DISCOVERY TOUR
An Exclusive, Deluxe Travel Experience!

China

BEIJING • XI’AN • SHANGHAI

featuring A Yangtze River Cruise

SPONSORED BY
NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MAY 20–JUNE 1, 2009
Other dates available upon request

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Exceptional Value!
Book by October 14, 2008 and save $300 per couple.
Exclusive Highlights
- See legendary wonders not easily accessible independently on a comprehensive program with included excursions priced at an exceptional value.
- Marvel at Beijing's Imperial Palaces and Great Wall, Xi'an's Terra Cotta Warriors, and the Bund in Shanghai.
- Experience Chinese culture with a Hutong Pedicab Tour and traditional Peking Opera performance in Beijing and a show by The Shanghai Acrobatic Theater.
- Cruise the scenic Yangtze River aboard the MV President I and marvel at the Three Gorges. All shore excursions are included.
- China's best, new Western-style hotels ensure your comfort.
- Travel at ease! Your experienced AHI Travel Director is always present to offer assistance and regional insight.

Discover the Difference
This unique Discovery Program blends skilled guidance with your personal sense of adventure at an unbeatable value:

- Exclusive program not offered to the general public.
- Explore China with the experts: AHI has escorted sophisticated travelers through the very best of China for 30 years.
- An exclusive AHI Hospitality Desk is available at your hotels to offer expert advice.
- Centrally located deluxe accommodations offer superior service.
- A balanced program features included excursions led by knowledgeable local guides.
- Special events showcase China’s culture.
- Exceptional value due to our exclusively negotiated rates.

Five of China's many UNESCO World Heritage List sites are featured in this comprehensive program. In Beijing, see the Imperial Palaces of the Ming and Qing dynasties in Beijing and Shenyang (1987, 2004), the Summer Palace (1998), the Great Wall (1987) and the Temple of Heaven (1998). In Xi'an, see the Mausoleum of the first Qin Emperor (1987). These sites are distinguished due to their universal scenic, historic, artistic or scientific value.
Described by Napoleon as a “sleeping giant,” China’s long slumber has amassed nearly 6,000 years of epic history. It is one of the world’s oldest civilizations, and it produced great innovations integral to mankind’s advancement, such as paper and paper currency, printing, the rudder and the compass. This comprehensive travel program reveals the secrets of China’s mystique and highlights the landmark sights of its finest cities and breathtaking interior countryside. In Beijing, admire the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. You’ll also see new architecture, which was commissioned for the Summer Olympic Games held in 2008. In Xi’an, marvel at the legions of Terra Cotta Warriors and the sturdy city walls. Cruise the Yangtze River and view the Three Gorges, often called the world’s most scenic wonder. Get an up-close look at the Three Gorges Dam, one of the world’s most impressive public works projects. Stroll along the elegant Bund in Shanghai. You’ll see that the giant has awakened. Discover its palpable progressive spirit amid the colorful vibrance of the Middle Kingdom.

Beijing

Formerly known to the Western world as Peking, few other cities showcase such an array of priceless antiquities and imperial monuments. Basking in the spotlight of the country’s burgeoning modernism, the bustling streets of Beijing are where contemporary culture intersects with time-honored customs. Scores of cell phone-toting cyclists whiz by trendy boutiques and bright, red and gold temples. Experience an unforgettable stay in the host city of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games!

Beijing Highlights

Begin your exploration in Tiananmen Square, the world’s largest public space and site of many cultural and political events. Enter the Imperial Palaces of the Ming and Qing dynasties—formerly known as the Forbidden City—a palace complex that contains an extensive collection of architecture and artwork. Visit the Summer Palace on the banks of Lake Kunming, an opulent royal retreat: rebuilt by the Qing dynasty Dowager Empress Cixi.

The Great Wall

Journey to Badaling where you’ll be able to walk along the ramparts of the Great Wall for a breathtaking view of the wall snaking over the surrounding hills. In 1957, this section of the wall was the first one to be opened to tourists. This section was originally built during the Ming Dynasty.

A Peking Retrospective

Travel through the old section of Beijing by pedicab. Amid the narrow streets of the Hutong District, see the colorful street life and traditional-style homes built around courtyards. Many of these homes have stood for generations. Then, admire the 16th-century Temple of Heaven, site of the emperor’s annual harvest ceremony atop a circular altar.

