

THE CHINA GUIDE

Travel Agency

www.TheChinaGuide.com

Building 7-1, 8th floor, Room 81

Jianguomenwai Waijiaogongyu Diplomatic Compound

E-mail: book@thechinaguide.com

Phone: (+8610) 8532-2274 Mobile: (+86) 15910740785

2010 *China Photography Tour*

14 days

US\$3,800, Group maximum 15

Trip Dates:
July 3 - 16th
October 10 - 23th

Led by award winning Australian photographer and writer
Anthony Anderton



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Day 1: Arrive in Beijing, China's historic capital

Arrive, relax and recover from your journey. Airport pickup and transfer to your hotel is optional. When you check in to the hotel a detailed copy of our tour itinerary, photography workshops and activities will be waiting at reception.

Those who arrive early enough can join Anthony for an outing to the Panjiayuan Weekend Market, where vendors from all over China come to sell their wares. This is perhaps one of China's best and most authentic markets.

Beijing is colorful and safe – have dinner at one of the many nearby local or international restaurants, which have English menus. Our hotel is located centrally in the old part of Beijing where you can walk, photograph and enjoy.

After dinner join your tour leader Anthony Anderton for welcome drinks at the hotel and meet your fellow photographers and China travellers.

Hotel: The Guxiang 20 (or similar depending on availability)

Meals: None, Welcome drinks



Day 2: Beijing / Photography Workshop, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, the Lama Temple and a Peking Duck dinner

Start the day with breakfast at your hotel. Then join photographer Anthony Anderton for your first photography workshop. Anthony will share his professional photography experience and offer tips and suggestions for improving your photographic skills, creativity and how to get the most out of your experience in China - and take home great pictures of your China adventure. Then it's "lights... camera... action!"

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Our morning program starts in Tiananmen Square, the heart of Beijing. From the Square we will enter the Forbidden City from the south, through the Gate of Heavenly Peace, where Mao founded the People's Republic of China. Inside you will have time to wander the expanses of the Palace and take photographs. The group will meet at the North gate and exit the Forbidden City to Jingshan Park and walk up to enjoy and photograph 360 degree views of the Forbidden City and the Beijing skyline.

We enjoy a good local lunch and then in the afternoon make our way to the Lama Temple where you can see a traditional Buddhist temple in action. Locals come to pray and burn incense for good luck. A great opportunity to shoot the traditional architecture and people. Next we move on to a spot with some modern architecture, the Olympic Green, where you can have a look around the famous venues from the 2008 Games. The Bird's Nest stadium and the Swim Cube are the two most famous.

In the evening we will dine on a traditional Peking Duck dinner - perhaps China's most famous dish - along with an assortment of Chinese cuisine.



Hotel: The Guxiang 20
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Outside Beijing / Sleep on (or at) the Great Wall of China, The Ming Tombs

After breakfast we leave Beijing to visit the historic Ming Tombs where we will walk along

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the Sacred Way. This is followed by a Chinese lunch at a quality local restaurant. After lunch we drive to Jinshanling and enjoy a sunset hike on the Great Wall – a spectacular setting for landscape photography. Then relax and enjoy a local Chinese dinner at the base of the Great Wall in Jinshanling Village. You can choose to sleep on the Great Wall in a watchtower or under the stars. (We provide all the sleeping gear, snacks, drinks and beer for the evening on the wall and hot fresh coffee / breakfast at sunrise on the wall). Those who prefer can choose



stay in the nearby Jinshanling courtyard hotel.

Hotel: Sleep on the Great Wall or in the Jinshanling Village Hotel (3-star)
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: The Great Wall / Photograph the sunrise then hike through 30 watchtowers in the morning light

Get up early to photograph sunrise on the Great Wall – or sleep in – and then enjoy breakfast of muesli, fruit, drinks and hot fresh coffee. After breakfast you can hike along the Great Wall for six miles (10 km) from Jinshanling village to Simatai, passing through more than 30 watchtowers along the way. Take in the dozens of different perspectives of the wall and surrounding mountains – there are endless photo opportunities along the way. The hike is of moderate difficulty.

If you would rather not hike the wall, you may take the bus from Jinshanling and meet the walkers at Simatai for lunch. In Simatai you can take photographs of the wall and local scenery. After lunch at Simatai village we return you to your Beijing hotel to freshen up, rest and have dinner. After dinner bring along your favourite images for an informal slide show and



discussion.

Hotel: The Guxiang 20
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Beijing / Local Park, Temple of Heaven, Rickshaw Ride, Make

Dumplings, Drum Tower, Night Excursion

After breakfast we start the day in the vast parklands of the Temple of Heaven. Beijing residents start the day early with exercise, dancing and all manner of cultural and traditional activities. Here you might catch a glimpse of traditional taiqi, martial arts, ballroom dancing, and even amateur Peking opera performances. You have time to watch, observe and photograph these activities.

