



A journey through the tribal backwaters - Guilin to Guiyang



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
Day 1	Arrival into Guilin and transfer to <u>Yangshou</u> .	Optional sightseeing activates around the small town of Yangshuo.	<i>Banyan Tree 5*</i>
Day 2	Enjoy a <u>private rafting trip</u> on a tributary of the Li.	Visit a local village, and enter a farmer's house.	<i>Banyan Tree 5* B,L</i>
Day 3	Drive to <u>Longsheng – Dragon's Backbone Rice Terraces</u> .	Visit the mountain village of <u>Longji</u> . Rice Terraces first appeared here in the Yuan Dynasty and were completed in the Qing by the Zhuang minority.	<i>Li An Lodge B,L,</i>
Day 4	Drive to <u>Sanjiang</u> , and visit the <u>Chengyang Wind and Rain Bridge</u> , which was originally built by the Dong people in 1916. Not a single nail was used in its construction. Such bridges provide shelter from the rain as well as a cool breeze from the river during the summer. There will be an opportunity to visit some of the eight stockade villages dotted amongst the emerald green terraced landscape.	Continue along the road to Zhaoxing, which is one of the largest Dong villages in Guizhou. Stop off en-route at <u>Diping Feng Yu Bridge</u> , which in 2006 was flushed away by a giant flood, though much of the original bridge was recovered. After lunch in <u>Diping Village</u> continue to <u>Tang'an Dong Village</u> , which is nestled in the mountains surrounded by lush green paddy fields. The village has a history of over seven hundred years and is currently occupied by over 170 households. Visit the <u>Tang'an Dong Ethnic Eco-museum</u> founded in 1995 by China and Norway. Then take a short two hour hike through the rice paddies to <u>Zhaoxing</u> .	<i>Indigo Inn, Zhaoxing B,L,D</i>



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Day 5	<p>Take the road towards Conjiang, where you will begin a two-hour hike from Zhoaxing to Biasha. Around 4,000 years ago, the Chiyou people, ancestors of the Miao, were defeated in a battle, and some of the garrison were left behind in Biasha. Even today the Baisha Miao cling to traditions of old, with the men still wearing their hair in braids like Manchurians of the Qing period.</p> <p>Continue for three hours to Rongjiang, enjoying lunch at the small township of Tingdong. The last section of road from Conjiang onwards is under construction and bumpy conditions should be expected.</p>	<p>Spend the afternoon exploring some more fabulous Dong villages in the Congjiang region. Begin with Zhanli Dong Village, which has continued to control birth rates for hundreds of years. Learn how the 150 families have managed to increase the local population by just 11 people since the 1955. The local herbalist, Miss Wu Xian is said to be responsible for why 98% of the families continue to have one girl and one boy. Other interesting villages include Fuzhong and Xiaohuang.</p>	<p>Congjiang Aoyue hotel 4* B,L,D</p>
Day 6	<p>The road to Rongjiang passes through Yintan Dong Village where Dong ancestors first settled when they migrated westwards to Guizhou thousands of years ago.</p>	<p>This afternoon pass through some of the more interesting Dali Dong Villages, which are also on the list of U.N. Culture Heritage sites. Apart from their remarkable drum towers and old wooden structures, these villages provide an important opportunity to experience an untouched way of life that is fast disappearing. Continue to Rongjiang via Sanbao Dong Village which is famed for its ancient drum towers that according to Dong legend, were built in accordance with the “King of Cedar”.</p>	<p><i>Dongxiangmi Grand Hotel Rongjiang 3*</i> B,L,D</p>



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Day 7	Drive for about three hours on an old road from Rongjiang towards Leishan and visit some of the less spoilt Shui villages . Make a stop in Leishan for lunch.	Take in some of the more interesting villages in the area, including the Datang (Short Skirt Miao Village) . Enjoy a short performance before continuing along the road to Paika , which is known for production of the Lusheng, a hand-crafted reed instrument which can sometimes be over three metres in length and plays an important part in Miao daily life. Continue to Baiyan Village and begin the hike to Taoyao Village which passes through rolling rice terraces, under the shadow of Mt Leigong. Apart from the unique flora and fauna, witness the Fish-Duck-Rice system, which is now listed in the U.N. Agriculture Heritage.	Overnight in Leishan Grand hotel 4* B,L,D
Day 8	This morning head out to Chong 'an , which is famed for its bridges and colourful local market. Visit the old town which is famous for incense making. The mill stones in the middle of the river are still used. Take a short drive on to Wangba Ge Jia village. Folklore suggests that the Ge Jia descended from a legendary Han general who was exiled for marrying a Miao woman. This explains why their traditional dress resembles military garb. The tribes are also known for their batik designs.	Make your way over to Shiqiao Miao village , which remains one of the few places to continue the ancient art of paper production which dates back a thousand years. Learn about the 14 different stages the roots and bark of the Polnia tree need to go through to produce this beautiful paper which is used for brightly coloured lanterns. Conclude the afternoon at Qingman Middle Skirt or Silk Felt Embroidery Miao village , where the spectacular embroidery skill of the village girls is famed throughout the region. Overnight in Kaili.	Longdu hotel 5* B,L,D



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
Day 9	Drive to Guiyang, where you will stop in the city centre for lunch.	Continue 1 ½ hours west of the city to Jichang , and visit another subgroup – the ‘Old Han’, or Tunpu people who appeared in the region when a Ming Emperor sent his troops from Nanjing to put down a rebellion in the fourteenth century. Watch a ground opera brought in by the troops. Also visit Tiantai which was once an important Ming garrison town. Climb up to the small fortress which has been described as a local Machu Pichu, before heading back to Guiyang.	Novotel 4* B,L
Day 10	Take an hour’s drive from Guiyang to the Da Mo Chong Valley which is comprised of picturesque villages, bamboo groves and a network of streams. Hike for about four hours through the scenic valley passing through more villages unspoilt by tourism, witnessing more local crafts.	Stop for lunch in the Han village of Dazhai , famous for the production of paper money which is burnt during ancestral worship. There will be an opportunity to witness the entire process. Overnight in Guiyang.	Novotel 4* B,L,D
Day 11	Transfer back to Guiyang airport for your onward flight.		



Total Cost **USD 5500** Per Person (minimum 2 people)

Add 5% extra if you wish to pay credit card.

Included in the price;	Not included in the price;
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Services of a good English speaking local guide throughout• All Hotels and rooms as stated for 10 nights including 2 breakfasts. (B)• Meals where specified B,L,D• Driver and all land transportation• Entrance fees to all tourist sites• Baggage handling, service charges and gratuities for guides, drivers and hotel staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visa processing fees• International Flights to and from China• Travel insurance• Personal expenses such as excess luggage, alcoholic drinks, telephone, laundry and room service