Xi’an Highlights

Experience one of the 20th century’s most exciting archeological finds: the famous Terra Cotta Warriors. Unearthed in 1974, the third-century B.C. tomb of Qin Shi Huangdi contains more than 8,000 life-size replicas of his warriors who have stood guard over their emperor for 2,000 years. Later, enjoy the serenity of the Small Wild Goose Pagoda, originally built in the eighth century.

The City of Ghosts

In Fergana, see temples, statues and other landmark sights bearing ominous names such as Last Glance at Home Tower, Ghost Torturing Pass, and the...
Xi’an

Once known as Chiang’an, Eternal Peace, Xi’an is considered a cradle of Chinese civilization. Along with Athens, Cairo and Rome, it was one of the most influential capital cities of the ancient world. This was the starting point of the Silk Road, a network of trade routes that passed through Central Asia to Europe and the Mediterranean Sea. Xi’an displays vestiges of more than 1,100 years of cultural diversity from the Zhou rulers to the exquisite Tang Dynasty.

Chongqing

Set at the confluence of the Yangtze and Jialing rivers, Chongqing is encircled by water and idyllic mountain scenery. Here, in the city that lives up to the meaning of its name, Double Celebration, you’ll embark the MV President I.

Fengdu

 Dating back over 2,300 years, Fengdu is famous for its ghost town atop Mingshan Mountain. Forty-eight elaborate temples and shrines superstitiously dedicated to the gods of the underworld crown this city in Sichuan Province. In 2009, when Yangtze waters rise behind the Three Gorges Dam, Fengdu will become an island as the waters submerge the foot of the mountain.

Badong

Picturesque multistory houses huddle together along the river banks in Badong. This small city is the gateway to the beautiful Lesser Gorges of the Shennong Xi: Longchang, Yinwu and Mianzhu.

Shanghai

Shennong Xi Lesser Gorges
Near Badong, navigate the smaller gorges of the Shennong Xi, a tributary of the Yangtze. From aboard an authentic, wooden sampan, see mandarin ducks paddling through tranquil eddies and a breathtaking wonderland of soaring cliffs and thundering waterfalls, verdant bamboo groves jumping with monkeys.

Three Gorges Dam
The ship docks at Sandouping for a tour of the largest public works project ever undertaken in modern China. Begin in 1993 and completed in 2003, the Three Gorges Dam, more than five times the size of the Hoover Dam, will be the world's largest hydroelectric dam when fully functional in 2009. At a reported cost of USD 25 billion, it is designed for flood control and will provide one-ninth of China's electricity.

Shanghai Highlights
Drive along the Bund, a broad, tree-fringed and embanked quay on the banks of the Huangpu River. It features numerous historic buildings which once housed European banks, trading houses and consulates that operated in Shanghai. Admire the 400-year-old Yu Gardens with their teahouses, pavilions and a small lake spanned by a zigzag bridge. Following lunch in a restaurant, visit the Shanghai Museum with its special exhibits of bronze, ceramics, paintings, jade and other art forms. Attend a thrilling performance of the world-renowned Shanghai Acrobatic Theater.
Yangtze Gorges

The passage through the Qutang, Wuxia and Xiling gorges is an exhilarating experience. On this 124-mile (200 kilometers) stretch of canyons, majestic wonders include jagged peaks wreathed in mist and emerald-hued mountains with allegorical silhouettes.

Yichang

Disembark in Yichang, an ancient port city famous for its high-quality red tea and oranges.

Shanghai

A symbol of progress, Shanghai and its skyscrapers look across the East China Sea. Renaissance, baroque and art deco architecture line the Bund. Yet, visions of historic Cathay can be seen in the Old Town, where narrow streets wind amid temples with upturned roofs and morning tai chi practitioners dance a slow-motion routine in tranquil gardens.

Peking Opera

Having evolved over the past two centuries, Peking Opera is regarded as one of China's cultural treasures. This unique form of theater is a stylized synthesis of music and song, dialogue and dance, art and acrobatics. Actors paint their faces in vivid colors and patterns to depict traditional character roles and portray classic historical events or legends. Attend an exciting performance in Beijing.