Then we tour the magnificent Temple of Heaven. The complex is 500 years old and was visited annually by the Emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties to conduct rites and prayers for a good harvest.

For lunch we will enjoy home cooked meal in a traditional courtyard home and learn to make Chinese dumplings (jiaozi). If available, Mr. Cricket, a Chinese cricket master will pay us a visit and give us an introduction to keeping and fighting crickets. Its a great chance to photograph a real Chinese character.

After lunch we visit the Drum Tower, where time was kept for the imperial court. Photograph the excellent views of the city and surrounding ancient hutong alleyways. Experience a cycle rickshaw ride through Beijing's old neighborhoods and photograph the local lifestyle. You then have free time to visit the shops and cafes in the trendy alley of Nanluoguxiang or return to the hotel.



After dinner at the hotel we will have a brief photography workshop on low light and night photography. For those who wish to continue photographing, we will head out into the streets to use ideas and techniques from the workshop.

Hotel: The Guxiang 20

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Beijing to Xian / Summer Palace, Photography Market or Olympic Venues, Silk Market, Sleeper Train

Have breakfast and check out of the hotel. We will store your luggage on the bus for the day. In the morning we will visit the Summer Palace – the summer holiday spot for the Qing Emperors and their court. Enjoy a boat ride across the lake and a Chinese style lunch.

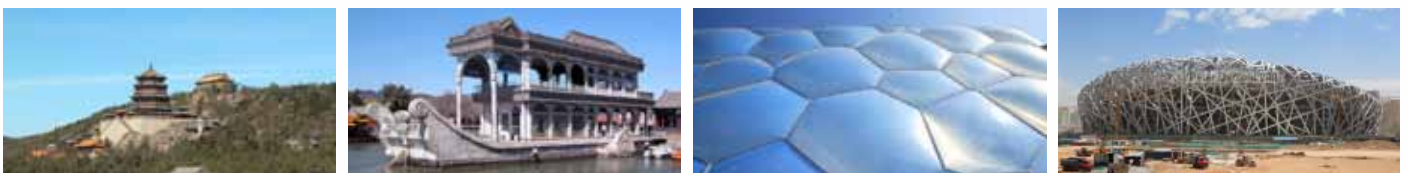
In the afternoon we offer three options: 1) Anthony Anderton will escort a group to the Beijing Photography Market, which is made up of hundreds of individual stalls selling a wide array of photographic goods. While cameras are probably better bought in the west as they

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are cheaper there, you can find cheap memory cards, filters, lights, photo albums, wedding accessories, costumes, makeup and used items. It's like a photography flea market. The vendors do not speak English so you must be patient. We will send along extra staff to help with translation. OR 2) Visit the Beijing Planning Museum where you can see a scale model of Beijing as well as details of the cities past, present and future. If there is time after this we will explore The Village in Sanlitun, a modern shopping complex. OR 3) You may choose to venture out on your own in Beijing and enjoy some free time to do some creative personal photography, sight see, shop or just relax.

Late in the afternoon (about 5pm) everyone will meet up at Beijing's Xiushui Silk Market, which is famous for its selection of clothes and local souvenirs. Here you will be able to arrange your own dinner - western and Chinese choices available. After dinner we take the overnight express train to Xian, home of the famed Terracotta Warriors. Anthony Anderton will escort you on the train journey. There are four guests to a private locking, air conditioned non-smoking compartment.



Train: Soft Sleeper (upgrades to 2 person compartment with bathroom may be available)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 7: Xian / Terracotta Warriors

On arrival in Xian our local guide and driver will meet us at the train station. From the station we drive directly to see one of the world's great archaeological treasures, the Terracotta Warriors. To photograph the warriors, we recommend a telephoto lens, which will help capture the details of these extraordinary figures.

After a local lunch there is free time in the afternoon to walk and explore Xian's historic Muslim Quarter and the Drum and Bell Towers which are all within close proximity of each other. The Drum and Bell towers have performances at various times for a nominal fee. If you are there at the right time you can photograph the action. The lively Muslim Quarter is ideal for candid street photography. In the evening arrange your own dinner. There are many local res-



restaurants with English menus to choose from.

