbidden City · Jingshan Park panorama · imperial food walk <i>Extensive walking on uneven stone paths; many steps at Jingshan.</i>	Private vehicle	Moderate
3	Beijing	Mutianyu Great Wall (cable car & toboggan optional) · Summer Palace · tea ceremony <i>Great Wall has inclines & uneven steps; cable car/buggy reduce effort. Summer Palace = gentle.</i>	Private vehicle	Active

4	Transfer	Transfer Beijing → Chengdu · Recommended: Flight	2h 40m · 7h 30m · ~18–20h	Gentle
5	Chengdu	Arrive Chengdu · transfer · People's Park tea house · Jinli Ancient Street evening <i>Flat city paths; tea house seating; Jinli = cobbled but manageable.</i>	Private vehicle	Gentle
6	Chengdu	Chengdu Research Base of Giant Pandas (early entry) · Red Panda area · botanical garden <i>Paved paths, gentle slopes, frequent rest stops; early visit best for activity.</i>	Private vehicle	Gentle
7	Chengdu	Wenshu Monastery · Kuanzhai Alleys · Sichuan cooking class or hotpot dinner <i>Cobblestone alleys, busy pedestrian areas; cooking class = seated.</i>	Private vehicle	Moderate
8	Chengdu	Day trip: Leshan Giant Buddha — river boat (easy) or cliff walk (strenuous) · optional Emei foothills <i>FOOT route = very steep stone staircases; BOAT route = fully gentle. Choose boat for limited mobility.</i>	Private vehicle	Active
9	Transfer	Transfer Chengdu → Zhangjiajie · Recommended: Flight (speed) or Train (scenery)	1h–1h 30m · 4h–5.5h · ~8–10h	Gentle
10	Zhangjiajie	Arrive Zhangjiajie · transfer · 72 Wonder Town (Qiyuan) evening stroll · local Tujia dinner <i>Flat pedestrian area; lifts/elevators available; rest day after travel.</i>	Private vehicle	Gentle
11	Zhangjiajie	Yuanjiajie Avatar peaks · Bailong Elevator · No.1 Bridge under Heaven · Golden Whip Stream <i>Golden Whip Stream = wide flat path, wheelchair-friendly sections; elevators avoid climbs.</i>	Private vehicle + park shuttles	Gentle
12	Zhangjiajie	Tianmen Mountain ·	Private vehicle + cable	Active

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		world's longest cable car • glass skywalk • Tianmen Cave (999 steps noted) <i>Summit walk has steep sections & 999 steps to cave; cable car = easy ascent. Lower scenic route available on request.</i>	car	
13	Zhangjiajie	Baofeng Lake boat ride • Shili Gallery sightseeing train • lakeside village visit • optional evening show <i>Smooth boarding, flat paths, no climbing required — our most accessible scenic day.</i>	Vehicle + scenic train boat +	Gentle
Departure	Transfer	<i>Return flight or train to Beijing - private transfer to airport - international flight home (we recommend arriving Beijing the day before)</i>	Morning departure from final city; same-day or overnight in Beijing as preferred - we book the connection and airport transfer.	Gentle

IMPORTANT MOBILITY & PLANNING NOTES

- Yellow Dragon Cave: NOT recommended for limited mobility — uneven stone steps, low lighting, sustained underground walking. Above-ground alternatives provided.
- Tianmen Mountain summit walk has steep sections; we adjust the route to your fitness level.

What's Included / Not Included

Included	Not Included
✓ Accommodation as specified (4★/5★ or boutique)	✗ International flights
✓ Private ground transport & all transfers	✗ Internal flights (available as add-on)
✓ Local licensed English-speaking expert guides	✗ Personal expenses, meals not listed, tips
✓ Daily breakfast + selected meals as noted	✗ Visa fees
✓ All listed entrance fees & experiences	✗ Travel insurance (highly recommended)
✓ 24/7 on-location support throughout your journey	✗ Optional upgrades & extra activities

READY TO BUILD THIS JOURNEY?

This is a curated starting point. Tell us your preferred dates, group size, and special wishes — our tour specialist will send a fully personalised draft itinerary within 24 business hours, tailored to your budget.

Enquire now: <https://www.gigwaytravel.com/booking-reservation>

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TRAVEL INSURANCE

Why it matters in China: Healthcare standards differ by region, international coverage is not automatically accepted, and unexpected delays or changes to your itinerary can happen — proper insurance ensures you have access to quality care, financial protection, and peace of mind throughout your trip.

Medical cover is essential. We can help arrange suitable travel insurance for your trip. For an instant quotation, please visit:

hellosafe.com

WEATHER — BEST TIMES BY DESTINATION

Long-term averages, indicative only — we advise live forecasts closer to travel.

Destination	Best Months	Avoid / Watch For	Key Note
Zhangjiajie	Sep-Oct Dec-Feb (snow peaks)	May-Jul rains 1-7 Oct crowds	Morning fog clears ~11am; flexible peak day essential
Guilin & Yangshuo	Oct-Nov Apr	May-Jun heavy rain (cruises may stop)	Li River reflections best in cool dry air
Lijiang / Jade Dragon	Nov-Apr (dry season)	Jul-Aug clouded in wind/snow closures	Summit 4,500m - build a buffer day
Dali (Cangshan)	Nov-Apr	Jun-Sep rain spring wind	Mild year-round; Erhai sunrises clearest in dry season
Chengdu / Emei	Mar-Jun Sep-Oct	Jul-Aug rain cloudy basin	Emei summit weather shifts fast - rain gear
Shaolin / Songshan	Apr Sep-Oct	Jul-Aug downpours winter ice	Cable car may close in snow/ice
Beijing	Sep-Oct Apr-May	Jul-Aug heat/rain Jan cold spring dust	Great Wall clearest & most colourful in autumn
Xi'an	Apr-May Sep-Oct	Jul-Sep rain Jan cold	Terracotta Warriors indoor - fine year-round
Chongqing	Mar-May Sep-Oct	Jul-Aug furnace heat winter fog	Wulong karst needs dry weather; lifts reduce climbing
Shanghai	Oct-Nov Apr-May	Jun-Jul plum rains Jul-Aug heat	Indoor-rich city - weather-tolerant
Hangzhou	Oct-Nov Mar-Apr	Jun-Jul plum rains summer heat	West Lake mist photogenic even in light rain
Suzhou	Mar-May Oct-Nov	Jun-Jul plum rains summer heat	Gardens atmospheric in drizzle; bridges slippery when wet
Guangzhou	Oct-Dec Mar-Apr	May-Jun rains Aug-Sep typhoons	Warm winters - good escape from northern cold
Xishuangbanna	Nov-Feb (cool dry)	May-Oct afternoon storms Apr heat	Tropical - light rain gear year-round; hydrate well