Optional Independent Activity

(Tibet Dynasty Dinner Show)

Xi’an, cosmopolitan capital of the Tang Dynasty (618-907), was an important city on the Silk Road. Standing on the crossroad of commerce and culture, the city’s influence grew and the arts flourished as rulers of this dynasty embraced the many cultures introduced to the city. So admired was Xi’an that the ancient Japanese capitals of Nara and Kyoto were modeled after it. Join this excursion to an entertaining Tang Dynasty Dinner Show that highlights the culture of this Chinese Golden Age. Enjoy the music, dancing and singing of this glorious period in Chinese history.

The Shanghai Acrobatic Theater

Prepare to be impressed by the little performers of The Shanghai Acrobatic Theater, which has been entertaining audiences for more than 55 years. Renowned for their agility and ability, these world-famous acrobats perform amazing feats with grace and ease! Whether they are juggling, balancing on chairs (and each other!), riding unicycles or twisting their bodies into seeming impossible contortions, their acrobatic feats always amaze spectators.
The recently renovated *MV President I* features all the amenities to make your cruise both relaxing and comfortable. It is fully climate-controlled and equipped with the latest international safety and navigational technology. All cabins have balconies, face outside and showcase superb views of the passing countryside. Each has been refurbished with new carpet, furniture, comforters, curtains and wall coverings. Each room is equipped with stereo, closed-circuit television and minibar. The private bathrooms also have been renovated.

The public rooms, restaurant and lounge also have been redecorated to reflect a light, welcoming ambience. This elegant cruiser even boasts a sauna, gift shop, bar, beauty parlor, massage room, recreational and fitness center and a medical facility. Chinese service and hospitality aboard is sure to make your cruise a most memorable one.

The Yangtze River

The spectacular Yangtze is China’s longest and the world’s third-longest river, after the Nile and the Amazon. Flowing for 3,900 miles (6,300 kilometers) from the Tibetan Plateau to the East China Sea, it is the country’s principal navigable waterway. Its rugged natural beauty—in particular, the dramatic Three Gorges—has inspired countless Chinese painters and poets.
ACCOMMODATIONS

HILTON BEIJING

The Hilton Beijing combines a cozy atmosphere with a reputation for preparing the finest Asian and Western cuisine. Luxurious guestrooms provide the most modern amenities. The hotel also features various recreational facilities and easy access to shopping.

SOFITEL ON RENMIN SQUARE, XI’AN

This luxurious hotel sits in a complex featuring several historic buildings. Relax in comfort, as each guestroom features modern amenities. The Sofitel also features elegant, international cuisine at its four restaurants. The hotel also has a fitness center, indoor pool, Jacuzzi and many other spa amenities.

HILTON SHANGHAI

The impressive Hilton Shanghai is situated near the heart of the city, between two main shopping districts. Comfortable and convenient, its full complement of attentive services and modern facilities includes a well-equipped gym and a large indoor swimming pool. Choose from a comprehensive menu with Cantonese, Sichuan, Italian and Western Continental fare.
INCLUDED FEATURES

First, Three Nights in Beijing
- Accommodations at the Hilton Beijing.
- See Tiananmen Square, the Imperial Palaces and the Summer Palace.
- Travel to the Great Wall.
- Indulge in a Peking Duck Dinner.
- Attend a Peking Opera performance.

Next, Two Nights in Xi’an
- Accommodations at the Sofitel on Renmin Square.
- Discover the famous Terra Cotta Warriors and see the impressive Xi’an City Walls.

Then, Your Yangtze River Cruise
- Accommodations for three nights aboard the MV President I.
- Embark on exciting included excursions in Fengdu, Badong and Yichang.
- Admire the beauty of the Three Gorges and Lesser Gorges. Tour the Three Gorges Dam.

Finally, Three Nights in Shanghai
- Accommodations at the Hilton Shanghai.
- Tour the bustling Bund, peaceful Yu Gardens and the Shanghai Museum.
- Attend a performance of the Shanghai Acrobatic Theater.

MEALS AND RECEPTIONS
- Buffet breakfast served daily in the hotels.
- Three excursion lunches served at local restaurants that feature authentic regional cuisine.
- Three full meals served daily on board the ship. Enjoy tea with all meals.
- Welcome and Farewell receptions.