Hotel: Citadines Apartment Hotel (or similar)

Meals: Lunch

Day 8: Ancient Xi'an, the City Wall and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda

After breakfast we will take a tour of the Xian city wall – one of the few ancient city walls surviving in modern China. The top of the wall offers great views over the city. You can take a bicycle tour or stroll along the wall at your own pace. After touring the city wall we visit the historic Big Wild Goose Pagoda, built in 652AD to house sacred Buddhist artifacts and documents brought from India. We will have a Chinese style lunch, then have an afternoon visit to the Shaanxi Museum. The evening is left free to enjoy the sights of Xian and arrange your own dinner.

Hotel: Citadines Apartment Hotel (or similar)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 9: Fly to Shanghai / enjoy free time in Asia's most dynamic city

After breakfast we check out of the hotel and transfer to Xian airport for the flight to Shanghai. On arrival you will be met by our local guide and driver and transferred to your hotel in Shanghai. The afternoon and evening are free for you to explore one of Asia's most happening cities.

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel (or similar depending on availability)

Meals: Breakfast

Flight: From Xian to Shanghai



Day 10: Shanghai / The historic Bund, Yuyuan Garden, Old Shanghai Street, People's Square

After an early breakfast we start the day Shanghai's Bund. From the waterfront look across the bustling Huangpu River to the futuristic skylines of Pudong, home to some of the world's most daring architecture. Along the Bund you can see some of the famous buildings of Shanghai's bustling past, including the legendary Peace Hotel. From the Bund we tour Shanghai Old Street and the historic Yuyuan Garden and market, where we will enjoy a local style lunch.

After lunch we visit People's Square. Here we will tour the Shanghai City Planning Exhibition Center to see the amazing plans of Shanghai's future. Then we visit the Shanghai Museum, regarded one of the finest museums in the world.

In the late afternoon and early evening we will enjoy the panoramic city views of Shanghai from the cocktail bar of the Grand Hyatt, located on the 88th floor of the Jinmao Tower. From here you can get some wonderful panoramic shots of the city, while sipping a glass of wine, beer or cocktail in this luxurious setting. We will also photograph the atrium of the Grand Hyatt, which goes through the core of the skyscraper for over 30 storeys. Make your own arrangements for dinner, return to the hotel, or enjoy an opportunity for night photography on the streets of Shanghai. We recommend an evening walk along Nanjing road as an interesting night time activity with plenty of opportunities for night time photography.

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 11: Shanghai Expo

Another world event produced by China, the 2010 World Expo is a photographer's dream. The architecture is outstanding and photo opportunities are everywhere. In the evening lights come on and its a great chance to crank up the ISO and see what light you can collect on your sensor!

Anthony will escort you to the Expo, take you inside and arrange a meeting time for those who wish to meet up. There will be return trip transportation at a set time. Those who want to leave early or stay later can return to the hotel by taxi or subway.

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel
Meals: Breakfast
Note: Includes Expo entrance ticket

Day 12: Suzhou and Tongli Water Town Day Trip

Suzhou is a city of canals and gardens offering a chance to photograph some classical Chinese scenes. After breakfast in Shanghai we board the bus and head for the Humble Administrator's Garden where we give you some free time to explore the nooks and crannies of this enormous estate. We then have lunch and travel to Tongli, an ancient water town. Here we walk the alleyways and canals, take a boat ride and have a look in the local shops. Those who are interested can check out the Tongli Ancient Chinese Sex Museum, with artifacts dating back to 3000 BC. We return to the hotel and let you enjoy dinner on your own.

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel
Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Day 13: Shanghai

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After breakfast we begin with a local walking tour to photograph street life in Shanghai. Then we make our way to the historic Jade Buddha Temple, an active and lively place of worship. This will be followed by a local style lunch.

After lunch you have the option of joining Anthony Anderton for a visit to some of Shanghai's leading photography galleries where you can see work by local photographers. Or you can make your own arrangements for the afternoon - shopping, sightseeing or photography.

In the evening we will enjoy a farewell dinner hosted by Anthony Anderton, which will be followed by drinks and a slideshow of the group's favourite images from the China tour.

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner

Day 14: Depart Shanghai

After breakfast check out of the hotel and transfer to airport for your return journey

Hotel: New Harbour Apartment Hotel
Meals: Breakfast



Introducing the China Guide Photography Tour

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About Us

Our tour combines skilled professional photographers, extensive experience and knowledge of travel in China, local expertise, and the proven ability to deliver a high quality travel experience in China.

The China Guide

The China Guide is independently owned and operated by American Peter Danford. Based in Beijing with operations throughout China, we design and execute our own tours of high standard. We specialize in custom private tours for small groups, families, business travellers and student groups. The China Guide gives travelers their own private tour, with quality and flexibility not found in standard Chinese group tours. Combining budget with quality service and experience, we consider your trip our own, and give you the type of service we would want ourselves. Whether you are a group, family with children or a business traveller we customize



the experience to best suit your schedule and expectations. The China Guide employs experienced, qualified international and Chinese staff. All our guides, drivers and vehicles are officially certified in China and are fully insured.

