



ACTIVE JOURNEYS

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Crossroads of China

This unique bicycling tour shows you the beauty of rural China and the spectacular scenery that makes this region famous. Portions of the route are a little hilly, as we wind our way along little-used back roads.

Pedaling past flooded rice paddies and through rural villages where schoolchildren still rush out to meet the strangers on two wheels. After traveling by express train from Hong Kong, we collect our bikes and cycle through the ever-changing scenery. One of the highlights of the cycling tour is the stunning countryside, and you will experience it first-hand on your bike.

Using a bicycle in China allows the traveler to see the country at a handlebar level, much as the locals do. You have ample time to explore pagodas, villages, and other highlights. We mostly stay in 3-star hotels, and all our accommodations have ensuite facilities.

This trip is organized as a group trip, and our minimum number of travelers is two. Therefore, we can guarantee a departure with two. However, if you are travelling alone and wish to join a large group, this may not be possible. The average group size is 4-6 guests per departure, depending on the season.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Hong Kong

Arrive in Hong Kong, and transfer to your hotel.

Day 2: Hong Kong

Our tour leader will be meeting clients at Royal Pacific Hotel, followed by group meeting and dinner in a city restaurant. Overnight in the Royal Pacific Hotel.

Day 3: Hong Kong-Zhaoqing

At 7:30 am, our tour leader will take you to the China Hong Kong pier for a catamaran ferry transfer to Gaoming. We arrive at Gaoming at about 12 pm. We will be transferred to Zhaoqing, where we will have lunch and have a chance to change money at the bank. We will be fitted on our bikes, and spend the afternoon exploring the lake resort and city. Overnight in the Song Tao Hotel.



Day 4: Zhaoqing

We take a morning bus ride to visit the Zhaoqing No. 2 kindergarten, where the kids will sing and dance for us. We then cycle 9 km to Mt. Dinghu, a nature preserve of UNESCO. Mt. Dinghu has thousand-year-

old virgin rainforests with thousands of species of plants, some of which are very rare. We will visit a 300-year-old Buddhist monastery, enjoy a vegetarian lunch, and walk through jungle to see a beautiful waterfall. We will cycle back to Song Tao Hotel by late afternoon. Overnight in the Song Tao Hotel.

Day 5: Zhaoqing-Qing Yuan

Today we take a 50km coach ride out of city, and cycle 90 km to Qing Yuan. Today's terrain is mostly flat countryside, with many duck farms along the North River embankment. Overnight in the Jawa Hotel.

Day 6: Qing Yuan-Jui Long

We coach 40km out of city and cycle 40km to Jui Long (10km on dirt roads). We check into the Jui Long Hotel, and spend the afternoon cycling 5km to visit Little Guilin. We take a short boat ride to visit the Goddess Guanyin Cave and have a fireworks party in the night. Clients are free to buy fireworks from the hotel store. Overnight in the Jiu Long Hotel.



Day 7: Jui Long-Yangshan

Today's cycling distance is 90km to Yangshan, via the most beautiful lime stone region of the Guangdong province. We ride along paved country roads, and there are four tough climbs. Overnight in the Yangshan Hotel.

Day 8: Yangshan-Lianshan

We start the day with a 60 km coach ride, and cycle 60km to Lianshan through the Yao minority tribe area. We will stop to watch a Yao dance performance along the way. Overnight in the Lianshan Hotel.

Day 9: Lianshan-Zhongshan

We pay a morning visit to a local elementary school, then cycle 70km towards Zhongshan along a beautiful country road by the river. Today we cross into the Guangxi Province, and we will coach the last 60 km into Zhongshan. Overnight in the Zhongshan Global Hotel.

Day 10: Zhongshan-Yangshuo

We start by cycling 80km to Yangshuo, mostly on flat terrain, with small climbs from time to time. We will see a lot of gum drop hills, more and more as we approach Yangshuo. This city is the most beautiful part of Guilin. Overnight in the Yangshuo Resort Hotel.



Day 11: Yangshuo

We cycling 7 km to visit the Moonhill, and hike up the hill to enjoy a beautiful bird's eye view of the area. After that we cycle 20 km through the most beautiful lime stone countryside, looping back to Yangshuo. We enjoy an evening boat ride to watch cormorants catching fish. Overnight in Yangshuo Resort Hotel.

Day 12: Yangshuo

We cycle 25 km to Xing Ping along country roads. We enjoy an hour long afternoon cruise along the Li River to enjoy the most beautiful view, and return to Yangshuo. Overnight in the Yangshuo Resort Hotel.

Day 13: Yangshuo-Guangzhou City

We take an early morning bus to Guilin airport, and fly into Guangzhou City. We will take a tour of Guangzhou City, visiting the 120-year-old Chen Clan Classical Academy, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Memorial Hall, the Guangzhou Museum, and old city quarter. We enjoy a Dim Sum lunch and farewell banquet, eating distinctive Cantonese cuisine. Overnight in the White Swan Hotel.

Day 14: Guangzhou City-Hong Kong

Departing at 8:30 am, we take a train back to Hong Kong, where the tour ends.

NOTES

We also offer a 5-day extension to Xian & Beijing, which includes a visit to the Terra Cotta Warriors, Tian An Men Square, and the Great Wall of China. Please contact us for further details.

MONEY: You can reconvert Chinese money to Hong Kong dollars at the train station. Be sure to have your money, currency exchange receipts and passport at hand. Remember, you can only reconvert up to 50% of what you originally changed.

TRAVEL: For those traveling to or from the United States, you can contact Far Eastern Travel at 1-800-275-3384 or (212) 532-3384 to arrange your flights. This respected airline ticket discounter has been recommended by "Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel" magazine.

TOUR DETAILS 2008

GUIDED CYCLING DATES: Daily departures year-round (2-person minimum)

LENGTH: 14 days/13 nights

GUIDED COST: \$2495 per person

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$500

BIKE RENTAL: Included

GRADE: Moderate

INCLUDES: Hotels, all meals, transfers, bike rental, guide & support

STARTS/ENDS: Hong Kong

NOTE: Itinerary and price subject to change

26-Nov-

07