TRANSFERS AND PORTAGE
- Flights from Beijing to Xi’an, Xi’an to Chongqing, and Yichang to Shanghai.
- Deluxe motorcoach transfers from the Beijing hotel to the airport, round-trip between the airport and the hotel in Xi’an, from the Chongqing airport to the ship, from the ship to the Yichang airport, and from the Shanghai airport to the hotel, plus baggage handling.

MANY INCLUDED Extras
- Consultation services of a dedicated Passenger Service Representative prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced AHI Travel Director throughout your trip.
- Attentive services provided by local experts at an AHI Hospitality Desk in your hotels.
- Deluxe travel wallet.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.

AHI Exclusive River Cruise Extras

Your AHI River Cruise features:
- Deluxe river cruise ships providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; limited capacity; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- Pleasant dining aboard ship featuring special extras such as morning coffee, afternoon tea and expertly prepared culinary specialties of the region.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- Demonstrations and lectures on Chinese painting, calligraphy, dance and song.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Currently poised at center stage of the global arena is one of the world’s most charismatic countries. Come explore the celebrated cities of China and the Yangtze River.

Set out with a small group of like-minded travelers and admire the breathtaking panoramas of an undulating landscape from atop the Great Wall. Visit Beijing’s mysterious Imperial Palaces, closed to Western travelers for 500 years. Marvel at the rows upon rows of Terra Cotta Warriors that stand guard over Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi’s subterranean tomb. Leisurably cruise along the Yangtze, the longest river in Asia, amid the geologic majesty of the Three Gorges. Wander along the European-style promenades of cosmopolitan Shanghai.

Our comprehensive 13-day itinerary has been planned by seasoned experts to showcase the opulent monuments of China’s imperial past as well as its changing contemporary environs. You’ll be immersed in time-honored traditions at exclusive special events, thereby deepening your understanding and appreciation of the Chinese people and their fascinating culture.

This program represents a truly exceptional travel value. It features deluxe accommodations at premier Western-style hotels and an elegant cruise ship. Plus, it offers an extensive variety of included sightseeing and shore excursions, as well as select meals that provide an authentic experience of local cuisine.

Don’t miss this comprehensive exploration of China. Space is limited for your utmost comfort and enjoyment, so don’t be disappointed. Make your reservation today!

Sincerely,

Deanna Hemmila
Director of Alumni Operations
Northern Michigan University Alumni Association

800-323-7373 www.nmu.edu/alumni
Special NMU Alumni/Friend Prices

**LAND-ONLY PROGRAM**
May 21-June 1, 2009

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VAT is an additional $155 per person.

*All prices quoted are per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional $800 (limited availability).

**AIR PROGRAM**
May 20-June 1, 2009

For your convenience, AHI offers a flexible Air Program featuring special air fares available at an additional cost in conjunction with the Land Program.

AHI has designated specific Group Air Schedules for this departure utilizing scheduled jet service from North America to Beijing with a return from Shanghai. Those participating on these flights will enjoy motorcoach transfers from Beijing airport to the Hilton Beijing, including baggage handling, and from the Hilton Shanghai to the Shanghai airport. Prices are dependent upon dates, air routes and class of service chosen and will be reflected on your Reservation Confirmation, which will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation. Air schedules will be sent with your final invoice approximately 90 days before departure. Prices quoted to you will include all Domestic and Foreign Governmental Airport Departure Taxes and Fees and any applicable Fuel Surcharges. AHI ticketed passengers will also receive Automatic $250,000 Flight Insurance, subject to policy terms.

**ITINERARY**

Day 1  Depart Gateway City
Day 2  Arrive Beijing
Day 3  Beijing
Day 4  Beijing
Day 5  Depart Beijing/Arrive Xi'an
Day 6  Xi'an
Day 7  Depart Xi'an/Arrive Chongqing/
      Embark the **MV President I**
Day 8  Cruise: Chongqing/Fengdu
Day 9  Cruise: Badong/Shennong
      Lesser Gorges
Day 10 Cruise: New Dam/Arrive
      Yichang/Disembark the **MV President II**
Day 11 Shanghai
Day 12 Shanghai
Day 13 Return to Gateway City

800-323-7373  www.nmu.edu/alumni
For Office Use Only: B #: Date: 
Trip #7-18002 PSR: 

Send to: China Classic Discovery Northern Michigan University Alumni Association c/o AHI 6400 Shafer Court Rosemont, IL 60018

Please contact AHI Travel at 800-323-7373 with questions regarding this trip.