Anthony Anderton

Our tour leader is an award winning photographer and writer who also brings twenty years of China experience our photography tour. His images and features have appeared in dozens of publications, including The Guardian Weekly, the Australian Financial Review, the Sydney Morning Herald, Asian Geographic, Australian Gourmet Traveller, the Diplomat, Asia Inc, and the in-flight magazines of Qantas, Singapore Airlines, Emirates and Silk Air. Anthony first came to China in 1988 to study Mandarin and has lived, worked and travelled extensively in China and Asia during the past 20 years. Now living in Australia, Anthony has successfully exhibited his photography in Asia and Australia, and he is regularly invited to deliver photography workshops, seminars and presentations on China and Asia. Anthony will accompany you throughout the tour.

Peter Danford

Peter Danford is the founder and Managing Director of the China Guide. Peter has been pro-

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professionally involved with China and Asia for over 20 years. He lives in Beijing with his family. A successful professional photographer, Peter received the prestigious Grand Prize in the Beijing Tourism Administration's 2006 international photography competition for his images of the Olympic Aquatic Centre "The Watercube". Peter will share his insights and experience of photography during our workshops in Beijing. His photography portfolio may be seen on www.peterdanford.com. Peter has a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota and a master's in East Asian Studies/Chinese Language from the University of Minnesota. He has worked for Xerox in the USA, Sun Microsystems in Australia and Chinadotcom in Hong Kong. Peter is a member of the Beijing Rotary Club.

Photography Tour Dates for 2010

The China Guide's photography tour starts in Beijing and ends in Shanghai.

Trip Dates:

July 3 - July 16th

October 10 - 23th

Photography Tour Costs for 2010

The tour cost is US\$3,800 per person, based on sharing a twin room with another traveller.

Note that we list the boutique hotels we will use, we may change them if there is not availability. In particular Shanghai can be difficult due to the 2010 Expo. We use only quality four star plus hotels and will not compromise on quality should changes need to be made.

Single Supplement

If you would like your own single room or if your party is an odd number of people and we cannot match you with someone else to share a hotel room, you must pay the single supplement price US\$1200 in addition to the tour cost.

Payment Methods

Payment must be made in full in advance. We do not charge extra for credit card fees. Payment can be made by either bank transfer or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, JCB, American Express) via secure online form.

Photography Skills and Equipment for the Tour

Our tour is designed for people who enjoy photography and who would like the opportunity to improve their skills and creativity – and want to visit China. It is open to amateur photographers of all levels. Our photography tour leader and instructors are working professionals, with extensive experience of travel and photography in China. Our approach is friendly, informal, hands on and designed to help you improve your photography, while ensuring you also have great experience of China's rich history, culture and landscapes. The tour features a number of photography workshops and group sessions where we discuss specific photogra-

phy skills and techniques. During the tour our instructors are available to offer you assistance with your photography. We recommend digital SLR cameras for the tour, as they offer a wider range of photographic options and control over image making, including access to interchangeable lenses. A telephoto lens is recommended for the tour. If you have just purchased a digital SLR, or are about to, our workshops are an ideal learning environment for you and your new camera. A tripod is optional for the tour. Although it may be useful for landscapes or night photography, remember that a tripod adds weight to your gear. Anthony Anderton, our tour instructor, is available to answer any questions you may have about the photography tour and our workshops.

What the tour package includes

The photography tour includes all accommodation, domestic transfers and internal transport in China (including economy class domestic airfares and train), local guides and entry fees to all locations visited. A number of meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) are included as indicated in the itinerary, but guests will have to make private dinner arrangements on several days. Please consult the itinerary for further details.

The tour does NOT include international fares, visa fees, travel and medical insurance, or any personal expenditures on any items not specified as included in the tour itinerary. Tips and gratuities (payable at your discretion) are not included. Our guests are responsible for providing and maintaining their own camera, photographic equipment and accessories. Any changes to the itinerary that incur additional costs are the sole responsibility of the guest. If you have any specific questions about tour costs, please contact our staff at the China Guide.

Bookings, Payments and Cancellations

The minimum size for our photography tours is four people, the maximum number is fifteen. We recommend you book as early as possible to avoid disappointment, as once a group is fully booked we will be unable to accept additional bookings. If we are unable to proceed with a particular tour for any reason, you will receive a full refund of any payments made. Should you be forced to make a cancellation of your booking, we will refund you your payment less 10% cancellation fee PLUS any items that are non-refundable or incur penalties for cancellation, such as domestic Chinese airfares.

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