Legal Name (as it appears on passport)  

(1) First Middle Last 
First Middle Last 

Street Address  
City 
State ZIP  

Home:  
Office:  
E-mail:  

☐ Yes, please e-mail me information about special travel opportunities. 

Sharing with:  
(Farm sent separately)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):  

☐ (1)  

☐ (2)  

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows: 

Cruise Program  
I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers. 

☐ Please call me/us to discuss my/our air options. 

Cabin category desired: 1st choice, 2nd choice  

I prefer single accommodations at an additional $800 (limited availability). 

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

☐ Cruise and Air Program  

I/we reserve the Cruise Program and request the Air Program to Beijing, China, and with return from Shanghai to depart from: 

☐ Departure City  

☐ Please send me information on upgrading my flights. 

Note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule. International flight arrangements can be cancelled with no obligation up to 75 days before departure. 

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by March 6, 2009 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International. 

Enclosed is a deposit of $500 ($500 per person required) to reserve space(s). 

☐ Accept my check made payable to AHI International. 

☐ Charge my deposit to: MasterCard ☐ Visa 

Card #: Expiration Date: 

(Signature as it appears on credit card) 

NEW ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY - The AHI Transit Channel Protection Plan now offers a low-cost Any Reason Cancellation feature. Book with ease! 

NOT INCLUDED: fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, insurance, gratuities, laundry and dry cleaning, excursions, wines, liquor, mineral water and snacks not mentioned in this brochure under included features; unused airfare money on items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL. The right is retained to declare to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel, is unfit for travel or where physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the period of the total amount paid be deducted from the unused portion of this accommodation be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION. The price of this trip is based on an airline purchase extension fee. If airline fees are incurred, penalty up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special peak-season fees may be added. In which case, penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or cancelled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all your airline class fees. MODIFICATIONS TO THE GUEST LEADER MUST BE REQUESTED NOT LESS THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

CANCELLATION - In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a 21.5% per person cancellation fee. Cancellation fee: 75-60 days prior to departure will result in loss of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 61-30 days, 50%; 31-15 days, 75%; 16-4 days, 90%; 0-4 days, 100%. Cancellations that occur on or more than 15 days prior to departure will result in forfeit of the entire cost of the trip. CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU REGISTER. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International. 

BAGGAGE - General airline regulations allow two checked pieces per person. No single piece may exceed the dimensions sum (length + width + height) of 150 inches (or 60 inches each for a maximum width of 26 inches). No single piece may exceed 50 pounds. Luggage allowance limits are subject to change. There may be differences between the current baggage allowance and the allowance described in this brochure. Check with your airline for the current baggage allowance. Airlines may change fees and restrictions at any time.

REIMBURSEMENT - If there should be any unforeseen problems in the sourcing of goods, transportation, accommodations or other services, we make no responsibility for any changes in your itinerary that may occur. Should the tour direction or condition, or the manner in which it is conducted, not meet your expectations, it is the responsibility of the client to mention any dissatisfaction immediately. Thereafter, the only recourse available is to stop the trip or to request a refund of all monies paid for any incurred losses, except in cases where such dissatisfaction is the result of acts, mistakes, or omissions committed by others, or where such dissatisfaction is attributable to acts of war, natural disaster, public act, or other force majeure acts. Any and all final decisions shall be at the discretion of AHI International. 

Need pre- or post-trip assistance? * 

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact AHI Travel at 800-323-7373 so later than 60 days prior to departure and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations.

* A nonrefundable service fee and additional airfare charges based on reservations apply.
A word about your Tour Operator

Since 1962, the experienced, professional staff at AHI Travel has offered a high level of service in deluxe, innovative travel programs.

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of their 46 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Flexibility and customization.** Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- **Safety and security.** In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.
- **Full endorsement by the USTOA.** This professional association safeguards consumers' deposits and payments with a $1 Million Traveler's Assistance Program.

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